

Scientific societies in contemporary science: a preliminary overview

Ana Delicado (ICS-UL)

ana.delicado@ics.ul.pt

The research project

SOCSCI – Scientific societies in contemporary science

Funding: FCT

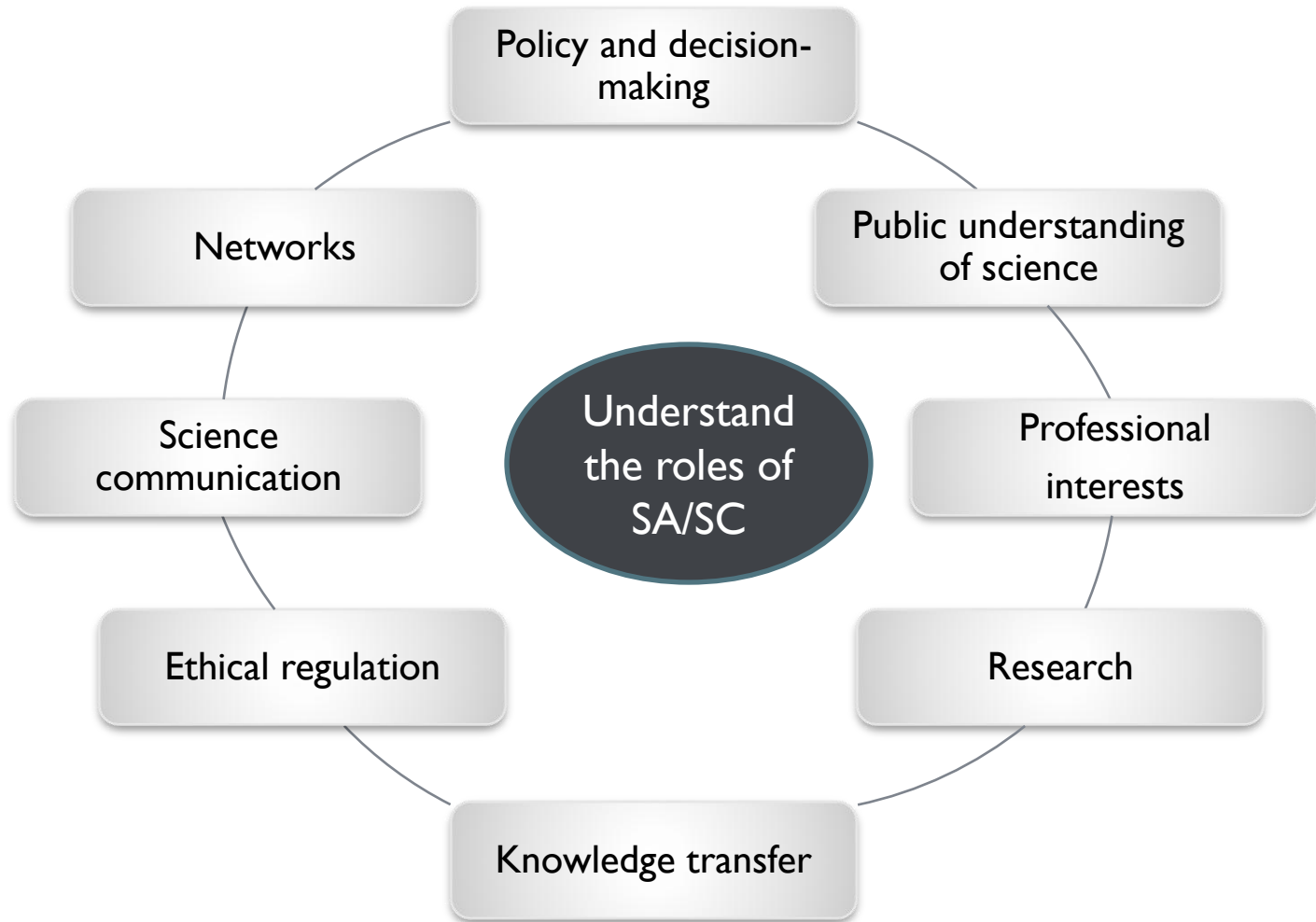
Duration: 2 years (2010-2012)

