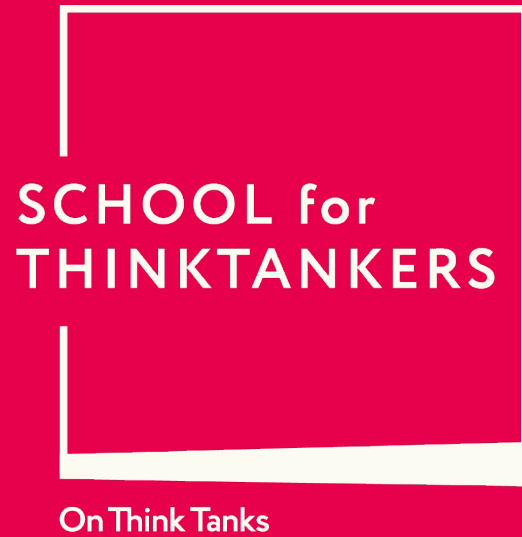# SCHOOL for THINKTANKERS

On Think Tanks

The think tank sector

Data from the Open Think Tank Directory
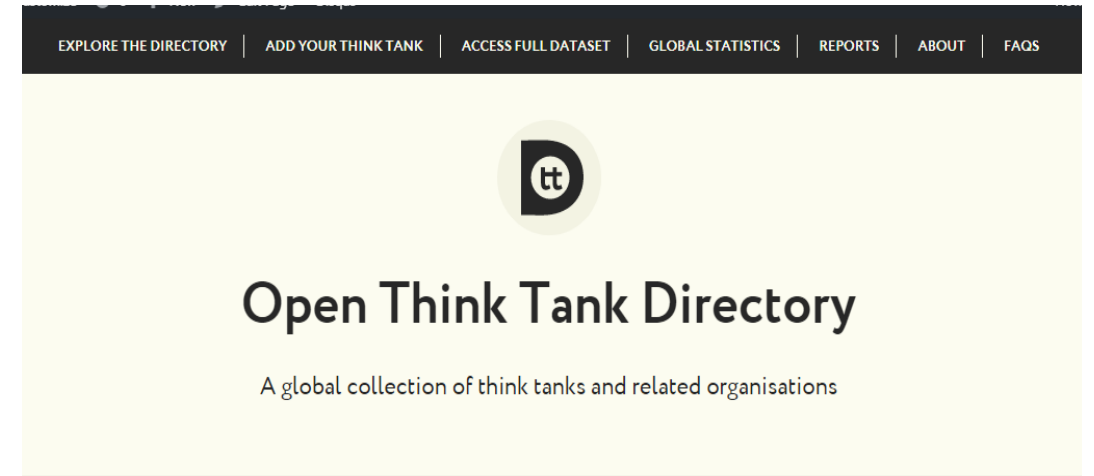
24 January 2022

