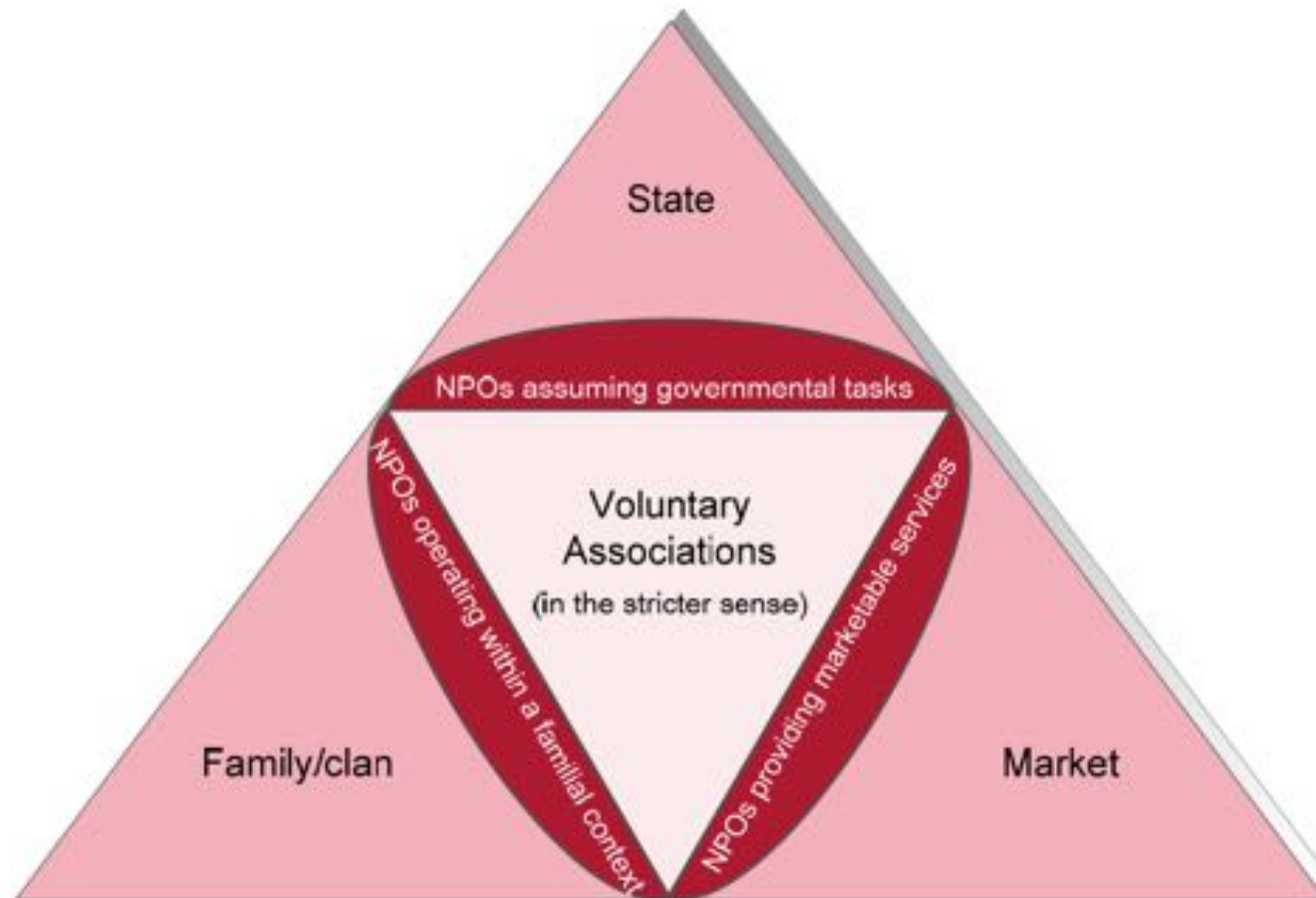




Not-For-Profit Organisations (NPOs) - a gain for politics and society

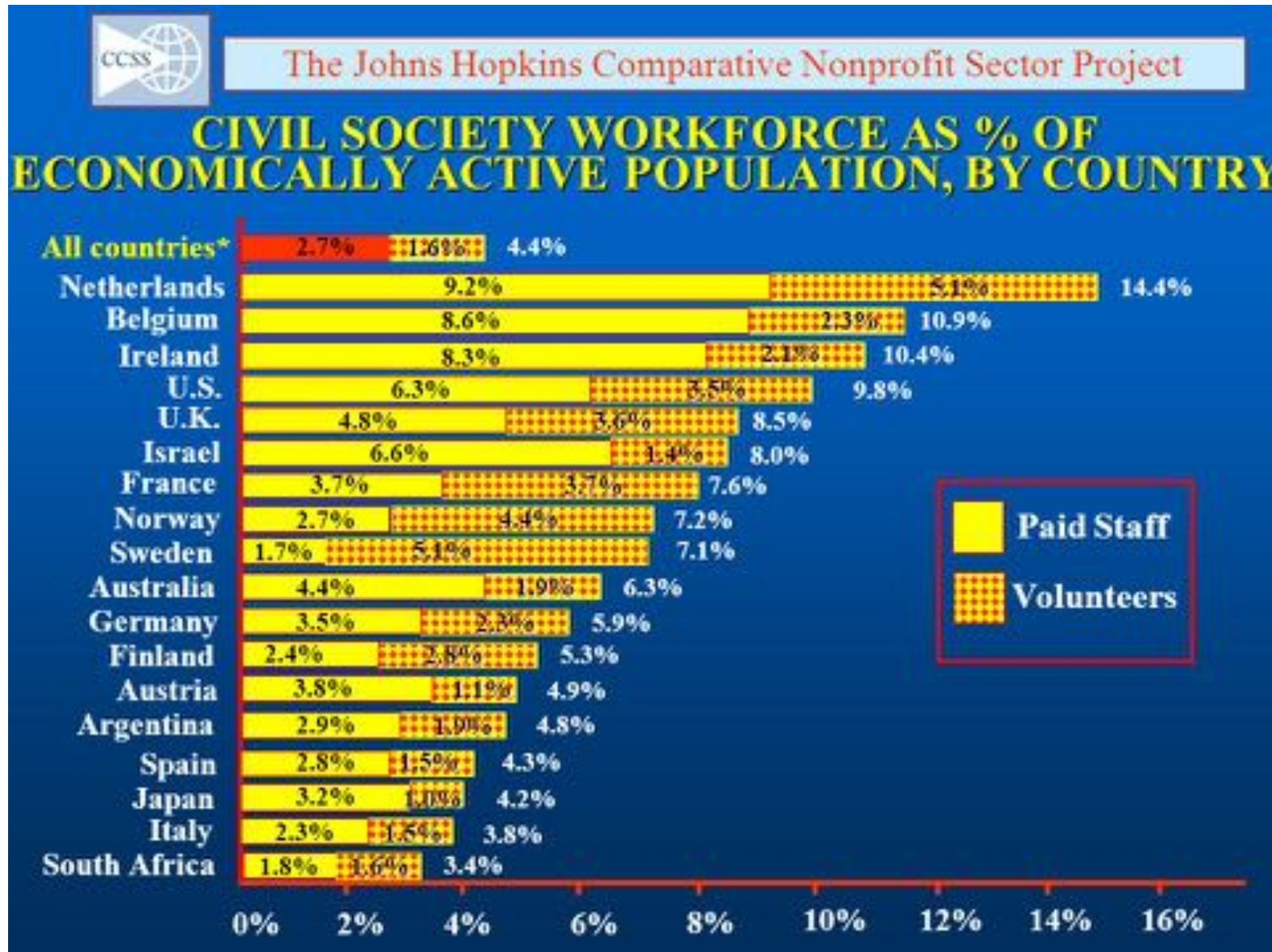
Prof. Dr. Hans Lichtsteiner
Lecturer at the University of Fribourg/CH

NPOs as intermediary sector between public authorities, family and market



NPOs in the “four-sector” model (according to Evers/Laville 2004)

NPOs are an important part of our society



Why is this sector so important to our society?