Team: Raquel Rego (SOCIOUS-ISEG), Cristina Palma

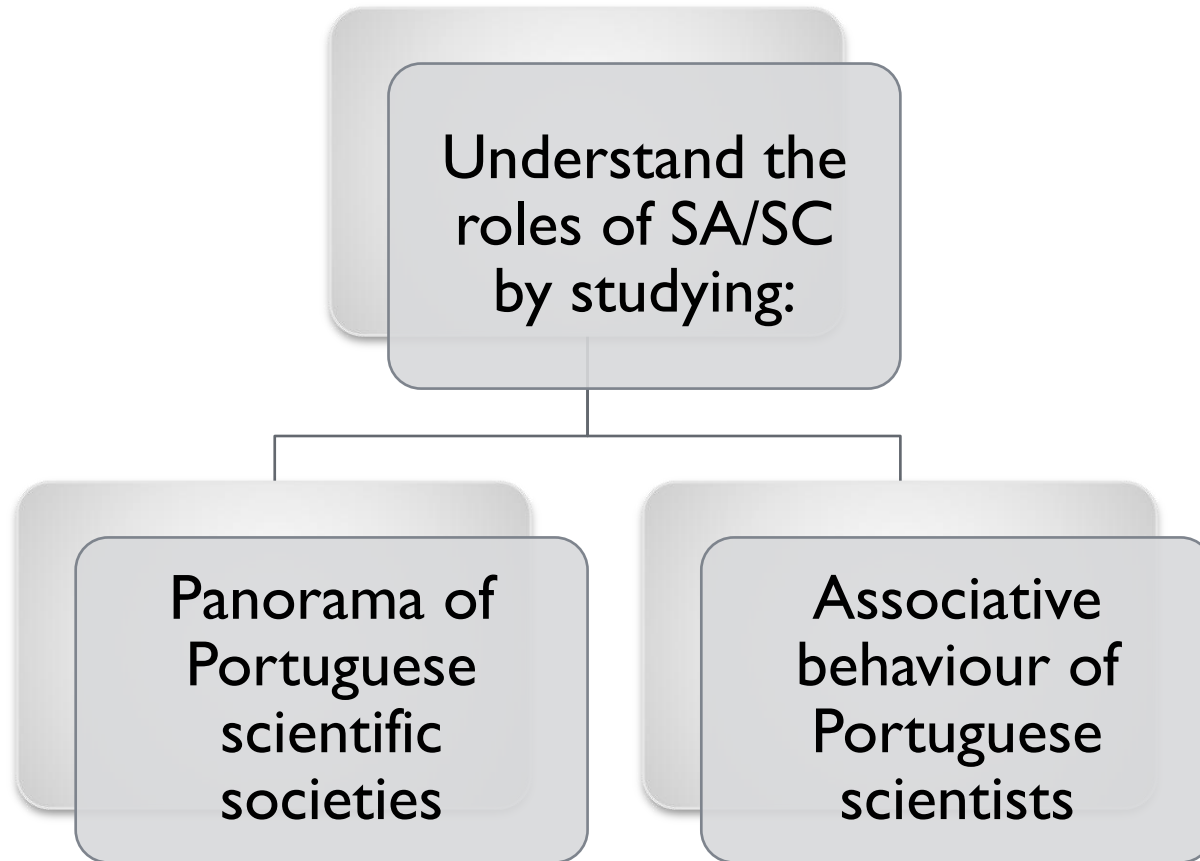
Conceição and Inês Pereira (CIES-IUL), Cristiana Bastos,

Luís Junqueira and Patrick Figueiredo (ICS-UL)

