European Commission



FLASH EUROBAROMETER 585

# Youth and Democracy

EUROBAROMETER **REPORT**

June 2026

ON-LINE EUROBAROMETER

Survey conducted by Demoscopy at the request of Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC)

Survey coordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM 'Public Opinion and Citizens Engagement' Unit)

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

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https://europa.eu/eurobarometer

Ek ! Europo kune

Eŭropo Demokratio Esperanto

Document prepared by Pierre Dieumegard for Europokune- Europe Together- and Europe Democracy Esperanto.

The purpose of this "provisional" document is to enable more people in the European Union to become aware of documents produced by the European Union (and financed by their taxes).

**If there are no translations, citizens are excluded from the debate**.

This document "Eurobarometer" only existed in English, in a pdf-file. From the initial file, we created a odt-file, prepared by Libre Office software, for machine translation to other languages. The results are now available in all official languages.

**It is desirable that the EU administration takes over the translation of important documents. "Important documents" are not only laws and regulations, but also the important information needed to make informed decisions together.**

In order to discuss our common future together, and to enable reliable translations, the international language Esperanto would be very useful because of its simplicity, regularity and accuracy.

Contact us :

Kontaktu nin-Ek ! Eŭropo kune !

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# Introduction

In the context of the final implementation phase of the EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027 and the preparations of the EU Youth Strategy for the period after 2027, the European Commission launched the 2026 Flash Eurobarometer on Youth and democracy, targeting young people aged 15- 30. The previous Flash Eurobarometer on Youth and democracy (FL545), conducted in April 2024, just before the 2024 European elections, showed that young Europeans remain engaged with democratic life.[1] However, the survey also highlighted differences across Member States and socio-demographic groups in terms of awareness and participation. Since then, digital transformation, the growing role of artificial intelligence, and concerns about disinformation have continued to reshape the environment in which young people inform themselves, participate in society and interact with democratic institutions.

The 2026 Flash Eurobarometer provides robust, comparable and up-to-date evidence on young people's perceptions of intergenerational fairness, civic participation and the EU's support for youth engagement. The study measures current levels and channels of participation in civic, political and societal activities, including participation in organisations, societal action and activities in another EU country. It also assesses young people's awareness and use of EU-level engagement mechanisms, institutional participation tools, information channels and EU- funded youth programmes. In addition, the survey explores how young people evaluate different participation channels, such as voting, social media engagement, public consultations and youth organisations, while examining the role of civic education, digital literacy and training in strengthening democratic confidence and engagement.

By combining trend questions from previous Eurobarometer surveys with new questions, the survey also provides insights into young people's perceptions of equal opportunities and intergenerational fairness, as well as their expectations towards the European Union in areas such as democracy, human rights, inclusion, climate, employment and societal cohesion. The results will support the preparation of the next EU Youth Strategy by helping the European Commission identify to which extent young people feel heard, empowered and adequately equipped to participate in democratic life, and which areas should be prioritised in future youth policy action.

On behalf of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC), Demoscopy interviewed young people aged between 15 and 30 years across all 27 EU Member States.

Between the 19 June and the 1 July 2026, 26,806 interviews were conducted using a CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing) data collection mode, with around 1,000 interviews carried out in each larger country and 500 interviews in each smaller country (LU, CY, MT).

1 European Commission, Flash Eurobarometer 545 – Youth and Democracy, April 2024.

## Notes

- Survey data are weighted
- Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that not all apparent differences between countries or groups may be statistically significant.
- When respondents could select more than one answer, the sum of response percentages may exceed 100%.
- In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation as indicated below

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BE | Belgium | FR | France | NL | Netherlands |
| BG | Bulgaria | HR | Croatia | AT | Austria |
| CZ | Czechia | IT | Italy | PL | Poland |
| DK | Denmark | CY | Rep. of Cyprus | PT | Portugal |
| DE | Germany | LV | Latvia | RO | Romania |
| EE | Estonia | LT | Lithuania | SI | Slovenia |
| IE | Ireland | LU | Luxembourg | SK | Slovakia |
| EL | Greece | HU | Hungary | FI | Finland |
| ES | Spain | MT | Malta | SE | Sweden |

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 EU Member States. For practical reasons, interviews were carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus

# 1. Key findings

**Young people first ask that youth policies address the real issues they face**

- 40% of young Europeans say that goals addressing the real issues faced by young people are among the most important for delivering results in youth policies, ahead of making sure young people and youth organisations have a say in decisions, (32%) providing financial support for youth programmes and initiatives (32%), and ensuring young people know about policies and opportunities (29%).

**Young Europeans continue to learn about societal challenges, primarily through the media rather than at school**

- 84% of young Europeans have learned something new in the past year about at least one of the five topics tested: human rights and social justice (41%), equality, diversity and anti-discrimination (39%), media and digital literacy (33%), environmental sustainability (32%) and democratic processes, political participation and institutions (31%). Traditional and digital media are the leading channel (48%), well ahead of school (36%). Malta (98%), Luxembourg (97%) and Estonia (93%) have the highest shares of young people who learned about at least one topic in the past year.

**Three-quarters of young Europeans feel the EU has an impact on their daily life, with little variation in their expectations across different topics**

- 75% feel that actions taken by the EU affect their daily life, rising to 94% in Malta. When asked what they expect of the EU for their generation, young people most frequently mentioned preserving peace (33%), fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities (32%), and increasing job opportunities for young people (31%).

**Young Europeans are sceptical about long-term political thinking and intergenerational fairness**

- Only 38% think EU policymakers take the long- term consequences of their decisions into account, and just a third believe that today's young people have the same chances of success as young people 30 years ago or will have the same chances in 30 years' time. Malta, Estonia, Luxembourg and Latvia are consistently the countries where the answers were the most positive.

**Voting and social media are seen as the two most effective ways to make young people's voice heard**

- Voting is cited by 33% of young Europeans as one of the most effective ways to be heard, just ahead of engaging in social media (32%). Taking part in a public consultation on proposed political initiatives comes third with 29%.

**A majority of young Europeans have taken an action to change society, mostly around human rights**

- 55% have taken part in at least one initiative to bring about societal change in the past year, seven percentage points more than in 2024 (48%). The shares of respondents range from 26% in Cyprus to 72% in Luxembourg. Human rights is the leading area of engagement (36%), ranking first in 23 of the 27 Member States. This area is followed by equal rights regardless of gender, race and sexuality (33%) and health and well-being (30%).

**When young people across the EU are asked how familiar they are with ways to engage with the EU, 36% report being aware of European elections. A majority of young people use social media to stay informed about the EU.**

- 36% of young Europeans say they are familiar with the European elections, which remains

the best-known way to engage with the EU among the options proposed in the survey, ahead of the EU social media channels (27%). Among young respondents, social media is the most commonly used source of information about the EU in every Member State (52%), well ahead of TV (38%) or school (23%).

**A large majority of young Europeans took part in the activities of at least one organisation in the past year, and lack of time is the main barrier for the others**

- 75% of young Europeans took part in the activities of at least one organisation in the past 12 months, against 64% in 2024, most often a sports club (26%) or a youth club or youth organisation (20%). Among the 23% who did not take part in any, lack of time is the dominant barrier (41%). A lack of interest (20%) and never having been asked or invited (16%) are the next most frequently mentioned reasons.

**Far more young Europeans than in 2024 have participated in activities in another EU country, but financial constraints still hold many back, even where EU programmes are well known**

- 60% of young Europeans have taken part in at least one activity in another EU country, against 43% in 2024. The figure ranges from 47% in Sweden to 88% in Malta. Studying, training or doing an apprenticeship in another EU country is the activity most frequently mentioned (23%), ahead of being involved in cultural or sports activities in another EU country (21%), volunteering or similar activities (18%), working in another EU country (16%) and being involved in political activities in another EU country (14%). For those who have not taken part in an activity in another EU country, lack of financial means is the main barrier (41%). Erasmus+ for students remains the best-known EU opportunity (41%), but high awareness does not always lead to actual mobility: Greece and Cyprus both have some of the highest non-participation rates and some of the highest awareness rates.

**Young Europeans are more confident in their ability to use AI in a safe way than to achieve the results they are looking for. They learn to use AI through a variety of means, in schools and outside**

- 72% feel confident in their ability to use AI tools in a safe way, but only 56% feel confident in their ability to use AI tools to achieve the results they are looking for. Media (39%) and self-directed reading, research or practice (33%) are the leading ways young people learn about AI, ahead of school (31%). However, the percentage of young people learning to use AI in schools increases when looking to the 15-18 years old age group (40%) The shares in Malta, Luxembourg and Estonia score above average on every learning channel.

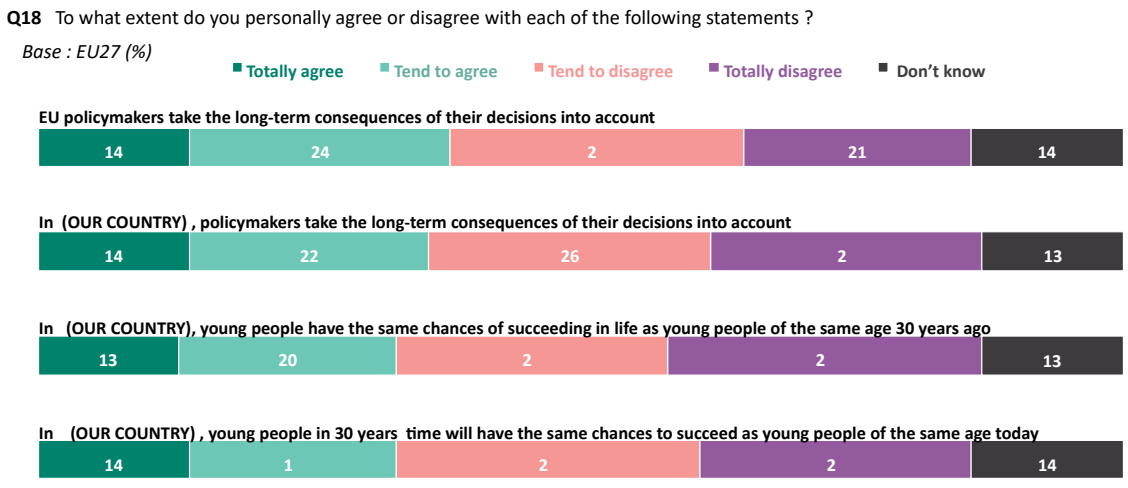
# 2. Young Europeans' perceptions of the world and the future

## 2.1 Long-term thinking by national and EU policymakers, and intergenerational fairness

***Only a minority of young Europeans (from a third to 38%) agree that EU or national policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account, or that young people have the same chances of success in life as those of the same age 30 years ago or in 30 years' time***

Only 38% of young Europeans feel that EU policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account, and 14% 'totally agree' that they do so. Conversely, 48% think they do not take long-term consequences into account, with one in five (21%) saying they 'totally disagree'. A further 14% express no opinion on the matter, a notably high share of non-response for this sort of opinion question; it is also the highest proportion of 'don't know' responses in the study. The assessment is a little lower for national policymakers: only 36% of 15- to 30-year-olds think that policymakers in their own country take long-term consequences into account, including 14% who 'totally agree'. A further 51% think national policymakers do not do so, including a quarter (25%) who 'totally disagree'. Another 13% express no opinion.

Young people are also more likely to disagree than to agree that they have the same chances of succeeding in life as young people of the same age 30 years ago. A third of them (33%) feel that in their country, young people today have the same chances of success in life as people of the same age 30 years ago. Only one in ten (13%) 'totally agree' with this statement. By contrast, 54% believe this not to be the case, including 29% who 'totally disagree'. A further 13% express no opinion. This uncertainty appears to extend to young Europeans' expectations for future generations: one in three (33%) believe that young people in their country will have the same chances of success in 30 years' time as young people of the same age today. 53% disagree with this statement, including 25% who 'totally disagree'. While the overall levels of disagreement are of a similar magnitude, the two statements differ in the intensity of disagreement: 29% 'totally disagree' with the statement about the previous generation, compared with 25% for the statement about the next generation.



**Young people in Malta, Estonia, Latvia, Luxembourg and Denmark tend to express more positive views across the four statements on intergenerational fairness than young people in other EU Member States**

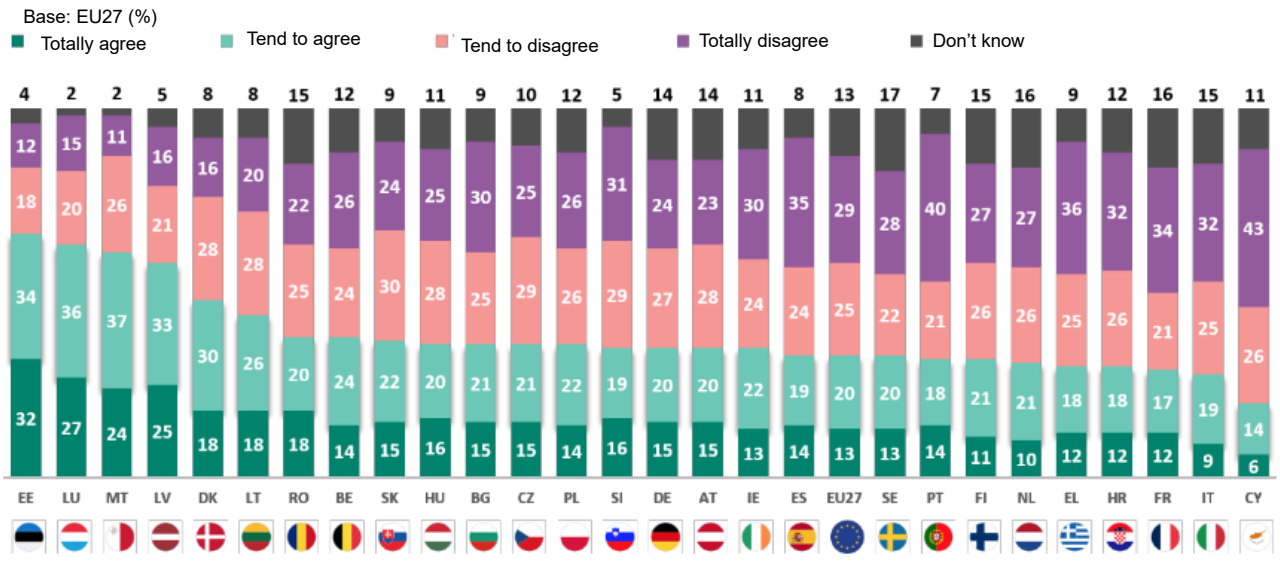
Estonia, Luxembourg, Malta, Latvia and Denmark are the only countries among the 27 Member States where agreement outweighs disagreement on all four statements. In Malta, the share of respondents agreeing with the proposed statements ranges from 61% to 87%. By comparison, the corresponding ranges are 66% to 75% in Estonia, 61% to 79% in Luxembourg, 58% to 66% in Latvia and 48% to 61% in Denmark.

Slovenia, Hungary and Romania are the only three Member States where agreement outweighs disagreement on both statements about policymakers, but disagreement outweighs agreement on the two statements about young people's chances of success. In Slovenia, 58% of respondents agree that EU policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account, against 35% who agree that young people today have the same chances of success as young people 30 years ago. The same reversal appears, although less pronounced, in Hungary (48% and 36%) and Romania (51% and 38%). In 17 of the remaining Member States, disagreement outweighs agreement on all four statements.

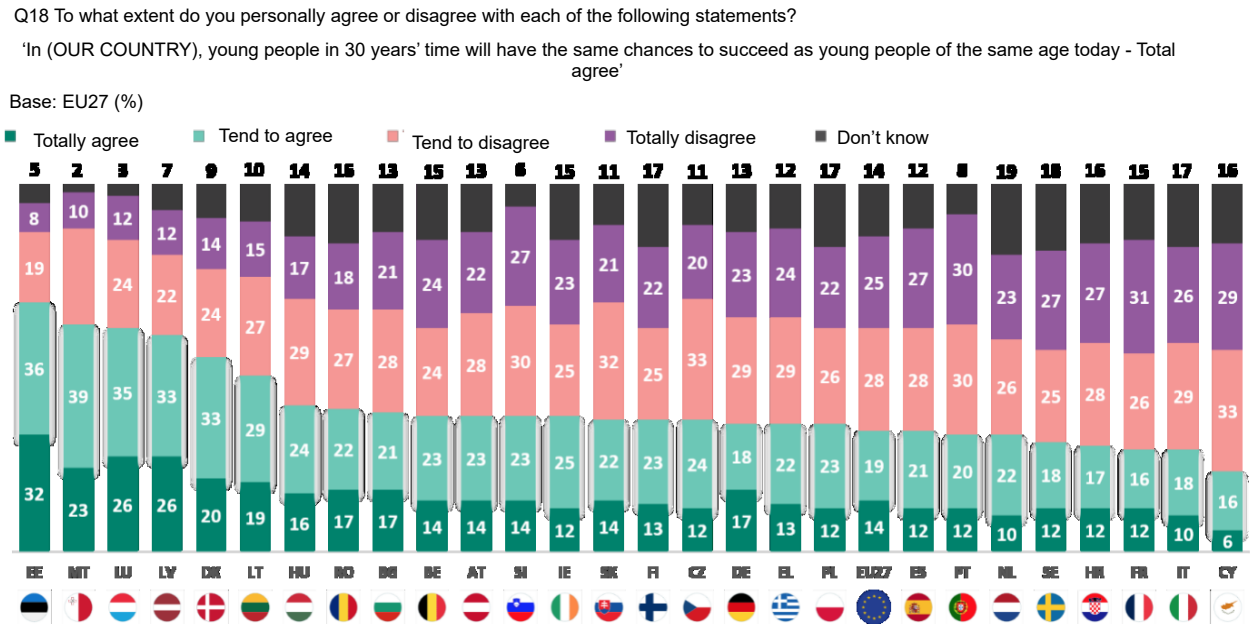
Looking specifically at whether young people today have the same chances of success as young people 30 years ago, in only four countries does the majority of respondents agree with the statement: Estonia (66%), Luxembourg (63%), Malta (61%) and Latvia (58%). Respondents in Denmark remain relatively positive on this point, though below the majority threshold at 48%. In Cyprus, however, only 20% of 15- to 30-year-olds think they have the same chances as young people 30 years ago, against 69% who disagree, including 43% who 'totally disagree'. The least positive answers come from respondents in Italy (28% 'total agree'), France (29%), Greece and Croatia (30% each).

**Q18 To what extent do you personally agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**In (OUR COUNTRY), young people have the same chances of succeeding in life as young people of the same age 30 years ago**



When it comes to expectations about whether young people will have the same chances of success in 30 years as they do today, the same four countries record the highest levels of agreement: Estonia (68%), Malta (62%), Luxembourg (61%) and Latvia (59%). They are followed by Denmark (53%). Agreement is lowest among respondents in Cyprus (22%).




The least positive answers come from young people in Italy and France (28% agree each), followed by Croatia (29%) and Sweden (30%). On the question about the chances of future generations, the share of respondents who 'totally disagree' is highest in France (31%), ahead of Portugal (30%) and Cyprus (29%).

***Across all socio-demographic categories, a majority of young people do not agree with the four proposed statements on intergenerational fairness. However, young people who have taken part in the activities of an organisation in the past 12 months are the most optimistic***

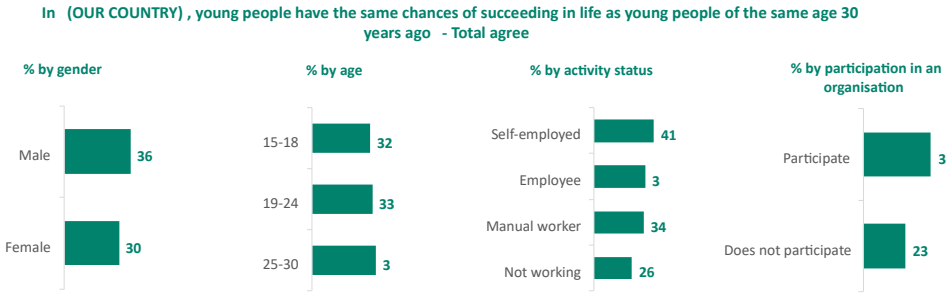
Across all four proposed statements, the same socio-demographic profiles emerge as the most optimistic: men, self-employed, young people living in a household with children, and city-dwellers. The most notable differences emerge between those who have participated in the activities of an organisation in the last 12 months and those who have not. Across all four items, those who participate in an organisation show 14 to 16 percentage points higher 'total agree' rates than those who do not. Specifically, 40% of those who participate in an organisation think national policymakers take long-term consequences into account, against 24% of those who do not. Moreover, across all four items, young people who have taken part in the activities of an organisation are consistently twice as likely to 'totally agree' as those who have not (for example, 16% vs 8% on long-term consequences, 15% vs 8% on the same chances as 30 years ago, and 16% vs 7% on the same chances in 30 years' time).

Looking specifically at the feeling of having the same chances of succeeding in life as young people 30 years ago, 36% of men agree, compared with 30% of women. This gender gap also shows up in the intensity of disagreement (32% of women 'totally disagree', against 26% of men).

