

2022

# ANALYSIS OF THE POSITION OF YOUTH IN B&H



Anna Lindh Fondacija  
Bosanskohercegovačka mreža

---

# Content:

Information on youth position analysis\_\_\_\_\_1

Data on questionnaire participants\_\_\_\_\_2

Answer of the questionnaire\_\_\_\_\_3-11

Data on focus group participants\_\_\_\_\_12

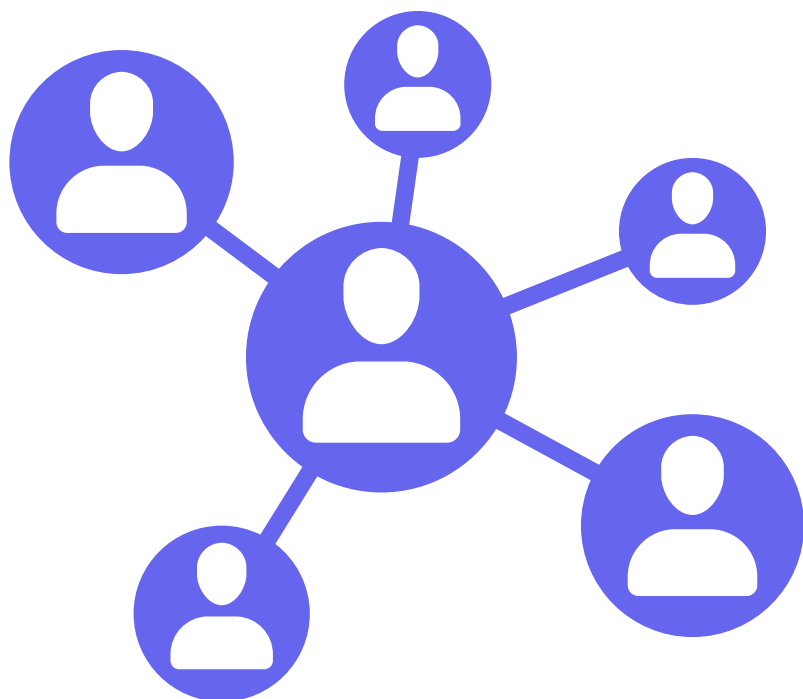
Answers within focus groups\_\_\_\_\_13-22



Dis Theater Banja Luka, City Youth Theater Vitez and Youth Resource Center Tuzla, during February and March worked on researching the position and needs of young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

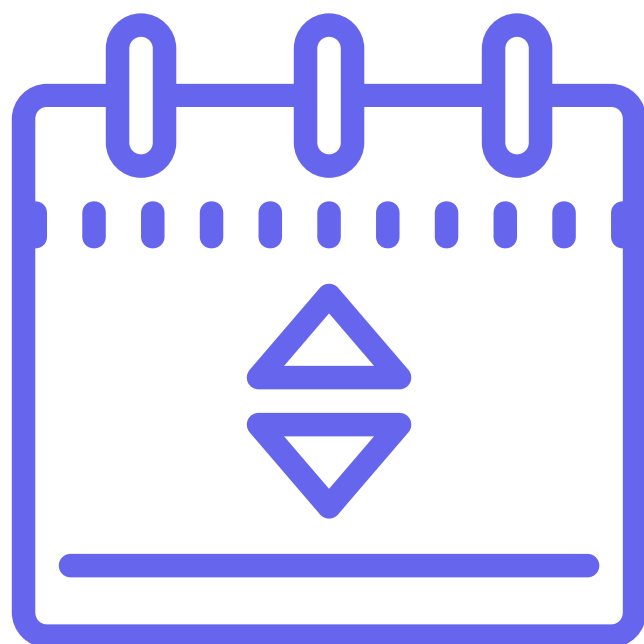
The goal was to use this questionnaire (and later focus groups directly) to get answers and possible recommendations, so that we could try to improve the position of young people in B&H with our activities, but also with the activities of other organizations.

This research served us to create a statistic and analysis that we will offer to all those who deal with young people, including those who should be involved.



