



# Public Perceptions of Social Work in Kosovo and North Macedonia

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# Research goal and methodology

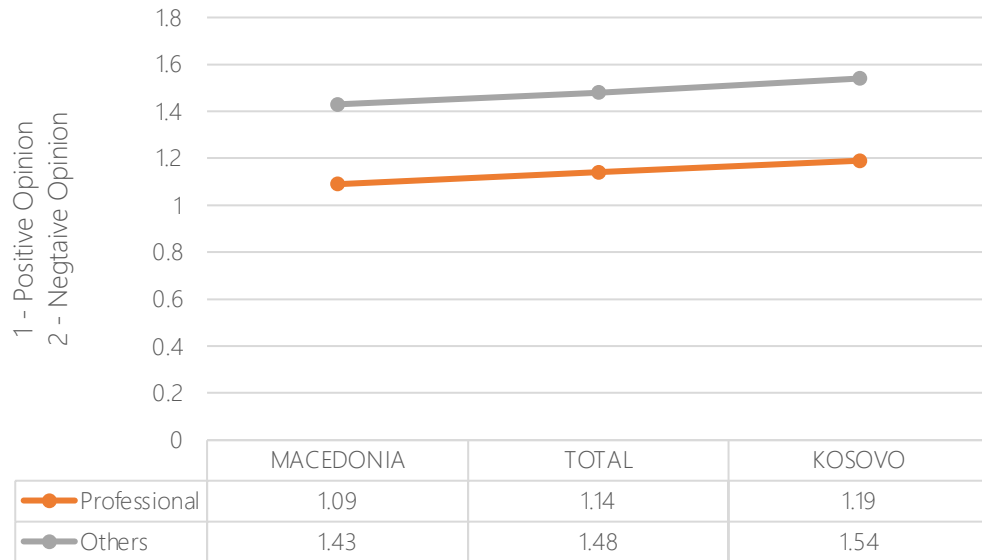
- **Goal:** To assess the perceptions of social work and assess expectations on how social work should tackle current social risks.
- **Core methodological tools are focused in Qualitative and Quantitative data:**
  - Review of Literature
  - Review of Government Documents
  - Perception Survey
  - Semi-structured interviews

# Scope of the Survey

<b>Country</b>	<b>Sample</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
<b>N. Macedonia</b>	<b>200 respondents</b>	<b>200 respondents belonging to professions such as: psychologists, lawyers, and pedagogues</b>
<b>Kosovo</b>	<b>200 respondents</b>	<b>200 respondents: senior high school student and university students</b>

**[H1] People whose work is closely related to social work (i.e. psychologists, pedagogues and lawyers) have positive opinion about social work role in the society and greater expectations about its impact.**

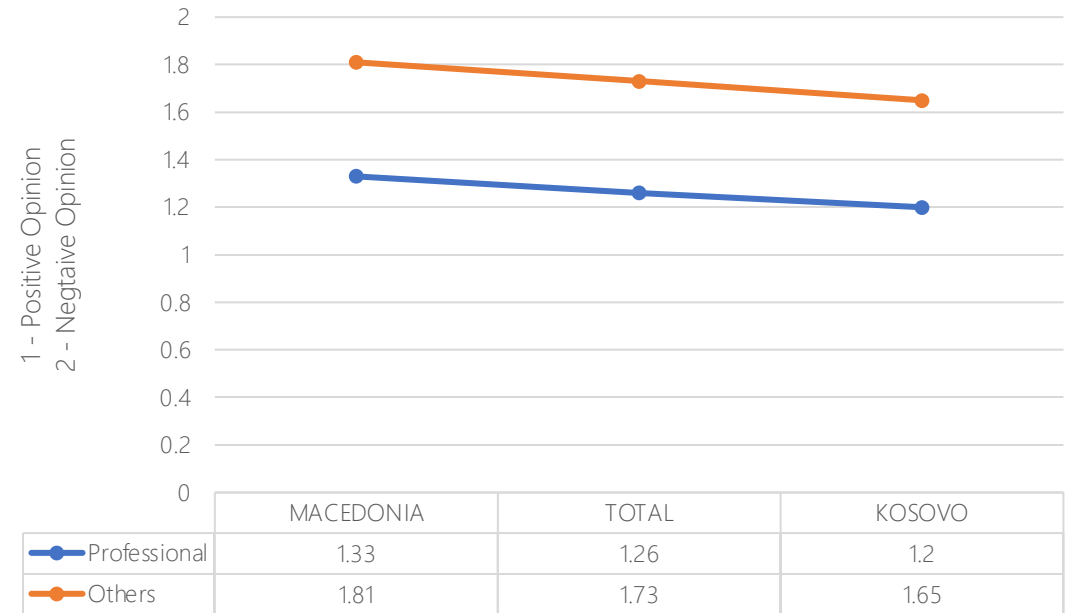
Opinion about the role of social workers in your society