While 32% of 15- to 18-year-olds and 33% of 19- to 24-year-olds are optimistic, agreement is slightly higher as young people approach their thirties, with 35% of 25- to 30-year-olds thinking they have as much chance of success as young people 30 years ago. Disagreement levels are close across age groups (53% to 54%), with the main change being a decline in the 'no opinion' share.

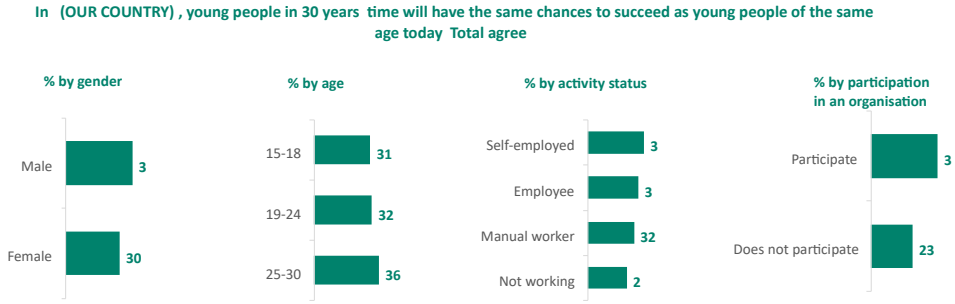
Agreement also varies by place of residence: city- dwellers are the most optimistic (36% 'total agree'), ahead of rural residents (33%) and those living in towns or suburbs (31%); educational attainment has little bearing on these views (32% to 34% across levels, with no clear linear pattern), although the 'don't know' share is higher among respondents with lower educational attainment. Similarly, the self-employed and employees are more optimistic (41% and 35% respectively) than those not in employment (26%). Manual workers are in line with the average (34%), but are more undecided, with the highest 'don't know' share (18%). Finally, those living in a household without children under the age of 15 are significantly less optimistic than those with children (29% 'total agree', against 37–38% among those with children).

**Q18** To what extent do you personally agree or disagree with each of the following statements?




On the feeling that young people in 30 years' time will have the same chances of success as young people today, the same gender gap appears: men are optimistic at 37%, against 30% of women. Similarly, 27% of women 'totally disagree', compared with 22% of men. There is also a certain linearity in the differences between age groups: the closer respondents get to their thirties, the more optimistic they are about the next generation: 31% of 15- to 18-year-olds think young people in 30 years' time will have the same chances as those of today, rising to 32% among 19- to 24-year-olds and 36% among 25- to 30- year-olds. It is also worth noting that, on the two items about policymakers, agreement does not differ between age groups. Educational attainment has only a limited effect, and city- dwellers remain more optimistic (35%) than those living in towns or suburbs (32%), with rural residents in line with the average (34%). The same hierarchy by activity status holds: the self-employed lead (39%), ahead of employees (35%) and manual workers (32%), with those not in employment coming in last (27%). However, for parents with children under the age of 15, the pattern differs from that seen for the feeling of having the same chances as previous generations: here, parents of one or two children under 15 remain the most optimistic (37%), but parents of three or more children fall back to 33%, close to those without children (31%).

**Q18** To what extent do you personally agree or disagree with each of the following statements



## 2.2 Learning about societal challenges

**Young Europeans continue to learn about societal challenges. Only one in six did not learn anything new in the last 12 months about the topics mentioned in the survey**

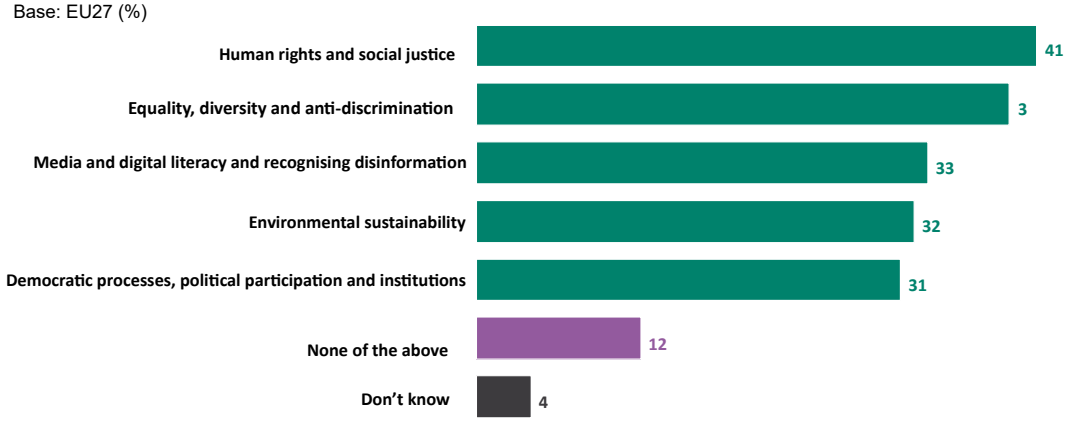
An overwhelming majority of young people have learnt something new about at least one of the topics listed, with only 12% having learnt nothing over the past year and 4% answering 'don't know'. No topic clearly stands out: human rights and social justice is the most frequently cited topic (41%), just ahead of equality, diversity and the anti-discrimination (39%). They are followed by media and digital literacy and recognising disinformation (33%), the environment (32%), and democratic processes and participation in political institutions (31%).

The greatest share of respondents that believe they have learned nothing new about any of the five topics is in Cyprus (27%, ten points more than the second-highest country, Bulgaria, at 17%). Cyprus also records the lowest share of people in the EU27 who have learned more about environmental sustainability (19%). However, the share of those who have learned more about democratic processes is in line with the EU average at 32% It is also worth noting that the lowest share of people who learned something new about democratic processes is in Ireland (22%), where respondents are nonetheless at or above average on all other topics.

**Learning about societal challenges is more frequent among young people who have taken part in the activities of an organisation. It differs by gender depending on the topic and declines with age**

**Q2** In the last 12 months, have you learned anything new about the following topics?

Base: EU27 (%)




***National differences vary more by topic than by a country's overall level***

When it comes to learning something new about societal challenges, respondents in Malta, Luxembourg and Estonia are above EU27 average for every topic listed. The highest shares by topic are recorded in Malta, with 54% reporting to have learned something new about human rights and 48% about environmental sustainability, and in Luxembourg, with 53% having learned about equality/diversity and 52% on media literacy. Estonia follows close behind on media literacy, at 51%.

Taking part in the activities of an organisation seems to go with more learning about human rights and social justice. 44% of those who have taken part learnt something about this topic over the past year, against 32% of those who have not.

Women are markedly more likely (43%) than men (39%) to say they have learnt something about this topic.

Learning something new on human rights and social justice appears to decline from the age of 25. 44% of 15- to 18-year-olds learnt something about this topic, against 42% of 19- to 24-year-olds and 38% of 25- to 30-year-olds. This might seem linked to leaving school or higher

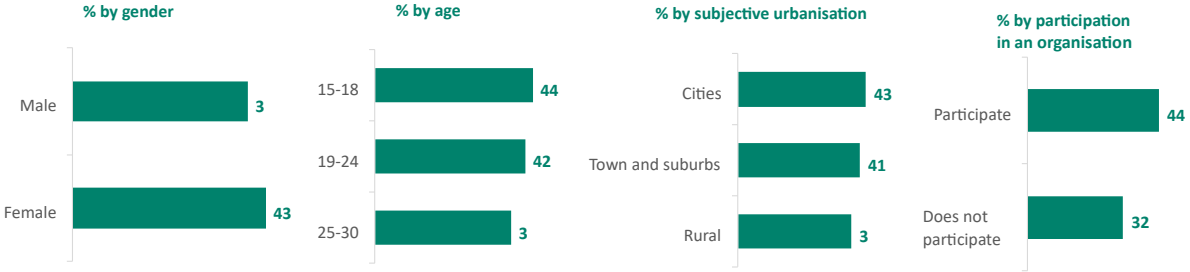
education, but actual level of education has little bearing on the result. Similar levels can be observed across groups: 41% among respondents with lower educational attainment, 42% among those with secondary education and 40% among those with higher education. On this topic, city- dwellers stand out clearly (43%), ahead of those living in towns or suburbs (41%) and, above all, rural residents (38%). Finally, manual workers stand out with a markedly lower score (37%), against 42% for employees and those not in employment, and 41% for the self-employed.

On learning about 'equality, diversity and anti-discrimination', the gender gap widens further compared with human rights: 42% of women learnt something new about this topic during the year, against 36% of men, a gap of 6 percentage points (compared with 4 points on human rights). Learning is again higher among under-25s (42% among 15- to 18-year-olds, 40% among 19- to 24-year-olds, against 37% among 25- to 30-year-olds) and among city-dwellers (40% in cities, towns and suburbs, against 37% among rural residents). But once again, it is participation in an organisation that

**Q2** In the last 12 months, have you learned anything new about the following topics?

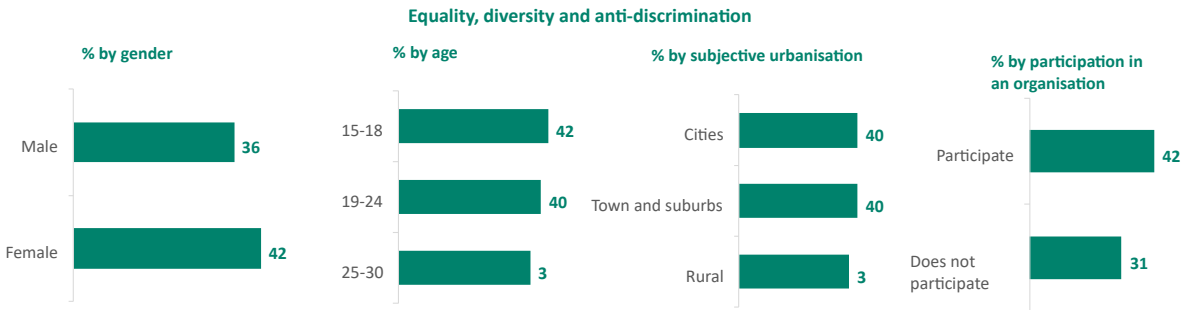
*Base: EU27 (%)*

**Human rights and social justice**




emerges as the strongest driver: 42% of those who have taken part in the activities of an organisation learnt something new about this topic, against only 31% of those who do not, an 11-point gap. Educational attainment, by contrast, remains a poor discriminator (39% among those with less than primary, primary or lower secondary education, 39% among those with secondary education and 40% among those with higher education).

**Q2** In the last 12 months, have you learned anything new about the following topics?

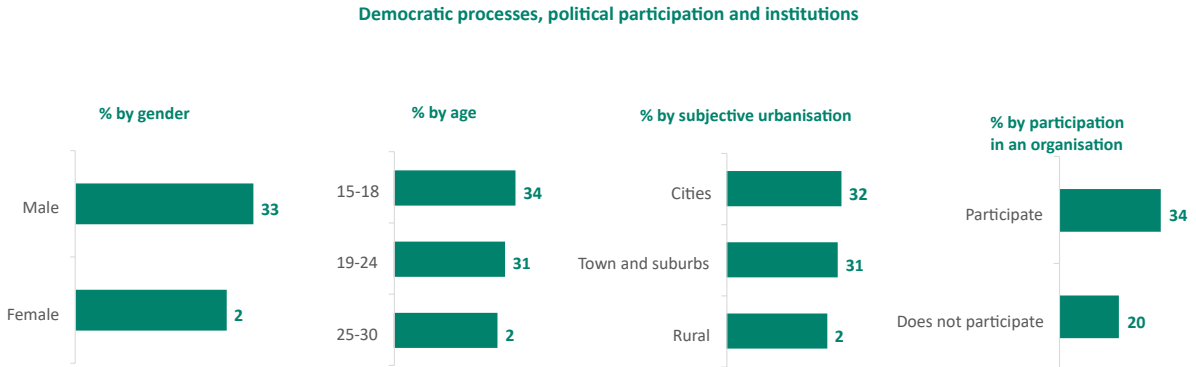



Regarding learning about 'democratic processes, political participation and institutions', the gender gap is reversed: men report having learnt more than women on this topic (33% against 28%, a 5-point gap), making it the learning topic. Age also plays a role, but here a decline sets in from the age of 18 (34% of 15- to 18-year-olds learnt something new about this topic during the year, against 31% of 19- to 24-year-olds and 29% of 25- to 30-year-olds). Educational attainment is another factor: 34% among those with higher education, against 30% among those with secondary education and 28% among those with lower educational attainment. City-dwellers also stand out (32%, against 31% for those in towns or suburbs and 28% for rural residents). Finally, participation in activities of an organisation produces the widest gap of all: 34% of young people who have taken part in activities of an organisation learnt something new about this topic, against 20% of those who do not.

***school or university, through discussions with family and friends or through self-directed research***

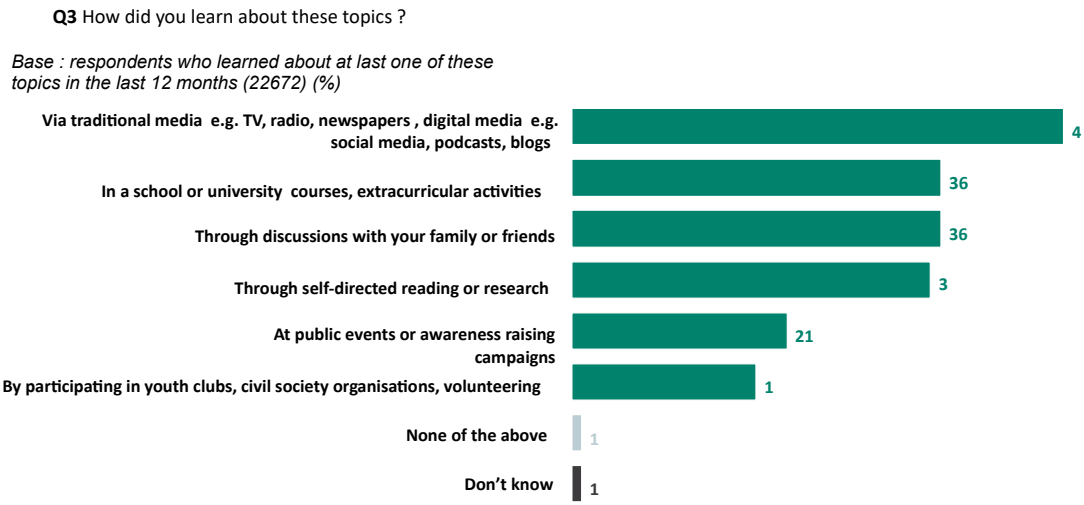
The press and social media are the most commonly used channels to learn about the topics surveyed. Nearly half (48%) of young Europeans who learnt something new in the past year about one of the societal challenges tested did so through traditional media (TV, radio, print) or digital media (social media, podcasts, blogs). A little over a third learnt about these topics at school or university (36%) and through discussions with friends and family (36%). 35% carried out their own reading or research on these topics. Only one in five young people learned about one of the surveyed topics through a public event or an awareness campaign (21%). Finally, only 18% learnt something new on one of the topics tested by participating in youth clubs, civil society organisations or volunteering. Nevertheless, youth clubs and civil society organisations often work in or alongside

**Q2** In the last 12 months, have you learned anything new about the following topics?




***Traditional and digital media are the most frequently reported sources of learning about the topics surveyed. Just over a third of those who learnt something did so at*** educational settings, which may mean that some of this learning was reported under 'school or university', or under 'discussions with family and friends'. Across all five topics, taking

part in the activities of an organisation is the breakdown that makes the biggest difference, ahead of gender, age, educational attainment, urbanisation and activity status. The gap ranges from 11 to 14 percentage points.




***Media is the most often reported source of learning for young people in 23 of the 27 Member States. In Bulgaria, Poland and Malta, it ranks second, after self-directed reading or research. In Greece, it ranks behind discussions with family and friends***

Media, whether traditional or digital, is reported by at least half of respondents in eleven Member States: Romania (62%), Luxembourg (60%), Slovenia (58%), Estonia (55%), Hungary (54%), Italy (53%), France (52%), Czechia (52%), Lithuania (51%), Malta (50%) and Cyprus (50%). The highest share of young people using media to learn about societal topics is recorded in Romania with nearly two-thirds (62%) of respondents having learnt something about at least one of the topics surveyed via traditional or digital media, 14 points above the EU27 average. This is also almost twice as high as the second most used channel among young Romanians, discussions with family and friends, which accounts for a third of respondents to this question (32%). The lowest share on the school or university channel is also in Romania (25%), 11 points below the EU average. Other Member States where fewer young people mention they have learned about the surveyed topics in a school or university include Hungary (26%), Lithuania (28%), Bulgaria (28%) and Poland (29%). By comparison, Estonia (44%), Belgium (43%) and France (42%) record the highest shares on the school or university channel. Countries where the youth club, civil society organisation and volunteering channel is used significantly above the EU27 average, for example Malta (38%), Estonia (37%), Luxembourg and Slovenia (34% each), also tend to be above average on most other channels. These four countries are the only Member States where respondents are above the EU27 average on all six channels. Their widest gap is on youth clubs and civil society organisations where they stand 16 to 20 points above the EU27 average. This could indicate that youth clubs or civil society organisations come in addition to the other channels rather than in place of them. In Cyprus (13%), Croatia and Czechia (14% each) and Hungary (15%) fewer respondents report having learnt through youth clubs or civil society organisations. Finally, media is not the leading channel everywhere: self-directed reading or research comes first in Bulgaria (46% against 44% for media), Poland (48% vs 47%) and Malta (51% vs 50% for media); discussions with family and friends come first in Greece (49% against 43%).

**Q3 How did you learn about these topics ?**

*Base: respondents whose learned about at least one of these topics in the last 12 months (22672) (%)*

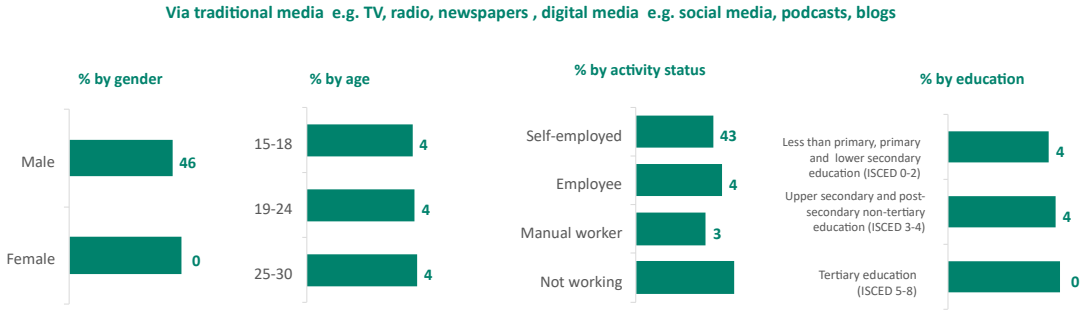
| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Via traditional media (e.g. TV, radio, newspapers), digital media (e.g. social media, podcasts, blogs) | 48 | 47 | 44 | 52 | 48 | 43 | 55 | 48 | 43 | 46 | 52 | 48 | 53 | 50 | 46 | 51 | 60 | 54 | 50 | 42 | 40 | 47 | 45 | 62 | 58 | 42 | 46 | 43 |
| In a school or university (courses, extracurricular activities) | 36 | 43 | 28 | 34 | 38 | 33 | 44 | 40 | 34 | 35 | 42 | 35 | 40 | 32 | 36 | 28 | 40 | 26 | 39 | 35 | 36 | 29 | 34 | 25 | 37 | 30 | 40 | 39 |
| Through discussions with your family or friends | 36 | 31 | 34 | 31 | 39 | 35 | 41 | 36 | 49 | 36 | 37 | 36 | 36 | 45 | 37 | 31 | 42 | 34 | 47 | 37 | 37 | 37 | 36 | 32 | 42 | 31 | 34 | 35 |
| Through self-directed reading or research | 35 | 26 | 46 | 25 | 39 | 38 | 43 | 35 | 40 | 40 | 27 | 42 | 34 | 32 | 39 | 36 | 40 | 35 | 51 | 34 | 33 | 48 | 35 | 26 | 40 | 32 | 42 | 32 |
| At public events or awareness raising campaigns | 21 | 24 | 21 | 20 | 27 | 24 | 35 | 19 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 29 | 22 | 32 | 22 | 35 | 20 | 19 | 19 | 22 | 16 | 32 | 23 | 21 | 19 |
| By participating in youth clubs, civil society organisations, volunteering | 18 | 24 | 17 | 14 | 28 | 16 | 37 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 14 | 20 | 13 | 29 | 19 | 34 | 15 | 38 | 22 | 17 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 34 | 16 | 16 | 20 |

**The use of media to learn about societal topics is consistent across age groups, but is more prevalent among those with higher levels of education and young people not in employment**

Women are more likely than men to learn about the surveyed topics via traditional or digital media: half of those who learnt something about one or more of the societal issues tested did so via the media (50%), against 46% of men. Age plays only a limited role, with media use appearing fairly uniform across age groups among 15- to 30-year-olds in Europe (47% among 15- to 18-year-olds, 48% among 19- to 24-year- olds, 49% among 25- to 30-year-olds). Similarly, there is no apparent variation in the use of media according to the degree of urbanisation, with media used by 48% of the respondents in cities, peri-urban areas and rural areas alike. Educational attainment, however, is a stronger differentiating factor: media is used by 45% of those with lower educational attainment, 48% of those with secondary education and 50% of those with higher education. This is echoed in the breakdown by activity status: those not in employment, that are still students or not yet on the labour market, record the highest use (55%), manual workers are notably lower (39%), and the self-employed are also below average (43%). Interestingly, the driving effect of participation in the activities of an organisation is reversed here: those young people who take part in an activity of an organisation make greater use of all the other channels covered by the question, than those who do not. For media, the opposite holds: non-participants in organisations stand at 54%, against 47% among participants. This suggests that media remain a good means of access to, and exposure to, societal issues for young people who do not take part in activity of an organisation, while young people who do seem to diversify their sources of information more widely.

