



## January 2023

Hosted by the European Economic and Social Committee from 23 to 24 March, this year's 'Your Europe, Your Say!' (YEYS) event will centre on the Youth Democracy Dialogues. The goal is to raise awareness about democratic values, while encouraging critical thinking and youth participation. The discussions will also look at what European values stand for and the importance of active citizenship for participatory democracy. This digest presents a selection of publications from the European Parliamentary Research Service, which can feed into the discussions at this year's event.



### Young people in the EU: Democratic participation and attitudes towards the EU

Infographic by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, December 2022

Today's political decisions have a strong impact on the future of young people. It is therefore crucial to foster their active participation in social and democratic life. Importantly, young people belong to the most educated and digitally savvy of all generations, and are determined to tackle pressing global issues such as climate change. Consequently, they have the potential to leave a significant imprint on the political system.

### Legacy of the 2022 European Year of Youth

'At a glance' note by Tarja Laaninen, EPRS, November 2022

Throughout 2022, young Europeans were to be given opportunities to engage in learning and civic engagement activities, discover other cultures, improve their employment prospects, share ideas and broaden their horizons generally. Youth policy was to be mainstreamed across all relevant Union policy fields. Now that the European Year of Youth is drawing to its close, has it met its objectives?

### Young people in the EU: Fit for the digital age

'At a glance' note by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, July 2022

In 2021, 95 % of young Europeans aged from 16 to 29 reported using the internet every day. However, the share of young people with basic or above basic digital skills ranges from 93 % in Finland, 92 % in Malta, 89 % in Croatia and 87 % in Greece and the Netherlands, to just 49 % in Bulgaria and 46 % in Romania, with the EU average standing at 71 %. Some 76 % of all young people reported that they had performed basic computer tasks such as copying or moving a file or a folder, while slightly lower shares had downloaded or installed software or applications (70 %). However, more technical skills, such as writing code in a programming language, were much less widespread.

### Implementation of citizenship education actions in the EU

Study by Ex-Post Evaluation Unit, EPRS, August 2021

Citizenship education is an indispensable element of education and training, particularly for children and young people. According to the description provided by Eurydice in its 2017 report on Citizen Education at School in Europe, 'citizenship education supports students in becoming active, informed and responsible citizens, who are willing and able to take responsibility for themselves and for their communities at the national, European and

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international level'. What is more, 'citizenship education competences help young people interact effectively, think critically, act in a socially responsible way and democratically'.

### Further reading

#### Conference on the Future of Europe: Overview of the final proposals

Briefing by Silvia Kotanidis, EPRS, November 2022

#### Democratic scrutiny of social media platforms and protection of fundamental rights

'At a glance' note by Tambiama Madiaga, EPRS, February 2021

#### Key social media risks to democracy: Risks from surveillance, personalisation, disinformation, moderation and microtargeting

In-depth analysis by Costica Dumbrava, EPRS, December 2021

#### Peace, justice and strong institutions: EU support for implementing SDG 16 worldwide

Briefing by Ionel Zamfir, EPRS, July 2022

#### Taking stock of EU action on human rights and democracy in the world

'At a glance' note by Ionel Zamfir, EPRS, February 2022

#### Protecting EU shared values: How the European Parliament is responding to citizens' expectations

Briefing by Maria Díaz Crego and Rafał Mańko, EPRS, April 2022

#### Children's rights in the EU in the light of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Briefing by Rosamund Shreeves, EPRS, November 2022

#### Young people in the EU: Rapidly evolving family patterns

Infographic by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, June 2022

#### Young people in the EU: A demographic snapshot

Infographic by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, April 2022

#### Inclusion measures within the Erasmus+ programme 2014-2020

Study by Ex-Post Evaluation Unit, EPRS, September 2021

#### European education area: Better education for all

'At a glance' note by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, May 2022

### More information:



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