Professionals vs Others

	Role of Social Worker	Impact of Social Worker
Professionals	+	+
Others	+ → -	-

Expectation about impact of social workers

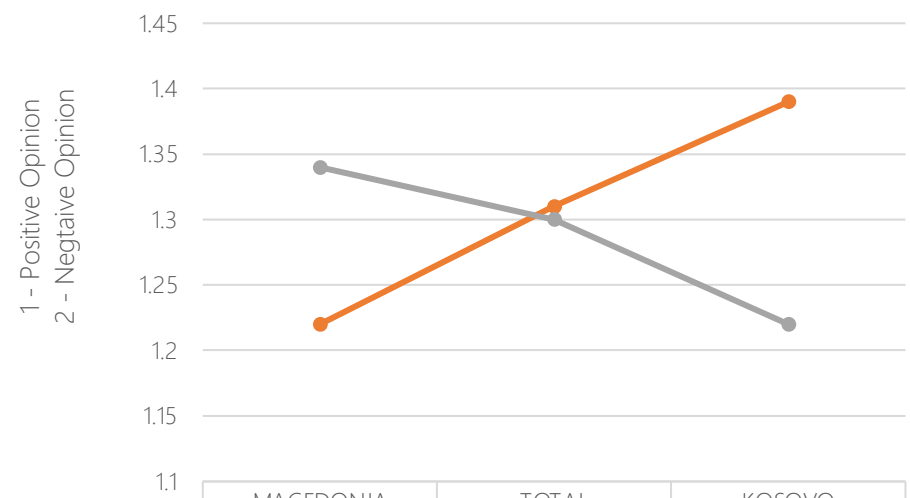


Professionals vs Others

	N.Macedonia	Kosovo
Role of Social Worker	+	+
Impact of Social Worker	-	+

**[H2] People who are less informed and have not had any relation with social work have negative opinion about social work and lower expectations about its impact.**

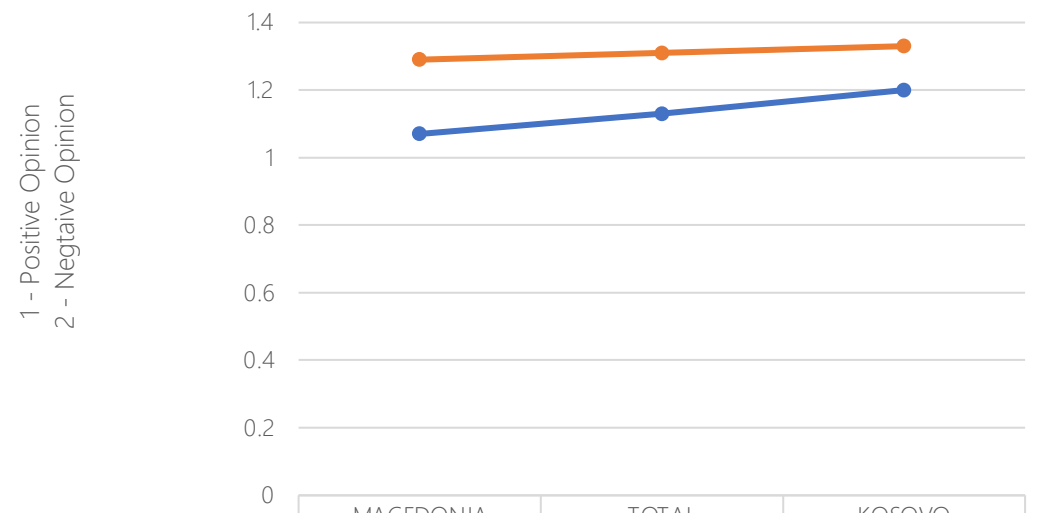
Opinion about the role of social workers in your society