**Q3** How did you learn about these topics?

*Base : respondents who learned about at least one of these toics in the last 12 months (22672) (%)*




**Learning about the surveyed topics by participating in youth clubs, civil society organisations or volunteering is more common among men and becomes more widespread after the age of 2 . It is also more frequently mentioned by respondents with higher educational attainment.**

Men are somewhat more likely than women to report having learnt about the societal challenges through youth clubs, civil society organisations or volunteering: 20% learnt something through this channel on the societal issues tested, against 17% of women. There is also a progression with age (16% among 15- to 18-year-olds, 18% among 19- to 24-year-olds, 20% among 25- to 30-year-olds), while an opposite pattern is observed for school or university (49% among 15- to 18-year-olds, 37% among 19- to 24-year-olds and 27% among 25- to 30-year-olds). Learning through this channel therefore appears to build up after leaving school and upon entering working life. That said, it does not seem disconnected from school structures, since those with higher educational attainment are also those who continue to learn the most through this channel (21% among those with higher education, against 17% among those with secondary education and 16% among those with lower educational attainment). 21% of respondents in cities cite associations, against 16–17% in peri-urban or rural areas. Finally, by activity status, the self- employed lead (23%), followed by employees and manual workers at 19% each, with those not in employment notably lower (13%).

**Q3** How did you learn about these topics ?

*Base : respondents who learned about at least one of these toics in the last 12 months (22672) (%)*



## 2.3 Feelings and expectations about the EU in daily life

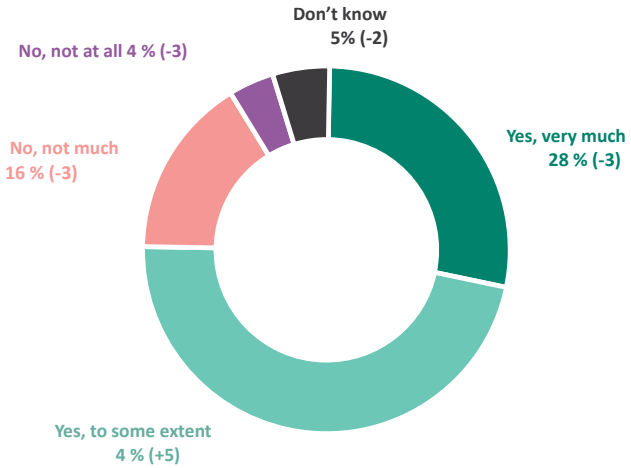
***Three-quarters of young Europeans feel that actions taken by the EU have an impact on their daily life, with more than a quarter feeling that these actions have a significant impact on them***

75% of 15- to 30-year-olds in Europe feel that actions taken by the European Union have an impact on their daily life, eight points higher than in the previous survey[2]. More than a quarter also feel that the European Union has a strong impact (28% 'yes, very much'). Against this, only 20% think that actions taken by the EU have no impact on their daily life, or at best a limited one (16% 'no, not much' and just 4% 'no, not at all'), while 5% answer 'don't know'.

Luxembourg (91%, including 36% 'very much'), Hungary (85%, including 35% 'yes, very much'), Poland (84%, including 39% 'yes, very much') and Estonia (84%, including 32% 'very much'). The highest share answering 'yes, very much' in the EU27 is in Romania (44%). 82% of young Romanians therefore think that what is done at EU level has an impact on their daily lives, and more than half of these rate that impact as strong. It is also worth recalling that young Romanians were a narrow majority (51%) in thinking that EU policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account.

The Netherlands records the highest combined share answering 'no, not much' or 'no, not at all' (28%), ahead of young people in Cyprus (26%) and Sweden (24%); in each of these countries,

**Q14** Would you say that actions taken by the EU have an impact on your daily life or not?




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

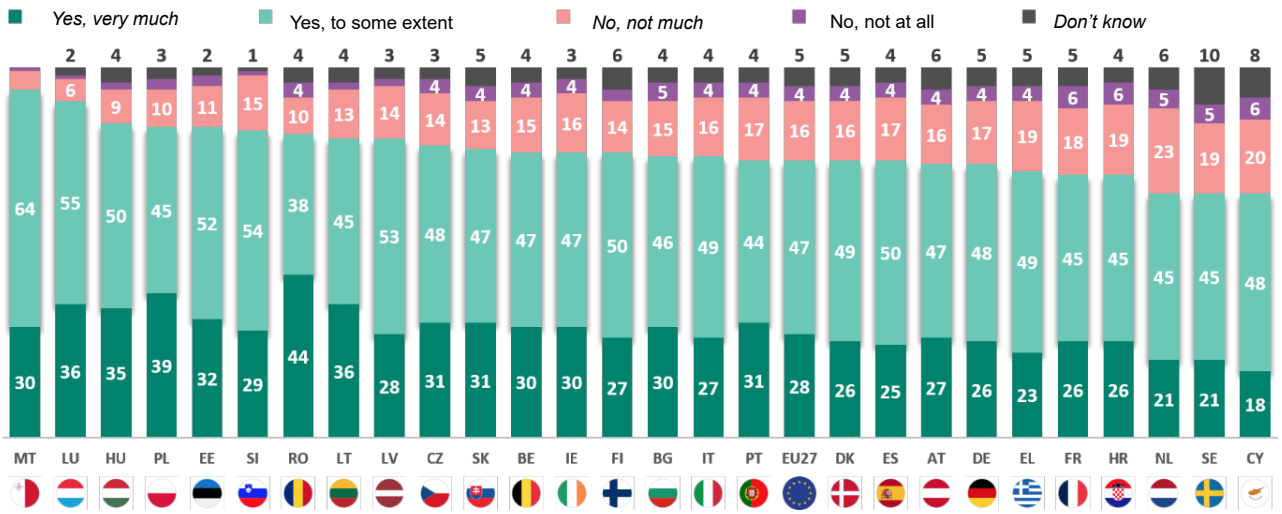
***In all EU Member States, at least two-thirds of young people feel that actions taken by the EU have an impact on their daily life. Young people in Cyprus, Sweden and the Netherlands are the least likely to feel affected.***

The countries where respondents are most likely to say that actions taken by the EU have an impact on their daily life are Malta (94% 'total yes', including 30% 'yes, very much'),

66% of 15- to 30-year-olds nonetheless think that the EU has an impact on their daily life. The shares of respondents who 'don't know' are the highest in Sweden and Cyprus (10% and 8% respectively).

2 Flash Eurobarometer on Youth and democracy (FL545) conducted in April 2024 https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3181

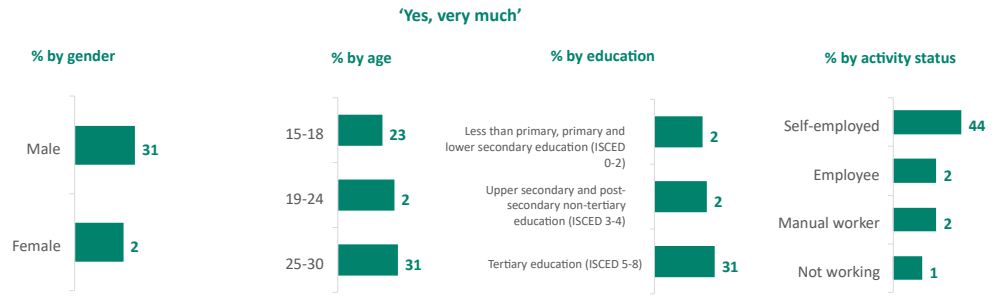
**Q14 Would you say that actions taken by the EU have an impact on your daily life or not?**




**Men feel more very much affected by actions taken by the EU than women. This feeling increases with age and educational attainment.**

Nearly a third of men (31%) perceive the impact of actions taken by the EU on their daily life as 'very much', against a quarter of women who say 'yes, very much'. The intensity of this feeling also varies with age, increasing after 18: 23% say 'yes, very much' among 15- to 18-year-olds, against 29% among 19- to 24-year-olds and 31% among 25- to 30-year-olds. The share also rises with educational attainment: 25% of those with lower educational attainment feel 'very much' affected by the European level, against 27% among those with secondary education and 31% among those with higher education. The self-employed also feel significantly more 'very much' affected by the EU: they stand at 44%, against 28% for employees and manual workers and 19% for those not in employment. Finally, a third of those respondents who have taken part in the activity of an organisation feel 'very much' affected by actions taken by the EU against 18% of those who have not.

**Q14** Would you say that actions taken by the EU have an impact on your daily life or not ?



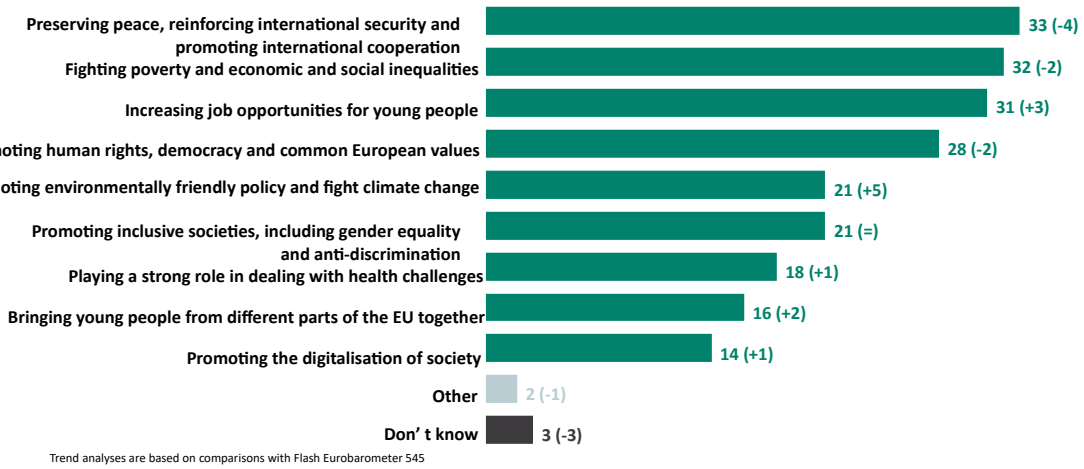
**Young people expect first the EU to preserve peace and reinforce international security, fight poverty and economic and social inequalities, and increase job opportunities**

Young Europeans' expectations of the European Union are concentrated above all on three priorities each selected by around a third of respondents: preserving peace, strengthening international security and promoting international cooperation (33%, a slight decline of 4 points compared with the previous survey[3]), fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities (32%), and increasing employment opportunities for young people (31%, up 3 points on the FL545 in 2024 and the largest increase on this question, moving it from fourth to third place among young Europeans' expectations). Next, 28% of the respondents say they expect the EU to promote human rights, democracy and common European values. One in five young Europeans (21%) expects the European Union to promote environmentally friendly policy and fight climate change. While the other priority topics have remained broadly stable since the last survey, the climate and environmental topic falls by 5 points in 2026, the largest change on this question, bringing it to the same level as the promotion of inclusive societies, including gender equality and anti-discrimination (21%, stable). Finally, smaller shares of young people report that they expect the EU to play a strong role in dealing with health challenges (18%), bring young people from different parts of the European Union together (16%) and promote the digitalisation of society (14%).

Across countries, three expectations stand out most clearly increasing job opportunities for young people first or tied in 11 countries , fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities, and preserving peace 10 each . Among young people in Sweden however, promoting human rights, democracy and common European values is the top expectation

Increasing job opportunities for young people is the most frequently selected expectation in 11 countries, with the highest shares in Italy and Croatia (40% each). Preserving peace, reinforcing international security and promoting international cooperation is the most frequently selected expectation in 10 countries, peaking in Finland (40%) and Cyprus (41%, the highest score on this item). Fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities is also the most frequently selected expectation in 10 countries, reaching a maximum in Cyprus (58%), the only country and item to exceed

**Q15** What do you expect of the European Union for your generation You can select up to three answers.




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

50%. There are also several cases of a tie between two expectations: young people in Bulgaria (39% each), Croatia (40% each) and Portugal (37% each) place increasing job

3 Flash Eurobarometer on Youth and democracy (FL545) conducted in April 2024 https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3181

opportunities level with fighting poverty, while those in Lithuania (34%) and Romania (33%) share it between job opportunities and preserving peace. Young people in Sweden are the only ones to put the promotion of human rights democracy and common European values first(40%). Young people in Ireland have expectations centred on the economy: increasing job opportunities comes first (39%), fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities second (33%), while preserving peace and reinforcing international security ranks among the lowest of the 27 (26%, only lower in Slovakia at 23%). On promoting environmentally friendly policy, the highest shares are in Luxembourg and Slovenia, tied at 30% each, followed by Denmark (29%), Malta (28%), Estonia (27%) and Belgium (26%).

***From a socio-demographic perspective, there is a strong gender gap in what they say they most expect from the European Union.***

Women are more likely than men to cite fighting poverty (35% against 30% for men), preserving peace and reinforcing international security (35% vs 30%), job opportunities for young people (33% vs 28%), promoting human rights/democracy (30% vs 25%) and, finally, promoting inclusive societies including gender equality (24% vs 18%). Similar shares of men and women mention promoting environmentally friendly policy and playing a strong role in dealing with health challenges. Men are more likely than women to mention the digitalisation of society (17% vs 10%) and bringing young people from different parts of the EU together (17% vs 14%). Age, by contrast, has little bearing on expectations of the European Union, with scores for 15- to 18-year-olds and 19- to 30-year-olds close together, including on job opportunities (30% vs 31%) and environmental policy (20% vs 21%). The one notable variation is that 34% of 15- to 18-year-olds mention fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities, against 31% among 19- to 24-year-olds and 32% among 25- to 30-year-olds. At the same time, those with higher education are markedly more likely to mention promoting inclusive societies (24% vs 18% among respondents with lower educational attainment), promoting environmentally friendly policy (24% vs 19%) and preserving peace (33% vs 30%). On job opportunities and fighting poverty, however, the shares of respondents are almost identical regardless of educational attainment. vs 30%), job opportunities for young people (33% vs 28%), promoting human rights/democracy (30% vs 25%) and, finally, promoting inclusive societies including gender equality (24% vs 18%). Similar shares of men and women mention promoting environmentally friendly policy and playing a strong role in dealing with health challenges. Men are more likely than women to mention the digitalisation of society (17% vs 10%) and bringing young people from different parts of the EU together (17% vs 14%). Age, by contrast, has little bearing on expectations of the European Union, with scores for 15- to 18-year-olds and 19- to 30-year-olds close together, including on job opportunities (30% vs 31%) and environmental policy (20% vs 21%). The one notable variation is that 34% of 15- to 18-year-olds mention fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities, against 31% among 19- to 24-year-olds and 32% among 25- to 30-year-olds. At the same time, those with higher education are markedly more likely to mention promoting inclusive societies (24% vs 18% among respondents with lower educational attainment), promoting environmentally friendly policy (24% vs 19%) and preserving peace (33% vs 30%). On job opportunities and fighting poverty, however, the shares of respondents are almost identical regardless of educational attainment.

# 3. Youth participation in civic life

## 3.1 Expectations on youth policies

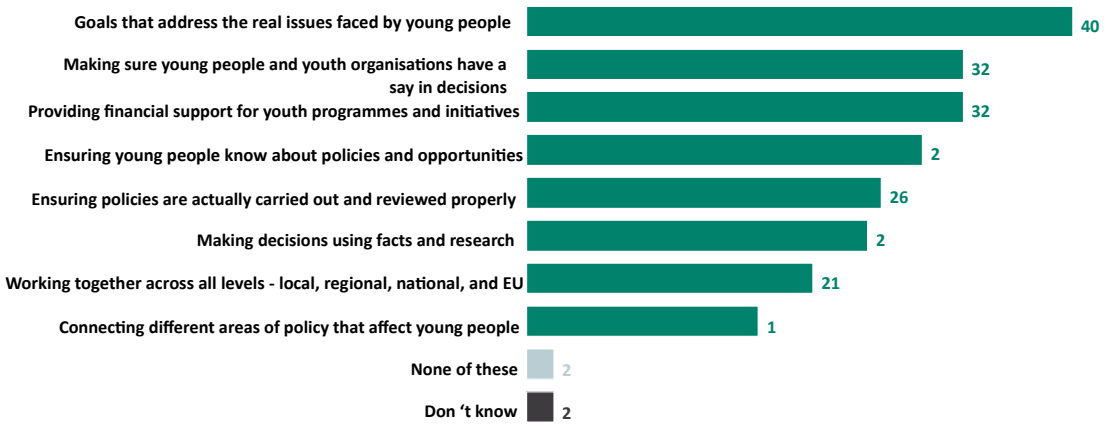
***Young Europeans first ask that youth policies address the real issues that they face.***

The point that emerges among respondents by a clear margin as the most important for delivering results in youth policies is that their objectives must address the real issues young people face. This is cited by 40% of 15- to 30-year-olds in the EU, well ahead of the next two items, which are selected at the same level: making sure young people and youth organisations have a say in decisions (32%) and providing financial support for youth programmes and initiatives (32%). Three further criteria follow, between 25% and 29%: ensuring young people know about existing policies and opportunities (29%), ensuring that policies are actually carried out and reviewed properly (26%), and making decisions using facts and research (25%). Finally, institutional cooperation at local, regional, national and EU level is selected by one in five respondents (21%), and connecting different areas of policy affecting young people is cited by 17%.

***Addressing the real issues faced by young people is by far the most common response: it ranks first in 21 out of 27 countries***

In the majority of EU Member States, young people consider that goals addressing the real issues they face is the most important for delivering results in youth policies. The highest score on this item across the EU is recorded in Cyprus (54%), even though it is not the most-cited item there, followed by Finland (52%) and Malta (47%). In four countries, providing financial support for youth programmes is the most frequently selected option: Cyprus (61%), Romania (40%), Greece (46%) and Lithuania (36%). In Sweden, 'ensuring young people know about policies and opportunities' comes first (37%), while in Denmark 'making sure young people and youth organisations have a say in decisions' is the most frequently selected option (37%).

**Q1** In your opinion, which of the following are most important for delivering results in policies aimed at young people? Select up to three options.



***A gender gap is observed across almost all of the proposed success criteria***

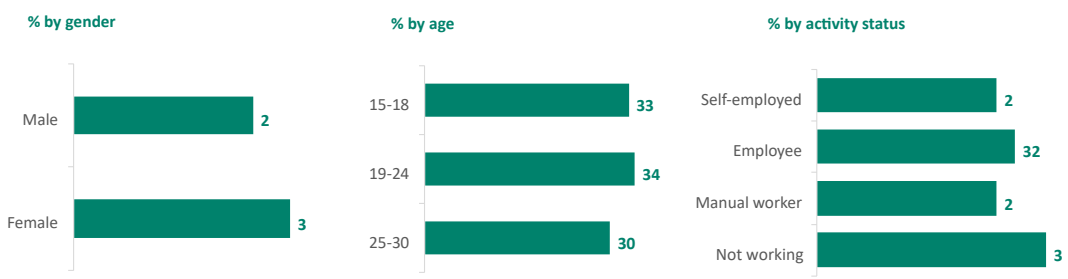
Women are more likely than men to select most of the topics proposed: 'goals that address the real issues faced by young people' (43% against 36% for men), 'young people having a say in decisions' (35% vs 29%), 'financial support for youth programmes and initiatives' (34% vs 30%) and 'ensuring young people know about policies and opportunities' (31% vs 28%). Men are more likely to select: 'decisions based on evidence and research' (27% among men vs 23% among women), 'working together across all levels' (22% vs 20%) and 'connecting different areas of policy that affect young people' (18% vs 17%). The demand for young people and youth organisations to have a say in decisions is equally strong among respondents who have taken part in the activities of an organisation in the past 12 months and among those who have not: 32% select this item in both groups. This is the only item where the two groups are at the same level. Selection of this item nevertheless varies by activity status, with those not in employment selecting it more often (37%) than the self- employed and manual

**Q1 In your opinion, which of the following are most important for delivering results in policies aimed at young people? Select up to three options.**

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Goals that address the real issues faced by young people | 40 | 37 | 41 | 45 | 36 | 38 | 38 | 41 | 44 | 38 | 40 | 46 | 41 | 54 | 41 | 34 | 44 | 42 | 47 | 39 | 38 | 41 | 42 | 33 | 46 | 44 | 52 | 35 |
| Making sure young people and youth organisations have a say in decisions | 32 | 32 | 30 | 29 | 37 | 29 | 37 | 39 | 34 | 29 | 34 | 30 | 37 | 41 | 33 | 33 | 40 | 25 | 36 | 29 | 28 | 34 | 38 | 32 | 33 | 27 | 38 | 31 |
| Providing financial support for youth programmes and initiatives | 32 | 33 | 33 | 28 | 29 | 23 | 35 | 36 | 46 | 31 | 32 | 43 | 39 | 61 | 39 | 36 | 30 | 42 | 33 | 34 | 24 | 33 | 33 | 40 | 35 | 30 | 33 | 30 |
| Ensuring young people know about policies and opportunities | 29 | 31 | 28 | 26 | 32 | 26 | 36 | 28 | 24 | 35 | 31 | 25 | 32 | 25 | 25 | 27 | 33 | 25 | 34 | 30 | 28 | 23 | 35 | 25 | 34 | 27 | 28 | 37 |
| Ensuring policies are actually carried out and reviewed properly | 26 | 26 | 27 | 12 | 35 | 28 | 29 | 25 | 24 | 29 | 20 | 31 | 28 | 26 | 19 | 20 | 36 | 22 | 34 | 27 | 28 | 33 | 29 | 23 | 30 | 18 | 13 | 28 |
| Making decisions using facts and research | 25 | 26 | 27 | 23 | 30 | 22 | 33 | 22 | 23 | 30 | 29 | 27 | 24 | 24 | 33 | 28 | 30 | 24 | 39 | 24 | 23 | 25 | 22 | 20 | 32 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| Working together across all levels- local regional, national, and EU | 21 | 21 | 28 | 20 | 23 | 24 | 30 | 22 | 23 | 17 | 16 | 24 | 22 | 19 | 28 | 26 | 24 | 20 | 16 | 21 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 25 | 27 | 25 | 19 | 20 |
| Connecting different areas of policy that affect young people | 17 | 17 | 18 | 20 | 21 | 16 | 26 | 18 | 16 | 20 | 18 | 17 | 14 | 11 | 20 | 18 | 24 | 18 | 29 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 18 | 15 | 26 | 18 | 18 | 20 |

**Q1** In your opinion, which of the following are most important for delivering results in policies aimed at young people? Select up to three options.