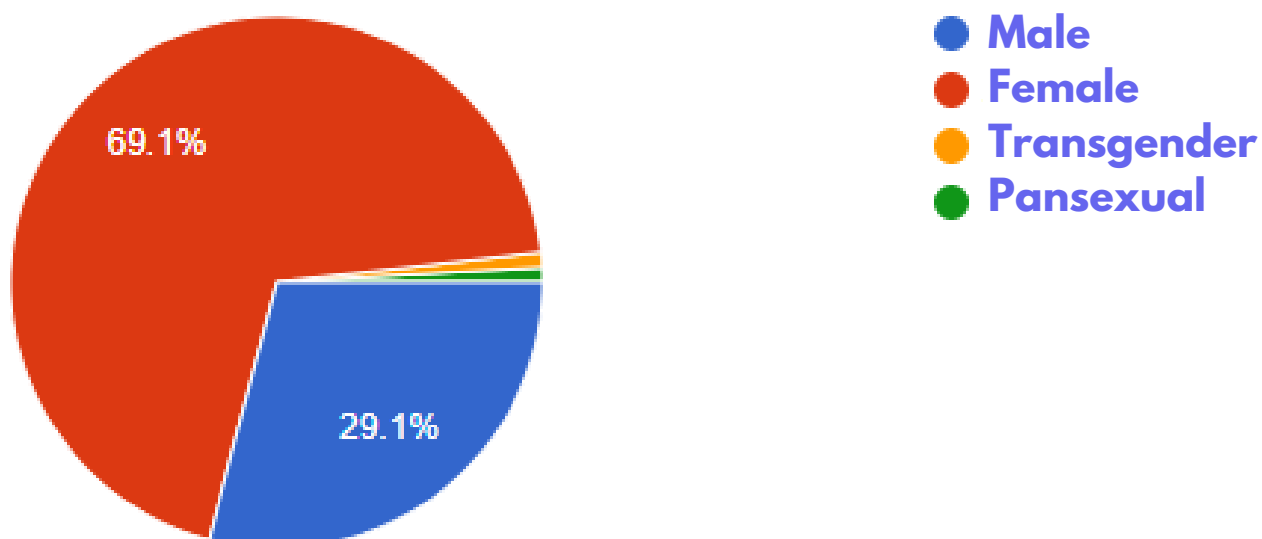
**110**  
**participants**

**Average age:**  
**17 years**



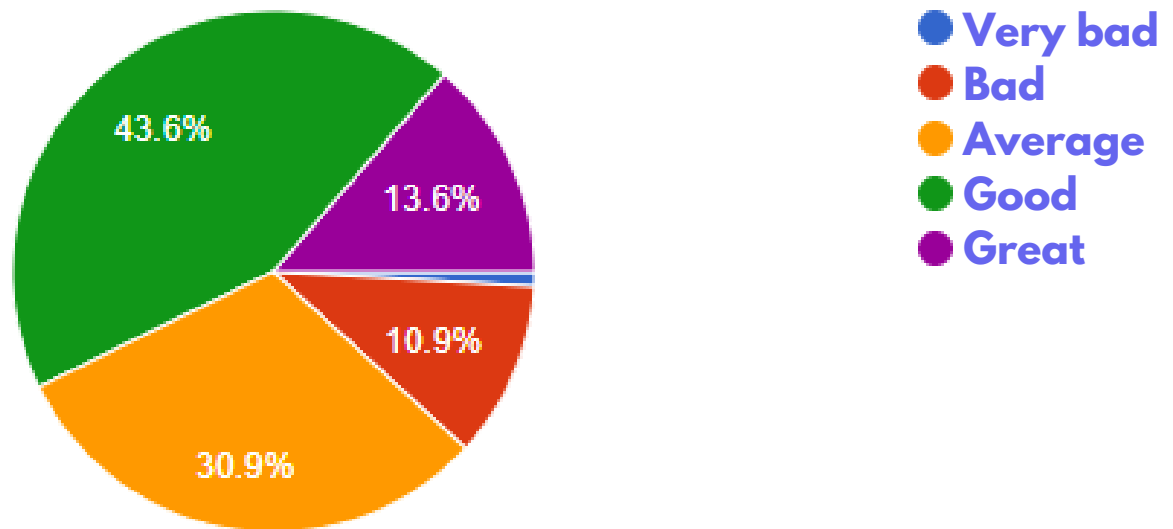


## Gender

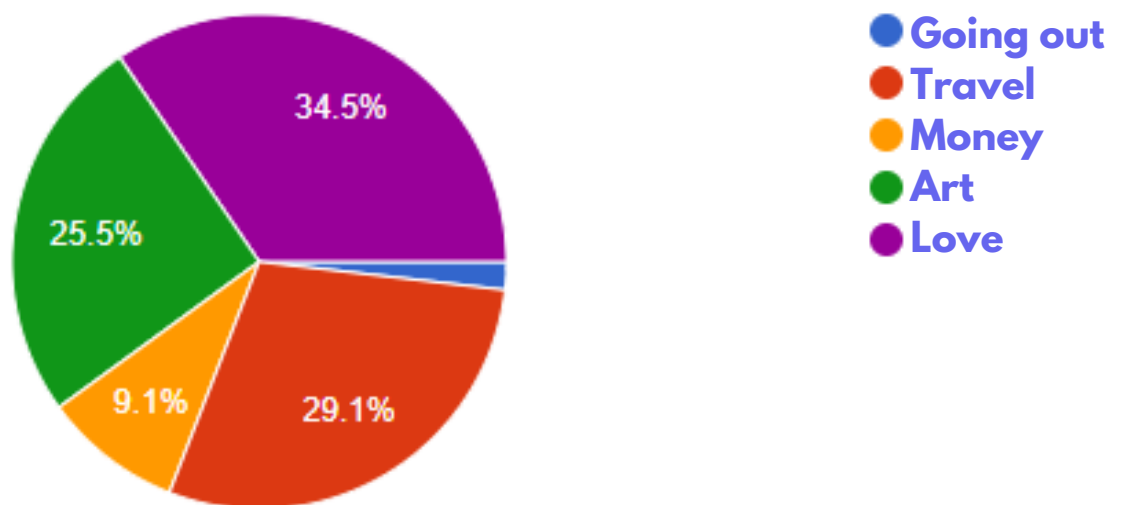


**Based on the information, we see that most of the people who filled out the questionnaire were female, but if we take into account the average answers from the whole survey, you will see that the position