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PART 2/3

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

Situation of young people in the European Union

Accompanying the document

[\[...\]](#)

Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy (2022-2024)

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4. Youth and mobility

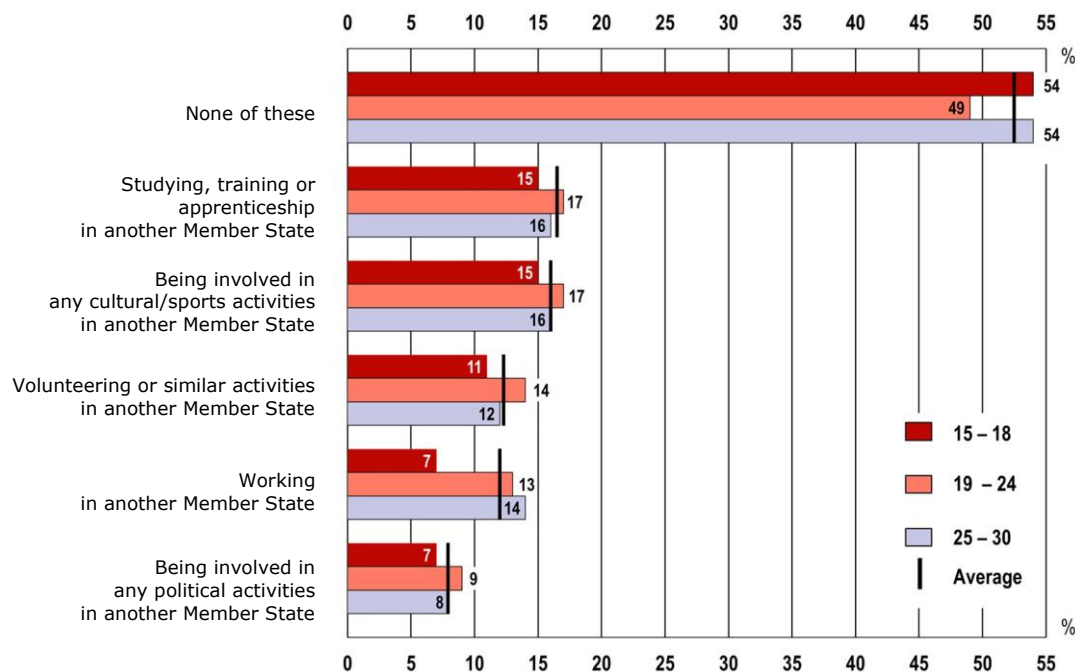
4.1. Mobility

More than four in ten young people (43%) have participated in one or more activities in another Member State.

Young people (15–30) tend to go to another Member State to participate in activities relating to studying, training and apprenticeship, or culture and sport (both around 16%). A smaller percentage report having worked or volunteered

(both around 12%) in another Member State, while almost 1 in 10 young people (8%) have taken part in political activities abroad. However, 52% of young people declared not to have participated in any activities in another Member State.

Figure 4.1: Share of young people taking part in activities in another Member State, by age group, EU average, 2024



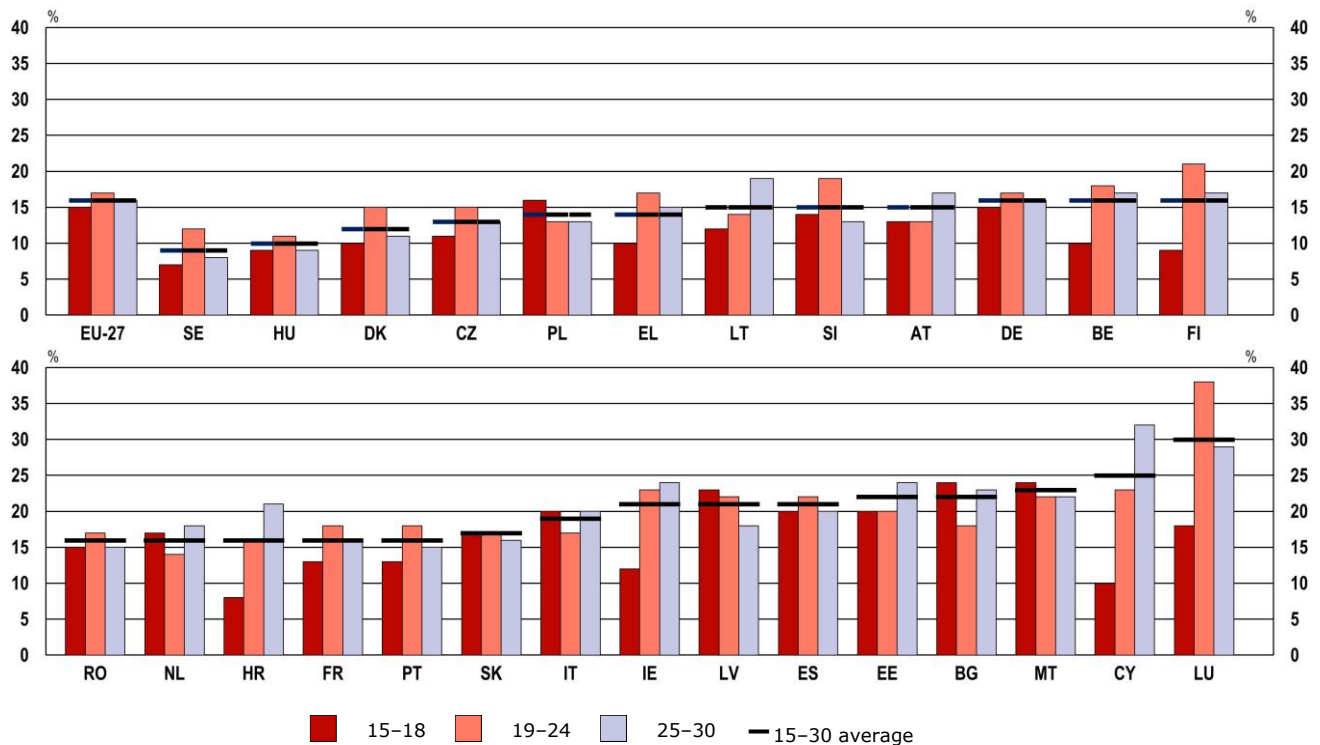
Source: [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), 2024. Volume B. Q7. Have you ever taken part in any of the following activities? (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Data are ordered by decreasing share of young people (15–30) participating in activities in another Member State. Data extracted on 16.5.2024.

In the EU, 16% of young people have studied, undergone training or completed an apprenticeship in another Member State.

Cyprus and Luxembourg have the highest percentage of young people (15–30) reporting having studied, undergone training, or completed an apprenticeship in another Member State (30% and 25%, respectively). In contrast, Hungary and Sweden have the lowest share of young people engaged in these activities (approximately 10%).

Figure 4.2: Share of young people who studied or underwent training or an apprenticeship in another Member State, by age group and by country, 2024



Source: [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), 2024. Volume B. Q7. Have you ever taken part in any of the following activities? (Multiple answers possible).

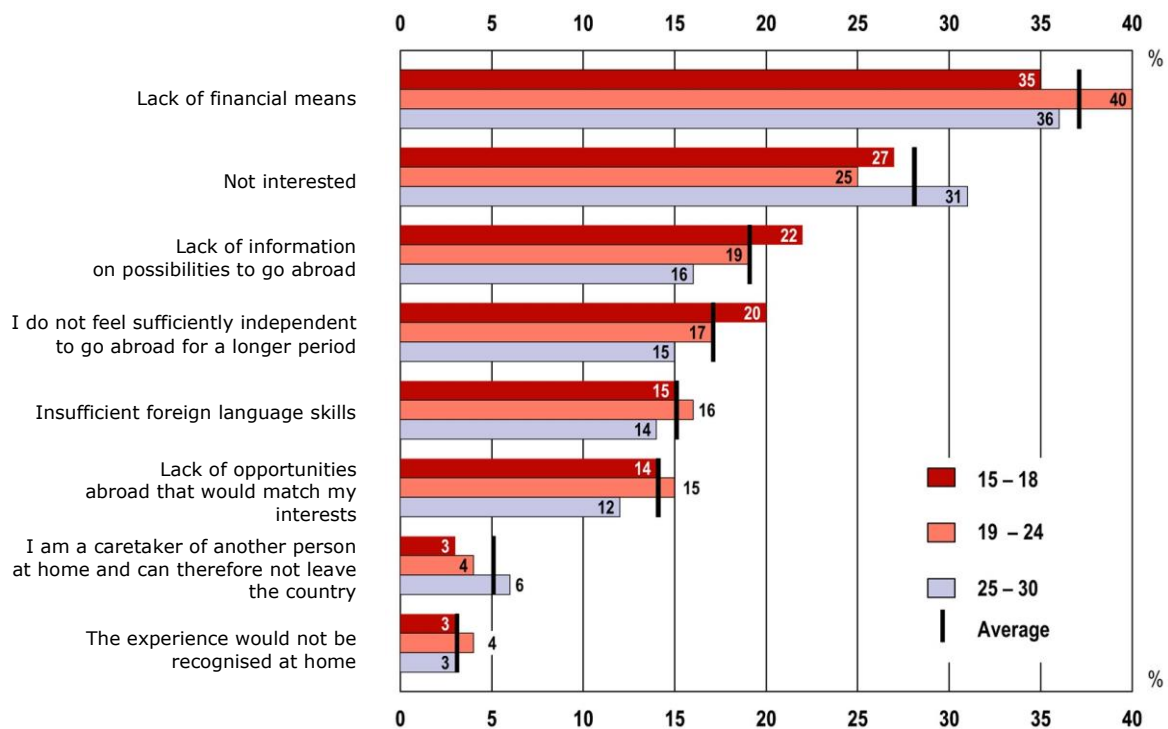
Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people (15–30) studying or undergoing training or an apprenticeship in another Member State. Data extracted on 16.5.2024.

Lack of financial means is the main reason for not participating in activities in another Member State.

More than one third of young people (15–30) do not engage in activities in another Member State because of financial constraints. Lack of interest is also a common reason (28%).

Other reasons include insufficient information about opportunities to have an experience in another Member State and not feeling independent enough to spend an extended period abroad. Similar percentages of young people lack confidence in their language skills or believe that opportunities abroad do not match their interests.

Figure 4.3: Reasons stopping young people from engaging in an experience in another Member State, by age group, EU average, 2024



Source: [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), 2024. Volume B. Q8. What stopped you from taking part in such activities? (Multiple answers possible).