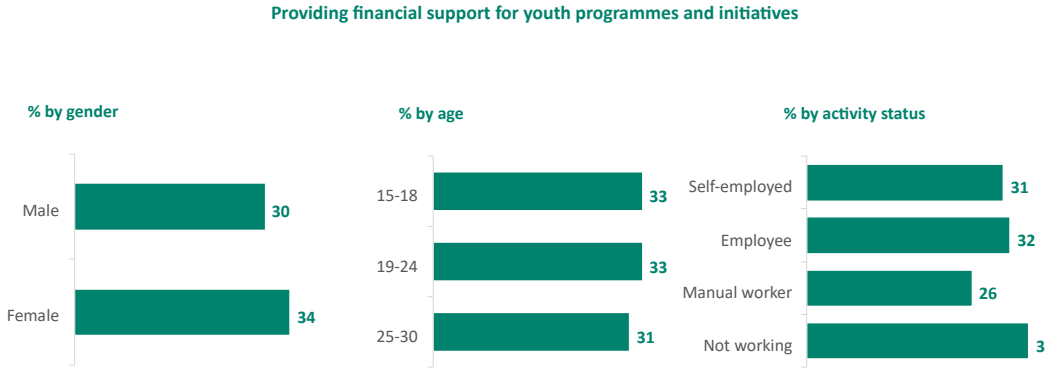
**Making sure young people and youth organisations have a say in decisions**



workers (29% each). Variations by age are also observed: 33% among 15- to 18-year-olds, 34% among 19- to 24-year- olds and 30% among 25- to 30-year-olds. It is also selected more often by women (35%) than by men (29%).

Similarly, 'financial support for youth programmes' is cited more often by young people not in employment (35%) than employees (32%), the self-employed (31%), and manual workers (26%). This item is more frequently selected by those under 25 (33% among both 15- to 18-year- olds and 19- to 24-year-olds), than the 25- to 30- year-olds (31%). A difference across gender groups is also observed, with more women than men citing this item (34% vs 30%).

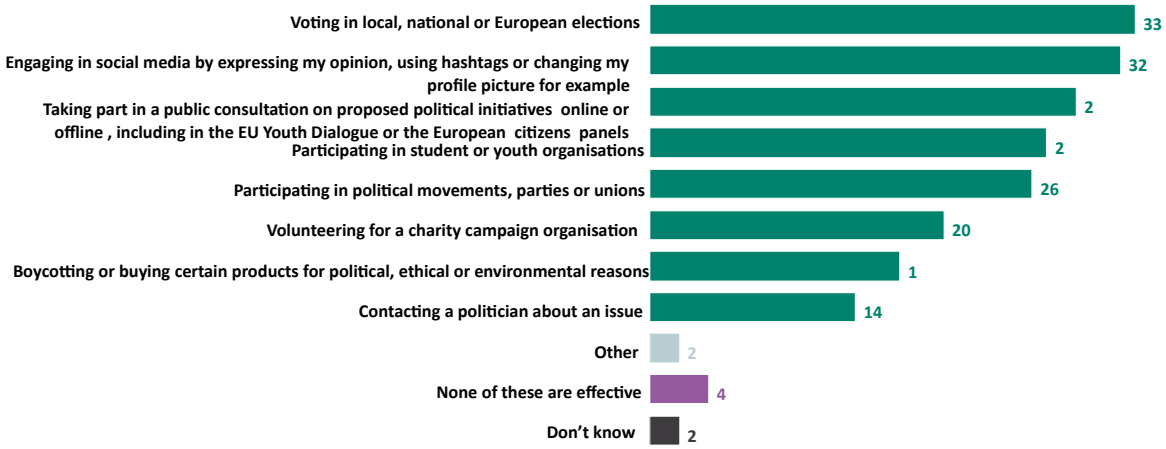
**Q1** In your opinion, which of the following are most important for delivering results in policies aimed at young people? Select up to three options.




**Voting in elections and engaging in social media are seen as the most effective actions for making young people's voice heard by decision-makers.**

33% of young people think that voting in local, national or European elections is one of the young people cite participation in student or youth organisations (27%) and 'participating in political movements, parties or unions' (26%). One in five (20%) find it effective to volunteer for a charity or campaign organisation, and 17% consider boycotting or buying products for political, ethical or environmental reasons to be effective. Contacting a politician about an issue is the least often selected of the actions tested: 14% of 15- to 30-year-olds selected this action. Almost all young people see at least one way of making their voice heard, only 4% consider none of the listed actions to be effective. It is also worth noting that other institutional channels of participation are relatively well placed in the results (above 25%), whereas, conversely, individual forms of mobilisation such as boycotting or buying certain products or contacting politicians about an issue are seen as less effective.

**Q4** In your opinion what are the most effective actions for making young people s voice heard by decision makers? You can select up to three answers.




Taking part in public consultations on political

Voting in elections is the most frequently selected action in most Member States. In none of them, however, is it selected by a majority of respondents. The shares selecting voting are highest in Italy and Cyprus (41%), followed by Bulgaria (40%), Slovenia (39%), France and Portugal (38% each), and Greece and Poland (37%). At the other end of the scale, the lowest shares are in Austria (25%), Germany, Lithuania and the Netherlands (26% each) and Belgium, Latvia and Slovakia (28% each). In Austria, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium, respondents select engaging in social media more frequently than voting: Austria (37% vs 25% for voting), Germany (35% vs 26%), the Netherlands (31% vs 26%) and Belgium (32% vs 28%, with public consultation selected by 30%). By contrast, respondents in Lithuania, Latvia and Slovakia are more likely to select consultation mechanisms or collective forms of organisation. In Latvia, public consultation dominates (36%, including the EU Youth Dialogue/Citizens' Panels), ahead of participation in youth organisations and social media (both 33%). In Slovakia, public consultation also comes first (33%), just ahead of social media (32%). In Lithuania, student or youth organisations come first (32%), followed by public consultation (30%), with social media only in third place (28%).

Young people in the countries where an important share of respondents agree that policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account are more likely to select 'engaging in social media' as an effective action for making young people's voice heard by decision-makers: this is the case in Luxembourg, Malta, and Estonia.

In Italy and Cyprus, where the share agreeing that policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account is low, the most frequently selected action is 'voting'. The highest shares of respondents selecting 'participating in youth organisations' are in Malta (43%), followed by Luxembourg (39%), Portugal (36%), Slovenia (35%), Croatia (34%), Latvia (33%), Estonia and Lithuania (32% each), and Italy (31%).

The perceived effectiveness of youth organisations appears to be associated with the perceived effectiveness of participating in a political movement or party. This pattern can be seen in Luxembourg, where many respondents selected both actions (39% and 37%). Similarly, respondents who consider contacting a politician to be effective seem to also tend to view public consultations as effective. Estonia, for example, is among the higher-ranking countries for both forms of action (24% and 38%).

***Among young people who are not involved in any organisation, voting is the action most often selected as effective***

40% of the respondents who have not taken part in the activities of an organisation in the past year think voting is an effective way to make young people's voice heard, against only 32% of those who have taken part in the activities of at least one organisation. However, the other actions were less frequently selected by those who have not participated in an organisation than those who have. Those who have not taken part in an organisation are also significantly more likely to believe that none of the listed actions is effective (9% 'none of these', against 4% overall).

Among the profiles that tend to see the various forms of action as less effective overall, manual workers stand out, being generally below average on almost all the levers tested, except when it comes to contacting a politician about an issue (16%, on a par with other working groups, while those not in employment stand at 12%). Respondents with lower educational attainment (ISCED 0–2) follow the same pattern, below average on 5 of the 8 actions.

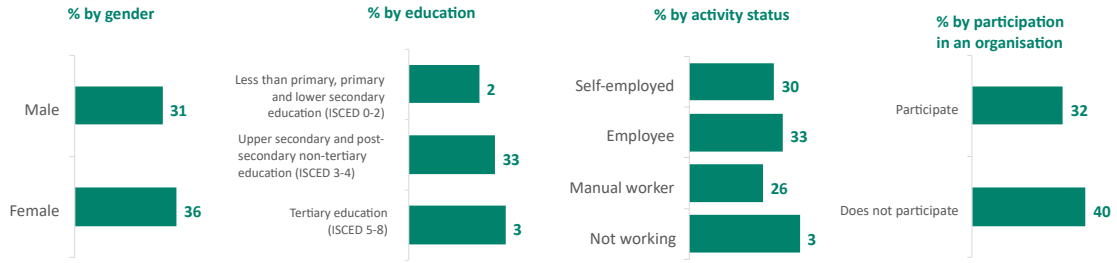
Women are more likely than men to consider that voting is one of the most effective actions (36% against 31% for men). The perceived effectiveness of voting also varies according to the level of education: it is selected by 27% among those with lower educational attainment, 33% among those with secondary education and 37% among those with higher education. Manual workers are among those least likely to select voting (26%), while those not in employment seem to place greater value on voting (39%).

**Q4 In your opinion what are the most effective actions for making young people s voice heard by decision makers? You can select up to three answers.**

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Voting in local, national or European elections | 33 | 28 | 40 | 30 | 34 | 26 | 35 | 32 | 37 | 34 | 38 | 32 | 41 | 41 | 28 | 26 | 32 | 29 | 29 | 26 | 25 | 37 | 38 |
| Engaging in social media by expressing my opinion, using hashtags or changing my profile picture for example | 32 | 32 | 23 | 33 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 36 | 31 | 34 | 33 | 27 | 27 | 36 | 33 | 28 | 40 | 33 | 39 | 31 | 37 | 34 | 22 |
| Taking part in a public consultation on proposed political initiatives (online or offline), including in the EU Youth Dialogue or the European Citizens Panels | 2 | 30 | 34 | 28 | 35 | 25 | 38 | 27 | 35 | 31 | 25 | 28 | 33 | 41 | 36 | 30 | 37 | 33 | 39 | 26 | 24 | 31 | 29 |
| Participating in student or youth organisations | 2 | 28 | 23 | 27 | 28 | 24 | 32 | 28 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 34 | 31 | 25 | 33 | 32 | 39 | 28 | 43 | 27 | 26 | 24 | 36 |
| Participating in political movements, parties or unions | 26 | 27 | 24 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 25 | 26 | 23 | 25 | 27 | 26 | 28 | 17 | 27 | 26 | 37 | 24 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 23 | 35 |
| Volunteering for a charity/campaign organisation | 20 | 18 | 22 | 17 | 22 | 19 | 30 | 23 | 25 | 18 | 20 | 23 | 19 | 20 | 27 | 22 | 25 | 19 | 30 | 18 | 15 | 22 | 26 |
| Boycotting or buying certain products for political, ethical or environmental reasons | 17 | 22 | 16 | 12 | 20 | 15 | 28 | 22 | 17 | 12 | 23 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 19 | 19 | 19 | 12 | 21 | 15 | 17 | 15 | 12 |
| Contacting a politician about an issue | 14 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 24 | 19 | 21 | 12 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 22 | 18 | 19 | 21 | 17 | 18 | 15 | 14 | 16 | 11 |

Q4 In your opinion what are the most effective actions for making young people s voice heard by decision makers? You can select up to three answers.

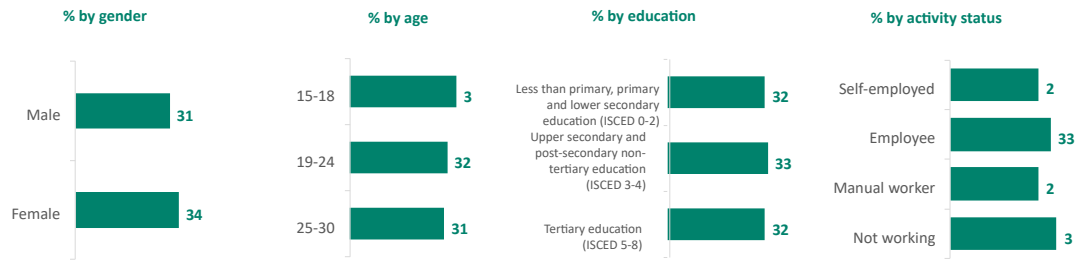
**Voting in local, national or European elections**




There are little variations in the perceived effectiveness of engaging in social media across socio-demographic groups. It appears to be an action valued more by younger people: 35% among 15- to 18-year-olds, against 32% among 19- to 24-year-olds and 31% among 25- to 30- year-olds. Women are more likely than men to select this item as an effective action (34% against 31% for men). However, the share of respondents selecting this action remains broadly consistent irrespective of the level of education or participation in an organisation's activities.

**Q4** In your opinion what are the most effective actions for making young people s voice heard by decision makers? You can select up to three answers.

**'Engaging in social media by expressing my opinion, using hashtags or changing my profile picture for example'**

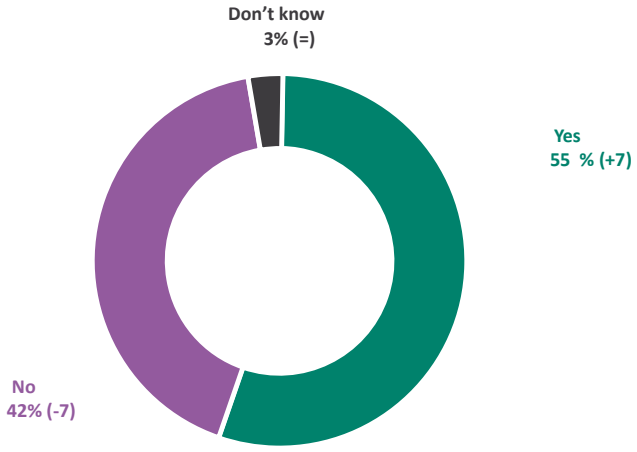


## 3.2 Participation in societal change actions

***More than half of 15- to 30-year-olds have taken an action in the past year to change society, such as signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician***

55% of young Europeans report having taken an action to change society, such as signing a petition, participating in a rally or sending a letter to a politician, in the past year. This proportion is rising compared with 2024, up 7 points, and now stands above the 50% mark. A minority (42%) did not take part in this kind of action.

**Q7a** In the past year, have you taken any action to change society by, for example, signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician?

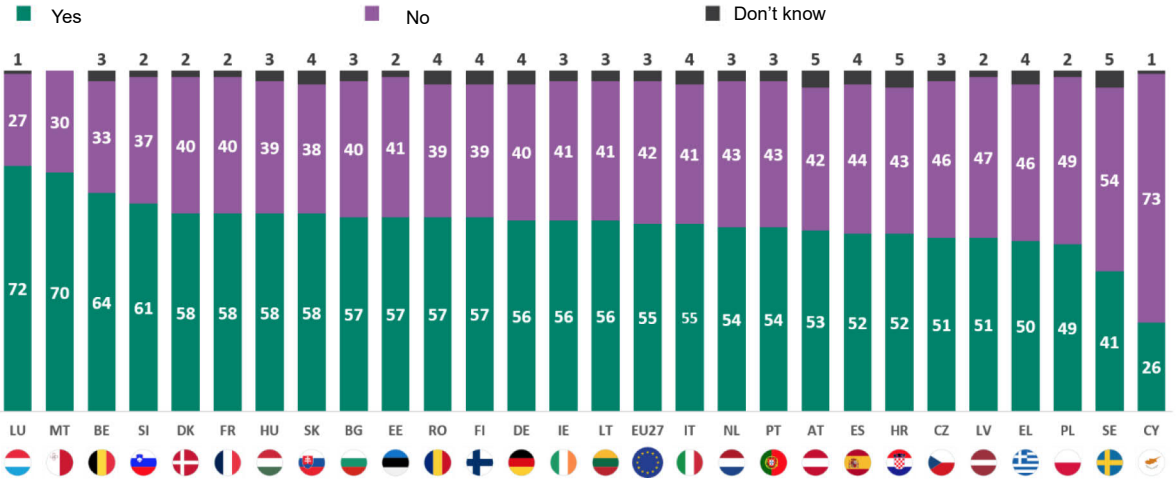



Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

***Across the EU, a majority of young people get involved in actions to change society, with notable exceptions in some countries***

While a majority of young Europeans have taken part in at least one concrete action to bring about societal change over the past year, only a quarter of young people report having done so in Cyprus (26%). This is the lowest share in the EU27 countries; the second lowest share is Sweden, at 41% of young people, followed by Poland (49%), Greece (50%) and Latvia and Czechia, which cross the majority threshold at 51%. Conversely, in Luxembourg and Malta, close to three-quarters of young people have taken an action to change society in the past year (72% and 70% respectively), while more than six in ten have done so in Belgium (64%) and Slovenia (61%). The countries where a significant share of young people have taken an action over the past year are also those where many respondents consider that collective levers (participating in student or youth organisations, participating in political movements, parties or unions, volunteering for a charity or campaign organisation, and boycotting or buying certain products) are effective for making young people's voice heard by decision- makers. Young people in Luxembourg and Malta combine high levels of concrete action with high scores on collective levers, whether participation in youth movements (39% and 43%, against 27% on average for the EU27) or volunteering (25% and 30%, against 20% for the EU27).

Q7a In the past year, have you taken any action to change society by, for example, signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician?




Involvement in organisations is the breakdown producing the widest difference on this question: 62% of those who have taken part in the activities of an organisation within the last 12 months took an action to change society during the year, against 34% of those who have not. Only 47% of 15- to 18-year-olds took part in an action, against 56% of 19- to 24-year-olds and 57% of 25- to 30- year-olds. Young people living in cities are more likely to have taken an action to change society: 60%, against 52% of those in towns and suburbs and 51% of rural residents. Those with higher educational attainment are also more likely to have got involved (62%), against 45% of those with lower educational attainment.

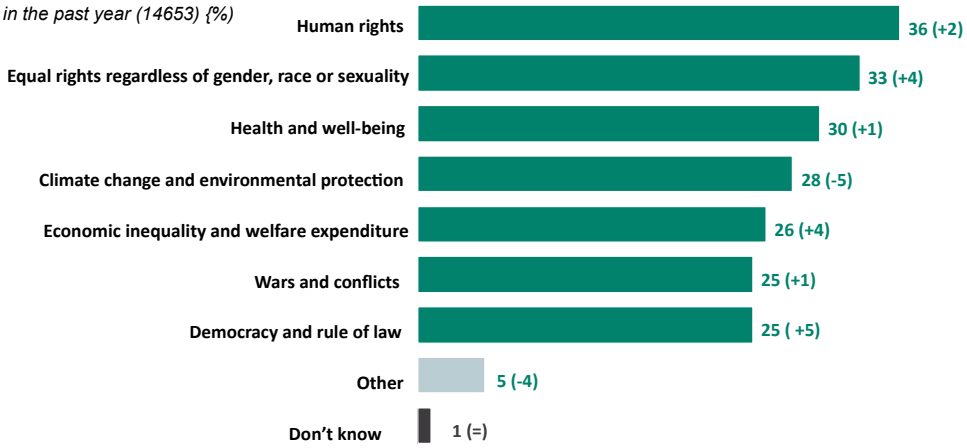
***Young Europeans are evenly active across different areas of engagement. The scores for each area of engagement range between one- third and one-quarter***

The main areas of engagement for young people were, first, human rights (36%), followed by equal rights regardless of gender, origin or sexual orientation (33%), and health and well-being (30%). These three areas of concern and action gather around one third of the young respondents. Next, follow climate and environmental protection (28%), economic inequality and welfare expenditure (26%), wars and conflicts (25%) and democracy and the rule of law (25%). Compared with Flash Eurobarometer 545, conducted in April 2024, climate change and environmental protection moves from second to fourth place and is the only area where the share falls (28%, down 5 points). Equal rights regardless of gender, race or sexuality moves up from third to second, and economic inequality and welfare expenditure from sixth to fifth. Democracy and rule of law records the largest increase (from 20% to 25%). It is also worth noting, in relation to the expectations expressed in Q15, that health and equal rights are topics on which young people act almost as much as they expect the EU to (across all respondents, 17% of young people got involved on a health-related issue, comparable to the 18% who expect action from the EU; similarly, 18% against 21% on the topic of equal rights). Conversely, peace/conflicts (14% engagement vs 33% expectations) and poverty/economic inequality (14% engagement vs 32%) show the widest gap: these are strong expectations of the EU, but areas where smaller shares of respondents report having taken an action.