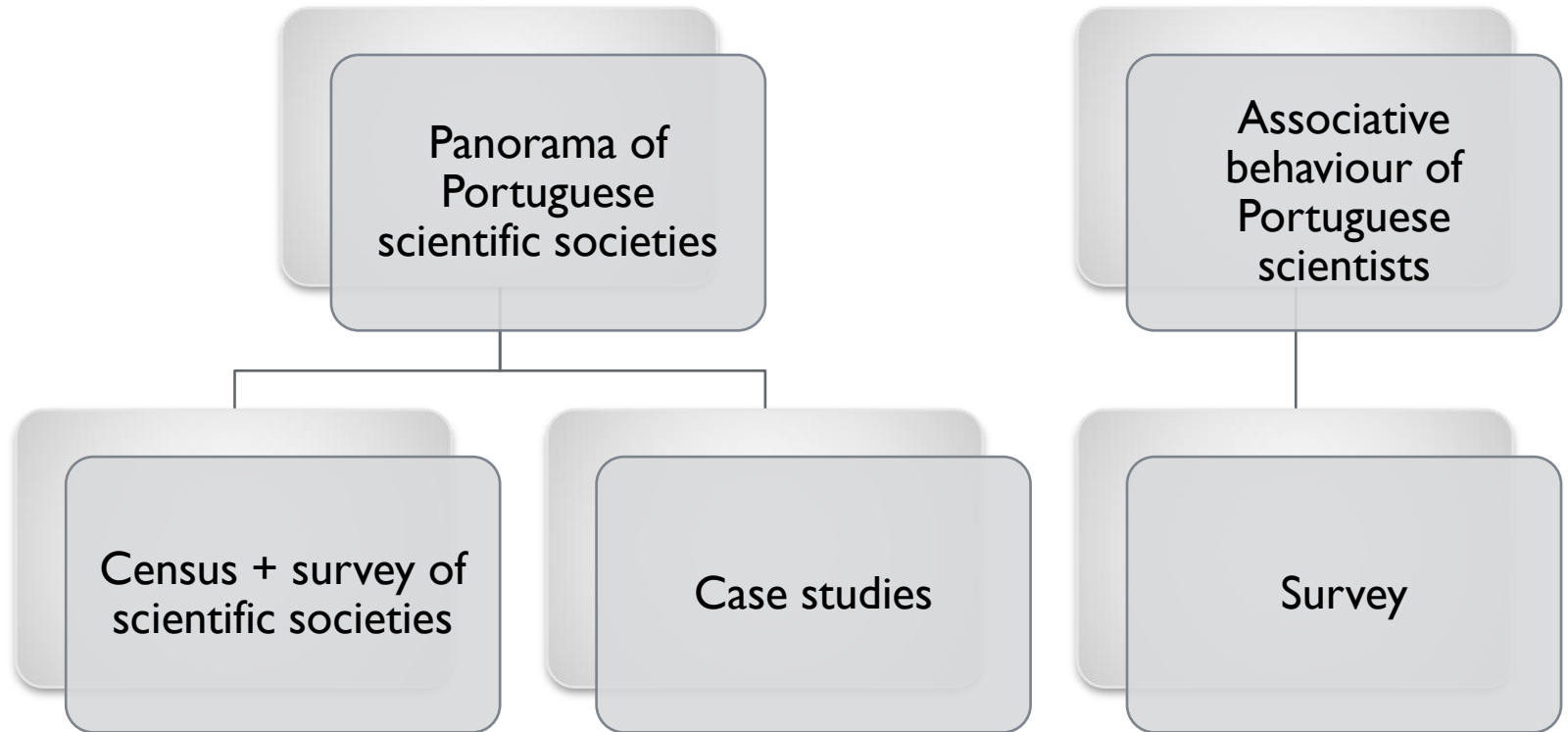
The research project: aim



The research project: aim



The research project: methodology

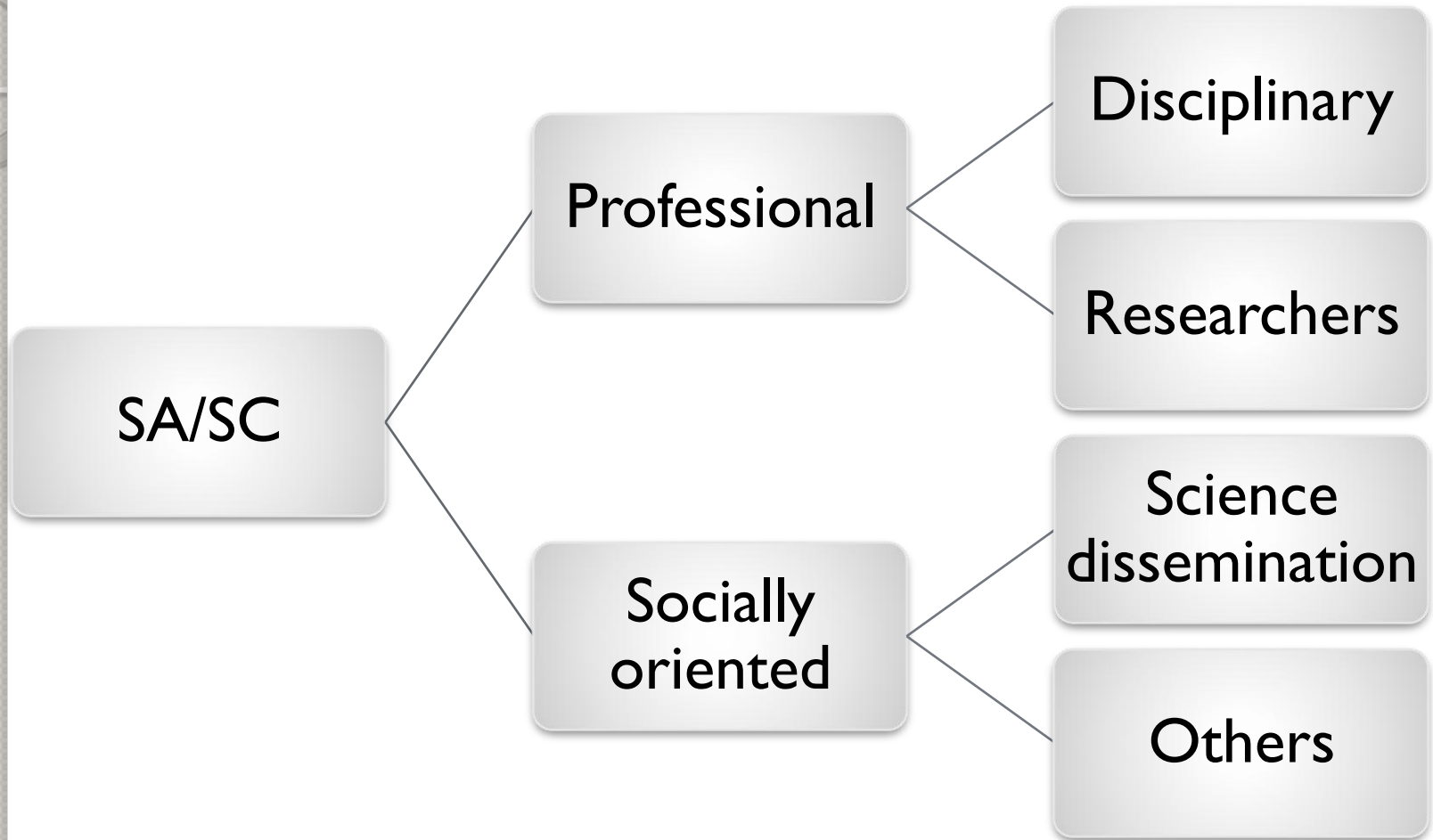


How to define scientific societies?

Shoefer (2003) proposes 2 types of (international) science associations:

- a) Professional, focused on “1) the professional interests of a specific scientific field, 2) scientific standards and nomenclature (...) 3) the production of scientific knowledge”
- b) Socially oriented, “support science in order to address social problems (...) 1) bringing scientific information to the citizenry or policy makers (...), 2) promotion of science or science policy that directly ameliorates social problems (...), 3) promotion of ethics in the application of science”