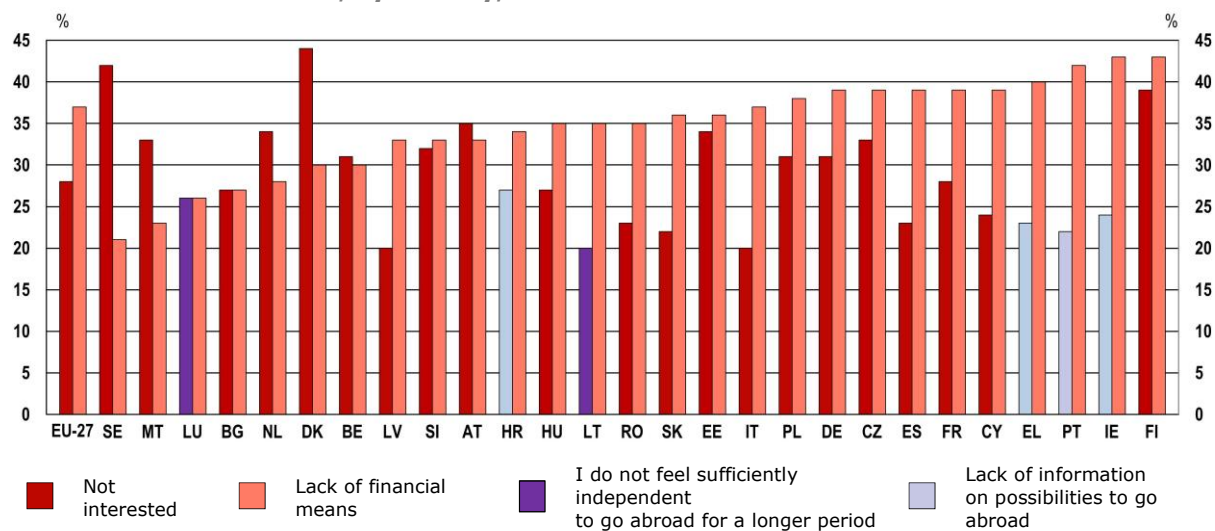
Notes: Data are ordered by decreasing share of young people (15–30) not participating in activities in another Member State. Data extracted on 16.5.2024.

In about one third of Member States, around 40% of young people (15–30) do not have sufficient financial means to take part in an activity in another EU country.

Lack of interest in such experiences was the second most-cited reason. In Denmark and Sweden, the share of young people who do not participate in experiences abroad because they are not interested is higher than 40%. However, six Member States (Greece, Ireland, Croatia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal) report other principal reasons deterring young people from going abroad.

In Greece, Ireland, Croatia and Portugal one of the main issues is a lack of information about opportunities to travel abroad, while in Lithuania and Luxembourg, young people do not feel independent enough to live abroad for an extended period.

Figure 4.4: Top two reasons stopping young people (15–30) from taking part in an activity in another Member State, by country, 2024



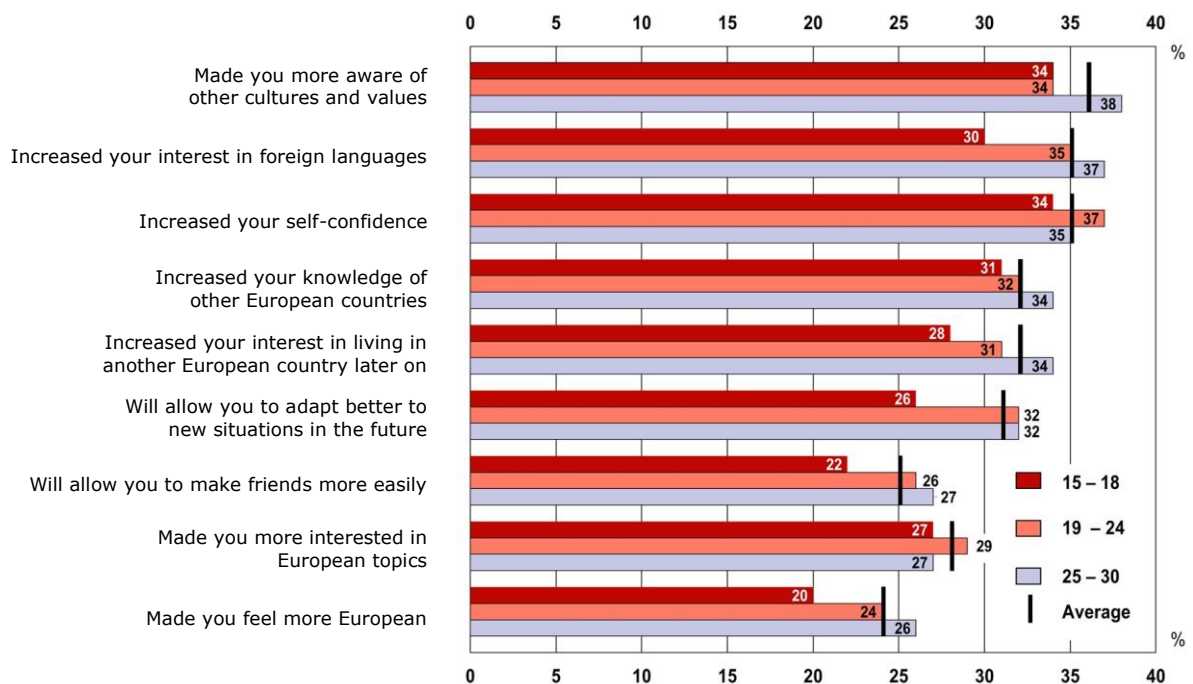
Source: [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), 2024. Volume C. Q8. What stopped you from taking part in such activities? (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people (15–30) not going abroad due to a lack of financial means. Data extracted on 16.5.2024.

In the EU, more than one third of young people report positive outcomes from an experience in another Member State.

Among the most positive effects of having an experience in another Member State, young people report increases in awareness of other cultures (36%), interest in foreign languages (35%) or knowledge of other European countries (32%). Personal development was also reported as one of the most important outcomes of a period abroad: 35% of young people declared they increased their self-confidence and 31% that they will adapt better to new situations in the future. A smaller percentage of young people declared that an experience abroad made them more interested in European topics or made them feel more European.

Figure 4.5: Positive outcomes of an experience in another Member State according to young people, by age group, 2024



Source: [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), 2024. Volume B. Q9. Do you agree or disagree that taking part in these activities ...? Select all that you agree with. (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Data are ordered by decreasing share of young people (15–30) having a positive perception of an experience in another Member State. Data extracted on 16.5.2024.

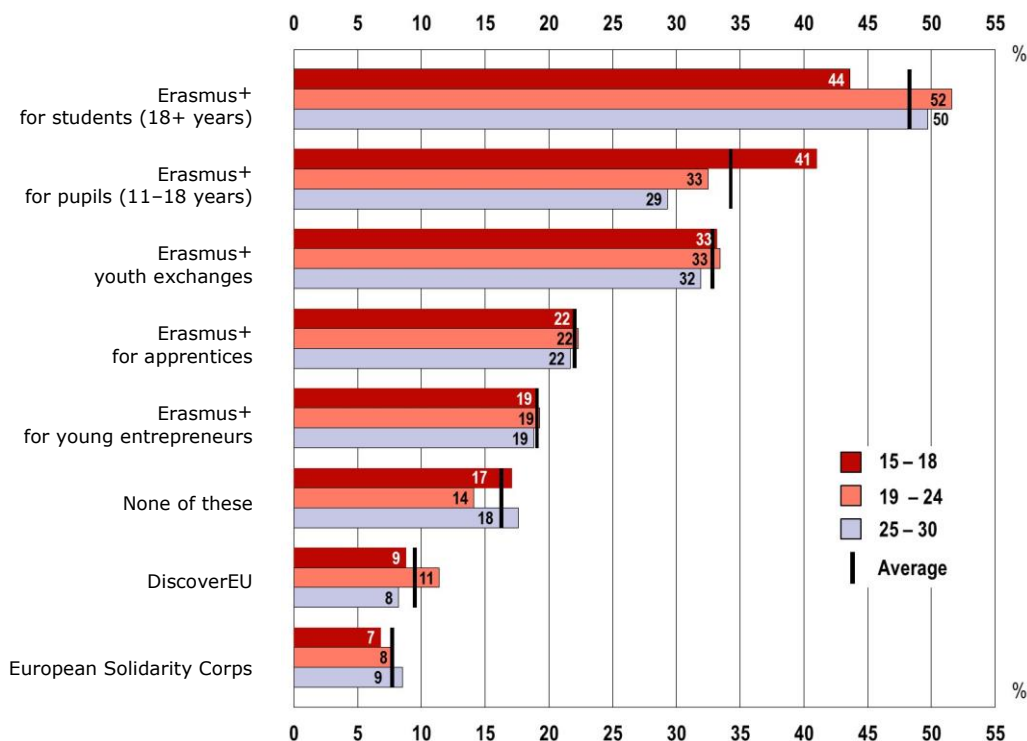
4.2. Erasmus+ and mobility of learners

Erasmus+ is the most well-known programme among young people in the EU.

Asked about which EU-funded opportunities for young people to stay in another Member State young people (15–30) have heard of, almost 50% replied they know Erasmus+ for students over 18 years old, while the Erasmus+ for pupils

and Erasmus+ youth exchanges are known by a smaller percentage (33%). 16% of young people declare they have never heard of any EU-funded opportunities to stay in another Member State. Less than 10% of young people have heard about Discover EU and 7% of them know the European Solidarity Corps programme¹.

Figure 4.6: Share of young people aware of EU-funded opportunities to stay in another Member State, by age group, EU average



Source: [Eurobarometer on Youth and Democracy](#), 2024. Volume B. Q10 Below are some EU-funded opportunities for young people to stay in another Member State. Which, if any, have you heard of? (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Data are ordered by decreasing share of young people (15–30) aware of EU-funded opportunities to stay in another Member State. Data extracted on 16.5.2024.

¹ The European Solidarity Corps programme is a stand-alone programme, independent from Erasmus+ in the current Multiannual financial framework.