THE THINK TANK SECTOR WORLDWIDE
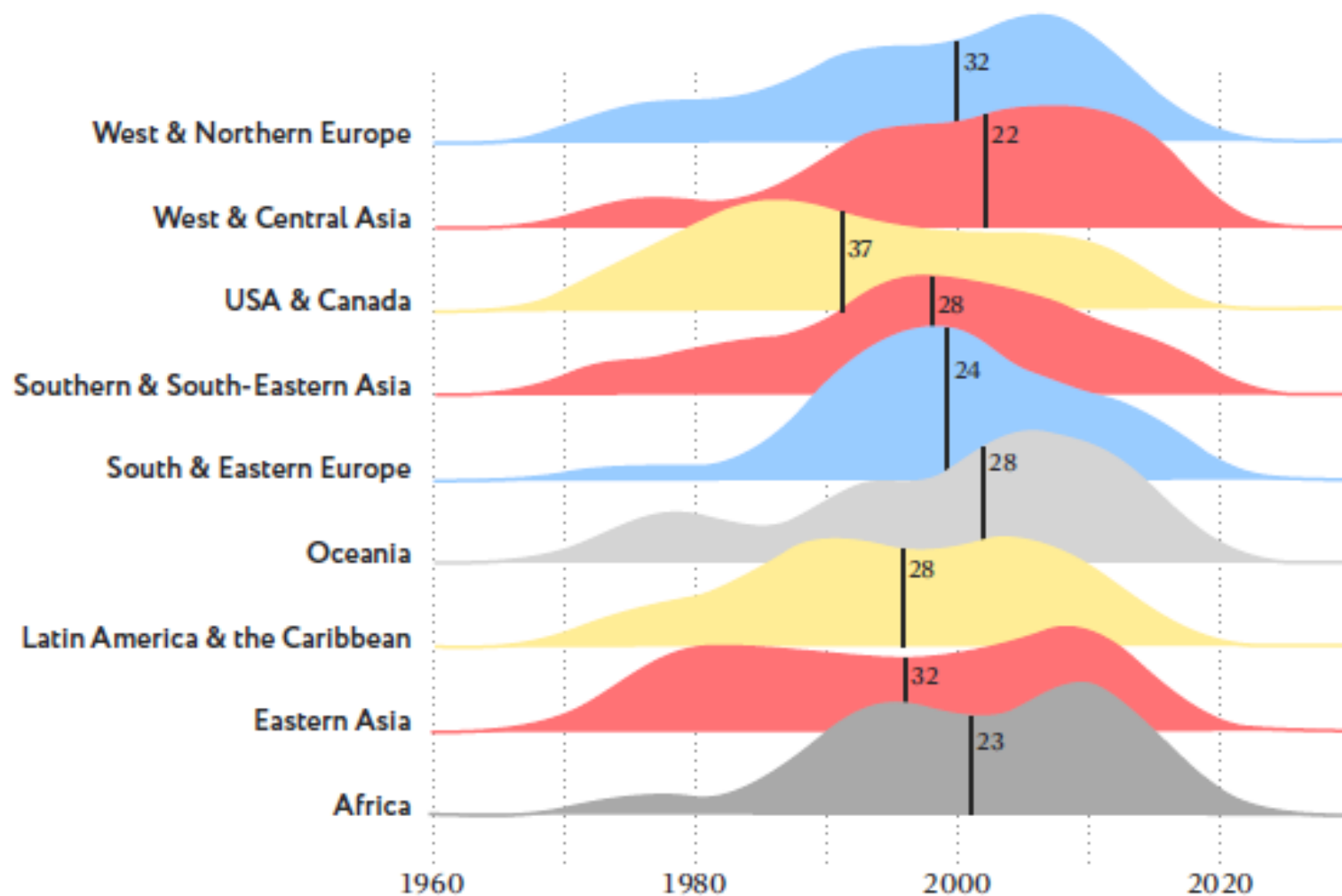
The Open Think Tank Directory

- Public global collection of think tanks and related organisations

- More than 50 <u>variable</u>s (some yearly data collected since 2016)

- Yearly update and think tank consultation

- Organisation's profiles, world stats and downloadable database

- Consultancies help in development and maintenance: UNICEF, BOSCH stiftung, USAID-Grupo Faro

Think tank foundation date and average age by region

West & Northern Europe — 32
West & Central Asia — 22
USA & Canada — 37
Southern & South-Eastern Asia — 28
South & Eastern Europe — 24
Oceania — 28
Latin America & the Caribbean — 28