**Young Europeans are evenly active across areas of engagement, with scores ranging between one-third and one-quarter. The main areas of engagement are human rights and equal rights regardless of gender, race or sexual orientation**

**Q7b** In which areas did you try to change society (by, for example, signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician)?

*Base: respondents who took action to change society in the past year (14653) {%)*




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

### *Human rights is the most frequently cited area of action in 23 out of 27 countries*

Human rights is the most frequently cited area of action among young people in Cyprus (54%), followed by Luxembourg (48%), Malta (47%), Croatia and Slovenia (45%). In two Member States, human rights is tied for first place: Belgium (32%, level with economic inequality) and Austria (30%, level with health). In four Member States, human rights is not the area most often cited by young people who took an action to change society: Czechia, where health and well-being is the most frequently mentioned area(32%); France and the Netherlands, where equal rights come first (39% and 34% respectively); and finally, Estonia, where climate and equal rights are tied for first place (40% each), with human rights close behind at 38%. On climate change and environmental protection, the shares are well above the EU27 average among respondents in Malta (45%), Slovenia (41%), Estonia and Luxembourg (40% each). On equal rights regardless of gender, race or sexuality, the smallest shares are among respondents in Bulgaria (22% against 33% for the EU27 average), Slovakia (24%) and Hungary (25%). On wars and conflicts, the smallest shares are among respondents in Slovakia (18%), Malta (17%) and Bulgaria (15%).

Q7b In which areas did you try to change society (by, for example, signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician)?

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Human rights | 36 | 32 | 40 | 29 | 39 | 31 | 38 | 39 | 43 | 36 | 36 | 45 | 39 | 54 | 44 | 36 | 48 | 40 | 47 | 33 | 30 | 37 | 41 | 38 | 45 | 35 | 36 | 41 |
| Equal rights regardless of gender, race or sexuality | 33 | 29 | 22 | 27 | 34 | 30 | 40 | 34 | 26 | 35 | 39 | 27 | 38 | 31 | 35 | 31 | 44 | 25 | 36 | 34 | 29 | 27 | 39 | 34 | 39 | 24 | 28 | 33 |
| Health and well-being | 30 | 29 | 28 | 32 | 33 | 28 | 34 | 30 | 28 | 34 | 34 | 31 | 24 | 27 | 34 | 25 | 34 | 32 | 37 | 31 | 30 | 29 | 34 | 28 | 35 | 31 | 33 | 31 |
| Climate change and environmental protection | 28 | 29 | 24 | 28 | 34 | 28 | 40 | 30 | 26 | 27 | 30 | 28 | 28 | 22 | 29 | 23 | 40 | 21 | 45 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 22 | 22 | 41 | 24 | 23 | 29 |
| Economic inequality and welfare expenditure | 26 | 32 | 33 | 21 | 32 | 22 | 36 | 24 | 31 | 31 | 24 | 27 | 29 | 24 | 34 | 19 | 33 | 25 | 32 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 28 | 25 | 35 | 25 | 26 | 29 |
| Wars and conflicts | 25 | 28 | 15 | 20 | 26 | 23 | 23 | 29 | 28 | 22 | 25 | 22 | 34 | 36 | 20 | 29 | 27 | 22 | 17 | 25 | 24 | 27 | 21 | 20 | 23 | 18 | 23 | 27 |
| Democracy and rule of law | 25 | 24 | 25 | 23 | 30 | 29 | 31 | 20 | 37 | 25 | 21 | 26 | 23 | 37 | 29 | 26 | 37 | 32 | 33 | 22 | 20 | 26 | 22 | 27 | 34 | 28 | 19 | 28 |

### *The areas of action differ by gender, age and educational attainment*

Overall, among young people who got involved in the past year, men are more likely to report that they have taken an action for democracy and the rule of law (27% against 23% for women), while women are more likely to report that they have taken action for human rights (41% against 31% for men), equal rights regardless of gender, origin or sexual orientation (38% against 28%) and health (32% against 28%).

Among 15- to 18-year-olds who get involved, the shares are lower on climate change and environmental protection (23% against 28% overall) or economic inequality (23% against 26%), but are higher on equal rights regardless of gender, origin or sexual orientation (35% against 33%). Overall, city-dwellers are consistently on a par with, or above, rural residents on every topic except health and well-being (30% across every type of settlement). Finally, by educational attainment, a clear difference emerges on climate (32% among those with higher education, against 20% among those with lower educational attainment) and on economic inequality (29% among those with higher education, against 24% among those with secondary education and 24% among respondents with less than primary, primary or lower secondary education).

## 3.3 Familiarity with ways to engage with the EU

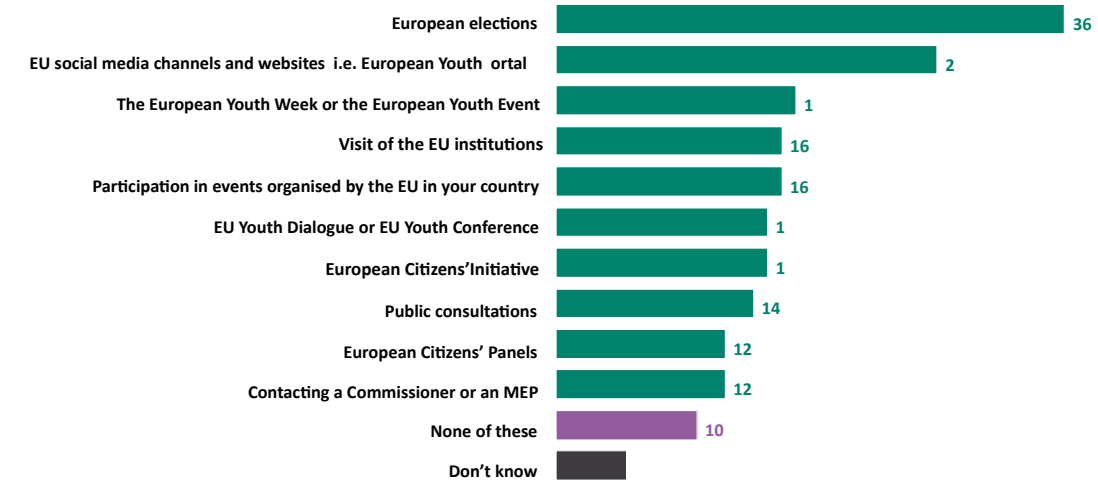
***European elections are the best-known way to engage with the EU. Yet only just over a third of young people are familiar with them***

While a majority of young Europeans have taken an action to change society and feel that actions taken by the EU have an impact on their daily life, only a minority is familiar with each of the suggested ways to engage with the European Union. Voting in European elections is by far the best-known way to engage with the EU among 15- to 30-year-olds, but only 36% report being familiar with it. Moreover, 10% of young people say they are not familiar with any of the listed ways to engage with the EU, and 5% answer 'don't know': meaning that, in total, 15% do report not being familiar with any of the listed ways to engage with the EU. The EU social media channels and websites (i.e. European Youth Portal) come next, reaching around a quarter of young people (27%), while the rest of the channels set up by the EU range between 12% and 17%. The European Youth Week or the European Youth Event stands at 17%, visiting EU institutions and taking part in EU events held in one's own country are at 16% each, the EU Youth Dialogue and the European Citizens' Initiative at 15% each, public consultations at 14%, and finally the European Citizens' Panels and contacting a Commissioner or Member of the European Parliament at 12% each, three times below the European elections. Ultimately, these results suggest that awareness of the different ways to engage with the EU remains concentrated on voting and institutional digital presence, while fewer respondents are aware of the more specific mechanisms of participatory democracy (European Citizens' Panels, public consultations, EU Youth Dialogue), even though taking part in a public consultation on proposed political initiatives, including in the EU Youth Dialogue or the European Citizens' Panels, was perceived as an effective action by 29% of young people in Q4.

**Cyprus and Greece are the only countries where a majority of young people say they are familiar with the European elections as a way to engage with the European Union**

The highest share of respondents who are familiar with European elections as a way to engage with the EU is in Cyprus: 61% of 15- to 30- year-olds consider themselves familiar with European elections, against 36% on average across the EU. As already noted, 41% of young Cypriots see voting as an effective lever for making their voice heard. Outside elections, however, 13% of young people in Cyprus say they know 'no mechanism', slightly above the EU27 average (10%). In Greece, 50% of young people say they are familiar with European elections, followed by Slovenia (43%), France and Portugal (40%), and then Croatia (39%) and Germany (38%). The shares saying they

**Q8** Are you familiar with any of the following ways to engage with the European Union?



are familiar with the EU social media channels and websites are highest in Malta (48%), Luxembourg (48%) and, to a lesser extent, Slovenia (37%), Estonia (36%) and Spain (35%). The largest share saying they are familiar with none of the options tested is in the Netherlands: 21% of young people say they know no mechanism, followed by Bulgaria (18%), against 10% in the EU27 average. It is also worth noting that the highest share of respondents who are familiar with contacting a Commissioner or Member of the European Parliament is in Estonia (28%); while Slovakia has the highest share on public consultations (30%, also the highest score); and Finland has the highest share on the European Citizens' Initiative (24%).

almost every option proposed. The gap between those who are involved in an organisation and those who are not is substantial: European Citizens' Panels (known by 14% of those involved in organisations, against 6% of those who are not), contacting a Commissioner or an MEP (14% vs 6%), European Youth Week (20% vs 9%), participation in EU events (19% vs 8%). Above all, the share saying they are not familiar with any of the proposed options rises to 25% among those not involved in organisations. On the other hand, those who are not involved in an organisation are more likely to report that they are familiar with voting in European elections (43%, against 34% for those involved in an organisation). Among those not in

**Q8 Are you familiar with any of the following ways to engage with the European Union ?**

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| European elections | 36 | 30 | 33 | 34 | 30 | 38 | 36 | 33 | 50 | 34 | 40 | 39 | 36 | 61 | 31 | 35 | 35 | 36 | 33 | 27 | 37 | 33 | 40 | 32 | 43 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| EU social media channels and websites (i.e European Youth Portal) | 27 | 24 | 21 | 22 | 33 | 30 | 36 | 27 | 28 | 35 | 24 | 21 | 26 | 24 | 31 | 24 | 48 | 21 | 48 | 20 | 31 | 31 | 28 | 22 | 37 | 22 | 22 | 22 |
| The European Youth Week or the European Youth Event | 17 | 20 | 17 | 15 | 25 | 13 | 29 | 14 | 17 | 19 | 20 | 19 | 17 | 19 | 23 | 22 | 33 | 12 | 28 | 13 | 12 | 20 | 26 | 17 | 30 | 18 | 13 | 16 |
| Visit of the EU institutions | 16 | 19 | 14 | 15 | 18 | 13 | 25 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 19 | 18 | 16 | 19 | 22 | 15 | 27 | 16 | 25 | 13 | 15 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 24 | 13 | 13 | 14 |
| Participation in events organised by the EU in your country | 16 | 19 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 17 | 16 | 13 | 19 | 15 | 18 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 13 | 15 | 19 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 19 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 22 | 16 | 14 | 12 |
| EU Youth Dialogue or EU Youth Conference | 15 | 17 | 13 | 11 | 22 | 12 | 26 | 14 | 17 | 15 | 17 | 13 | 19 | 16 | 20 | 17 | 24 | 11 | 26 | 11 | 11 | 14 | 18 | 19 | 26 | 16 | 12 | 13 |
| European Citizens' Initiative | 15 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 7 | 15 | 9 | 12 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 18 | 16 | 7 | 9 | 14 | 9 | 14 | 10 | 12 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 11 | 13 | 24 | 9 |
| Public consultations | 14 | 14 | 13 | 18 | 18 | 12 | 24 | 13 | 12 | 16 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 14 | 19 | 13 | 22 | 18 | 26 | 10 | 11 | 20 | 12 | 16 | 20 | 30 | 18 | 14 |
| European Citizens' Panels | 12 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 18 | 12 | 26 | 12 | 15 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 8 | 12 | 20 | 11 | 24 | 11 | 24 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 10 | 13 | 21 | 10 | 14 | 13 |
| Contacting a Commissioner or an MEP | 12 | 16 | 10 | 10 | 19 | 9 | 28 | 17 | 14 | 12 | 16 | 12 | 9 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 21 | 13 | 16 | 11 | 8 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 17 | 13 | 14 | 16 |

**Young people who are involved in an organisation are more likely to report that they are aware of different ways of engaging with the European Union**

Asked which ways of engaging with the European Union they are familiar with, young people who have taken part in the activities of at least one organisation are more familiar with

employment, 43% say they are familiar with European elections, while they are below average or in line with the average on all other proposed options and have the biggest share among the activity-status groups of respondents who are not familiar with any of the proposed options (15%). Those with higher education are consistently and significantly above the EU27 average on almost every

proposed option (18–20% on the EU Youth Dialogue, visiting institutions, European Youth Week), and have the smallest share of respondents who are not familiar with any of the proposed options (8%). The share saying they are familiar with none of the proposed options is 14% among respondents with lower educational attainment. Finally, gender plays a minor role: women are slightly more familiar with elections (38% against 35% for men) and the EU social media channels (29% against 25%), while men are slightly more familiar with the European Citizens' Panels (13% against 10% for women) and contacting an MEP (13% against 11%).

## 3.4 Sources to stay informed about the EU

***Social media remains the main source of information about the EU for young people (for more than half of them), followed by television (for more than a third)***

More than half of the respondents use social media to keep themselves informed about the EU (52%), their main source of information on the subject, four points below the 2024 level (56%)[4]. Online press/podcasts are cited by nearly a third (31%). Together, social media and online press or podcasts are the main sources of information used by young people to keep themselves informed about the EU. This finding is consistent with what was observed in Q3, where media (traditional and digital combined) were the leading channel for learning about societal issues. That said, the second most-cited channel is television (38%), although it has fallen sharply compared with 2024 (49%), when it was only 7 points below social media as a source of information about the EU. Nonetheless, television remains an important source of information about the EU, unlike written (printed) press and radio, which come last, tied at 16% each (with radio down 7 points compared with 2024). School/university is cited by fewer than a quarter of 15- to 30-year-olds, at 23%, making it markedly less prominent than conversations with friends, family or colleagues (31%).

***Social media is the main source of information about the EU for young people of all Member States. In Cyprus, Malta, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Denmark and Estonia, at least three sources of information are each used by a significant share of young people***

Social media is the most commonly used source of information about the EU among young people of all EU Member States, although it does not reach a majority in Romania (44%), the Netherlands (47%), Belgium and Spain (49% each). That said, at least three sources of information are each used by more than 40% of young people in six countries: Cyprus, with social media (74%), online press (45%) and discussions with family and friends (43%); Malta, with social media (69%), conversations with friends, family or colleagues (52%) and online press (51%); Luxembourg, with social media (64%), online press and discussions (49% each); Estonia, with social media (58%), online press (44%) and conversations with friends, family or colleagues (43%); and Denmark, with social media (56%), online press (41%) and conversations with friends, family or colleagues (40%). Finally, young people in Slovenia cite four sources above 40%: social media (53%), online press and discussions (45% each), and television (41%). On school or university as a source of information about the EU, young people in Luxembourg stand out: 38% cite school/university (against 23% in the EU27), followed by young people in Estonia (32%), Malta (31%), Belgium and Slovenia (30% each).

4 Flash Eurobarometer on Youth and democracy (FL545) conducted in April 2024 https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3181

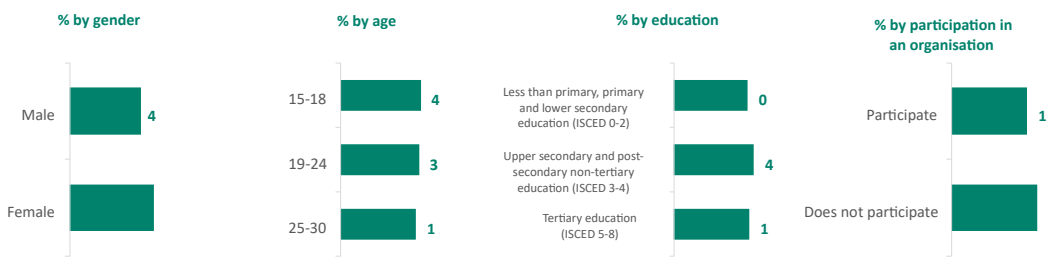
**Q9 Which of the following sources do you use to keep yourself informed about the EU?**

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Social media | 52 | 49 | 56 | 56 | 56 | 51 | 58 | 60 | 58 | 49 | 54 | 55 | 52 | 74 | 55 | 51 | 64 | 51 | 69 | 47 | 52 | 57 | 54 | 44 | 53 | 56 | 55 | 52 |
| TV | 38 | 36 | 40 | 38 | 37 | 33 | 38 | 33 | 36 | 45 | 42 | 41 | 43 | 28 | 33 | 35 | 31 | 27 | 25 | 32 | 31 | 38 | 51 | 39 | 41 | 39 | 35 | 37 |
| Online press, podcasts and/or news platforms | 31 | 29 | 39 | 34 | 41 | 27 | 44 | 32 | 33 | 29 | 29 | 39 | 33 | 45 | 42 | 41 | 49 | 34 | 51 | 24 | 25 | 36 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 28 | 35 | 27 |
| Conversations with friends, family, or colleagues | 31 | 31 | 30 | 28 | 40 | 31 | 43 | 34 | 40 | 31 | 29 | 32 | 29 | 43 | 36 | 28 | 49 | 33 | 52 | 29 | 31 | 31 | 32 | 28 | 45 | 29 | 30 | 32 |
| School or university | 23 | 30 | 15 | 22 | 25 | 24 | 32 | 27 | 23 | 20 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 20 | 27 | 18 | 38 | 17 | 31 | 22 | 24 | 18 | 20 | 17 | 30 | 23 | 23 | 24 |
| Written (printed) press (e.g. newspapers, weekly or monthly magazine, etc.) | 16 | 21 | 9 | 13 | 24 | 15 | 35 | 15 | 12 | 20 | 17 | 18 | 14 | 5 | 26 | 17 | 39 | 12 | 35 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 17 | 17 | 32 | 10 | 16 | 18 |
| Radio | 16 | 23 | 11 | 14 | 13 | 18 | 15 | 20 | 10 | 15 | 18 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 15 | 17 | 13 | 15 | 8 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 15 | 13 | 16 | 18 | 18 | 16 |

Women are more likely to use social media (57%, against 48% for men) and discussions with family and friends (35% against 27%) to keep themselves informed about the EU, while men more often report using traditional media such as written (printed) press (18% against 15% for women) and radio (17% against 15%). Age has a strong effect on information via school/university: 35% of 15- to 18-year-olds use school or university as a source of information about the EU, against 15% of 25- to 30-year-olds. Conversely, the use of written (printed) press, radio and online press as a source of information about the EU all increase with age. Those with at least secondary education are more likely to use social media to keep themselves informed about the EU (54% among those with secondary education, 51% among those with higher education), against 50% among those with lower educational attainment. This remains the most commonly used source of information about the EU overall. The use of social media to stay informed about the EU varies little by age (54% among 15- to 18-year-olds, 53% among 19- to 24- year-olds and 51% among 25- to 30-year-olds). Furthermore, 58% of those who are not involved in an organisation cite social media as a source of information about the EU, against 51% of those involved in at least one organisation. Young people who did not take part in the activities of an organisation are also three times more likely to say they do not keep themselves informed about the EU at all (12% against 4%).