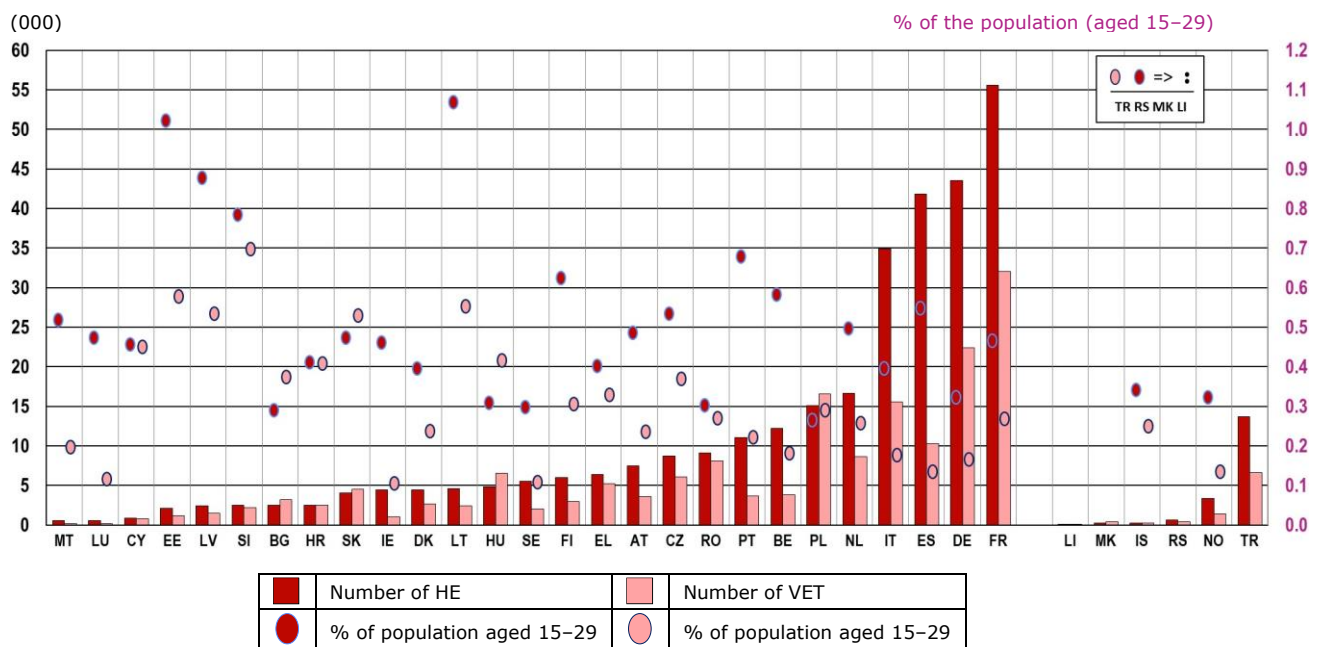
In 2023, higher education learners represent the majority of participants who took part in the Erasmus+ learning mobility actions.

In 2023, in the EU, the majority of countries reported the highest participation in the [Erasmus+](#) programme among students enrolled in [higher education \(HE\)](#), except for Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, where the number of mobilities in [vocational education and training \(VET\)](#)

was larger. In absolute terms, Germany, Spain, France and Italy reported the highest numbers of HE learners participating in a learning mobility period.

When considering the percentage of the population aged 15–29, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovenia recorded the highest participation rates in Erasmus+ mobility actions for both HE and VET. Belgium, Portugal and Finland also reported significant mobility among young people in HE compared to countries with similar youth populations.

Figure 4.7: Numbers of learners (aged 15–29) who completed Erasmus+ learning mobility actions in HE and VET, by country, 2023



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
HE	12 174	2 473	8 721	4 475	43 548	2 125	4 468	6 354	41 809	55 541	2 524	34 884	832	2 392	4 605	585	4 845
VET	3 779	3 191	6 038	2 683	22 377	1 202	1 013	5 212	10 304	32 064	2 503	15 542	820	1 457	2 384	143	6 551
	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE		IS	NO	TR	MK	RS	LI
HE	517	16 604	7 480	15 102	11 076	9 068	2 457	4 015	5 983	5 519		278	3 321	13 650	277	615	36
VET	196	8 601	3 621	16 546	3 625	8 094	2 181	4 485	2 926	2 017		204	1 379	6 630	376	434	34

Source: Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps dashboard, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (data extracted on 17.6.2024) and Eurostat ([yth_demo_060](#)).

Notes: Countries in Figure 4.7 are ordered by decreasing number of learners (15–29) who completed an Erasmus+ mobility action in HE and VET starting in 2023. Data extracted on 17.6.2024. Please note that data covering 2023 are not final.

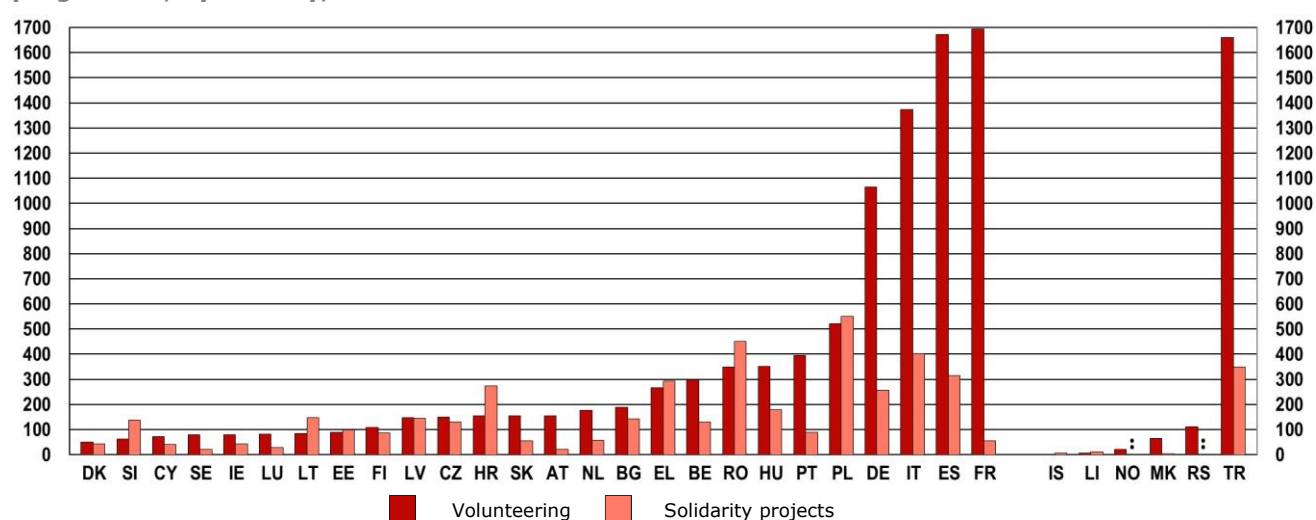
4.3. European Solidarity Corps

In 2023, in the EU, 11 715 young people participated in volunteering activities and 4 616 in solidarity projects within the European Solidarity Corps programme.

In 2023, in the EU, the majority of young people participating in the [European Solidarity Corps](#) (the Corps) programme were involved in cross-border volunteering activities, with Germany, Spain, France and Italy reporting the highest number of participants. On the other hand, seven

Member States (Estonia, Ireland, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania and Slovenia) reported a higher number of young people participating in solidarity projects within the Corps.

Figure 4.8: Numbers of young people (18–30) participating in the European Solidarity Corps programme, by country, 2023



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Vol	297	189	149	51	1 066	89	80	266	1 673	1 694	154	1 373	73	148	85	83	351
Sol	130	143	130	44	257	100	43	293	314	55	274	403	41	145	148	28	180
	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE		IS	NO	TR	MK	RS	LI
Vol	26	177	155	521	394	350	63	154	108	80		2	22	1 661	64	111	6
Sol	46	57	22	551	88	452	138	55	86	22		6		348	5		12

Source: Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps dashboard, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture.

Notes: Countries in Figure 4.8 are ordered by ascending number of young people (18–30) who participated in the European Solidarity Corps programme. Data extracted on 17.6.2024. Please note that data covering 2023 are not final.

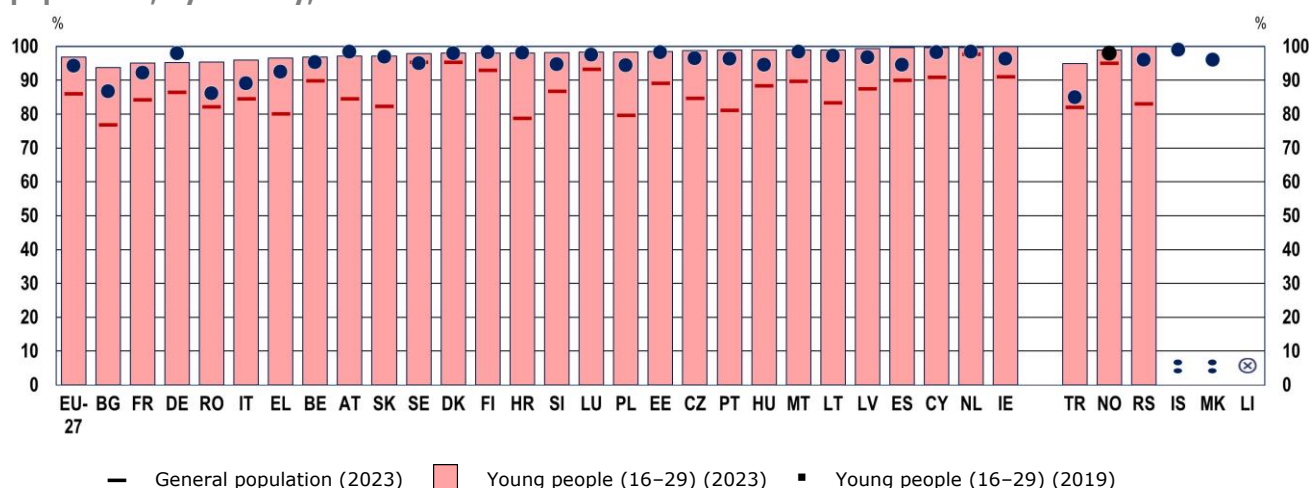
5. Youth in the digital world

5.1. Use of the internet and digital technologies

Young people use the internet more than the general population.

The share of young internet users is about 10 pps higher than that of the general population. This gap is particularly noticeable in Bulgaria, Greece, Croatia, Lithuania, Poland and Portugal. While, on average, the share of young people using the internet daily has not varied since 2019, increases of about 10 pps have occurred in Bulgaria, Italy and Romania.

Figure 5.1: Share of young people (16–29) using the internet daily, compared to the general population, by country, 2019 and 2023



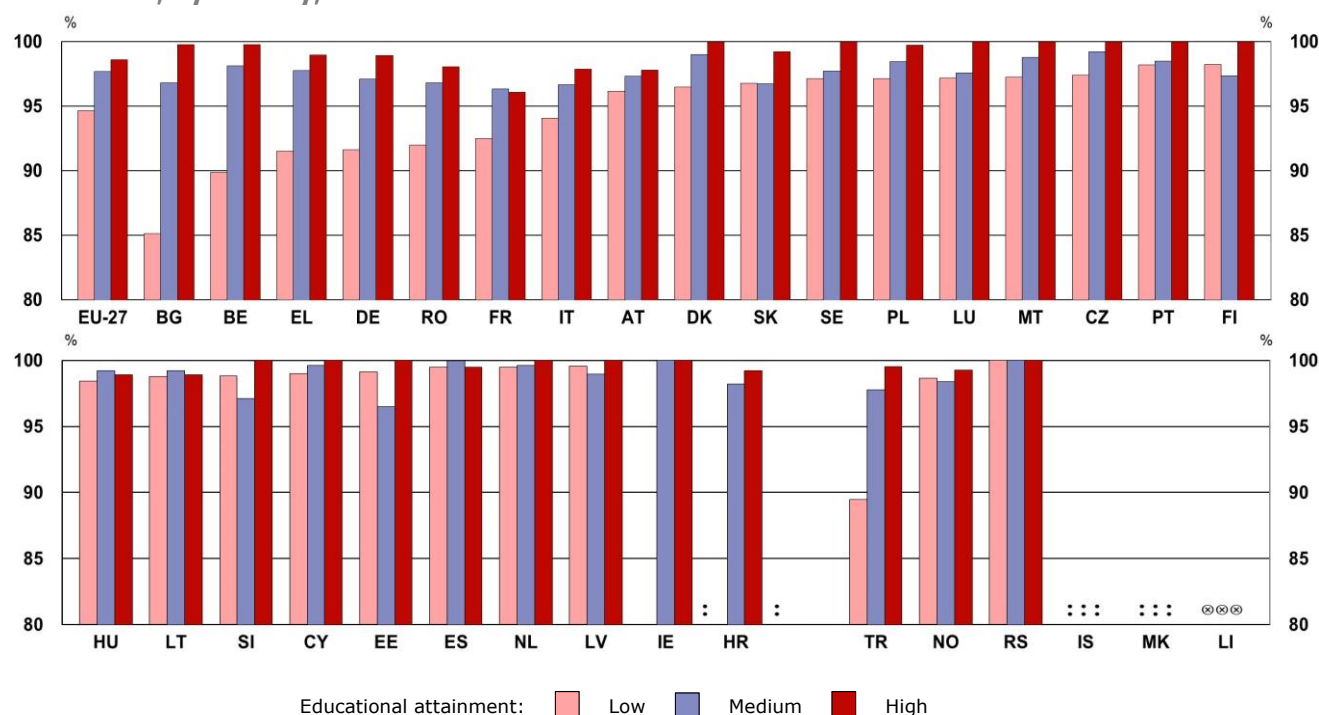
Source: Eurostat: Use of the internet (general) ([isoc_ci_ifp_fu](#)).

Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people (16–29) who used the internet daily in 2023. Data extracted on 3.6.2024.

The more educated, the more connected.

On average, the share of daily internet users is higher among highly educated young people than among those with a lower educational background. The most remarkable difference is in Bulgaria, where the share of internet users with a high level of education is 14 pps bigger than that of users with low educational attainment. Bulgaria is also the country in which the share of young people with low education who use the internet is the smallest. The gap of daily use of internet between high and low levels of educational attainment is the smallest in Spain, Latvia, Hungary and the Netherlands.

Figure 5.2: Share of young people (16–29) that use the internet daily, by educational attainment, by country, 2023



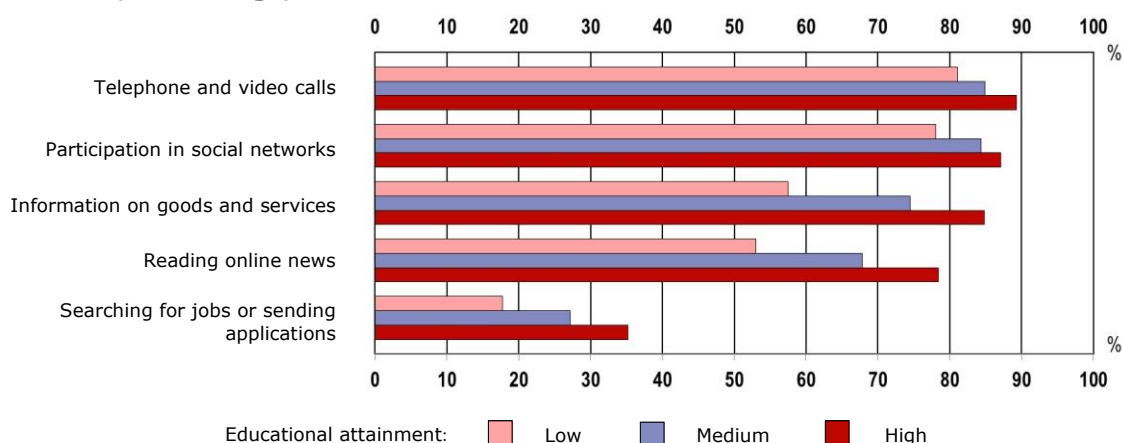
Source: Eurostat: use of the internet by educational attainment ([ISOC CI IFP FU](#)).

Notes: Low education: less than primary, primary and lower secondary education; medium education: upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education; high education: tertiary education. Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people (16–29) with low educational level using the internet daily. Data extracted on 3.6.2024.

Young people use the internet mainly for social interactions and communication.

Young people in the EU mostly use the internet for communicating (phone and video calling) and interacting (participation in social networks). In these domains, no remarkable variation exists across different levels of education. Other activities – collecting information on goods and services, reading online news and, notably, searching for a job – are less widespread. For these activities, gaps across different education attainments are more visible.

Figure 5.3: Share of young people (16–29) using the internet, by activity and by educational attainment, EU average, 2023



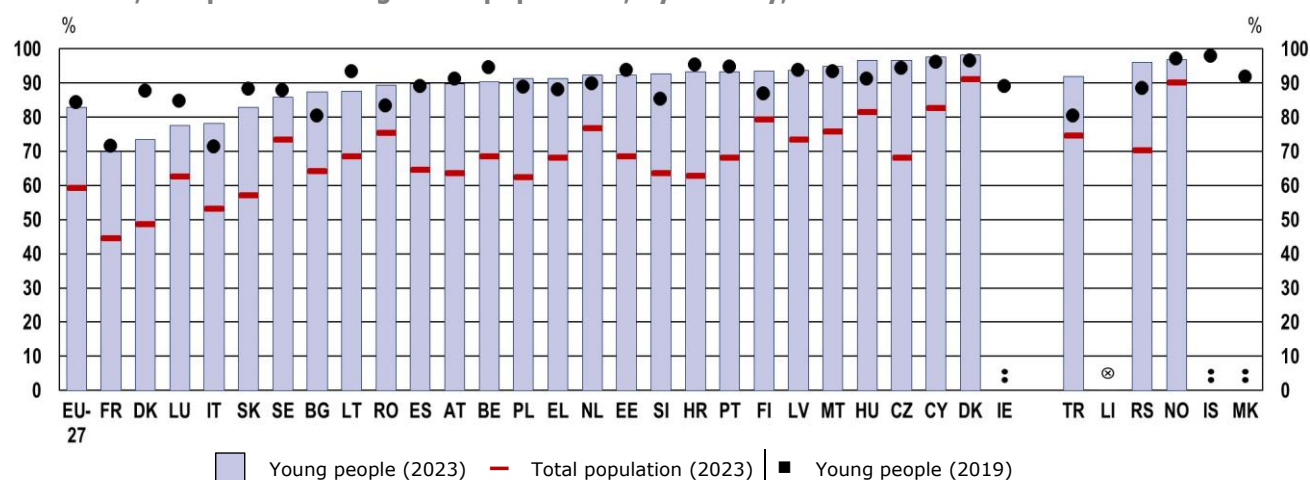
Source: Eurostat: Individuals – internet activities ([isoc_ci_ac_i](#)).

Notes: Activities are ordered by decreasing share of young people conducting them. Data extracted on 11.6.2024.

Young people participate in social media more than the general population.

About 80% of young people use the internet to participate in social networks as opposed to about 60% of the total population. The gap between the two age groups is the widest in Czechia, Croatia, Poland and Slovenia. On average, the percentage has remained unchanged since 2019. However, in five countries (Bulgaria, Estonia, Italy, Romania and Finland), the share of young people participating in social networks has increased by about 7 pps. On the other hand, a remarkable decrease (14 pps) has occurred in Denmark.

Figure 5.4: Share of young people (16–29) using the internet to participate in social networks, compared to the general population, by country, 2019 and 2023



Source: Eurostat: Individuals – internet activities ([isoc_ci_ac_i](#)).

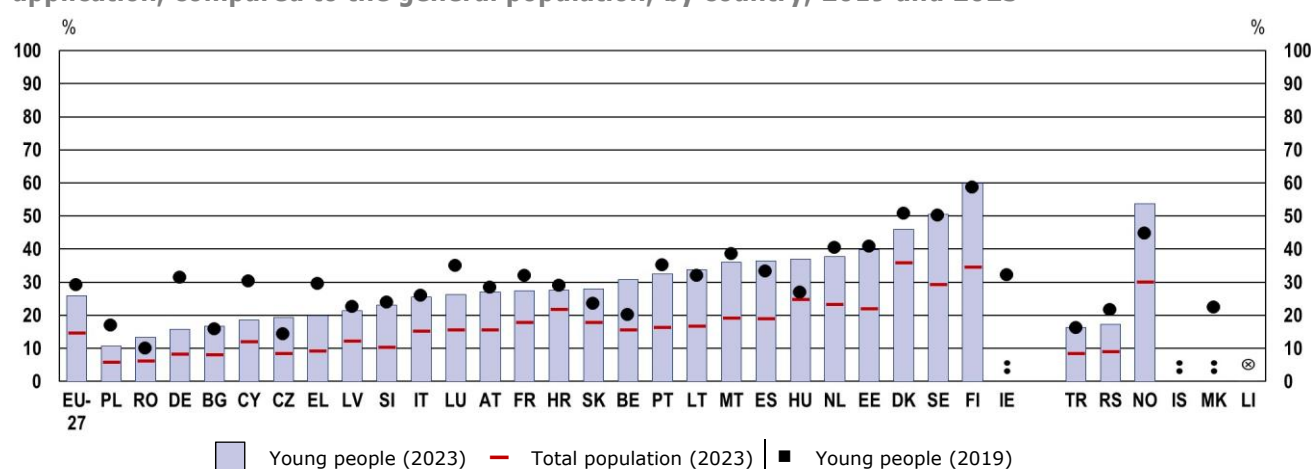
Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people using the internet to participate in social network in 2023. Data extracted on 11.6.2024.

In the EU, one in four young people uses the internet to search for and apply to a job.

In Nordic countries, about half of young people look for employment through the internet. A different situation is found in Poland and Romania, where the average is about half the EU one. Overall, no particular change has occurred

since 2019, except in Germany where the share of young people searching for a job online has halved. Substantial decreases took place also in Greece and Cyprus. In contrast, Belgium, Ireland and Hungary have seen increases of about 10 pps. Online job search and job applications are much less widespread in the total population, for which the share is almost half that for young people. This is particularly true in Estonia, Spain, Sweden and Finland.

Figure 5.5: Share of young people (16–29) using the internet for job search or sending an application, compared to the general population, by country, 2019 and 2023



Source: Eurostat: Individuals – internet activities ([isoc_ci_ac_i](#)).