	MACEDONIA	TOTAL	KOSOVO
Informed Persons	1.22	1.31	1.39
Les - Informed Persons	1.34	1.3	1.22

Comparison of opinion: Macedonia vs Kosovo

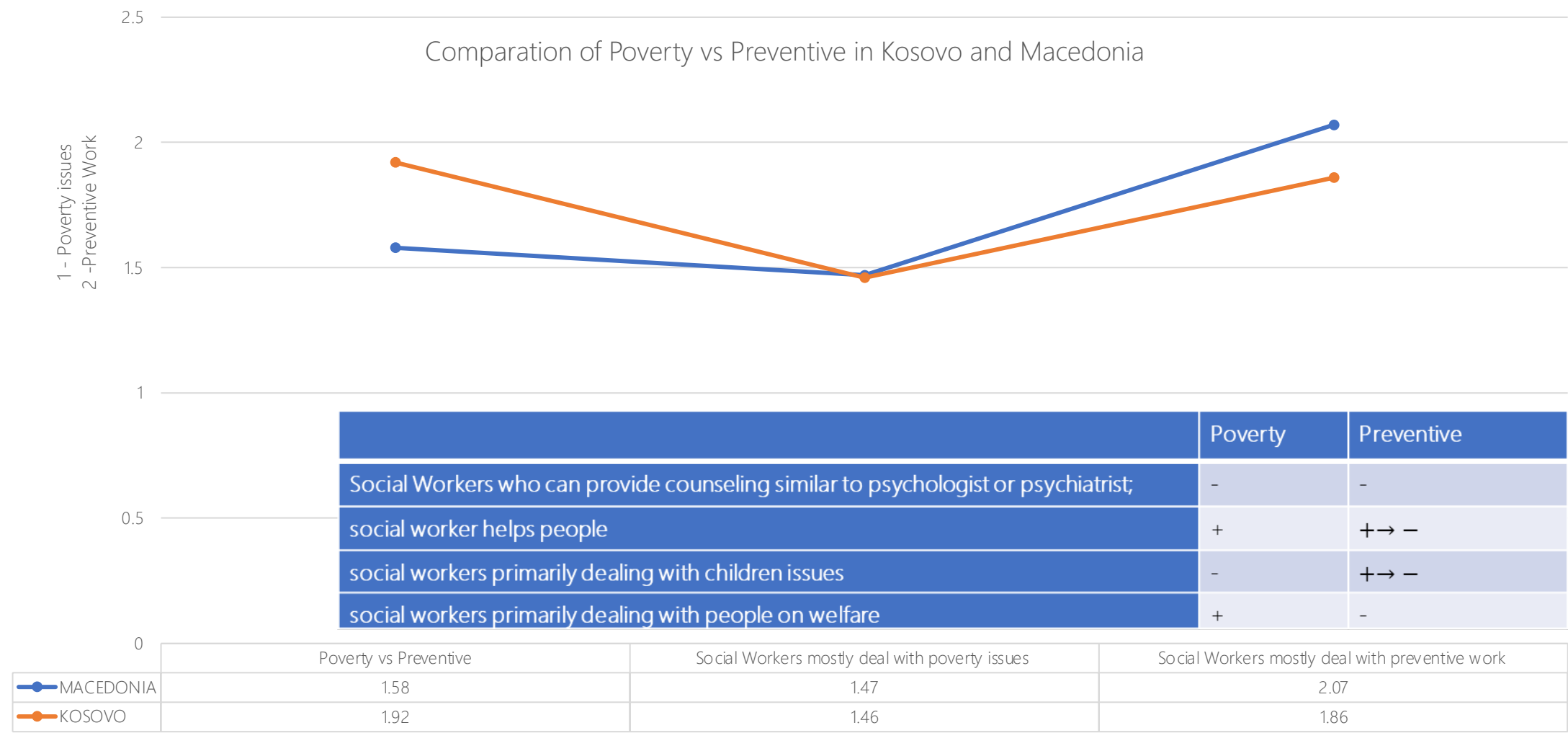
Opinion about the role of social workers in your society



	MACEDONIA	TOTAL	KOSOVO
Close Collab. With Soc. Workers	1.07	1.13	1.2
No Collab. With Soc. Workers	1.29	1.31	1.33