Eastern Asia — 32
Africa — 23

1960   1980   2000   2020

n: 2,470
Note: The line shows when half the think tanks in each region have been founded. The number is the average
age of think tanks in the region . Date range starts in the 1960s for comparison purposes.

Acti

Staff size by region

Region	Up to 10	11 to 20	21 to 45	46 and up
West & Northern Europe	27%	22%	24%	27%
West & Central Asia	31%	27%	12%	30%
USA & Canada	37%	22%	16%	25%
Southern & South-Eastern Asia	22%	32%	21%	25%
South & Eastern Europe	32%	25%	28%	15%
Oceania	33%	31%	25%	11%
Latin America & the Caribbean	30%	41%	11%	18%
Eastern Asia	12%	11%	23%	54%
Africa	18%	36%	29%	17%
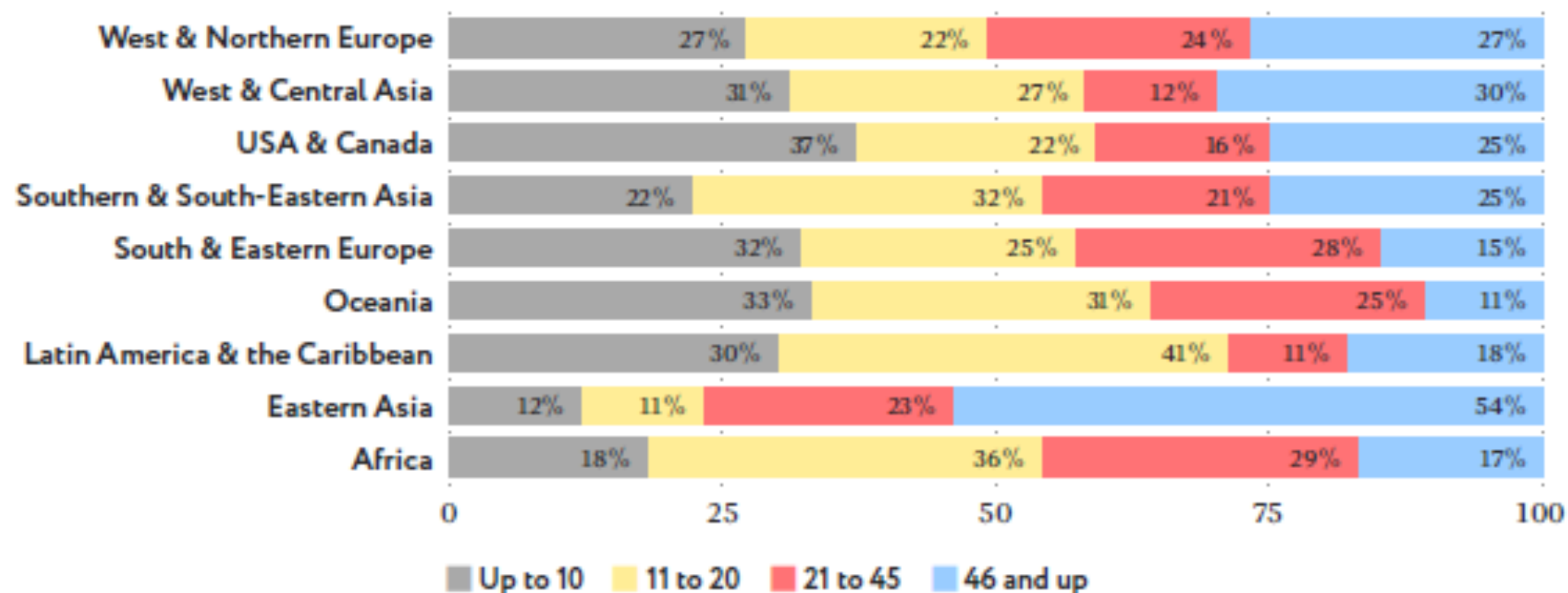
n: 1,430