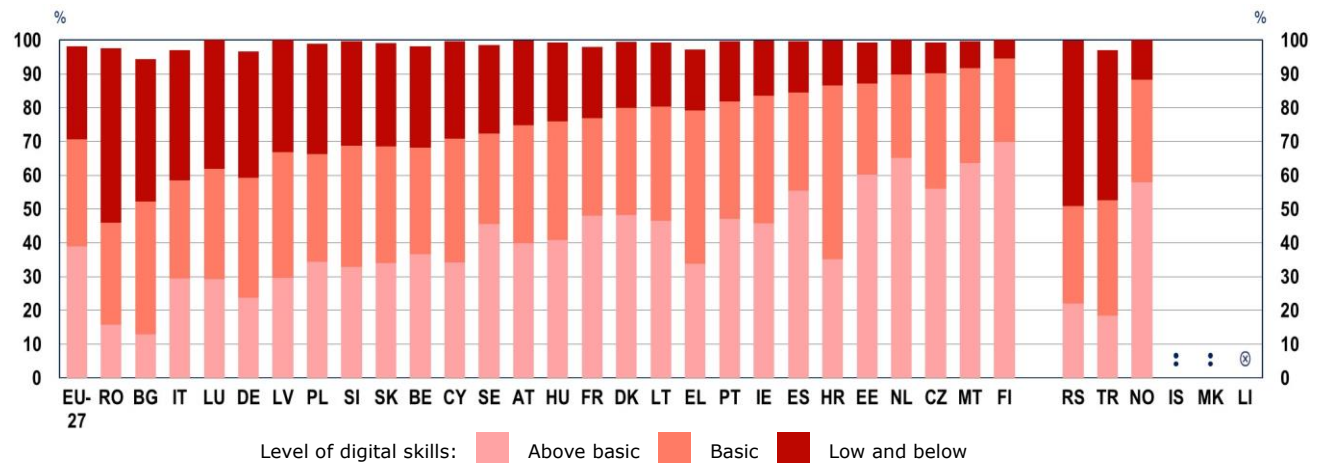
Notes: Countries are ordered by increasing share of young people using the internet for job searches and to send applications in 2023. Data extracted on 11.6.2024.

5.2 Digital skills of young people

More than one in four young people hold low digital skills.

In 2023, 28% of individuals (16-29) had below basic digital skills. Although this level is lower than the EU average of 36% of the general population having below basic skills, it remains particularly high for the young population. Bulgaria and Romania are the countries where the proportion of young people with low and below low level of digital skills is the highest, followed by Germany, Italy and Luxembourg. Czechia, Malta and Finland, on the other hand, show the lowest shares.

Figure 5.6: Young people's (16–29) level of digital skills, by country, 2023



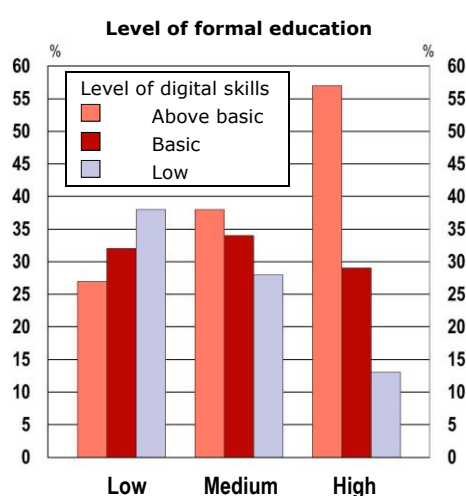
Source: Eurostat: Individuals' level of digital skills ([ISOC_SK_DSKL_I21](#)).

Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people with low and below low digital skills. Percentage points to 100%: skills could not be assessed because the individual has not used the internet in the last 3 months. For information on the levels of digital skills, please refer to Eurostat [indicator metadata](#). Data extracted on 11.6.2024.

The more educated, the higher the digital skills.

The level of formal education and that of digital skills are associated. Young people (16–29) with a low level of formal education tend to have low digital skills ⁽²⁾. The proportion of young people with low formal education who have low digital skills (38%) is about three times as high as that for young people with high education (13%). Conversely, more than one in two young people with high education holds above basic digital skills.

Figure 5.7: Young people's (16–29) level of digital skills by level of formal education, EU average, 2023



Source: Eurostat: Individuals' level of digital skills ([isoc_sk_dskl_i21](#)).

Notes: Low education: less than primary, primary and lower secondary education; medium education: upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education; high education: tertiary education. Data extracted on 4.7.2024.

² Young people with low-level of formal education have been identified as one of the priority target groups for digital skills policies given that they are significantly less skilled than their counterparts, i.e., young people in general ([JRC report](#) Centeno et al., 2022 *Supporting policies addressing the digital skills gap – Identifying priority groups in the context of employment*)

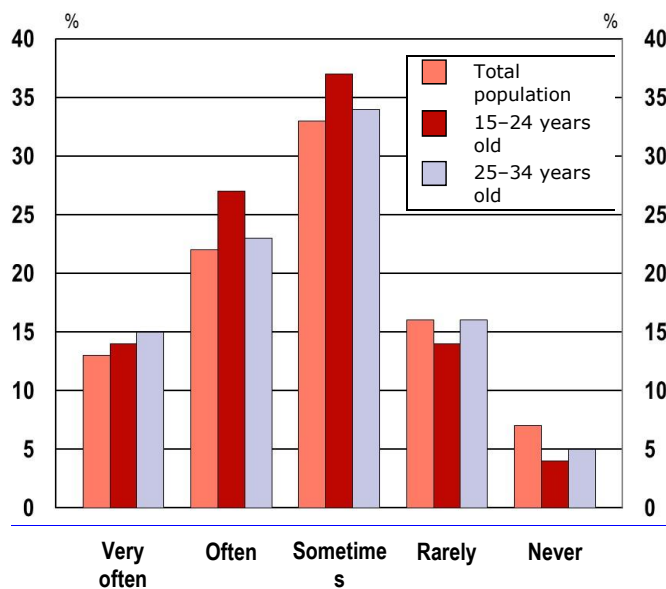
5.3 Disinformation and misinformation

Young people are aware of being exposed to disinformation and fake news at least a few times over the previous week.

Over one third of young people (15–24) report being exposed to disinformation and fake news sometimes. The share of those who report being exposed often is smaller but still high (27%). As much as 14% of young respondents believe to be

subject to disinformation very often. Compared to individuals aged between 25 and 34 and to the total population, the youngest youth cohort (15–24) perceives to encounter disinformation and fake news to a larger extent.

Figure 5.8: Young people's perception of their exposure to disinformation and fake news, EU average, 2023



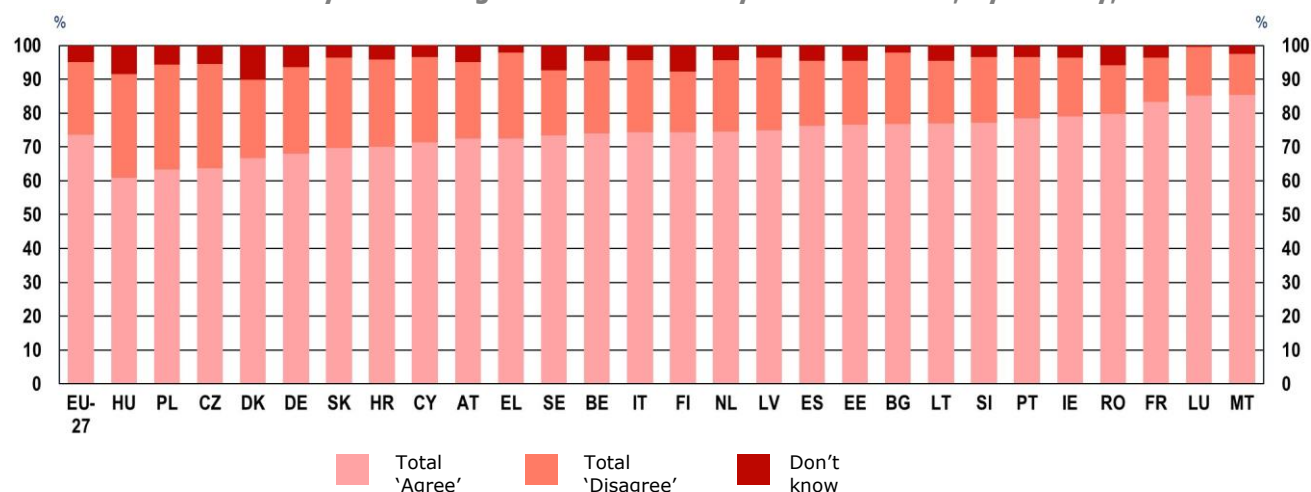
Source: [Flash Eurobarometer 522 – Democracy](#). Q6 How often do you think that you have been personally exposed to disinformation and fake news over the past 7 days?

Notes: Data extracted on 3.7.2024.

The vast majority of young people think education equips them with the necessary digital skills to identify disinformation.

In France, Luxembourg, Malta and Romania the share of young people who think that education has provided them with the necessary digital skills to identify disinformation is well above the EU average. Czechia, Hungary and Poland report the lowest proportions.

Figure 5.9: Share of young people (15–30) who think that their education has equipped them with the necessary level of digital skills to identify disinformation, by country, 2024



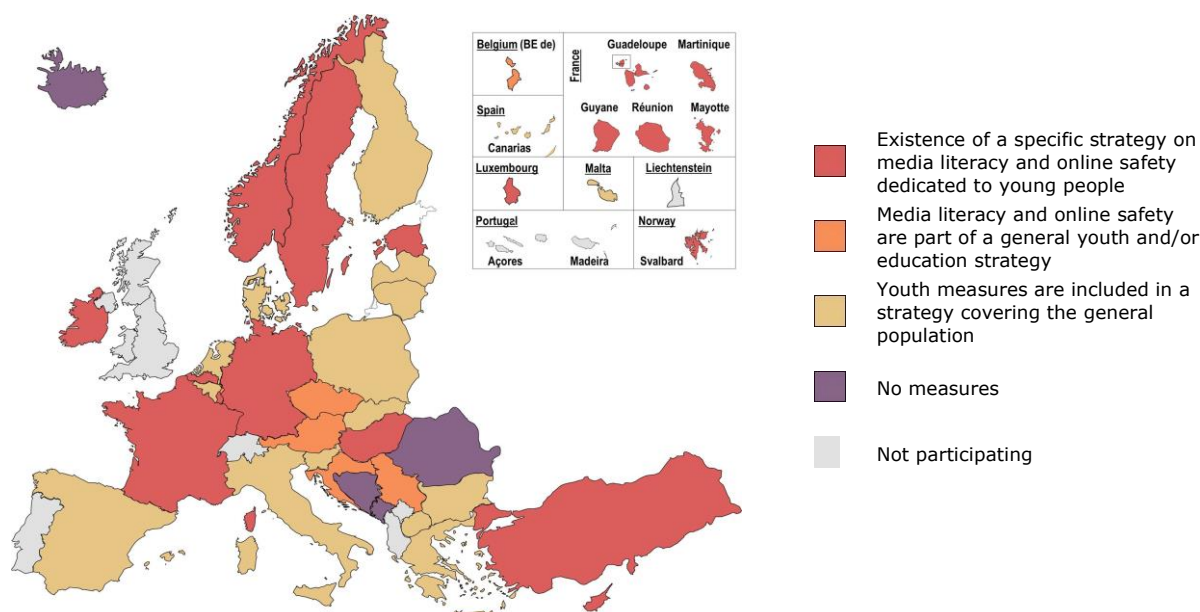
Source: [Flash Eurobarometer 545: Youth and democracy](#). Q18: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My education has equipped me with the necessary digital skills to identify disinformation.

Notes: Countries are ordered by increasing share of young people agreeing with the statement. Data extracted on 12.6.2024.