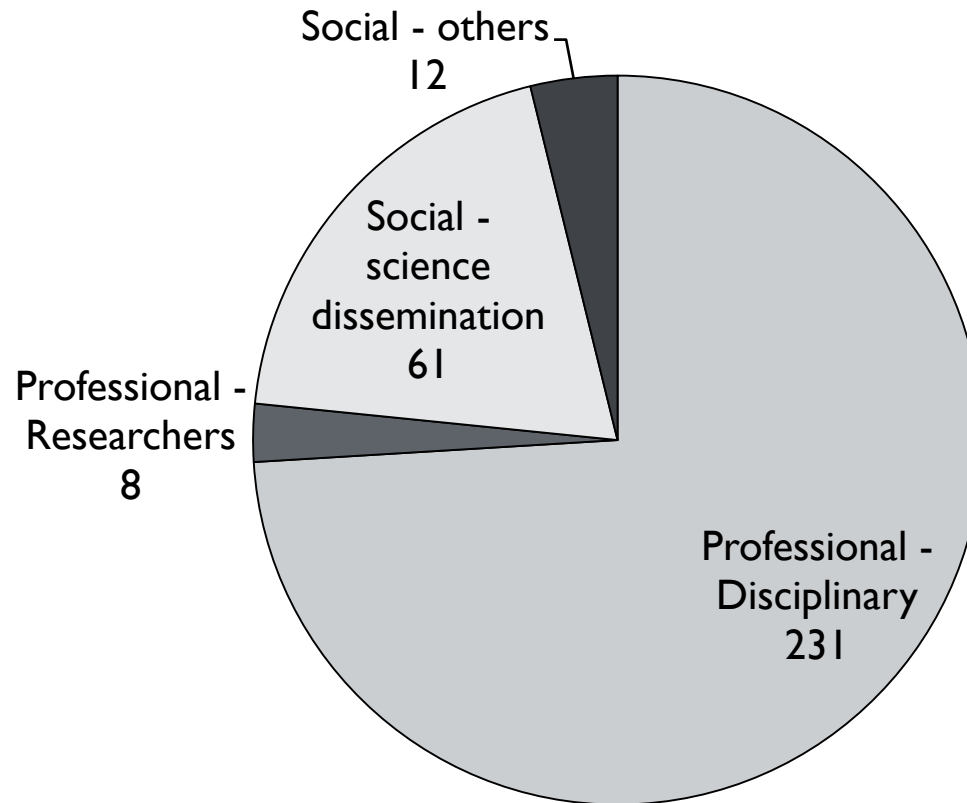
Scientific associations/societies



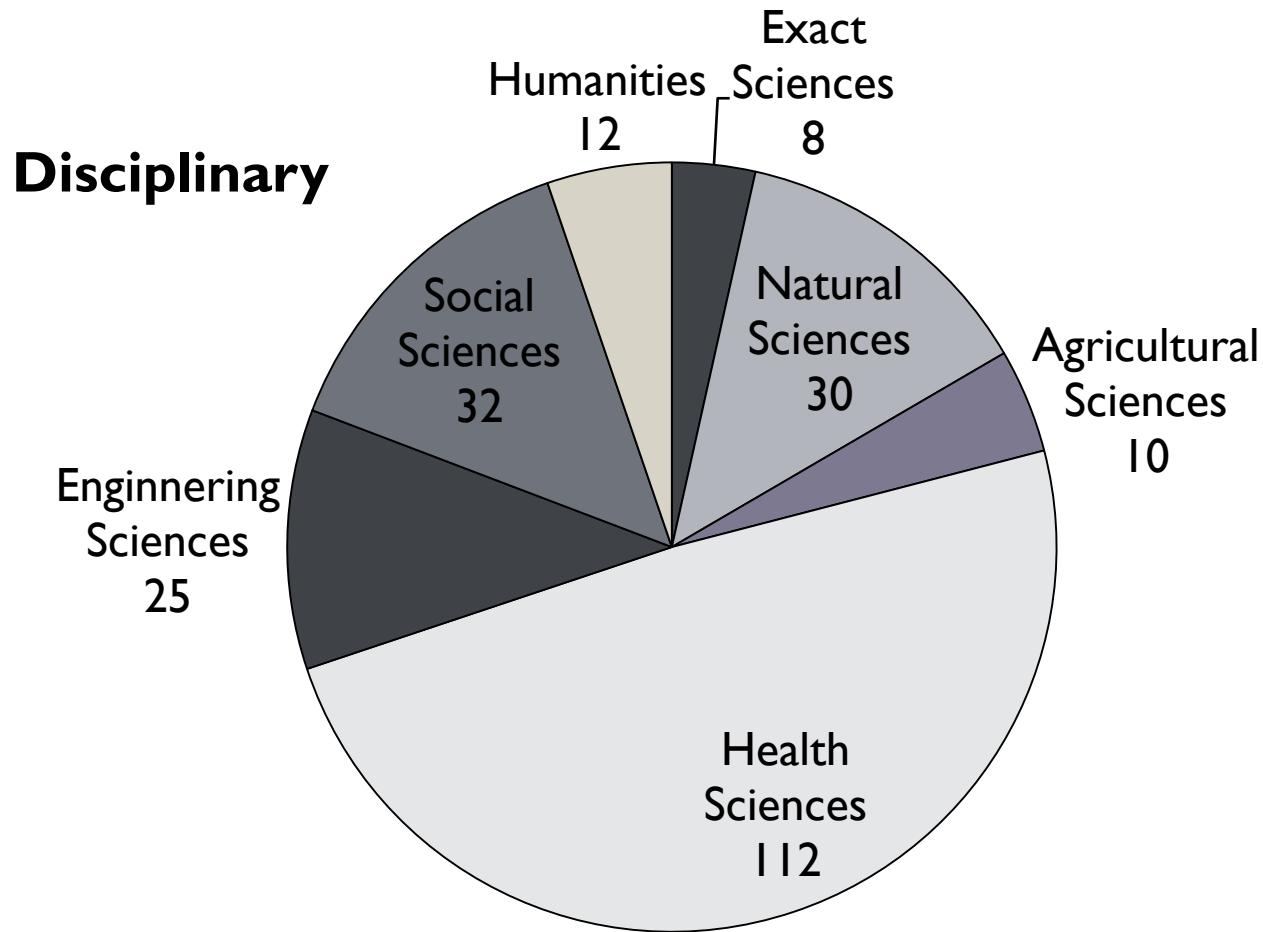
Borderline associations

- Associations of scientific and technical professionals