Note: Percentages have been rounded and might not add up to a 100.

Date founded by staff size

Date founded	Up to 10	11 to 20	21 to 45	46 and up
2010-2019	30%	32%	20%	18%
2000-2009	32%	23%	25%	20%
1990-1999	27%	26%	24%	23%
1980-1989	24%	21%	20%	35%
1970-1979	17%	21%	18%	44%
1946-1969	12%	9%	26%	53%
1915-1945	15%	23%	25%	37%
Up to 1914	31%	12%	6%	51%

■ Up to 10   ■ 11 to 20   ■ 21 to 45   ■ 46 and up
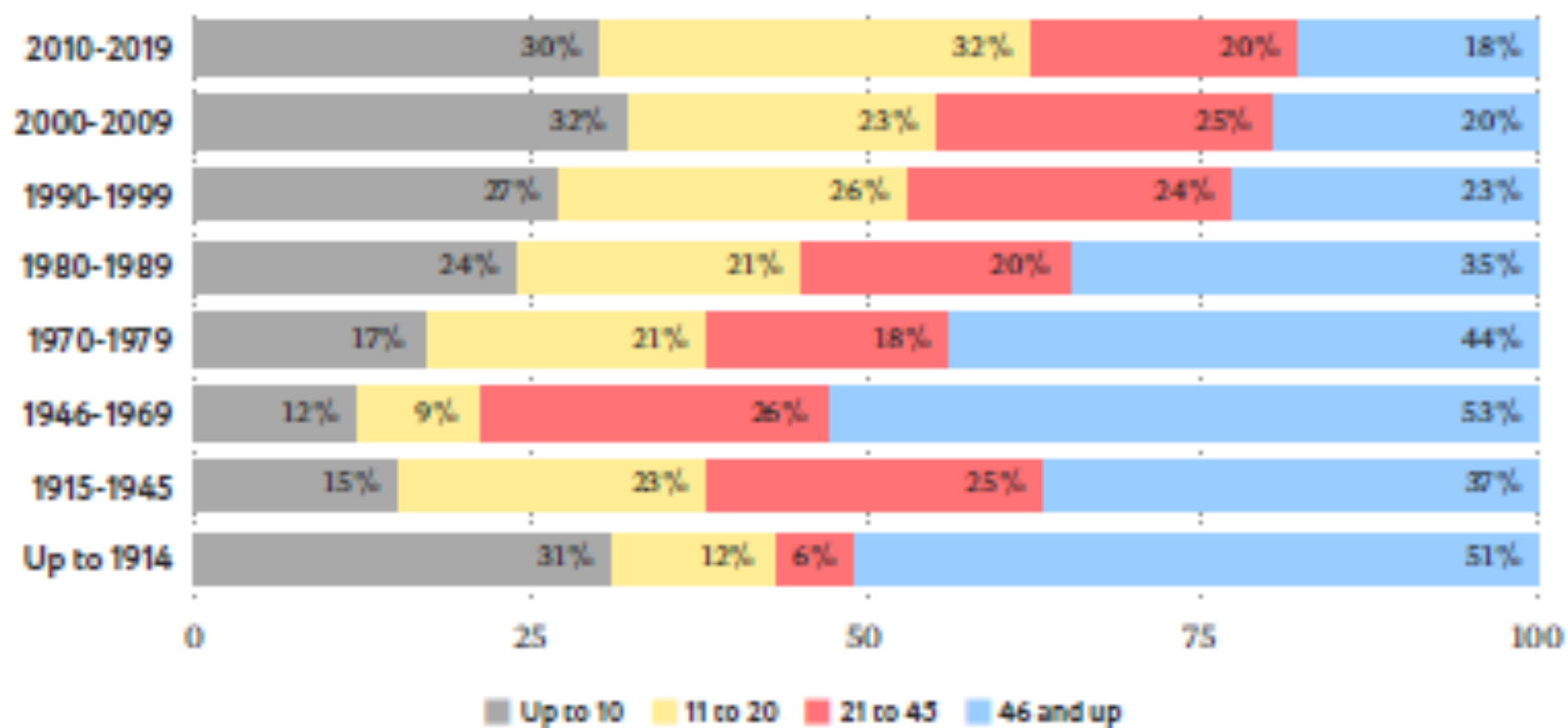
n: 1,248
Note: Percentages have been rounded and might not add up to a 100.