of young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina does not change in relation to gender.**

## How do you rate your standard of living?

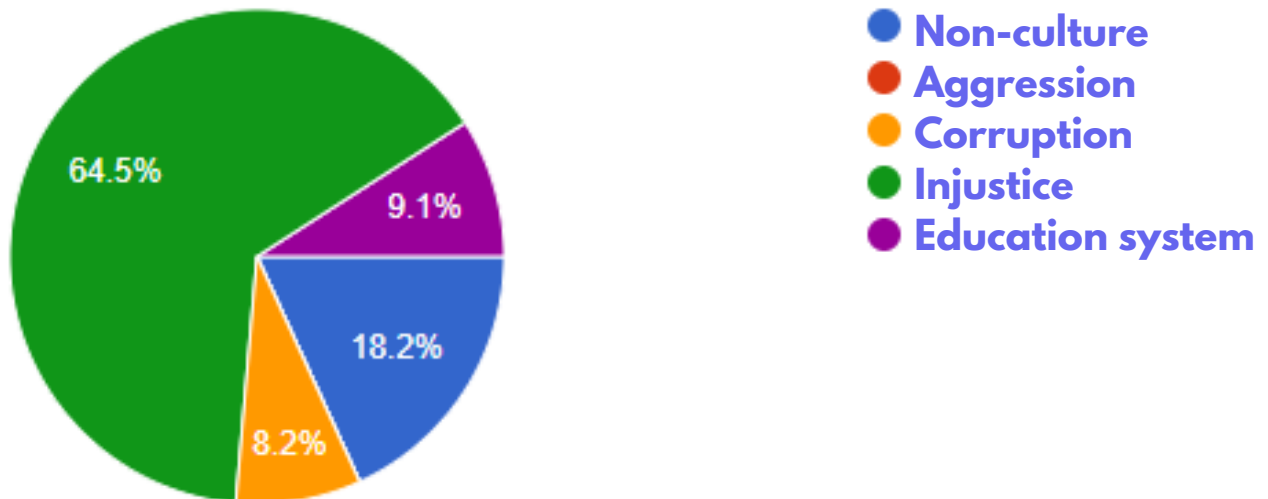


## What makes you happy?



**Based on these answers, we can see that the standard of living of young people is in a certain golden mean, and what makes young people the happiest are love, art and travel.**