- Environmental associations
- Health associations
- Other associations

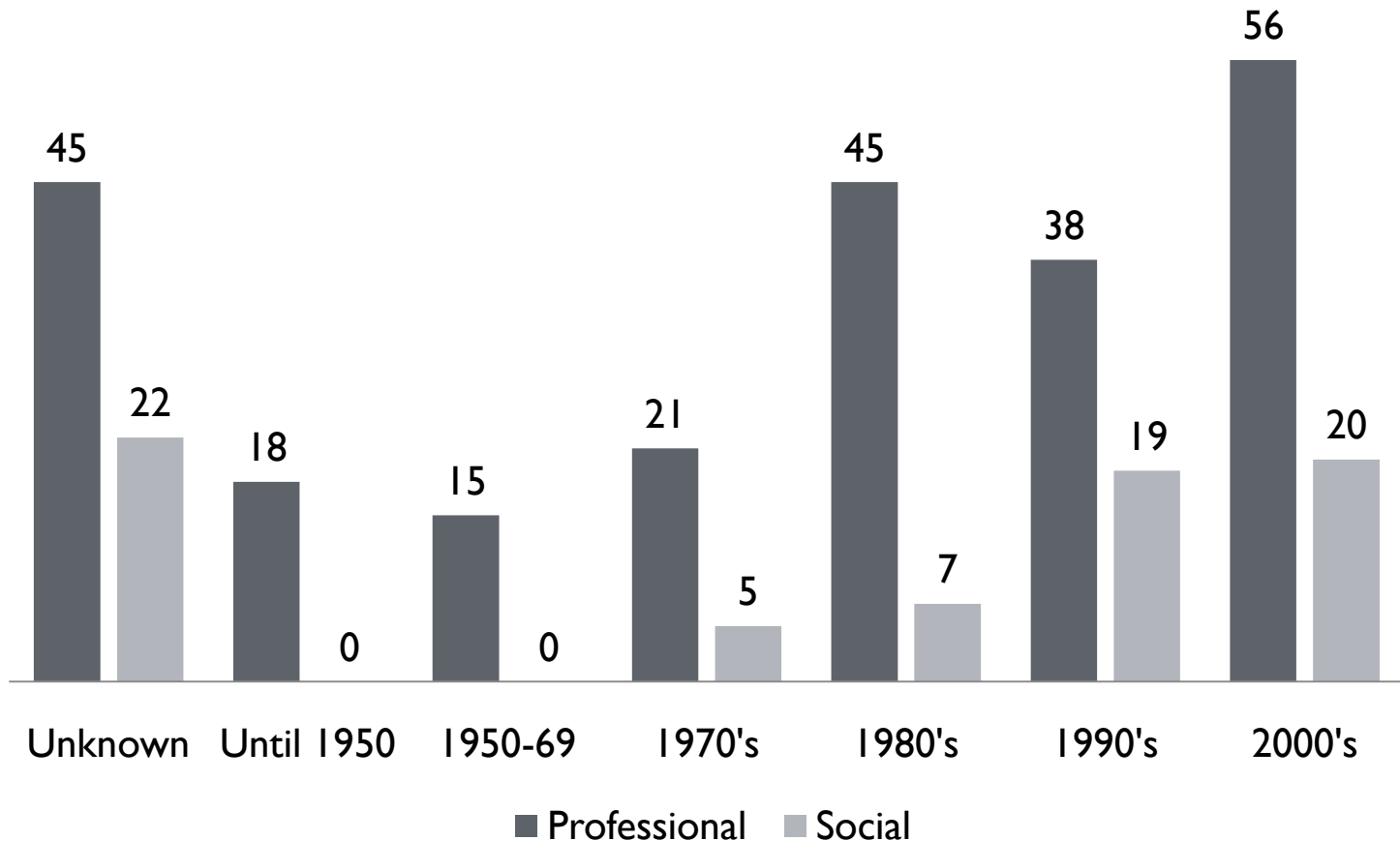
Census of associations: provisional data