Turnover by date founded

Date founded	Less than 500k	Over 500k and less than 1.5 million	Over 1.5 and less than 10 million	Over 10 and less than 100 million	100 million and more
2010-2019	54%	23%	17%	6%	
2000-2009	44%	29%	19%	7%	1%
1990-1999	38%	35%	16%	5%	6%
1980-1989	5%	10%	62%	23%	
1970-1979		8%	33%	59%	
1946-1969	3%		17%	72%	8%
1915-1945			25%	25%	50%
Up to 1914				75%	25%

Legend:
- Less than 500k
- Over 500k and less than 1.5 million
- Over 1.5 and less than 10 million
- Over 10 and less than 100 million
- 100 million and more

n: 201

Note: Percentages have been rounded and might not add up to a 100.

Gender of think tank founders

All female	5%
All male	58%
Both	13%
Not applicable	24%

Number of think tanks
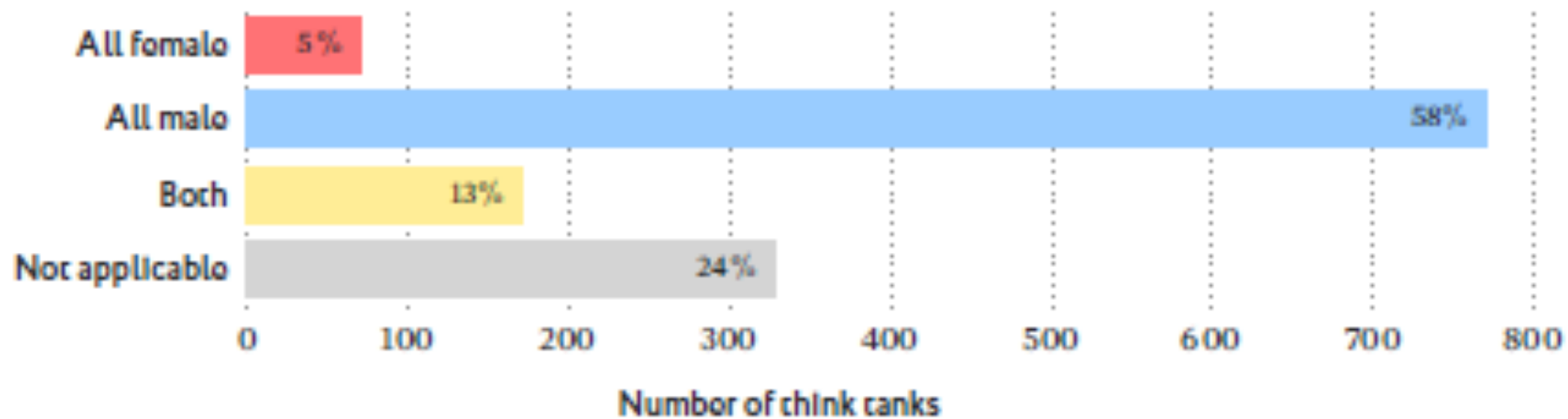
Proportion of founder's gender by date founded

Date founded	All female	All male	Both	Not applicable
2010-2019	8%	47%	18%	27%
2000-2009	7%	53%	17%	23%
1990-1999	6%	61%	11%	22%
1980-1989	3%	60%	11%	26%
1970-1979	2%	67%	6%	25%
1946-1969	1%	64%	5%	30%
1915-1945	3%	80%		17%
Up to 1914	7%	73%	13%	7%