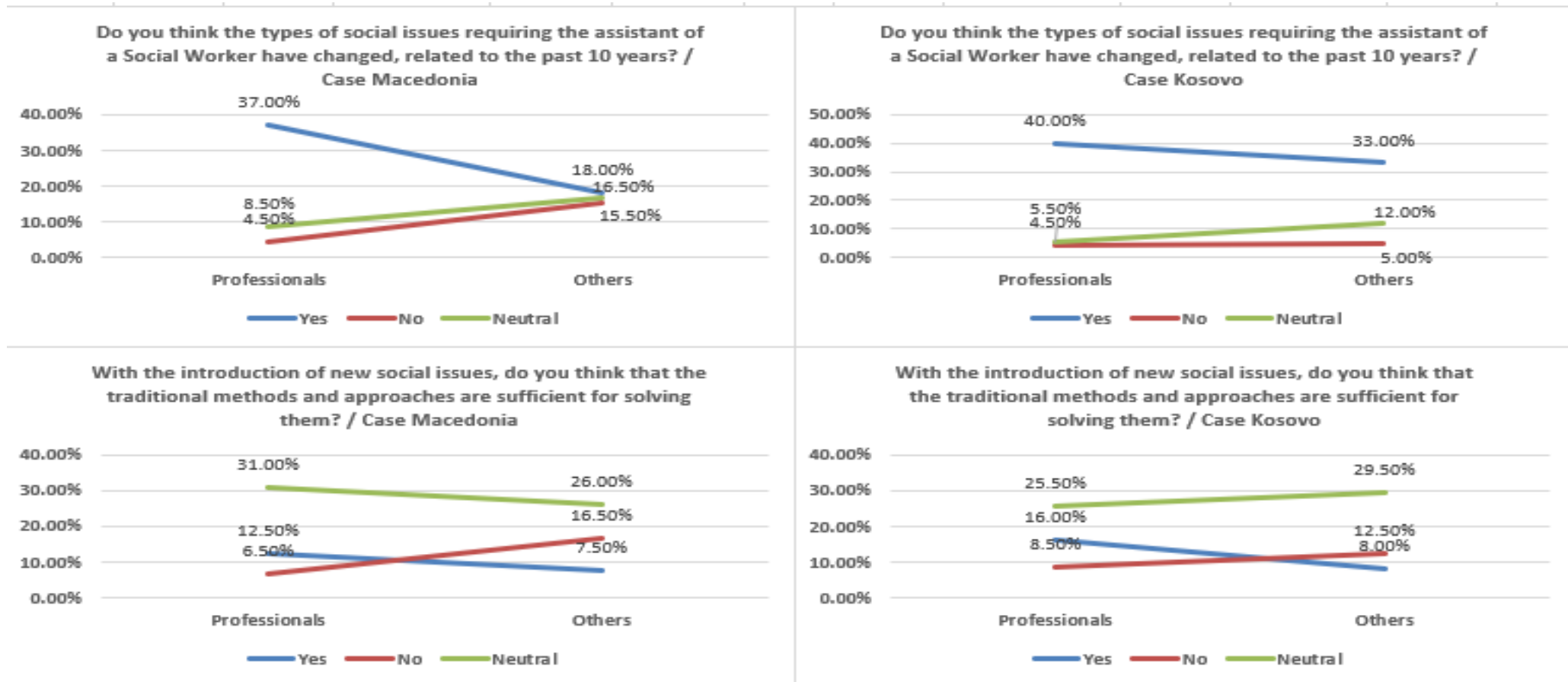
Comparison of opinion : Macedonia vs Kosovo

