

**July 2022**

The International Youth Day, on 12 August, provides a moment to take stock of the ongoing European Year of Youth in 2022. The aim of the thematic Year of Youth is to highlight the pandemic's impact on young people's lives. It should also be a formal commitment to consider young people's needs in current and future policy-making, and reinforce the 2019-2027 EU youth strategy. This Topical Digest offers a list of recent publications, as well as some graphics on these themes, produced by the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS).

**European Year of Youth 2022**

'At a glance' note by Pernilla Jourde, EPRS, December 2021

In her State of the Union address to the European Parliament on 15 September 2021, the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, outlined the idea to make 2022 the 'European Year of Youth'. The aim would be to highlight and mitigate the pandemic's impact on young people's education, employment, social inclusion and mental health. Within a month, the Commission had adopted a formal proposal for a decision. During the December plenary session, Parliament voted to adopt the decision establishing the Year.

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

Infographic by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, April 2022

Why should young people in the EU worry about demographic change? For one thing, because the share of children and young people in the total population has been decreasing, while the share of elderly people continues to grow. Adding these figures up means today's children are expected to face an increased burden in supporting the remainder of the population as they grow up and move into work.

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

Infographic by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, June 2022

The transition from childhood to adulthood is not always smooth. Despite their quest for independence, young people face a range of challenges that can deter them from leaving their parents' home, such as lack of financial independence, adverse labour market conditions, high housing costs and, more generally, high living costs.

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

Infographic by Ivana Katsarova, EPRS, July 2022

Despite the high number of young people accessing the internet, only 36 % engage in fact-checking activities. This is however ten percentage points higher than the corresponding share among the rest of the population. Read this infographic to find out more interesting facts.

**Young people in the EU: Rebuilding trust after the pandemic**

Infographic by Fearghas O'Beara with Charles Torron, EPRS, July 2022

While all Europeans have suffered from the Covid-19 pandemic, young people have been particularly impacted. In 2020, job losses among young people aged 15-24 were twice as high as those among the rest of the

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population. In the European Union alone, among 15-29 year olds, unemployment rose by 2.12 million between the end of 2019 and the start of 2021.

## Further reading

### European Solidarity Corps 2021-2027

'EU Legislation in Progress' briefing by Denise Chircop, EPRS, June 2021

### Implementation of citizenship education actions in the EU

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

### Erasmus 2021-2027: The Union programme for education, training, youth and sport

'EU Legislation in Progress' briefing by Denise Chircop, EPRS, July 2021

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

Study by Alina Dinu and Anna Zygierewicz, EPRS, September 2021

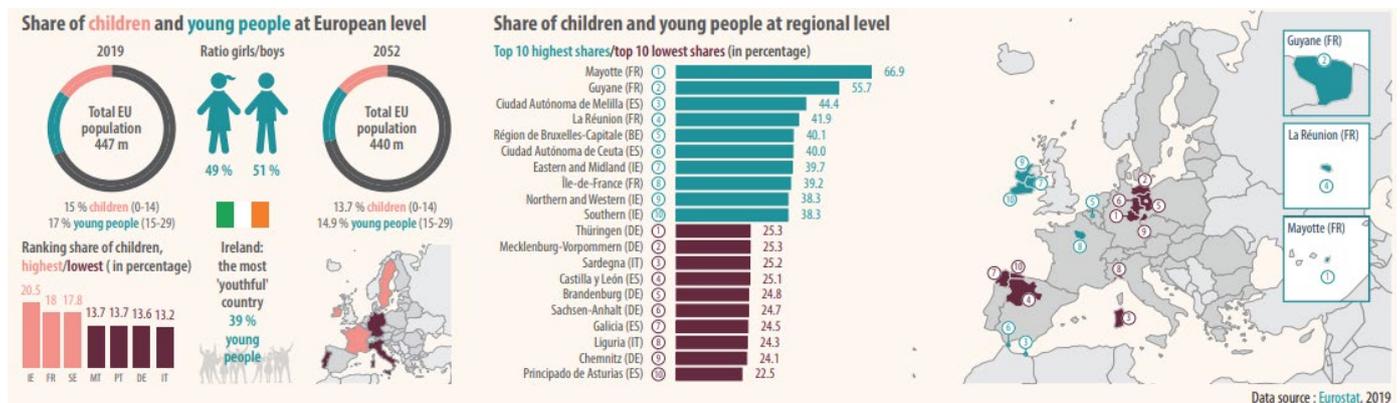
### The quality of traineeships in the EU

Study by Klaus Müller, EPRS, January 2022

### Next generation or lost generation? Children, young people and the pandemic

Briefing by Nora Milotay, EPRS, December 2020

## EPRS graphics



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