Founder's gender ■ All female ■ All male ■ Both ■ Not applicable
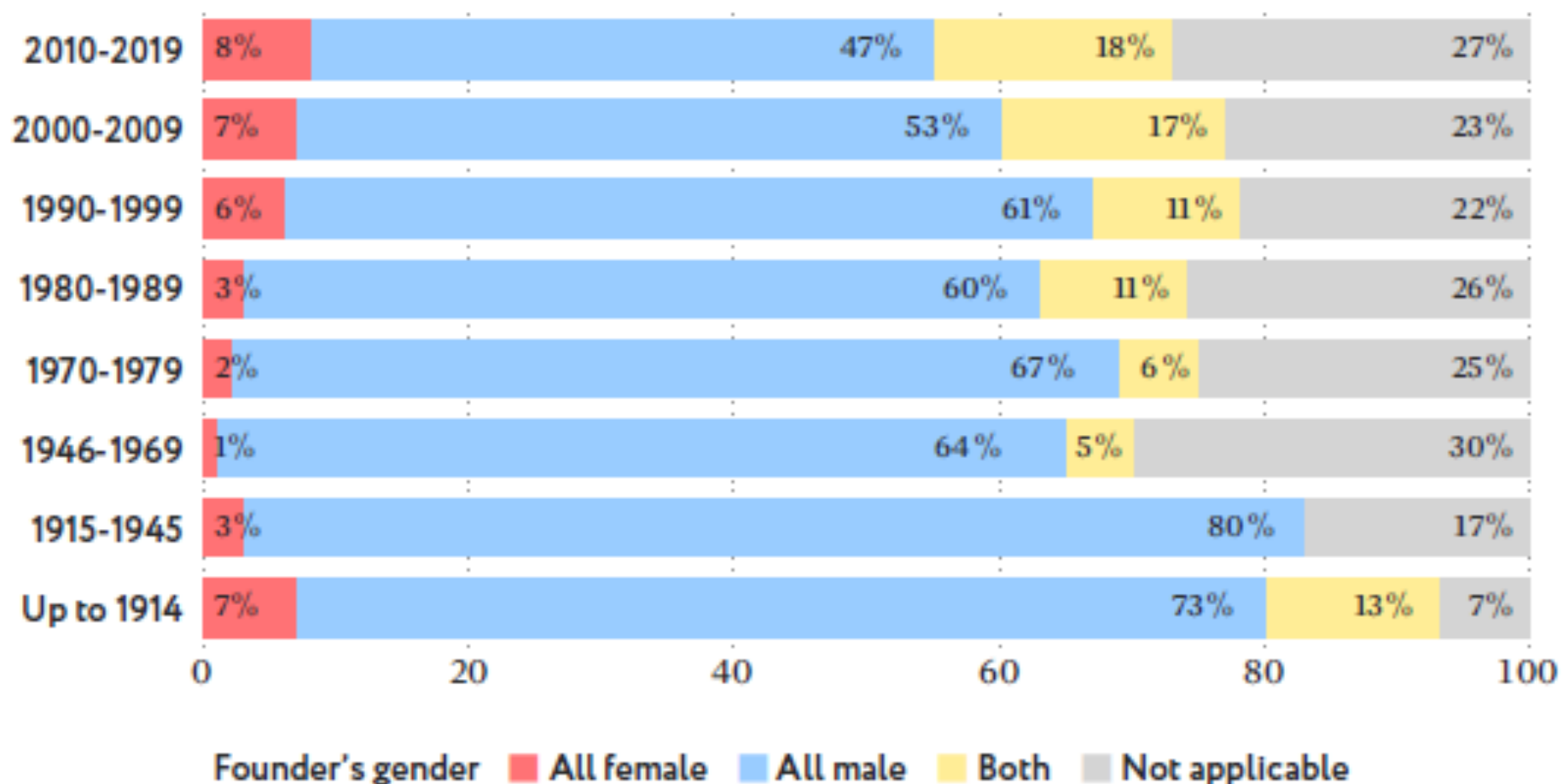
Median social media followers by gender of founder

	Facebook	Twitter	YouTube	LinkedIn
Female led	3228	1472	132	214
Male led	5109	4944	380	1242
Both	2317	2318	275	569
Not applicable	2288	1750	276	675