Almost all countries have introduced measures to support young people's media literacy and online safety.

Fifteen of the countries covered by [Youth Wiki](#) data collection have introduced youth-specific measures on media literacy and online safety in general strategies targeting the entire population. In 11 countries, media strategies that specifically target young people are in place. The remaining five countries tackle media literacy and online safety in national youth or education strategies.

Figure 5.10: National strategies on media literacy and online safety, 2023



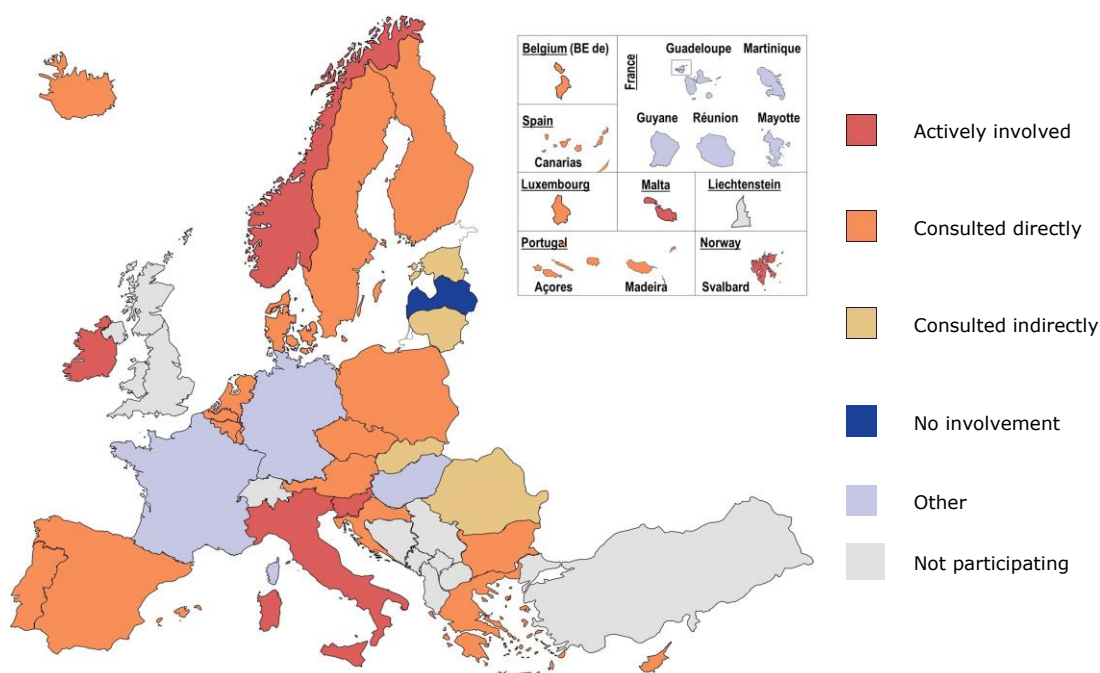
Source: Youth Wiki, '[Media literacy and safe use of new media](#)'. Data collected in September 2023.

5.4 Youth participation in digital policy

Countries have varying levels of young people's involvement in policy-making on the topic of children's digital activities. Sixteen countries report that young people are listened to directly, for example through hearings, consultations and specific surveys. Five countries indicate that young people are actively involved through specially designed structures. In four countries, young people's opinions are considered indirectly through, for instance, available data from surveys. Three further countries state that consultations with young people take place within larger national structures, for example within the education system, but may not be specifically focused on digital policy topics (survey response 'other'). Only in one country are young people not consulted, either directly or indirectly in the development of policies on the digital environment.

In half of the countries, young people are directly consulted on policies on children's digital activities.

Figure 5.11: Young people's involvement in the formulation of policies on children digital activities, 2024



Source: O'Neill, B. and Dopona, V. (2024), *The Better Internet for Kids (BIK) Policy Monitor Report 2024*, European Schoolnet. Q2.14: Which of the following best describes the involvement of young people in policy-making on the topic of children's digital activity in your country?

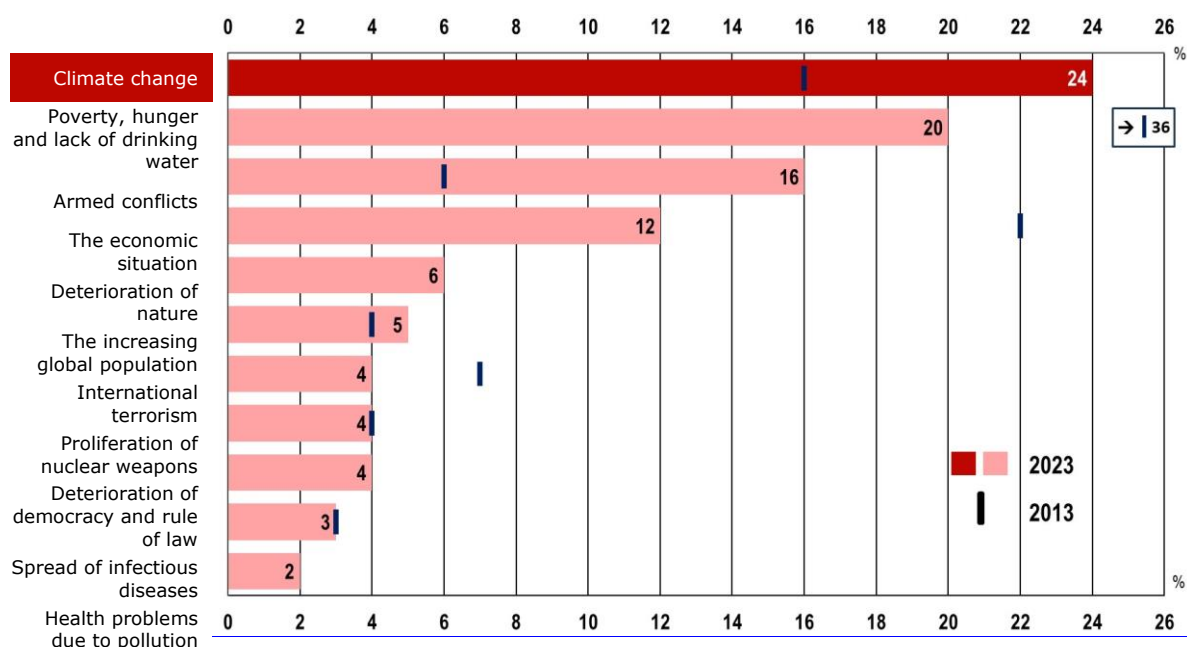
6. Youth and the green transition

6.1. What do young people think of climate change?

Young people rank climate change as the most serious problem facing the world.

In 2023, in the EU, almost one in four young individuals aged 15–24 considered [climate change](#) their top concern: it is the issue that most young people indicate as a priority (24%) among those proposed in the survey. The increase was of 50% since 2013.

Figure 6.1: Single most serious problem the world is facing according to young people (15–24), 2013 and 2023



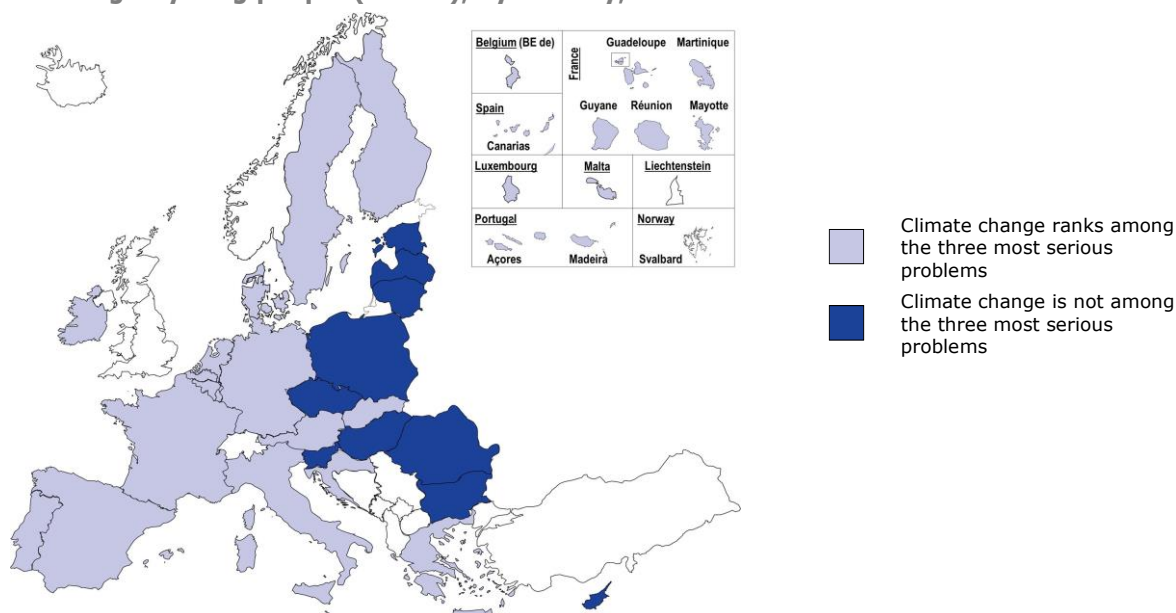
Source: [Special Eurobarometer 80.2: Climate change](#), 2013 and [Special Eurobarometer SP538: Climate change](#), 2023. QA.1a/QC1a. Which of the following do you consider to be the single most serious problem facing the world as a whole? (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Data for 2013 not available for 'deterioration of nature', 'deterioration of democracy and the rule of law' and 'health problems due to pollution'. Data extracted on 13.12.2023.

Young people in most Member States think climate change is among the top challenges facing the world.

Climate change is considered among the top three most critical issues in about two thirds of Member States. This applies to countries in the northern, central and western regions of the EU. Young people in several countries of the Baltic and eastern European regions do not consider climate change as one of the three top priorities.

Figure 6.2: Climate change as one of the three most serious problems the world is facing according to young people (15–24), by country, 2023



Source: [Special Eurobarometer SP538: Climate change](#), 2023. QC1a. Which of the following do you consider to be the single most serious problem facing the world as a whole? (Multiple answers possible).

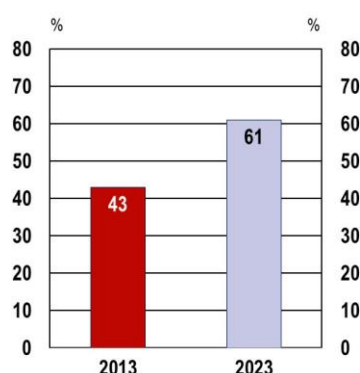
Notes: Data extracted on 16.2.2024.

Young people are increasingly getting involved in actions against climate change.

In 2023, almost two thirds of young people aged 15–24 reported having taken action personally to fight climate change. This represents an increase of almost 50% since

2013.