**Q9** Which of the following sources do you use to keep yourself informed about the EU ?

**'Social media'**



# 4. Participation in organisations and activities in another EU country

## 4.1 Participation in organisations

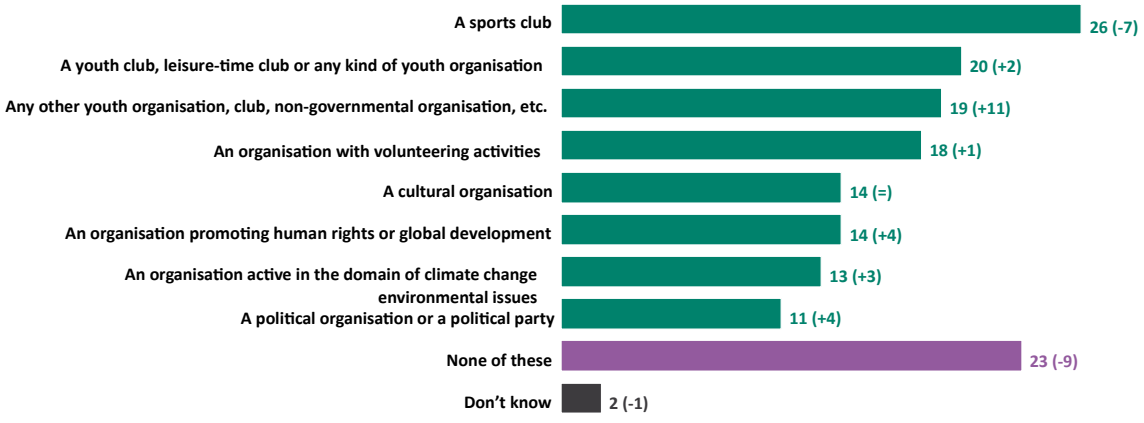
***Participation of young people in organisations has risen since 2024. The types of organisations in which they participate remain varied.***

In total, 75% of young people surveyed have participated in the activities of one or more organisations in the last 12 months, compared to 64% in 2024. Nearly one in four young Europeans aged 15 to 30 have not participated in any activities of the organisations listed in the survey (23%), a share which has fallen sharply since 2024 (-9 percentage points). Young people are still most likely to participate in sports clubs (26%), despite a decline since 2024 (-7 points). Sports clubs are followed by youth clubs, leisure-time clubs or any kind of youth organisation (20%), any other youth organisation, club or NGO (19%) organisations with volunteering activities (18%), cultural organisations, and organisations promoting human rights or global development (both 14%), and organisations active in the domain of climate change or environmental issues (13%). The strongest increase since 2024 in the participation of young people concerns other youth organisations, clubs or NGOs (+11 points). However, participation in a political organisation or a political party (11%) remains the least common form of involvement, in spite of an increase of 4 points since 2024.

***Forms and levels of participation in organisations differ widely across Member States***

Individual country results show strong differences in young people's participation in organisations. The types of organisations young people take part in vary across countries. Participation in sports clubs is particularly prominent in France (36%), Ireland and Lithuania (both 31%), while participation in youth clubs, leisure-time clubs or youth organisations reaches its highest levels in Malta (40%), Luxembourg (38%) and Estonia (35%). Young respondents in these three countries also stand out when it comes to participation in several types of organisations: both Malta and Luxembourg record high levels of participation in cultural organisations (41% and 38%) and volunteering organisations (36% and 30%), while many young people in Estonia take part in the activities of organisations promoting human

**Q5** In the last 12 months, have you participated in any activities of the following organisations? Select all that apply.




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

rights or global development (32%), organisations active in the domain of climate change or environmental issues (31%) and political organisations or parties (28%). Respondents in countries with the highest shares of participation also take part across a broader range of organisations.

The highest shares of young people who have not participated in any activities of the listed organisations in the past 12 months are observed in Cyprus (46%), Greece and Hungary (both 31%), and Bulgaria, Croatia and Sweden (all 30%). By contrast, in Malta, only 4% of respondents report not having participated in any activities of the listed organisations in the past 12 months. Shares of non-participating respondents are also low in Luxembourg (6%) and Estonia (11%) and remain below the EU27 average in Belgium (14%), Denmark, Latvia and Slovenia (all 16%) and France (17%).

***Women, young people not in employment and those with lower educational attainment are less likely to say they have participated in an activity of an organisation***

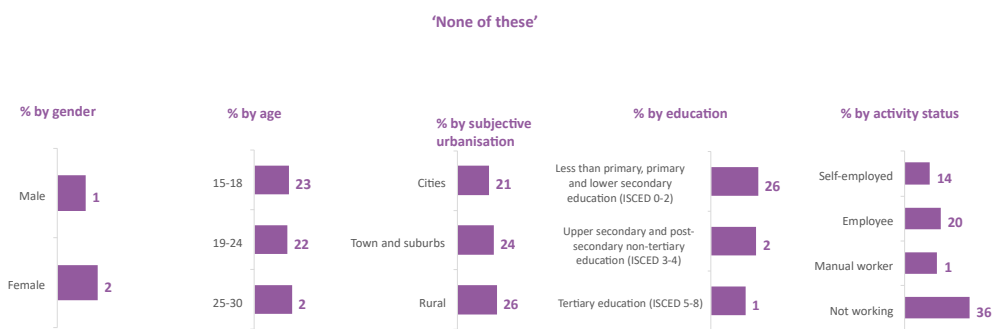
Women are more likely than men to say they have not taken part in an activity in any of the listed organisations in the last 12 months (27% vs 19% for men), a gap largely linked to lower participation in sports clubs (21% vs 31% among men). Age differences are more limited: non-participation ranges from 22% among those aged 19-24 to 25% among those aged 25- 30, suggesting that involvement in organisations remains relatively stable across the 15-30 age group.

The clearest differences are linked to young people's activity status and educational situation. More than a third of those not in employment report no participation (36%), compared with 20% of employees and 14% of the self-employed. Similarly, non-participation is higher among young people with lower educational attainment (26%) than among those with tertiary education (19%). Place of residence also plays a role, although to a lesser extent: young people living in rural areas are more likely to report no participation than those living in cities (26% vs 21%).

***Reasons for not taking part in an organisation are primarily practical, but also seem to reflect a lack of opportunities to engage***

Among young Europeans who have not taken part in activities of an organisation in the last 12 months, lack of time is by far the main reason mentioned (41%). This is followed by the fact that they have not yet thought about it (23%) and by a lack of interest (20%), although the latter has declined compared to 2024 Flash Eurobarometer 545 survey (-6 percentage points). This suggests that non-participation is not primarily explained by rejection of these activities, but more often by competing priorities or by the absence of a clear trigger to get involved.

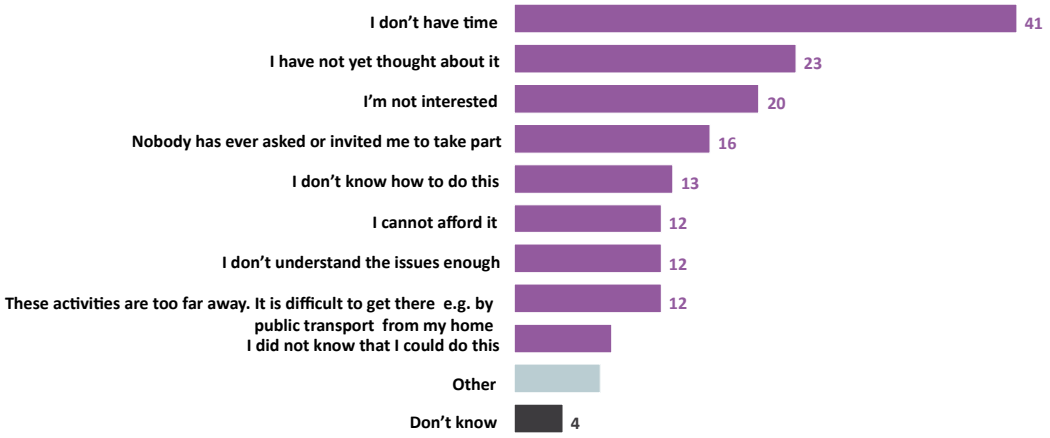
**Q5** In the last 12 months, have you participated in any activities of the following organisations? Select all that apply.



Other reasons point to more concrete barriers to participation. Some young people say that nobody has ever asked or invited them to take part (16%), while others do not know how to get involved (13%) or do not understand the issues enough (12%). Financial and geographical barriers are also mentioned by around one in eight respondents: 12% say they cannot afford it, and the same share say that activities are too far away or difficult to reach.

**Q6** For what reasons have you not taken part in these activities? Please select all that apply.

*Base : respondents who did not take part in any activities of these organisations in the last 12 months (6209) (%)*




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

### *Individual country results show different reasons for not taking part in organisations*

Lack of time is the main reason for not participating in the activities of organisations in many countries. The share of respondents stating that they lack time is particularly high in Malta (70%), Greece (48%), Cyprus (47%), Croatia and Hungary (both at 46%), and Sweden (44%). In Cyprus, however, the reason for not participating is not only practical: almost a third of non-participants say that nobody has ever asked or invited them to take part (32%), while one in five say they do not understand the issues enough (20%).

In other countries, the reason for not participating seems less directly linked to time constraints. In Bulgaria, lack of time is mentioned by 31%, while not having thought about taking part (29%) and not understanding the issues enough (18%) are more visible than in many other countries. Respondents in Poland stand out even more clearly on this point, with 39% saying they have not yet thought about taking part. Respondents in Sweden, by contrast, combine lack of time (44%) with a relatively high level of lack of interest (26%) and financial constraints (17%). Italy also stands out on access: 20% of non-participants say that activities are too far away or difficult to reach, the highest level in the EU. Financial constraints also stand out in Belgium and France, where 24% and 22% respectively cite affordability, followed by Finland (21%) (while it is 12% in EU27).

### *Socio-demographic results also show different reasons for not taking part in organisations*

The share of respondents who replied that lack of time is a reason for not participating in the activities of organisations varies across different socio-demographic groups. Lack of time is mentioned equally by men and women (41% in both cases), but increases with age, from 36% among 15-18 year-olds to 43% among those aged 25-30. It is also particularly high among employees (47%) and young people with tertiary education (46%).

Younger non-participants are more likely to say they have not yet thought about taking part in an organisation (28% among 15–18-year-olds, compared with 19% among those aged 25-30), and more likely to say that nobody has ever asked or invited them to participate (20%). Women are more likely than men to mention

not knowing how to get involved (15% vs 10%) or not having been asked or invited (18% vs 14%), while men more often say they are not interested (24% vs 18%). The share of respondents stating that nobody has ever asked or invited them is markedly higher among young people who are not working (20% among inactive young people) than among the self-employed or employees (14% each). It is also higher among 15- to 18-year- olds (20%). In the same way, 18% of rural residents report never having been asked (compared to 15% of city dwellers). Also, those with lower educational attainment (18%) are more likely than tertiary graduates (16%) to give this reason for their non-participation.

Finally, practical access seems to remain an issue for some groups: the share of respondents stating that organisations' activities are too far away is more than twice as high among young people living in rural areas than among those living in cities (18% vs 8%). Those with lower educational attainment are more likely than tertiary graduates to report that they cannot afford these activities (14% vs 8%).

## 4.2 Activities in another EU country

***Compared to 2024, more young Europeans have participated in activities in another EU country, although more than a third of young Europeans have not***

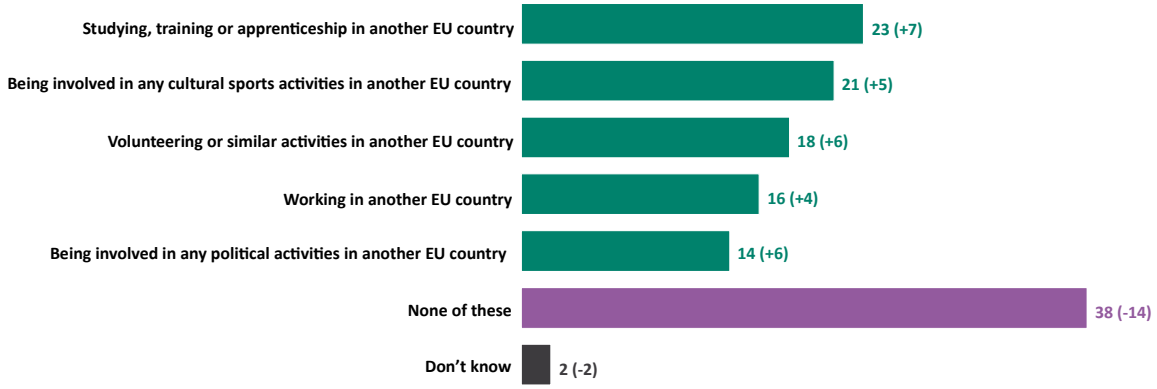
In total, 60% of young Europeans aged 15 to 30 have taken part in at least one of the activities indicated in the survey in another EU country. Studying, training or doing an apprenticeship in another EU country is the most common among young Europeans (23%), ahead of cultural or sports activities in another EU country (21%). Smaller shares report having taken part in volunteering or similar activities (18%), worked in another EU country (16%) or having been involved in political activities in another EU country (14%). The strongest rise since the 2024 Eurobarometer concerns studying, training or apprenticeships in another EU country (+7 points). Volunteering and political activities in another EU country have also increased (+6 points each).

38% of young Europeans say they have not taken part in any of these activities. However, this share has fallen sharply since 2024 (-14 percentage points), while the share of respondents having participated in activities in another EU country has increased.

***Individual country results show major differences in young people's participation in activities in another EU country.***

Studying, training or doing an apprenticeship in another EU country is the activity most often reported in 13 Member States, and being involved in cultural or sports activities in another EU country in 9. In addition, the two are reported at the same level in France (25% each), Hungary (18% each), Lithuania (22% each) and Malta (39% each). Volunteering or similar activities in another EU country comes first only in Latvia (32%). The share saying they have not taken part in any of the listed activities is the highest in Cyprus and Sweden (both 50%), followed by Hungary and Portugal (both 46%), Greece and Poland (both 45%) and Croatia (44%). By contrast, only 12% of young people in Malta and Luxembourg, and 19% in Estonia report that they have not taken part in activities in another EU country. Some of the highest levels of participation across several types of activities are also observed in these countries: studying, training or apprenticeships reach 40% in Estonia, 39% in Malta and 36% in Luxembourg, cultural or sports activities are particularly high too (41%, 39% and 42% respectively). Volunteering abroad follows the same pattern: 38% in Luxembourg, 37% in Malta and 34% in Estonia. Being involved in political activities in another EU country is most often reported in Estonia and Luxembourg (31% each). Working in another EU country

**Q10** Have you ever taken part in any of the following activities ?




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

follows a similar ranking, led by Estonia (29%), Slovenia (24%) and Malta (23%) or Luxembourg (22%), while the smallest share is observed in Sweden (11%). This suggests that in the countries where activities in another EU country are most widespread, they are not limited to one single type of activity but are spread across several types of activities.

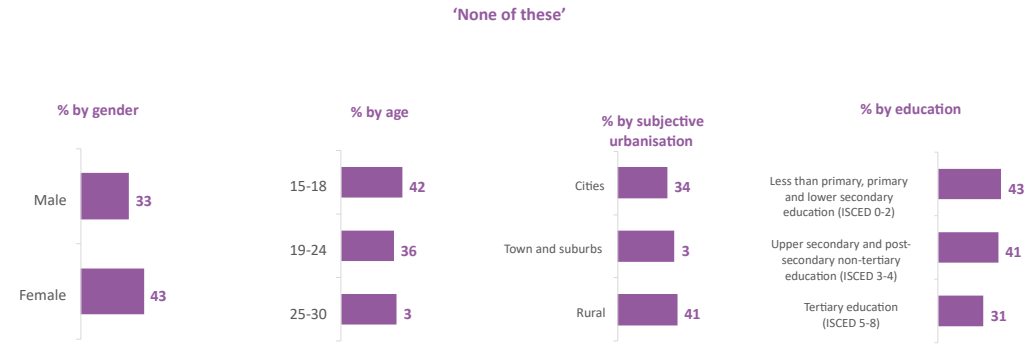
**Q10 Have you ever taken part in any of the following activities ?**

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Studying, training or apprenticeship in another EU country | 23 | 25 | 20 | 18 | 31 | 23 | 40 | 23 | 18 | 28 | 25 | 20 | 26 | 28 | 30 | 22 | 36 | 18 | 39 | 20 | 21 | 21 | 22 | 19 | 29 | 27 | 23 | 13 |
| Being involved in any cultural/sports activities in another EU country | 21 | 29 | 18 | 22 | 28 | 22 | 41 | 21 | 20 | 21 | 25 | 19 | 18 | 14 | 29 | 22 | 42 | 18 | 39 | 21 | 20 | 14 | 18 | 23 | 33 | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| Volunteering or similar activities in another EU country | 18 | 24 | 14 | 18 | 26 | 19 | 34 | 18 | 19 | 16 | 19 | 17 | 17 | 16 | 32 | 21 | 38 | 13 | 37 | 18 | 16 | 18 | 17 | 21 | 32 | 21 | 15 | 16 |
| Working in another EU country | 16 | 18 | 19 | 16 | 16 | 17 | 29 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 17 | 16 | 13 | 12 | 21 | 20 | 22 | 15 | 23 | 15 | 17 | 15 | 14 | 19 | 24 | 20 | 14 | 11 |
| Being involved in any political activities in another EU country | 14 | 20 | 12 | 12 | 23 | 15 | 31 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 9 | 22 | 16 | 31 | 14 | 24 | 16 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 14 | 23 | 16 | 14 | 13 |
| None of these | 38 | 28 | 42 | 36 | 29 | 34 | 19 | 39 | 45 | 38 | 36 | 44 | 42 | 50 | 23 | 34 | 12 | 46 | 12 | 39 | 39 | 45 | 46 | 36 | 26 | 30 | 40 | 50 |

***The shares of respondents who have taken part in an activity in another EU country vary by gender, education level and place of residence***

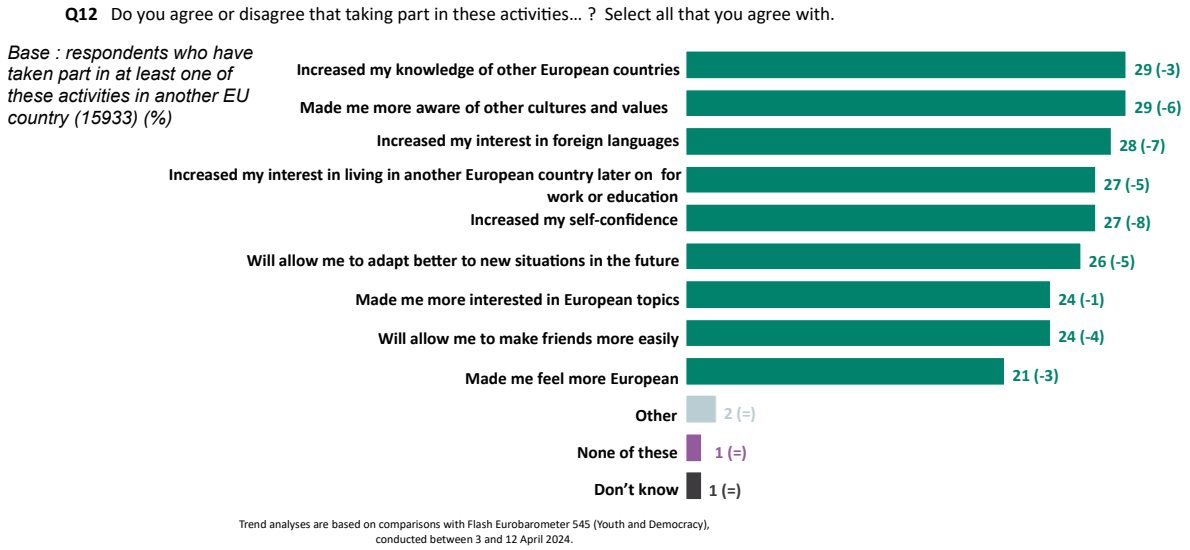
Women are more likely than men to say they have not taken part in any of the listed activities in another EU country (43% vs 33%). Strong differences are also observed in relation to education and place of residence. Young people with lower or medium educational attainment are much more likely to report they have not taken part in activities in another EU country than those with tertiary education (43% and 41%, compared with 31%). Similarly, young people living in rural areas are more likely to not have had such experience than those living in cities (41% vs 34%). Those respondents with tertiary education are also more likely to have studied in another EU country (29% vs 18% among those with lower education) and volunteered in another EU country (21% vs 16%). The youngest respondents are, unsurprisingly, more likely to report that they have not taken part in any of the listed activities in another EU country: 42% of 15–18-year-olds have taken part in none of these activities, compared with 36% of those aged 19-24 and 38% of those aged 25-30.

**Q10** Have you ever taken part in any of the following activities ?




***Among young Europeans who have taken part in at least one activity in another EU country, the perceived benefits remain positive.***

The most frequently mentioned benefits of participating in activities in another EU country are increased knowledge of other European countries and greater awareness of other cultures and values (both 29%), followed closely by increased interest in foreign languages (28%). Other benefits are also mentioned by around a quarter of respondents: 27% say the experience increased their interest in living in another European country later on, either for work or education, and the same share say it increased their self- confidence. 26% believe it will help them adapt better to new situations in the future. The benefits most directly related to European identity and to social ties come slightly lower: 24% say the experience made them more interested in European topics, 24% that it will help them make friends more easily, and 21% that it made them feel more European. The share saying that these activities had none of the positive impacts described remains marginal (1%, unchanged since 2024). However, the share of respondents who reported these positive impacts has declined for most of the benefits included in the question. The largest decreases concern increased self-confidence (-8 points), interest in foreign languages (-7 points) and awareness of other cultures and values (-6 points). This decline should be read alongside the increase in participation: the number of respondents who answered the question on benefits grew by around 38% in comparison to the 2024 Eurobarometer, as the share of young people who have taken part in at least one activity in another EU country increased by 14 points. It is possible that a substantial share of the 2026 respondents is likely to have had a more recent or more limited experience abroad, which may lower the reported levels of perceived benefits.