Female led   Male led   Both   Not applicable
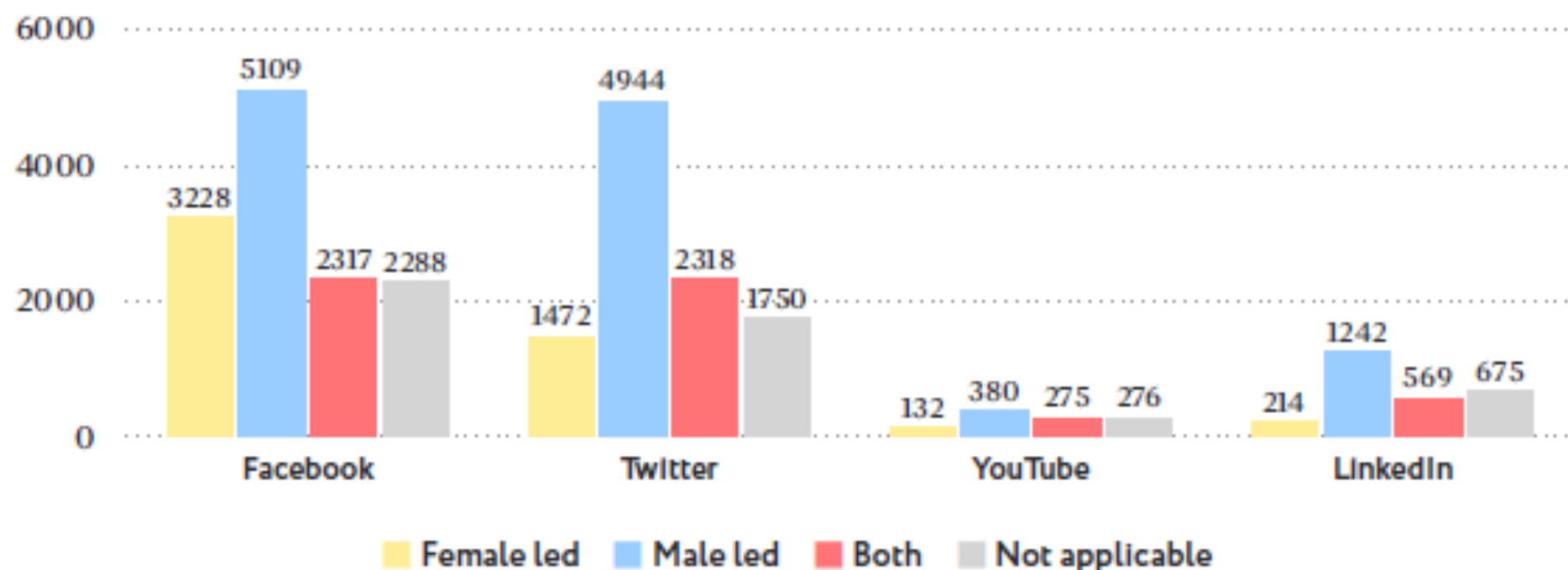
n: Twitter 944, Facebook 1,008, YouTube 674, LinkedIn 1,027

Activar

Percentage of think tanks by leader's gender and founder's gender

Leader's gender	All female	All male	Both	Other/Not applicable
Female	14%	40%	24%	22%
Male	2%	66%	9%	23%
Both male and female (more than one person)	3%	40%	37%	20%

Founder's gender: ■ All female ■ All male ■ Both ■ Other/Not applicable
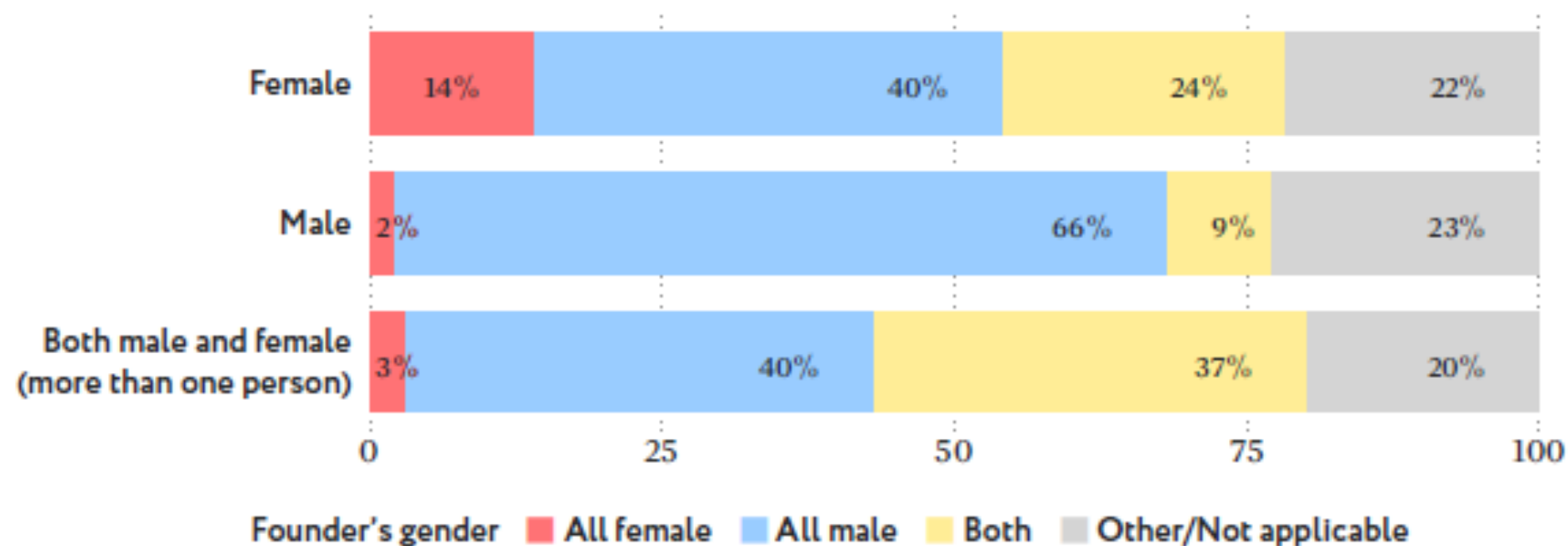
n: 1,168