Figure 6.3: Share of young people (15–24) who have personally taken action to fight climate change over the previous 6 months, EU average, 2013 and 2023



Source: [Special Eurobarometer 80.2: Climate change](#), 2013 and [Special Eurobarometer SP538: Climate change](#), 2023. QA5/QC5. Have you personally taken any action to fight climate change over the past 6 months?

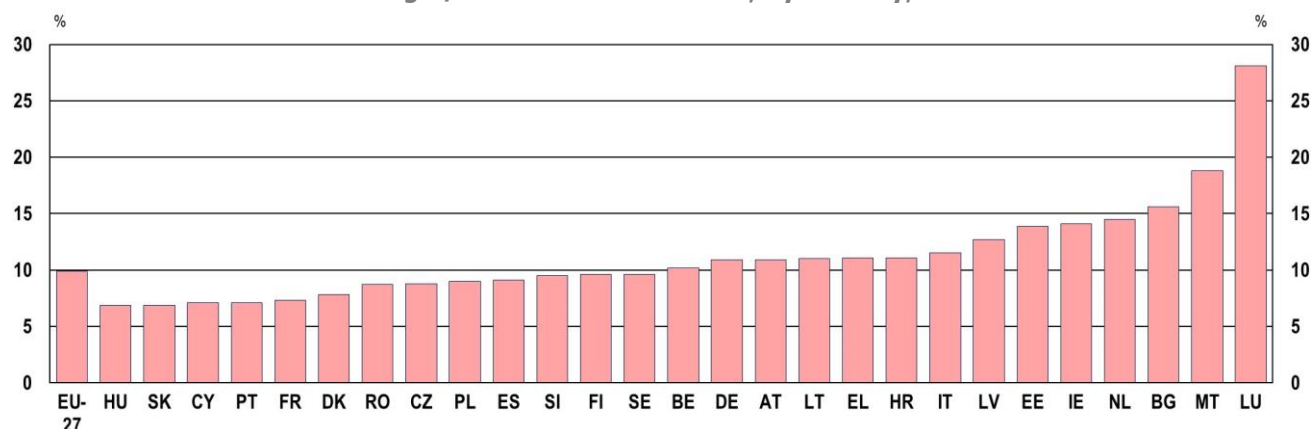
Notes: Data extracted on 13.12.2023.

In the EU, one in ten young people has participated in organised activities on environmental issues.

The highest shares of participation are in Luxembourg (where more than one quarter of young people have taken part), Bulgaria, Estonia, Ireland, Malta and the Netherlands.

Conversely, participation in organisations active in the field of climate change and environmental issues is the lowest in France, Hungary, Cyprus, Portugal and Slovakia.

Figure 6.4: Share of young people (15–29) who have participated in an organisation active in the domain of climate change / environmental issues, by country, 2024



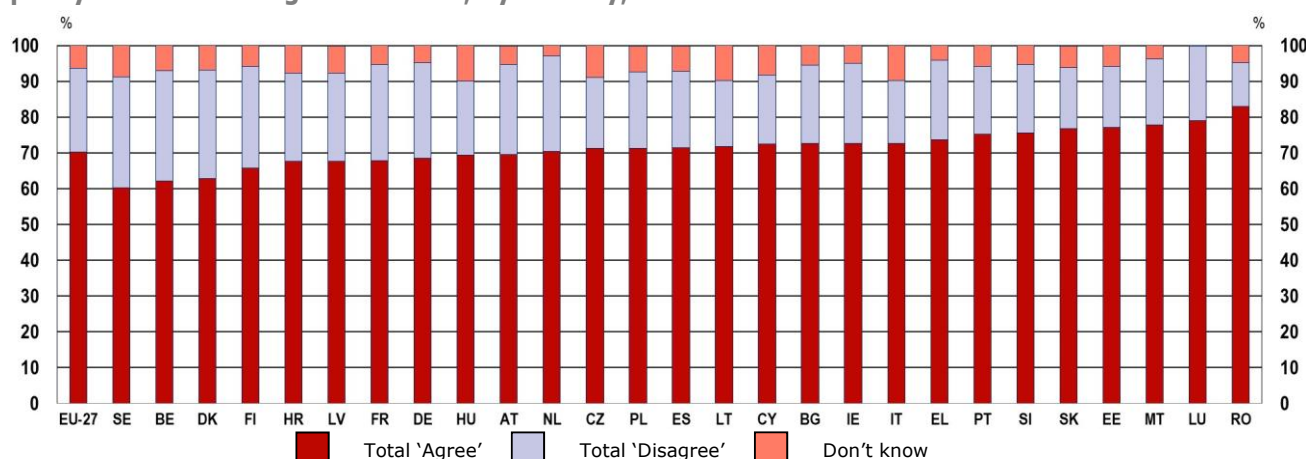
Source: [Flash Eurobarometer 545 – Youth and democracy](#), 2024. Q2: In the last 12 months, have you participated in any activities of the following organisations? Select all that apply. (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people who have participated in an organisation active in the domain of climate change/environmental issues. Data extracted on 30.5.2024.

More than two thirds of young people consider parties' environmental policies before voting.

In Estonia, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, and, particularly, Romania, the share of young people for whom environmental issues play a role in deciding which party to vote for is well above the EU average. In contrast, in Scandinavian countries young people tend to consider parties' environmental policies to a lesser degree.

Figure 6.5: Share of young people (15–29) who would consider a party's environmental policy before deciding how to vote, by country, 2024



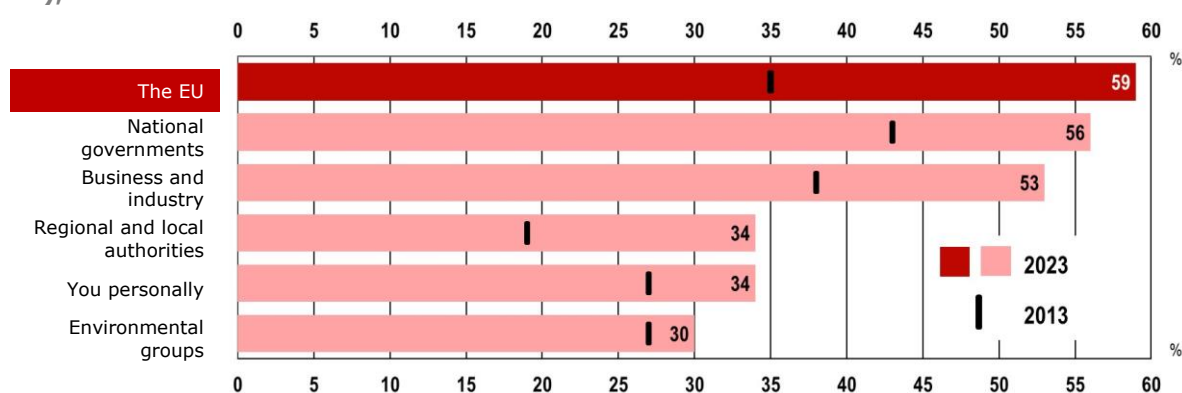
Source: [Flash Eurobarometer 545 – Youth and democracy](#), 2024. Q15_4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? I would consider a party's environmental policy before deciding how to vote.

Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people who would consider a party's environmental policy before deciding how to vote. Data extracted on 30.5.2024.

Almost two thirds of young people look to the European Union to tackle climate change.

Overall, in the EU, young people (15–24) consider the European Union the top actor responsible for tackling climate change. Since 2013, their proportion has increased substantially. In addition to the EU, national governments and the business and industry sectors are top ranked, while local and regional authorities are less prominent.

Figure 6.6: Responsible actors for tackling climate change according to young people (15–24), 2013 and 2023



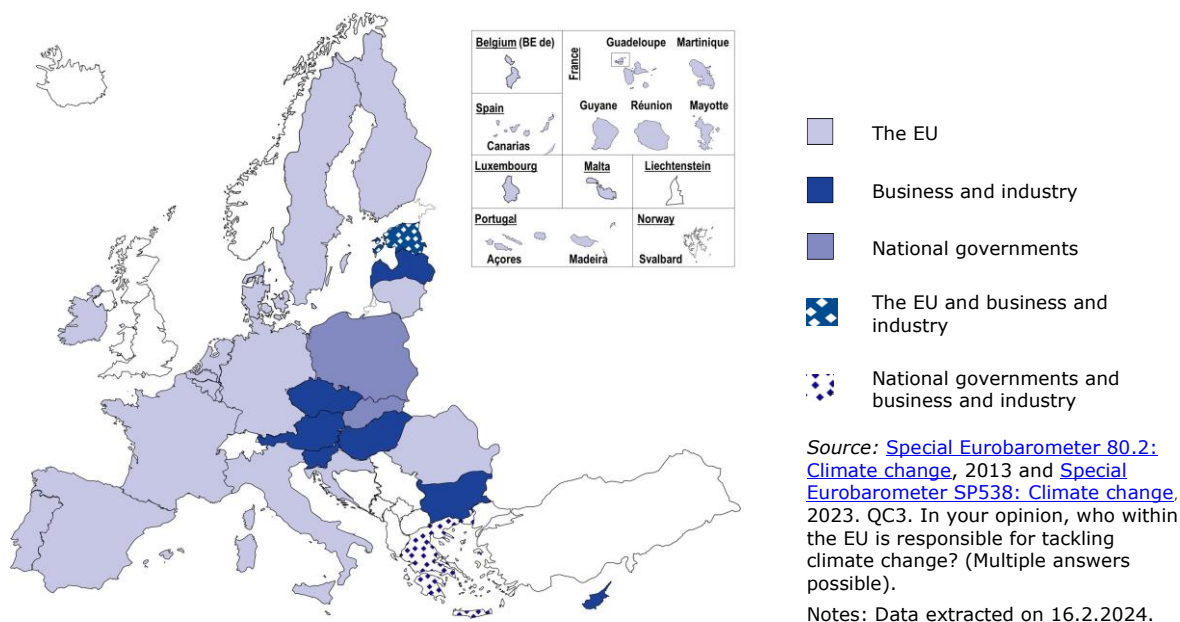
Source: [Special Eurobarometer 80.2: Climate change](#), 2013 and [Special Eurobarometer SP538: Climate change](#), 2023. QA3/QC3. In your opinion, who within the EU is responsible for tackling climate change? (Multiple answers possible).

Notes: Data extracted on 22.1.2024.

In most western Member States, the EU stands as the most responsible actor to tackle climate change.

In the majority of Member States, young people indicate the EU as the top actor bearing responsibility for tackling climate change. This applies mainly to most countries in the northern, southern and western regions. Conversely, young people in several countries in central EU and Cyprus indicate business and industry and, to a lesser extent, national governments as actors in charge of addressing climate change.