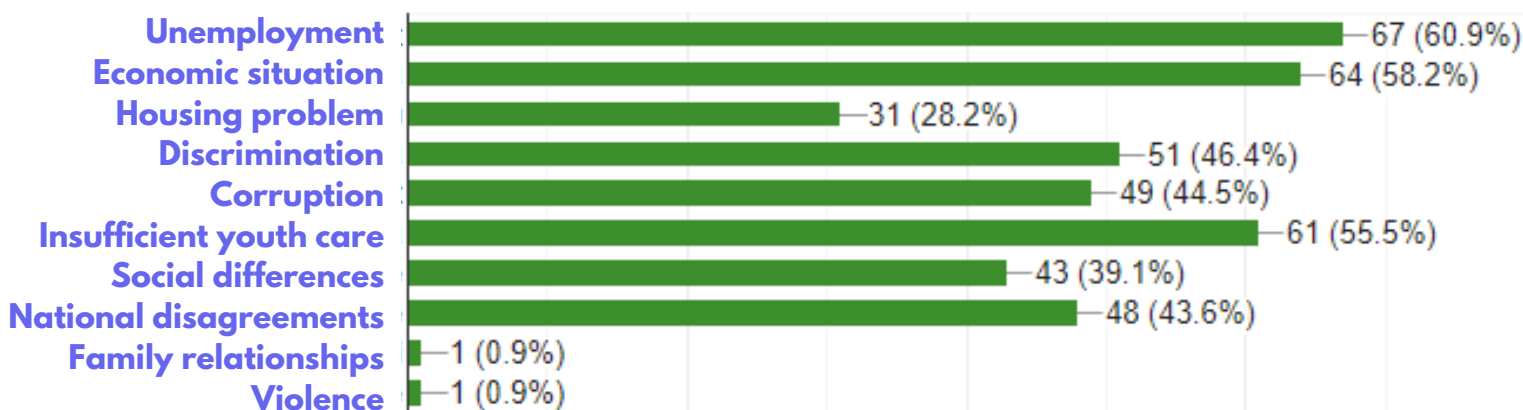
## What makes you angry and unhappy?



**When it comes to dissatisfaction among young people, we can say that they mostly agree on this issue and that two thirds of young people consider injustice to be what makes them most dissatisfied.**

**Lack of culture, corruption and the education system is what one third of young people surveyed singled out as their burning problem**

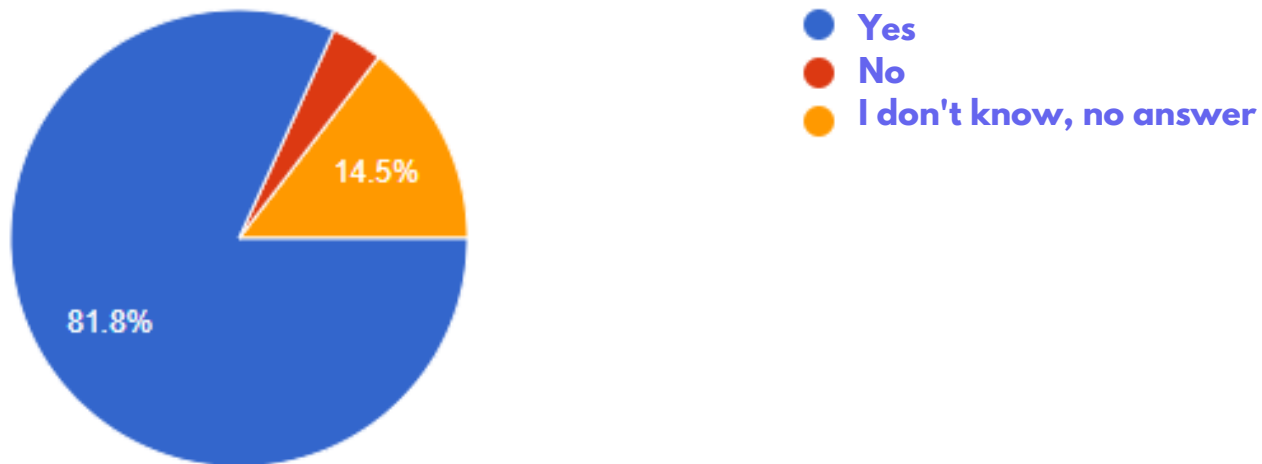
## What do you think are the biggest problems for young people in B&H?



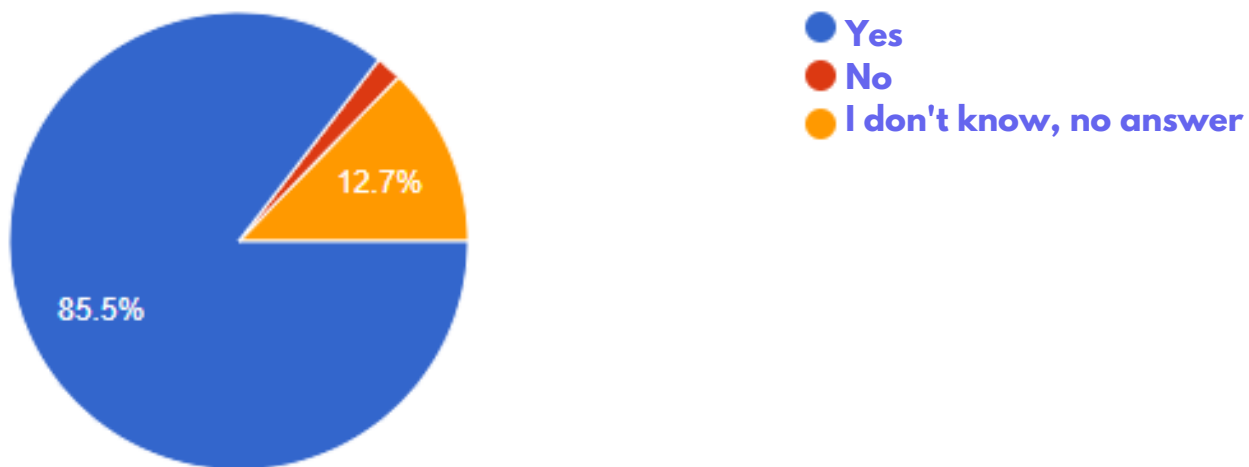
**When young people were asked what they think is the biggest problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina, we had the opportunity to see that more of them actually share the same opinion.**