Percentage of think tanks in each region by gender of leader

Region	Female	Male	Both male and female	Unknown
West & Northern Europe	22%	68%	4%	6%
West & Central Asia	16%	50%	1%	33%
USA & Canada	21%	72%	2%	5%
Southern & South-Eastern Asia	16%	59%	2%	23%
South & Eastern Europe	16%	52%	1%	31%
Oceania	22%	70%	2%	6%
Latin America & the Caribbean	19%	44%	2%	35%
Eastern Asia	6%	74%	1%	19%
Africa	20%	51%	1%	28%

Leaders' gender ■ Female ■ Male ■ Both male and female ■ Unknown
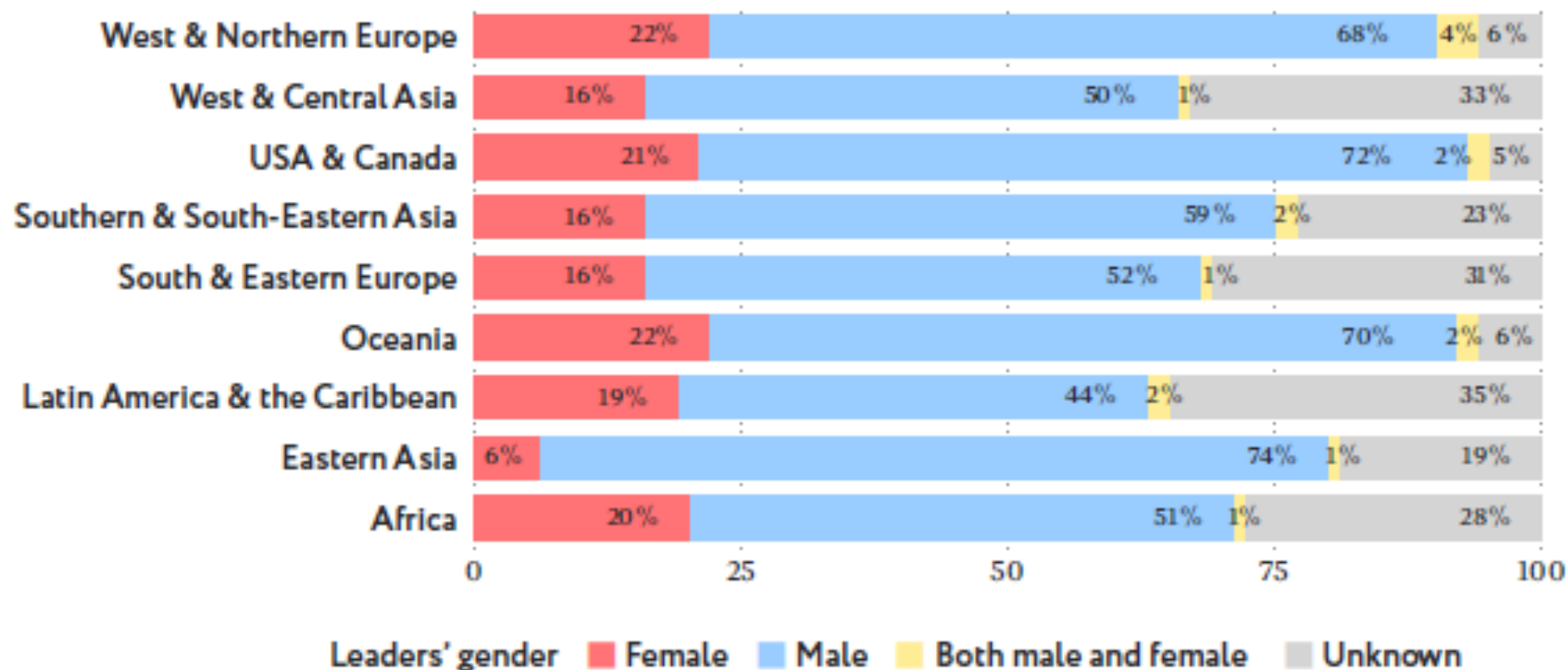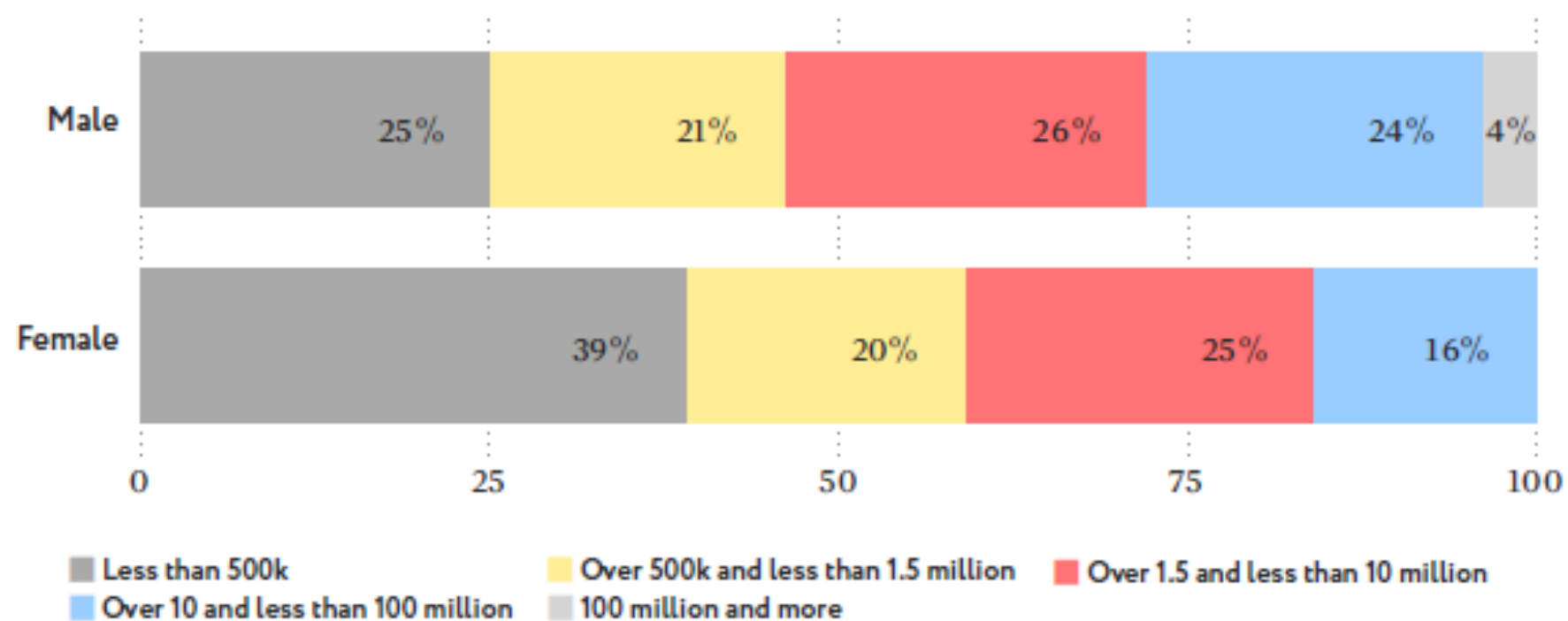
n: 2, 268
Note: 55 think tanks are led by both men and women, 494 by women, and 1,714 by men. There are 539 think tanks with no information on the gender of the leader.
Percentages have been rounded and might not add up to a 100.

Gender leader by turnover

Male	25%	21%	26%	24%	4%
Female	39%	20%	25%	16%	

Legend:
- Less than 500k
- Over 500k and less than 1.5 million
- Over 1.5 and less than 10 million
- Over 10 and less than 100 million
- 100 million and more

n: 217

Note: Median male-led: USD 2,063,479.50, median female-led: USD 2,049,159. There were eight cases for both male and female leaders (median 138,724) and they are not shown as the groups broke up the data too much. Percentages have been rounded and might not add up to a 100.

REMMEMBER

- No think tank is exactly the same as others, and each context is different.

- There are lessons to be learned from all experiences

- Policy making is a messy process and there are many factors that build into it

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