Figure 6.7: Top responsible actor for tackling climate change according to young people (15–24), by country, 2023



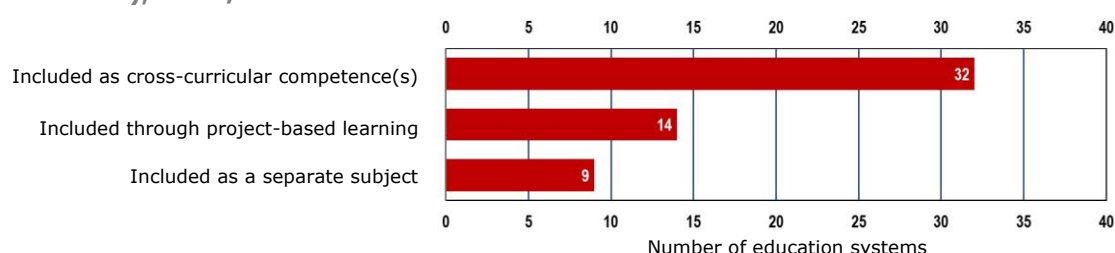
6.2. Skills for the green transition

All European education systems include sustainability in their curriculum.

Education for sustainability ‘aims at improving students’ knowledge of sustainability concepts and problems and furthering their motivation to act for sustainability – in

one’s own life, in their communities, and as global citizens’. All European education systems cover sustainability in their curricula, either as a cross-curricular competence, through project-based learning or as a separate subject.

Figure 6.8: Number of education systems including sustainability in their curriculum (ISCED 1, 24 and 34), 2022/2023



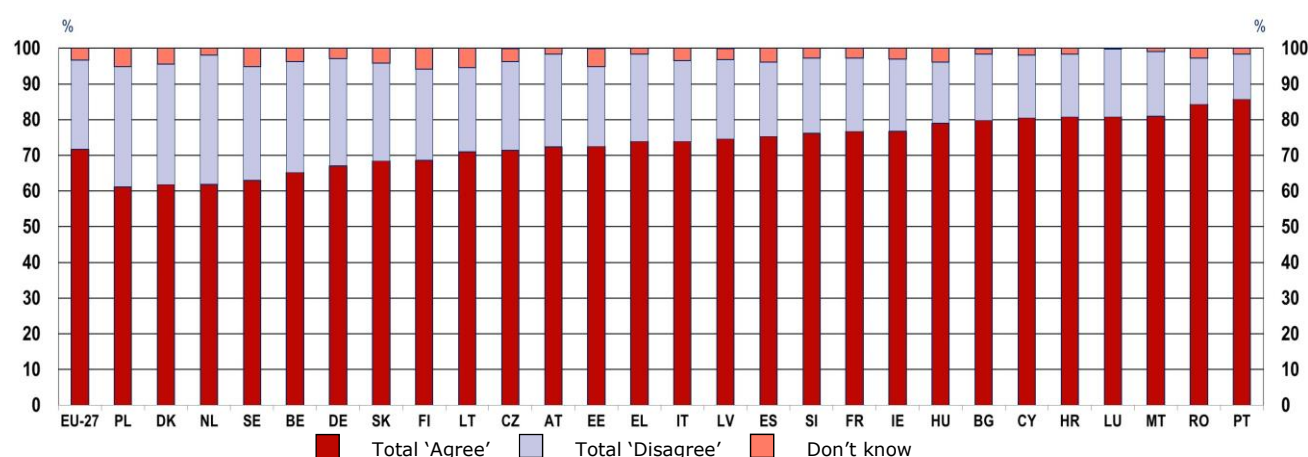
Source: European Commission: European Education and Culture Executive Agency, *Learning for sustainability in Europe – Building competences and supporting teachers and schools – Eurydice report*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2024

Notes: The graph covers all EU Member States plus Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland and Türkiye. ISCED 1: Primary education; ISCED 24: general lower secondary education; ISCED 34: general upper secondary education.

For more than two thirds of young people, education and training have been essential to learn to take care of the environment.

Portugal and Romania are the Member States with the highest shares. On the other hand, in Denmark, the Netherlands, Poland and Sweden, the percentages are about 10 pps lower than the EU average.

Figure 6.9: Share of young people (15–29) who have learned to take care of the environment during education and training, by country, 2024



Source: [Flash Eurobarometer 545 – Youth and democracy](#), 2024. Q15_1: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? I have learned to take care of the environment during my education and training.

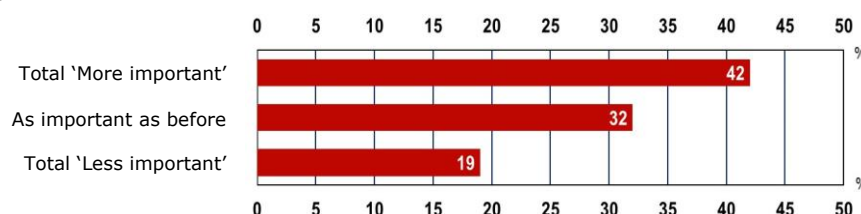
Notes: Countries are ordered by ascending share of young people who have learned to take care of the environment during education and training. Data extracted on 30.5.2024.

Small and medium-sized enterprises need more skills for the green transition.

[Skills for the green transition](#) are needed to live in, develop and support a society which aims to reduce the negative impact of human activity on the environment. In 2023, 42%

of entrepreneurs in the EU considered that holding these skills was becoming more important for their small and medium-sized enterprises.

Figure 6.10: Extent to which green skills are becoming important for small and medium-sized enterprises, 2023



Source: [Flash Eurobarometer 529: European Year of Skills](#): Skills shortages, recruitment and retention strategies in small and medium-sized enterprises, 2023. Q1_3 To what extent are the following skills becoming more or less important for your company? 'Green skills' (e.g. skills required for greening business activities).

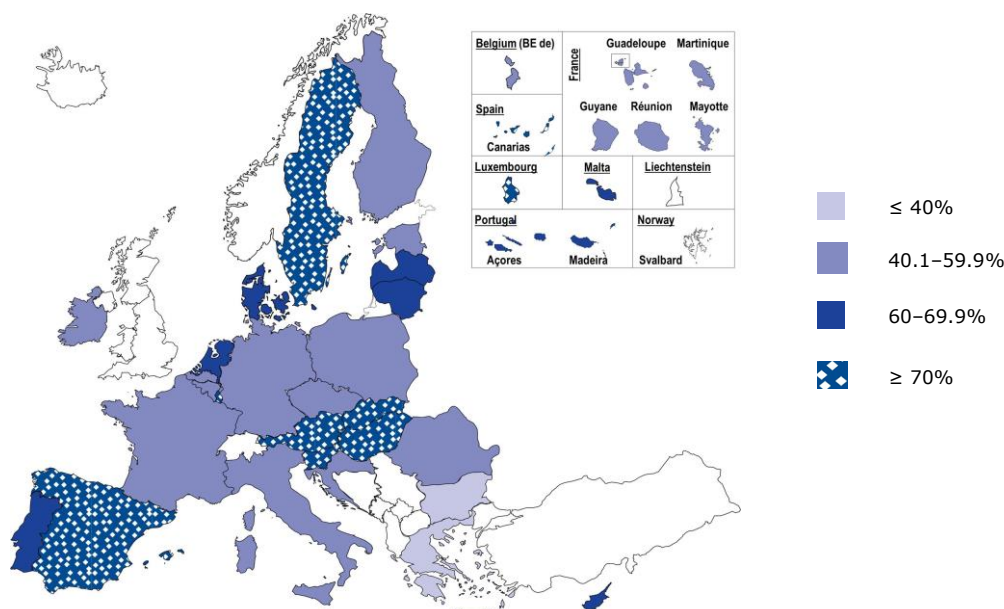
Notes: Data extracted on 14.12.2023.

Only about half of young people feel prepared to contribute to the green transition.

In the majority of Member States (mainly central and western), around 50% of young people consider they hold appropriate skills for contributing to the green transition.

This share is higher in some countries in the Nordic, Baltic and central areas of the EU and in Spain, Malta and Portugal. Conversely, in Bulgaria and Greece, only one third of young people believe in their ability to contribute.

Figure 6.11: Share of young people (15–24) who think that their current skills allow them to contribute to the green transition, by country, 2023



Source: [Eurobarometer 97.4 Fairness perceptions of the green transition](#), 2023. QA10.5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the role of work and jobs in the green transition? 'Your current skills allow you to contribute to the green transition'.

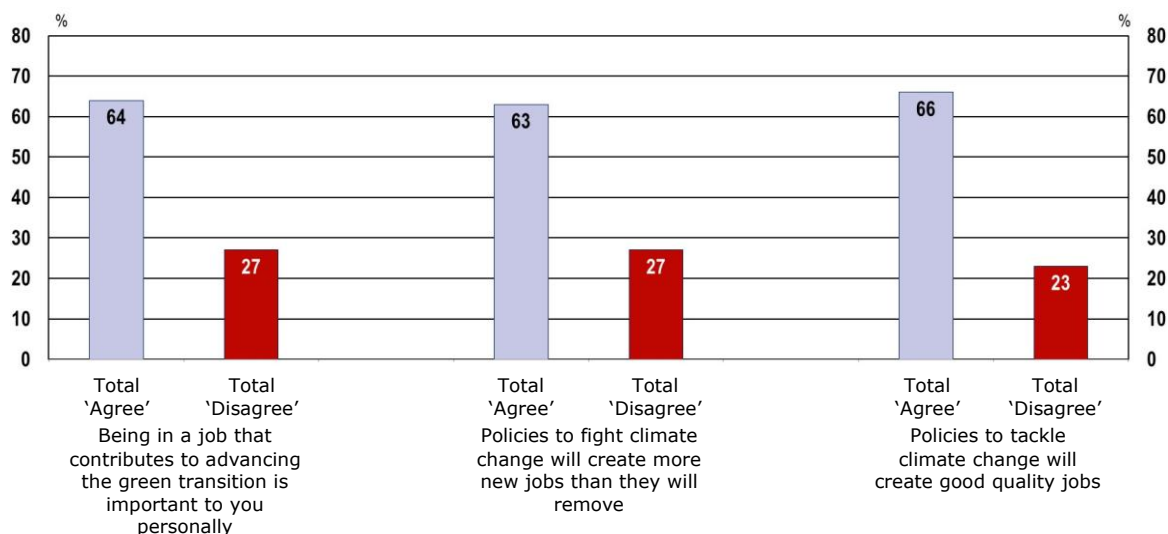
Notes: Data extracted on 16.2.2024.

Young people have a positive opinion of the impact that the green transition will have on the economy.

The majority of young people believe that the green transition will stimulate the economy and the labour market. For more than 60%, contributing to the green transition through their profession is important. A similar percentage

believes that policies addressing climate change will increase labour demand. About 66% also think that new quality jobs will be created.

Figure 6.12: Young people's (15–24) opinions about the role of work and jobs in the green transition, 2023



Source: [Eurobarometer 97.4 Fairness perceptions of the green transition](#), 2023. QA10.2 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the role of work and jobs in the green transition? Being in a job that contributes to advancing the green transition is important to you personally'; QA10.3 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the role of work and jobs in the green transition? Policies to fight climate change will create more new jobs than they will remove'; QA10.4. 'To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the role of work and jobs in the green transition? Policies to tackle climate change will create good quality jobs (in terms of earnings, job security and quality of the working environment)'.

Notes: Data extracted on 14.12.2024.