### *Respondents in some Member States report a stronger and more widespread perceived impact of activities in another EU country*

No single benefit dominates across Member States. Greater awareness of other cultures and values comes first in 11 Member States and increased knowledge of other European countries in 8. In 8 Member States two or three benefits are reported at exactly the same level. Therefore, the main difference between the Member States lies less in the type of benefit mentioned than in the intensity with which these benefits are expressed. Respondents in Cyprus stand out most clearly: across the benefits tested; scores range from 27% to 57%, with particularly high levels for greater awareness of other cultures and values (57%), increased knowledge of other European countries (51%) and interest in living in another European country later on (47%). Respondents in Slovenia and Estonia show a similar, although less pronounced, pattern. Among respondents in Slovenia, most reported benefits range between 29% and 38%, with the highest scores for interest in living in another European country later on (38%) and awareness of other cultures and values (37%). In Estonia, scores range from 26% to 37%, with knowledge of other European countries (37%), interest in living abroad later on (36%) and adaptation to new situations (35%) standing out slightly more.

By contrast, the perceived impact is more moderate in several Member States, including Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and Sweden. In these countries, the shares range from 18% to 28%, and none of the positive impacts described reaches the levels reported in Cyprus, Slovenia or Estonia.

### *Benefits of participating in activities in another EU country are broadly shared across different socio-demographic groups. Women and respondents with higher levels of education are more likely to note these benefits*

Socio-demographic differences are generally moderate. Women are more likely than men to say that their experience in another country increased their knowledge of other European countries (31% vs 27%), and to mention their interest in foreign languages (31% vs 26%) as well as their awareness of other cultures and values (32% vs 27%).

Levels of education and activity status show clearer differences. Young people with tertiary education more often mention several benefits, especially increased knowledge of other European countries (31%, compared with 25% among respondents with less than primary, primary or lower secondary education), interest in living in another European country later on (30% vs 22%) and awareness of other cultures and values (32% vs 25%). By activity status, those not working are more likely to note knowledge of other European countries (35%),

awareness of other cultures and values (37%), interest in foreign languages (36%) and adaptation to new situations (32%). By contrast, manual workers are less likely to note these positive impacts. A difference according to the place of residence is also observed, albeit less visibly: young people living in cities are somewhat more likely than those in rural areas to mention awareness of other cultures and values (31% vs 27%) and adaptation to new situations (29% vs 23%).

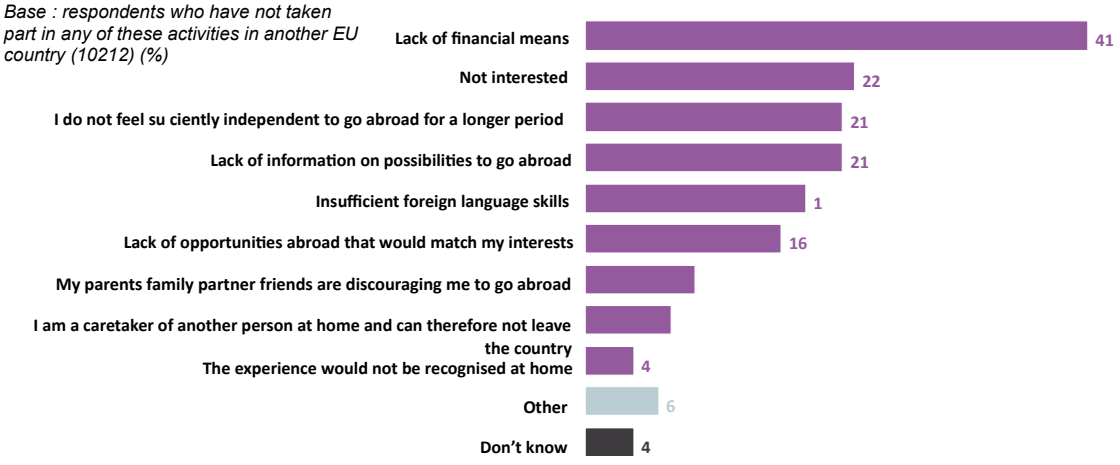
### *Financial constraints remain the main reason for not participating in activities in another EU country*

Among young Europeans who have not taken part in activities in another EU country, lack of financial means is by far the main reason given (41%, +4 percentage points since 2024), far above all the other proposed reasons. 'Not interested' is the second most common reason (22%), but this has decreased since 2024 (-6 points). Similar shares say they do not feel sufficiently independent to go abroad for a longer period (21%) or lack information on the possibilities to do so (21%). Insufficient foreign language skills are mentioned by 18%, increasing by 3 points since 2024.

constraints are often the most common reason, but with varying intensity. This is particularly clear in Greece, where 45% say they have not taken part in activities in another EU country; 50% of them mention a lack of financial means. Lack of financial means is also frequently mentioned by respondents from Italy (46%), France (49%) and Cyprus (44%). Beyond this main pattern, additional reasons for non-participation emerge in several countries. In Cyprus and Greece, lack of information is mentioned by 35% and 28% respectively. In Croatia, a quarter mention a lack of opportunities abroad that would match their interests (25%). In Sweden, lack of interest is the most common reason (34%) and one of the most frequently mentioned reasons in the EU. In Poland, lack of financial means (35%) is mentioned less often than the EU27 average, while the share of respondents not feeling sufficiently independent to go abroad (26%) reaches the highest level in the EU, combined with a high level of disinterest (30%). Insufficient foreign language skills are far more often mentioned by respondents in France (27%), Poland (23%) and Belgium (22%) than at EU27 level (18%). By contrast, the share of respondents mentioning this reason is

**Q11** What stopped you from taking part in such activities ? Select all that apply.

*Base : respondents who have not taken part in any of these activities in another EU country (10212) (%)*




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

### *Country results show diverse reasons for not participating in activities in another EU country*

Among respondents from countries where a large share of young people has not taken part in any activity in another EU country, financial

particularly low in Luxembourg (3%), Romania (8%) and Austria (10%).

### *Lack of financial means is the main reason for non-participation across different socio-demographic groups, but motivation and confidence vary according to the profiles*

Socio-demographic results confirm that lack of financial means is the most common reason for non-participation across most groups. It is mentioned more often by women than by men (44% vs 37%) and is also particularly common among young people not in employment compared with employees (45% vs 39%).

Other reasons for not participating in activities in another EU country vary more clearly by profile. Men are more likely than women to say they are not interested (27% vs 19%), while women more often mention insufficient foreign language skills (20% vs 15%) and not feeling sufficiently independent to go abroad for a longer period (23% vs 19%). Younger respondents are more likely to say they do not feel sufficiently independent (23% among both 15-18 and 19-24-year-olds, compared with 19% among those aged 25-30). Insufficient foreign language skills show a clear difference between rural areas and cities (19% in rural areas and towns vs 15% in cities). In terms of levels of education, the share of respondents saying they have insufficient foreign language skills is the lowest among tertiary graduates (15%) and the highest among those with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education (19%), while those with lower educational attainment report an intermediate level (17%). Finally, young people who have not participated in the activities of an organisation in the past year are much more likely to say they are not interested in activities in another EU country (28% vs 18% among those who have participated in organisations), while those who have participated in organisations more often mention a lack of information (24% vs 18%).

## 4.3 Awareness of EU-funded opportunities to stay in another EU country

***Erasmus+ for students remains the most well- known EU-funded opportunity to stay in another EU country, despite a decline compared to 2024***

Erasmus+ for students remains by far the most well-known EU-funded opportunity for young people to stay in another EU country. 41% of young Europeans are aware of this opportunity. However, the share of respondents who have heard of it has fallen since 2024 (-8 percentage points). The share of respondents who have heard of other Erasmus+ strands has also decreased compared to 2024, albeit to a smaller degree: 32% have heard of Erasmus+ for pupils (-1 percentage point), 31% of Erasmus+ youth exchanges (-2), 20% of Erasmus+ for apprentices (-2) and 16% of Erasmus+ for young entrepreneurs (-3).

On the other hand, awareness of less known EU opportunities has increased since 2024. DiscoverEU is now known by 14% of young Europeans (+4 points), while 12% have heard of the European Solidarity Corps (+4 points). At the same time, 13% of young people say they have not heard of any of the listed EU-funded opportunities to stay in another EU country, a share that has decreased since 2024 (-3 points), and 3% 'don't know'.

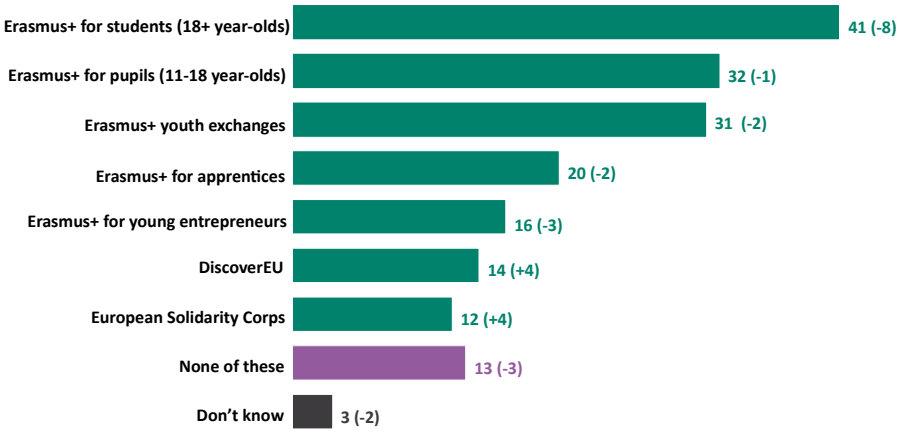
***A high level of awareness of Erasmus+ can also go with a low level of participation in activities in another EU country***

Individual country results confirm that Erasmus+ for students is the best-known opportunity in all Member States, but the shares of respondents having heard of it vary substantially. The share of young people who know Erasmus+ is largest in Cyprus (64%), Slovenia (59%), Greece (57%) and Croatia (56%), followed by Portugal (54%), Luxembourg and Malta (both 53%). By contrast, the share is much lower in Sweden (25%), the Netherlands (26%) and Germany (27%), where lower levels of awareness for several other Erasmus+ strands are also observed.

The countries where young people are the most aware of Erasmus+ for students are often those where respondents are the most aware of other Erasmus+ formats. Respondents in Cyprus stand out across several strands, including Erasmus+ for pupils (59%), Erasmus+ youth exchanges (52%), Erasmus+ for apprentices (38%) and Erasmus+ for students (64%). High levels of awareness are also observed in Slovenia for Erasmus+ students (59%) and youth exchanges (45%), while many respondents in Croatia are aware of Erasmus+ students (56%), pupils (46%) and youth exchanges (44%).

The shares of respondents who have heard of DiscoverEU are the largest in Malta (30%),

**Q13** Below are some EU-funded opportunities for young people to stay in another EU country. Which, if any, have you heard of ?




Trend analyses are based on comparisons with Flash Eurobarometer 545 (Youth and Democracy), conducted between 3 and 12 April 2024.

Estonia and Slovenia (both 28%). Awareness of the European Solidarity Corps remains more limited and more evenly distributed across countries, reaching at most 15% in Spain and Slovenia.

However, in some countries, the levels of awareness of Erasmus+ contrast with the levels of participation in activities in another EU country. Shares of respondents who know Erasmus+ for students are especially high in Greece and Cyprus, where 57% and 64% of respondents respectively know the programme. At the same time, both countries are among those with the highest shares of respondents who have not taken part in activities in another EU country (45% in Greece and 50% in Cyprus) and who cite financial constraints as a barrier (50% and 44%, compared with the EU27 average of 41%).

A similar pattern is observed in Croatia and Portugal, with a high awareness (56% and 54%) combined with high non-participation (44% and 46%), even though the share of respondents citing financial constraints sits exactly at the EU27 average (41% each). The share of respondents who have not heard of any of these EU-funded opportunities is the largest in Sweden (29%), where the level of non-participation in activities in another country is the highest in the EU (50%, tied with Cyprus).

On the other hand, in Germany and the Netherlands, low awareness of Erasmus+ does not appear to hold back actual mobility. Both countries record among the lowest levels of awareness of Erasmus+ for students in the EU (27% and 26% respectively), yet their overall level of non-participation in activities in another EU country is close to the EU27 average (34% and 39%, against 38% at EU27 level). These results suggest that young people in these countries appear to take part in activities in another EU country without identifying them as EU-funded.

Q13 Below are some EU -funded opportunities for young people to stay in another EU country. Which, if any, have you heard of ?

| | EU27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Erasmus+ for students (18+ year-olds) | 41 | 42 | 46 | 45 | 35 | 27 | 50 | 46 | 57 | 51 | 47 | 56 | 48 | 64 | 49 | 52 | 53 | 37 | 53 | 26 | 31 | 40 | 54 | 45 | 59 | 46 | 35 | 25 |
| Erasmus+ for pupils (11-18 year-olds) | 32 | 30 | 36 | 33 | 25 | 24 | 35 | 27 | 45 | 31 | 33 | 46 | 40 | 59 | 36 | 38 | 35 | 31 | 29 | 16 | 28 | 38 | 41 | 39 | 41 | 35 | 31 | 19 |
| Erasmus+ youth exchanges | 31 | 31 | 34 | 34 | 29 | 20 | 42 | 26 | 42 | 38 | 31 | 44 | 38 | 52 | 43 | 37 | 42 | 32 | 43 | 20 | 23 | 40 | 42 | 30 | 45 | 38 | 25 | 16 |
| Erasmus+ for apprentices | 20 | 19 | 27 | 17 | 21 | 18 | 33 | 15 | 38 | 18 | 19 | 18 | 20 | 38 | 26 | 15 | 33 | 24 | 29 | 15 | 18 | 26 | 28 | 13 | 26 | 14 | 17 | 11 |
| Erasmus+ for young entrepreneurs | 16 | 18 | 23 | 12 | 22 | 14 | 28 | 16 | 17 | 19 | 16 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 26 | 19 | 33 | 15 | 37 | 13 | 12 | 16 | 22 | 18 | 28 | 17 | 16 | 13 |
| DiscoverEU | 14 | 16 | 15 | 12 | 22 | 12 | 28 | 19 | 16 | 14 | 11 | 15 | 16 | 12 | 18 | 19 | 22 | 16 | 30 | 15 | 13 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 28 | 14 | 16 | 20 |
| European Solidarity Corps | 12 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 15 | 14 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 11 | 15 | 10 | 13 | 11 |

***Awareness of EU-funded opportunities to stay in another EU country is higher among young people with tertiary education and those who have taken part in the activities of an organisation***

Socio-demographic results show that awareness of EU-funded opportunities to stay in another EU country is unevenly distributed. Gender differences remain moderate, although women are more likely than men to have heard of Erasmus+ for students (44% vs 38%) and Erasmus+ youth exchanges (34% vs 28%). Unsurprisingly, awareness of Erasmus+ for pupils is highest among 15-18-year-olds (41%), while Erasmus+ for students is best known among those aged 19-24 (45%).

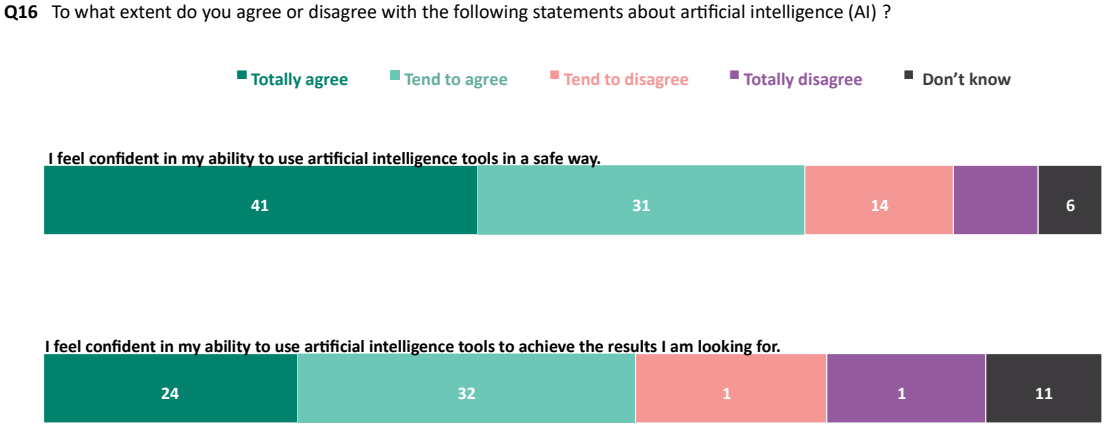
The clearest differences are linked to education, place of residence, and participation in organisations. Awareness of Erasmus+ for students ranges from 30% among young people with less than primary, primary or lower secondary education to 48% among those with tertiary education, and the same pattern appears for Erasmus+ youth exchanges (24% vs 35%). Young people with tertiary education are also much less likely to say they have not heard of any of these opportunities (8%, compared with 20% among those with lower educational attainment). Place of residence is another factor; young people living in cities are more likely than those in rural areas to have heard of Erasmus+ for students (44% vs 38%), Erasmus+ youth exchanges (33% vs 28%) and DiscoverEU (16% vs 12%), while they are less likely to say they have not heard of any of these opportunities (11% vs 16%). Finally, young people who have participated in activities of at least one organisation in the past year are more aware of the lesser-known opportunities, such as DiscoverEU (16% vs 8% among those who have not taken part in the activities of an organisation) and the European Solidarity Corps (14% vs 5%).

# 5. Digital education

## 5.1 Confidence in one's ability to use AI tools

Young Europeans are more confident in their ability to use AI tools in a safe way than to use them to achieve the results they are looking for

Almost three quarters say they feel confident in their ability to use AI tools in a safe way (72%), including 41% who totally agree with this statement. By contrast, confidence is lower when the question focuses on the ability to use AI tools to achieve the results they are looking for: 56% agree, including only 24% who totally agree. Confidence in one's ability appears stronger at the level of general use than when using AI to achieve specific results. The difference is sharper on strong agreement, which falls from 41% to 24%, than on overall agreement, which falls from 72% to 56%.




***Confidence in one's ability to use AI safely is highest among young people in Malta, Luxembourg and Estonia. The gap between safe and effective use varies across countries***

Individual country results show that confidence in one's ability to use AI tools safely is widespread across Member States, but with clear differences in intensity. It is highest in Malta (97%), Luxembourg (90%) and Estonia (89%), followed by Latvia and Slovenia (both 84%) and Denmark (82%). At the other end of the scale, young people in Netherlands stand out with the lowest level of confidence in safe AI use (57%), followed by Belgium (66%), Sweden (68%) and Austria (69%). Even in these countries, however, a majority of young people still feel confident in their ability to use AI tools in a safe way.

Confidence in one's ability to use AI tools to achieve the results respondents are looking for is lower almost everywhere. Respondents in Malta, Luxembourg and Estonia again record the highest levels of confidence (95%, 87% and 85% respectively), while respondents in the Netherlands (42%), Germany (48%) and Austria (49%) record the lowest levels.

The gap between safe and effective use is particularly marked among respondents in Germany, Austria, Poland and Romania, suggesting that in these countries, young people may feel relatively able to use AI tools in a safe way, but less confident in their ability to use them to achieve the results they are looking for. By contrast, in Malta, Luxembourg, Estonia

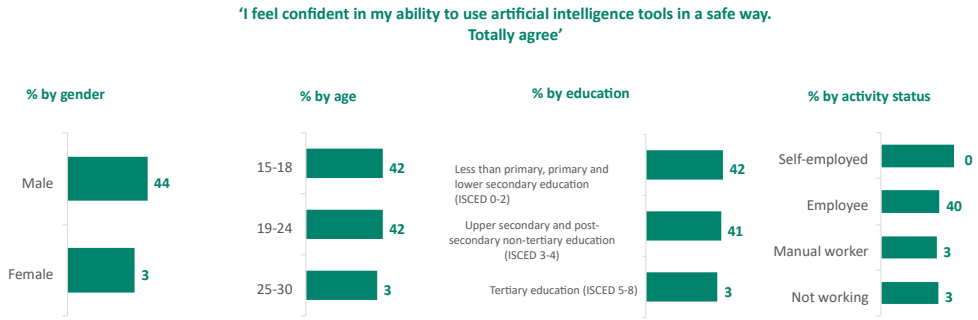
and Cyprus, the two forms of confidence are much closer.

***Socio-demographic differences show that confidence in one's ability to use AI tools safely is not evenly distributed***

Men are more likely than women to say they feel totally confident in their ability to use AI tools in a safe way (44% vs 37%). Age differences are more limited, although the share of respondents who totally agree is slightly lower among those aged 25-30 (39%) than among 15-18 and 19-24 year-olds (both 42%).

Differences by activity status are more pronounced. Half of self-employed young people say they feel totally confident in their ability to use AI safely (50%), compared with 40% of employees, 39% of those not working and 38% of manual workers. Differences by education are small and contrast with most of the other questions in this report: 42% of those with the lowest educational attainment totally agree, compared with 41% among those with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education and 39% among those with tertiary education. Overall, the results suggest that the widest differences on confidence in safe AI use are by activity status and by gender, rather than by education.