1. NPOs are a reliable social actor

They perform tasks that the state does not want to perform itself and they commit themselves to their concerns long-term and nation-wide.



2. NPOs are there when you need them

During extraordinary events such as floods or earthquakes they can mobilise people, organise materials and coordinate aid in the shortest possible time.



3. NPOs belong to the population

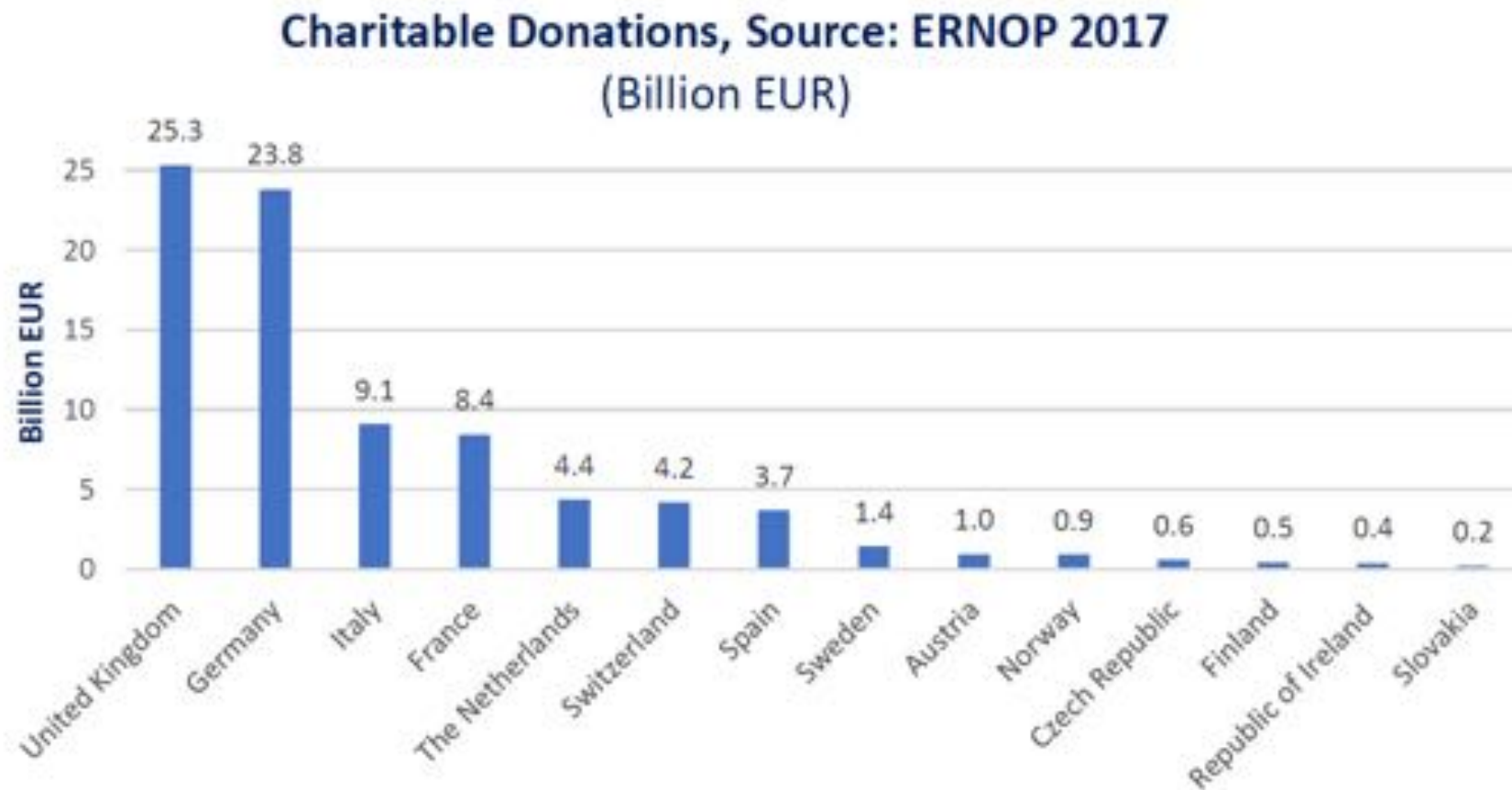
Due to the direct involvement of the population arises:

- a better understanding of the importance of the mission of the institution
- a control over the appropriate use of funds
- an immediate feedback on the services offered
- a greater trust



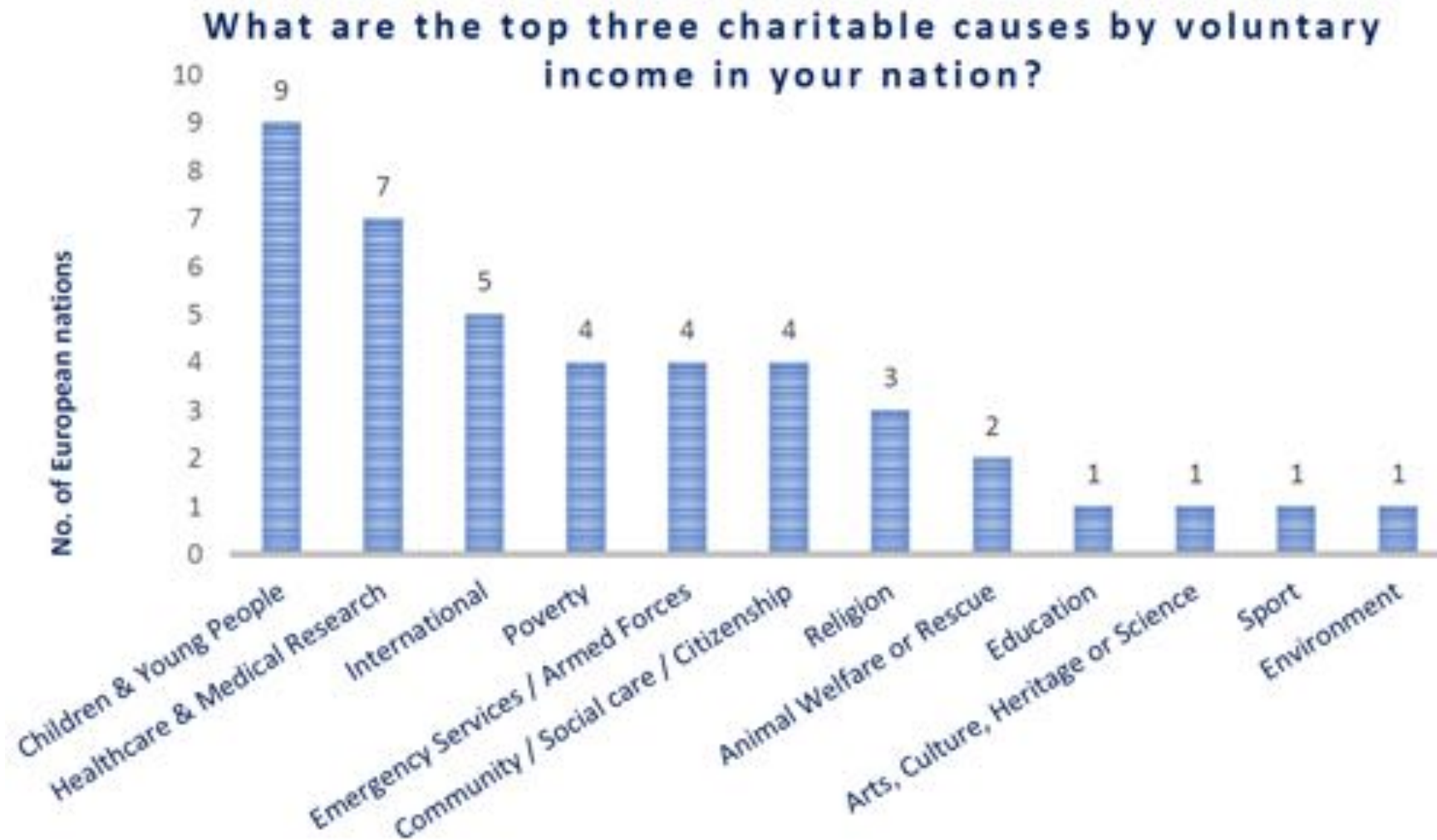
4. NPOs enjoy a high level of trust

NPOs are able to raise voluntary funds for the performance of charitable tasks.



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Who benefits primarily from fundraising income?



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5. NPOs relieve government spending

Thanks to performance contracts, the state administration has a great influence on the service provision of the sector.

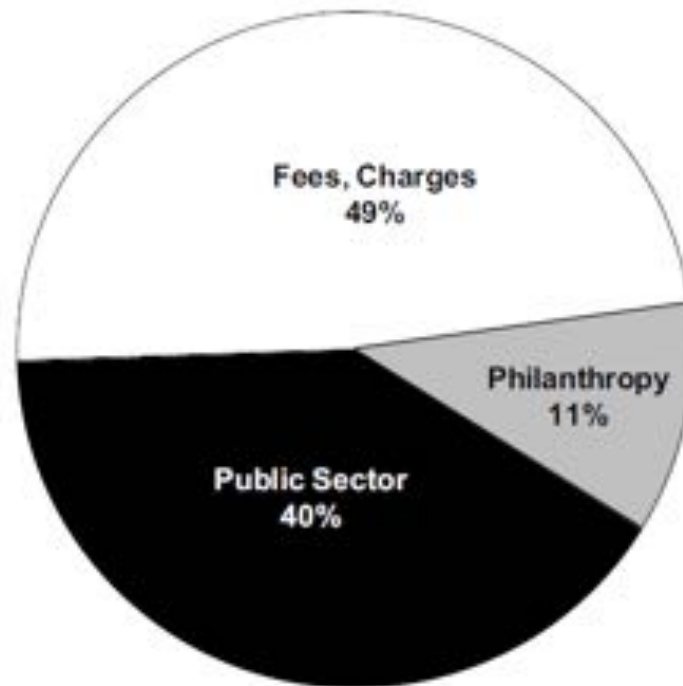


Figure 1.9 Sources of nonprofit revenue, 1995 (22-country average)

Source: The Johns Hopkins Comparative Nonprofit Sector Project

6. NPOs are a learning field for democracy

“ Volunteering creates human and social capital. It is a path to integration and employment and a key factor in improving social cohesion. **Volunteering puts into action the fundamental values of justice, solidarity, inclusion and citizenship on which Europe is founded.** Volunteers help to shape European society.”

European Commission



Recommendations at EU level

- Promoting legal and policy frameworks to support volunteering
- Measuring the economic value of volunteering
- **Clearer EU rules concerning public procurement and the Services Directive**
- Networking to promote volunteering
- Encourage recognition and validation of experience

VOLUNTEERING IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
EAC-EA and DG EAC, Final Report, 17 February 2010

⇒ **To achieve these goals, the EU needs the NPOs as partners**

Conclusion

These are just the top six reasons why politics should support the NPO sector.



**Take care to the NPO sector,
it is a gain for politics and society!**

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