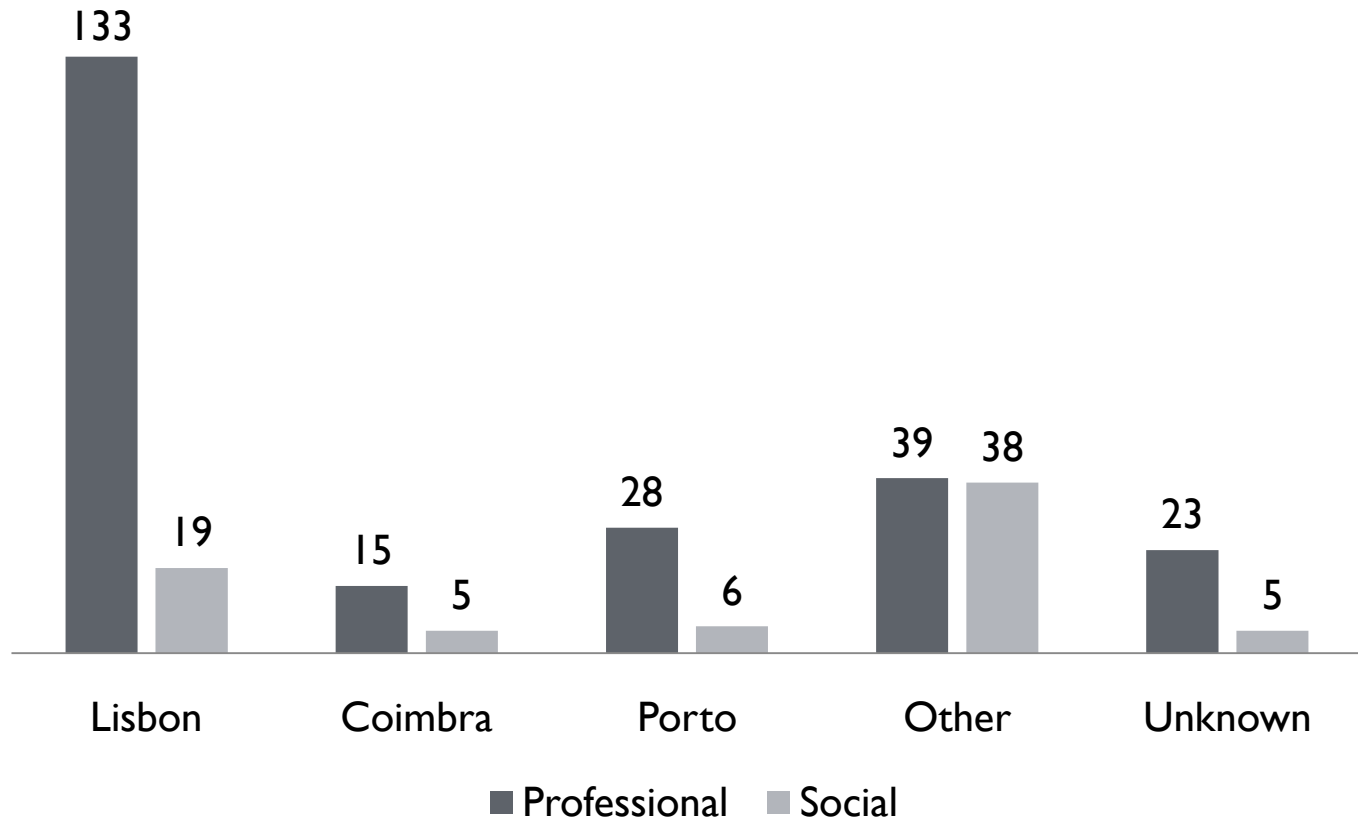
Census of associations: provisional data



Census of associations: provisional data



Census of associations: provisional data



Current activities

- Census of associations: analysis of statutes (181)
- Survey of associations: launched at the end of October, 12% response rate so far
- Case studies
 - Historical – Soc Geografia Lisboa, Academia das Ciências, ADCT
 - Current – 20 associations selected

Next steps

- In-depth case studies
 - Interviews with members of the board
 - Document analysis
 - Ethnographic observation at events