**Q16** To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about artificial intelligence (AI) ?



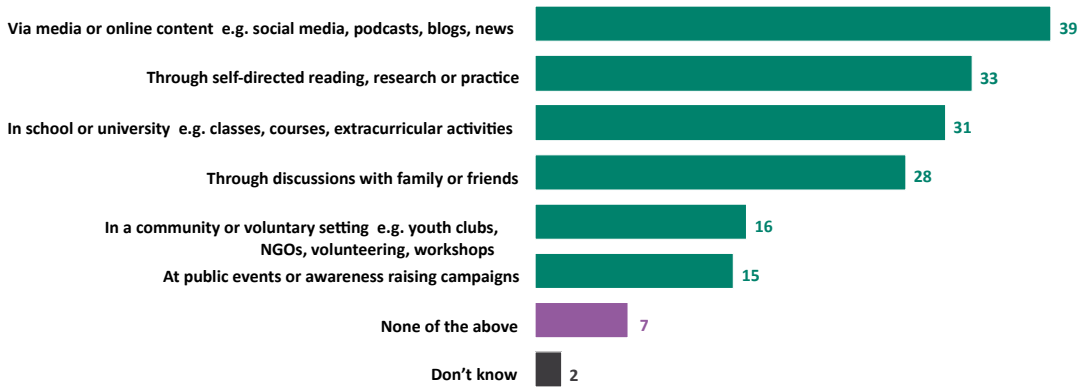

## 5.2. Learning to use AI

***Young people mainly learn skills related to understanding and using AI tools through media or online content and self-directed reading, research or practice***

In the last 12 months, young Europeans have most often learned skills related to understanding and using AI tools through media or online content, such as social media, podcasts, blogs or news (39%). Self-directed reading, research or practice also plays an important role (33%), slightly ahead of learning in school or university (31%). Discussions with family or friends are mentioned by 28%, while more collective or organised settings are less common: 16% learned skills related to understanding and using AI tools in a community or voluntary setting, and 15% through public events or awareness-raising campaigns.

These results suggest that AI learning is currently driven more by everyday digital exposure and individual experimentation than by structured educational settings. At the same time, only 7% of all respondents say they did not learn AI-related skills through any of the channels listed, which does not necessarily mean that they learned none, since other ways of learning were not tested. The channels through which they learn remain diverse and often informal.

**Q17** In the last 12 months, where, if anywhere, did you learn skills related to understanding and using AI tools ?




***AI learning channels vary across Member States. In some countries, more respondents have learnt AI skills in school or university***

Individual country results show that media and online content are the most common channels for learning AI-related skills in many Member States. They are especially prominent among respondents in Luxembourg (57%) and Malta (55%), followed by Estonia and Slovenia (both 48%), Italy (45%), Croatia and France (42% each). Self-directed learning is also particularly important in several countries, especially for respondents in Cyprus (50%), Slovenia (49%), Bulgaria (48%), Croatia (47%) and Malta (46%).

Learning AI-related skills in schools and universities seems more prominent in some Member States. They are the leading channel in Belgium (38%) and the second most important channel in Luxembourg (44%), Denmark (39%), France (36%), Portugal (34%), as well as Spain and Italy (both 33%). This shows that, although AI learning at EU level is still mainly driven by online content and self-directed practice, formal education seems to already play a significant role in several countries. Countries where respondents more often mention schools and universities are also countries where the share of respondents without a professional activity (including a substantial part of students) is the highest. More organised or collective channels remain less common overall, but stand out in Malta, Luxembourg, Estonia and Slovenia, particularly in community or voluntary settings and at public events. Malta, Luxembourg and Estonia, where respondents indicate the highest confidence levels, score above the EU27 average on every learning channel, notably 'school or university' (37%, 44% and 44% vs 31% in EU27), 'media or online content' (55%, 57% and 48% vs 39%) or even 'discussions with family or friends' (43%, 40% and 36% vs 28%). Only 1% in Malta and Luxembourg, and 2% in Estonia, report learning through none of the channels listed, against 7% at EU27 level.

**Q17 In the last 12 months, where, if anywhere, did you learn skills related to understanding and using AI tools ?**

| | EU 27 | BE | BG | CZ | DK | DE | EE | IE | EL | ES | FR | HR | IT | CY | LV | LT | LU | HU | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | RO | SI | SK | FI | SE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Via media or online content (e.g. social media, podcasts, blogs, news) | 39 | 36 | 34 | 35 | 40 | 38 | 48 | 40 | 35 | 34 | 42 | 42 | 45 | 36 | 40 | 33 | 57 | 41 | 55 | 29 | 39 | 35 | 41 | 40 | 48 | 37 | 39 | 38 |
| Through self-directed reading, research or practice | 33 | 26 | 48 | 29 | 37 | 35 | 45 | 39 | 40 | 31 | 27 | 47 | 31 | 50 | 41 | 38 | 39 | 37 | 46 | 34 | 33 | 43 | 31 | 30 | 49 | 35 | 38 | 36 |
| In school or university (e.g. classes, courses, extracurricular activities) | 31 | 38 | 23 | 32 | 39 | 29 | 44 | 33 | 30 | 33 | 36 | 27 | 33 | 29 | 31 | 27 | 44 | 21 | 37 | 29 | 26 | 23 | 34 | 25 | 35 | 28 | 33 | 34 |
| Through discussions with family or friends | 28 | 27 | 23 | 26 | 33 | 28 | 36 | 26 | 30 | 31 | 29 | 25 | 29 | 36 | 30 | 23 | 40 | 25 | 43 | 25 | 27 | 26 | 30 | 23 | 38 | 23 | 28 | 26 |
| In a community or voluntary setting (e.g. youth clubs, NGOs, volunteering, workshops) | 16 | 21 | 14 | 16 | 25 | 14 | 32 | 13 | 14 | 18 | 18 | 15 | 13 | 6 | 26 | 18 | 33 | 19 | 34 | 18 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 30 | 18 | 15 | 17 |
| At public events or awareness-raising campaigns | 15 | 20 | 11 | 15 | 22 | 16 | 30 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 8 | 24 | 16 | 25 | 13 | 33 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 15 | 14 | 25 | 14 | 12 | 12 |

***AI learning channels are broadly similar across groups. The youngest respondents are the most likely to have learnt skills related to understanding and using AI tools at school in the past 12 months, given the fact that exposure to AI is a recent phenomenon.***

Socio-demographic results show that the main channels for learning AI-related skills remain broadly similar across groups. Media and online content are mentioned at almost the same level for women and men (39% vs 38%), and vary only slightly by age, from 37% among 25-30 year-olds to 41% among 15-18 year-olds. Self-directed learning, by contrast, is more common among older respondents: 36% of those aged 25-30 learned through self-directed reading, research or practice, compared with 31% of 15-18 year- olds.

The clearest age difference concerns school and university. 40% of 15-18 year-olds say they learned AI-related skills in this setting in the last 12 months. For this age group, learning at school is as common as learning through media or online content (41%), making these their two most common channels for learning AI-related skills. Among 19-24 year olds, 34% report having learned AI-related skills at school or university in the last 12 months. Making it their second most common learning channel after media or online content (39%). Among those aged 25-30, 23% say they have learned AI related skills at school or university in the past 12 months.

Education differences are more limited, but young people with tertiary education are slightly more likely than those with lower educational attainment to mention self-directed learning (35% vs 29%) and community or voluntary settings (18% vs 14%). By activity status, young people without a professional activity are more likely than employees to have learned to use AI in the last 12 months through media or online content (43% vs 39%) and especially through school or university (38% vs 29%).

Finally, the most visible difference is observed between those who participate in organisations and those who do not. Young people who participate in organisations are much more likely than those who do not to have learned skills related to understanding and using AI tools in the last 12 months in a community or voluntary setting (20% vs 4%). The same gap appears for public events or awareness-raising campaigns (18% vs 5%). Overall, AI learning is

widespread across profiles, but structured and collective channels are reported more often by younger respondents and by those who have taken part in the activities of an organisation.

# 6. Technical specifications

Between the 19 June and 1 July 2026, Demoscopy carried out this Flash Eurobarometer 585 at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC). It is a survey coordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM 'Public Opinion and Citizens Engagement' Unit).

This Flash Eurobarometer covers young people aged between 15 and 30 years across all 27 EU Member States. This target population corresponds to STG1 (Specific Target Group 1) as defined in the Flash Eurobarometer framework contract. In total, 26,806 interviews were completed via Computer Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI).

Number of interviews per country

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EU | 26807 | Latvia | 00:00:00 |
| Belgium | 1022 | Lithuania | 104 |
| Bulgaria | 1031 | Luxembourg | 501 |
| Czechia | 1024 | Hungary | 1009 |
| Denmark | 1023 | Malta | 503 |
| Germany | 1172 | Netherlands | 1003 |
| Estonia | 1003 . | Austria | 105 |
| Republic of Ireland | 1073 - | Poland | 1001 |
| Greece | 1007 | Portugal | 1192 |
| Spain | 1007 | Romania | 1183 |
| France | 995 | Slovenia | 1013 |
| Croatia | 1021 | Slovakia | 1030 |
| Italy | 1173 | Finland | 1032 |
| Cyprus | 521 | Sweden | 1138 |

**Margin of error**

Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances. The 'margin of error' quantifies uncertainty about (or confidence in) a survey result. As a general rule, the more interviews conducted (sample size), the smaller the margin of error. A sample of 500 will produce a margin of error of not more than 4.4 percentage points, and a sample of 1 000 will produce a margin of error of not more than 3.1 percentage points.

Statistical margins due to sampling tolerances
(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows — various observed results are in columns

| | 5,00 % | 10,00 % | 25,00 % | 50,00 % | 75,00 % | 90,00 % | 95,00 % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| n=50 | ±6.0 | ±8.3 | ±12.0 | ±13.9 | ±12.0 | ±8.3 | ±6.0 |
| n=100 | ±4.3 | ±5.9 | ±8.5 | ±9.8 | ±8.5 | ±5.9 | ±4.3 |
| n=200 | ±3.0 | ±4.2 | ±6.0 | ±6.9 | ±6.0 | ±4.2 | ±3.0 |
| n=500 | ±1.9 | ±2.6 | ±3.8 | ±4.4 | ±3.8 | ±2.6 | ±1.9 |
| n=1000 | ±1.4 | ±1.9 | ±2.7 | ±3.1 | ±2.7 | ±1.9 | ±1.4 |
| n=1500 | ±1.1 | ±1.5 | ±2.2 | ±2.5 | ±2.2 | ±1.5 | ±1.1 |
| n=2000 | ±1.0 | ±1.3 | ±1.9 | ±2.2 | ±1.9 | ±1.3 | ±1.0 |

# 7. Questionnaire

Interview mode: Online (CAWI)

Target population: Young people aged between 15 and 30 years.

Coverage: 27 EU Member States

Fieldwork dates: 19 June to 1 July 2026.

Sample size: 26,806 interviews (approximately 1,000 in larger countries and 500 in smaller countries)

*Socio-demographic questions covered: age, gender, education, occupation, region, urbanisation, household composition*

TOPICAL QUESTIONS

EU Youth Strategy

[ASK ALL]

Q1. In your opinion, which of the following are most important for delivering results in policies aimed at young people? Select up to three options.

(MAXIMUM THREE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS)

1. Goals that address the real issues faced by young people

2. Working together across all levels - local, regional, national, and EU

3. Making sure young people and youth organisations have a say in decisions

4. Ensuring young people know about policies and opportunities

5. Providing financial support for youth programmes and initiatives

6. Making decisions using facts and research

7. Ensuring policies are actually carried out and reviewed properly

8. Connecting different areas of policy that affect young people

9. None of these

10. Don’t know

Civic education

[ASK ALL]

Q2 In the last 12 months, have you learned anything new about the following topics?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 5)

1. Democratic processes, political participation and institutions

2. Human rights and social justice

3. Equality, diversity and anti-discrimination

4. Environmental sustainability

5. Media and digital literacy and recognising disinformation

6. None of the above

7. Don’t know

[ASK IF Q2 = 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5]

Q3 How did you learn about these topics?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 6)

1. In a school or university (courses, extracurricular activities)

2. By participating in youth clubs, civil society organisations, volunteering

3. Via traditional media (e.g. TV, radio, newspapers), digital media (e.g. social media, podcasts, blogs)

4. Through self-directed reading or research

5. Through discussions with your family or friends

6. At public events or awareness raising campaigns

7. None of the above

8. Don’t know

TREND QUESTIONS

Youth participation in civic life

MODIFIED TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q1

[ASK ALL]

Q4. In your opinion what are the most effective actions for making young people’s voice heard by decision makers? You can select up to three answers.

(UP TO THREE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 8)

1. Voting in local, national or European elections

2. Participating in political movements, parties or unions

3. Contacting a politician about an issue

4. Volunteering for a charity/campaign organisation

5. Boycotting or buying certain products for political, ethical or environmental reasons

6. Participating in student or youth organisations

7. Taking part in a public consultation on proposed political initiatives (online or offline), including in the EU Youth Dialogue or the European Citizens Panels

8. Engaging in social media by expressing my opinion, using hashtags or changing my profile picture for example

9. Other

10. None of these are effective

11. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q2

[ASK ALL]

Q5. In the last 12 months, have you participated in any activities of the following organisations? Select all that apply.

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 7)

1. A sports club

2. A youth club, leisure-time club or any kind of youth organisation

3. A cultural organisation

4. A political organisation or a political party

5. An organisation with volunteering activities

6. An organisation active in the domain of climate change/environmental issues

7. An organisation promoting human rights or global development

8. Any other youth organisation, club, non-governmental organisation, etc.

9. None of these

10. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q3

[ASK IF Q5 = 9 (None of these)]

Q6. For what reasons have you not taken part in these activities? Please select all that apply.

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 6)

1. I don’t have time

2. I’m not interested

3. I cannot afford it

4. I have not yet thought about it

5. I don’t know how to do this

6. I don’t understand the issues enough

7. Nobody has ever asked or invited me to take part

8. I did not know that I could do this

9. These activities are too far away. It is difficult to get there (e.g. by public transport) from my home

10. Other

11. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q4a

[ASK ALL]

Q7a. In the past year, have you taken any action to change society by, for example, signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician?

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: EXCLUSIVE)

1. Yes

2. No

3. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q4b

[ASK IF Q7a = 1 (Yes)]

Q7b. In which areas did you try to change society (by, for example, signing a petition, participating in a rally, or sending a letter to a politician)?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 7)

1. Climate change and environmental protection

2. Health and well-being

3. Economic inequality and welfare expenditure
4. Equal rights regardless of gender, race or sexuality
5. Human rights
6. Wars and conflicts
7. Democracy and rule of law
8. Other
9. Don’t know

Opinion on the EU / EU Youth offer

MODIFIED TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q5

[ASK ALL]

Q8. Are you familiar with any of the following ways to engage with the European Union?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 8)

1. EU Youth Dialogue or EU Youth Conference
2. European Citizens’ Panels
3. Public consultations
4. European elections
5. EU social media channels and websites (i.e. European Youth Portal)
6. Visit of the EU institutions
7. The European Youth Week or the European Youth Event
8. Contacting a Commissioner or an MEP
9. Participation in events organised by the EU in your country
10. European Citizens’ Initiative
11. None of these
12. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q6

[ASK ALL]

Q9. Which of the following sources do you use to keep yourself informed about the EU?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 7)

1. Social media
2. Online press, podcasts and/or news platforms
3. Written (printed) press (e.g. newspapers, weekly or monthly magazine, etc.)
4. TV
5. Radio
6. Conversations with friends, family, or colleagues
7. School or university
8. Other
9. None, I don’t stay informed about the EU
10. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q7

[ASK ALL]

Q10. Have you ever taken part in any of the following activities?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 5)

1. Studying, training or apprenticeship in another EU country
2. Being involved in any cultural/sports activities in another EU country
3. Being involved in any political activities in another EU country
4. Volunteering or similar activities in another EU country
5. Working in another EU country
6. None of these
7. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q8

[ASK IF Q10 = 6 (None of these)]

Q11. What stopped you from taking part in such activities? Select all that apply.

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 9)

1. Not interested

2. Insufficient foreign language skills

3. I am a caretaker of another person at home and can therefore not leave the country

4. My parents/family/partner/friends are discouraging me to go abroad

5. I do not feel sufficiently independent to go abroad for a longer period

6. Lack of financial means

7. Lack of information on possibilities to go abroad

8. Lack of opportunities abroad that would match my interests

9. The experience would not be recognised at home

10. Other

11. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q9

[ASK IF Q10 = 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5]

Q12. Do you agree or disagree that taking part in these activities…? Select all that you agree with.

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 9)

1. Increased my knowledge of other European countries

2. Made me feel more European

3. Increased my interest in living in another European country later on (for work or education)

4. Made me more interested in European topics

5. Increased my interest in foreign languages

6. Made me more aware of other cultures and values

7. Increased my self-confidence

8. Will allow me to adapt better to new situations in the future

9. Will allow me to make friends more easily

10. Other

11. None of these

12. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q10

[ASK ALL]

Q13. Below are some EU-funded opportunities for young people to stay in another EU country. Which, if any, have you heard of?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS, KEEP 1-5 GROUPED)

1. Erasmus+ for students (18+ year-olds)
2. Erasmus+ for pupils (11-18 year-olds)
3. Erasmus+ for apprentices
4. Erasmus+ youth exchanges
5. Erasmus+ for young entrepreneurs
6. DiscoverEU
7. European Solidarity Corps
8. None of these
9. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q11

[ASK ALL]

Q14. Would you say that actions taken by the EU have an impact on your daily life or not?

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: EXCLUSIVE)

1. Yes, very much
2. Yes, to some extent
3. No, not much
4. No, not at all
5. Don’t know

TREND – FL 545 (2024) - Q12

[ASK ALL]

Q15. What do you expect of the European Union for your generation? You can select up to three answers.

(UP TO THREE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 9)

1. Promoting environmentally friendly policy and fight climate change

2. Increasing job opportunities for young people

3. Fighting poverty and economic and social inequalities

4. Playing a strong role in dealing with health challenges

5. Preserving peace, reinforcing international security and promoting international cooperation

6. Promoting Human Rights, democracy and common European values

7. Promoting the digitalisation of society

8. Promoting inclusive societies, including gender equality and anti-discrimination

9. Bringing young people from different parts of the EU together

10. Other

11. Don’t know

Digital education / disinformation / media literacy

[ASK ALL]

Q16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about artificial intelligence (AI)?

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: EXCLUSIVE PER LINE – RANDOMIZE 1 TO 4)

• Totally agree

• Tend to agree

• Tend to disagree

• Totally disagree

• Don’t know

1. I feel confident in my ability to use artificial intelligence tools in a safe way.

2. I feel confident in my ability to use artificial intelligence tools to achieve the results I am looking for.

[ASK ALL]

Q17. In the last 12 months, where, if anywhere, did you learn skills related to understanding and using AI tools?

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS ALLOWED)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 6)

1. In school or university (e.g. classes, courses, extracurricular activities)

2. In a community or voluntary setting (e.g. youth clubs, NGOs, volunteering, workshops)

3. Via media or online content (e.g. social media, podcasts, blogs, news)

4. Through self-directed reading, research or practice

5. Through discussions with family or friends

6. At public events or awareness-raising campaigns

7. None of the above

8. Don’t know

6. Intergenerational fairness

[ASK ALL]

Q18. To what extent do you personally agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

(SCRIPTING INSTRUCTIONS: RANDOMISE ITEMS)

• Totally agree

• Tend to agree

• Tend to disagree

• Totally disagree

• Don’t know

1. In (OUR COUNTRY), policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account

2. EU policymakers take the long-term consequences of their decisions into account

3. In (OUR COUNTRY), young people have the same chances of succeeding in life as young people of the same age 30 years ago

4. In (OUR COUNTRY), young people in 30 years’ time will have the same chances to succeed as young people of the same age today

# Comments

In the original pdf file, the characters appear strange, particularly in the illustrations: some characters go missing during copy-paste operations, most notably apostrophes, capital letters, and question marks.

For example, in the first illustration on page 8:

- When copying the top line (the title line), the question number "Q18" is replaced by " 1 ", and the final question mark disappears.

- In the subsequent lines, the phrase "(OUR COUNTRY)" in parentheses is transformed into " U U T Y ".

These strangely missing characters also occur in the text itself (for instance, on page 6, in the first column at the beginning of the final paragraph, a word disappears during the copying process).

It is possible that other errors remain; please send us a message so that we may correct them.

Question Q10 indicates that the proportion of young Europeans engaging in activities in another European Union country is on the rise. This is a positive development (though one must be mindful of the carbon footprint: travelling abroad leads to higher $CO_2$ emissions).

Question Q12 asks these same individuals about the benefits they gained from their time abroad. The percentage of positive responses drops significantly.

It would therefore seem that the more young Europeans travel abroad, the less appealing the experience becomes for them.

Digital education: the only questions asked concern artificial intelligence. This represents just one facet of digital education, even if it is the most topical one.