### [H3] Social workers are expected to work more on poverty issues rather than preventive work.

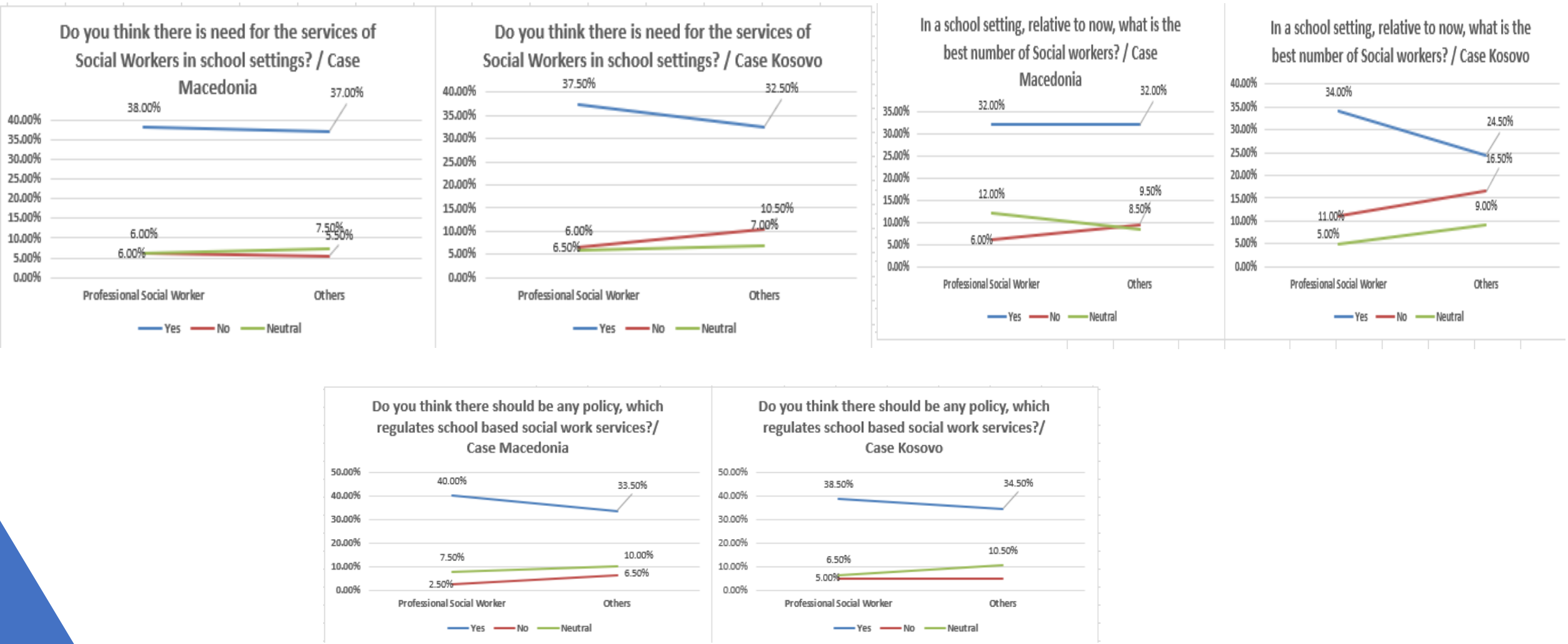


Axis Title

## [H4] In tackling new social risks social workers are expected to change traditional methods and approaches of work



**[H5] Perceptions about need for school social work is closely related with the general image about the social work in particular society.**





# Conclusion

- The professionals in the field or closely related field in both countries are considering social workers to have a positive role and impact on society whereas, the others do not consider social workers to have impact and their role is marginally positive leaning to negative.
- In summary, all groups consider the social worker to have a positive role. In case of the social worker impact the group that are less informed and those that are not in close collaboration with social worker do not consider social workers having a positive impact. Group marked in close collaboration with social worker considering positive impact and the group marked well informed are considering the impact of social worker is marginal positive leaning to negative.
- Professionals and others in N. Macedonia and Kosovo consider social workers primarily responsible for work with the people in poverty. They do not consider as social worker should participate in prevention of poverty.
- Most responses regarding if social workers will change the traditional methods and approaches of work in tackling new social risks in Kosovo and N. Macedonia were positive with exception in N.Macedonia, for the age group (55+) that are more “neutral” oriented. The traditional method is not working as it is supposed to do. They are different facts that prevent the impact of traditional methods. Some of these facts are that the concept of social work is not fully developed in Kosovo and N.Macedonia, changing the nature of problems that society deals with.

- Whether social work is perceived as a necessary profession in school or the education system, based on the answers to it, it is obvious that both the target groups "professionals" and "others" are positively oriented to all given issues in Kosovo and N.Macedonia. Therefore, we can conclude that a social worker is considered a necessary profession in school.

Thank you !