**The biggest problem in B&H is considered by young people to be unemployment, economic situation, insufficient care for young people and discrimination.**

## Would you like to participate more in society?



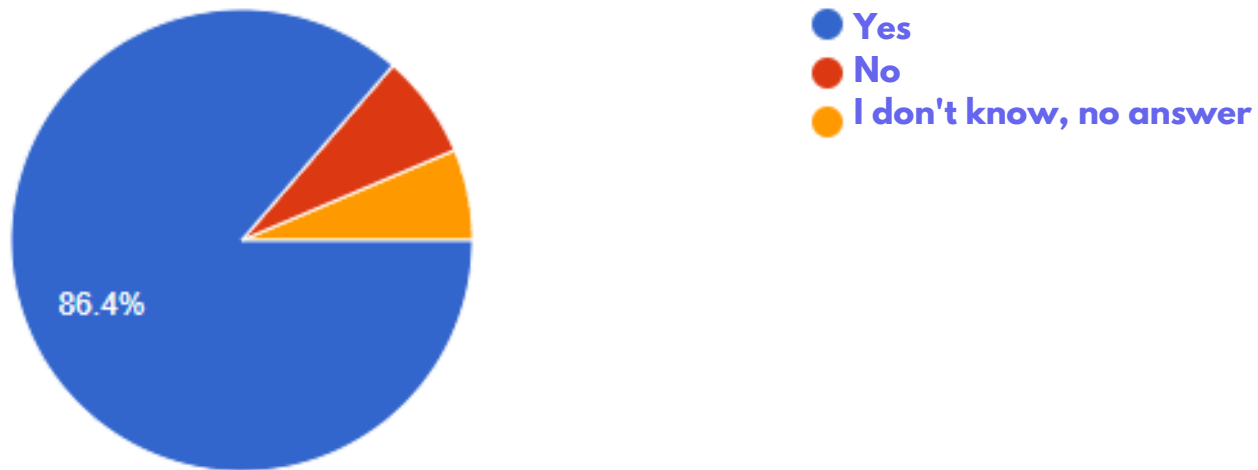
## Are you a consumer of culture?



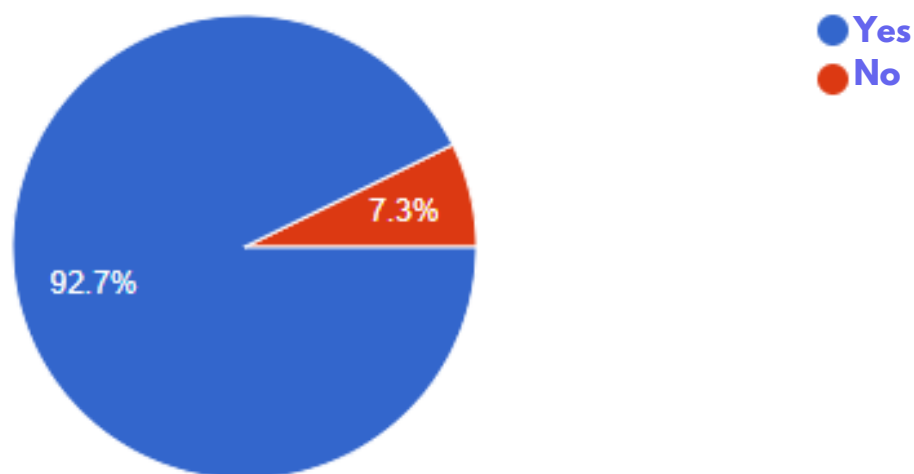
**According to the positive answers, these are the two questions that most agree, the majority of young people would like to participate even more in society, the smallest number of answers is NO, but most young people who would like to participate even more in society are cultural consumers.**



## Is culture important to young people?

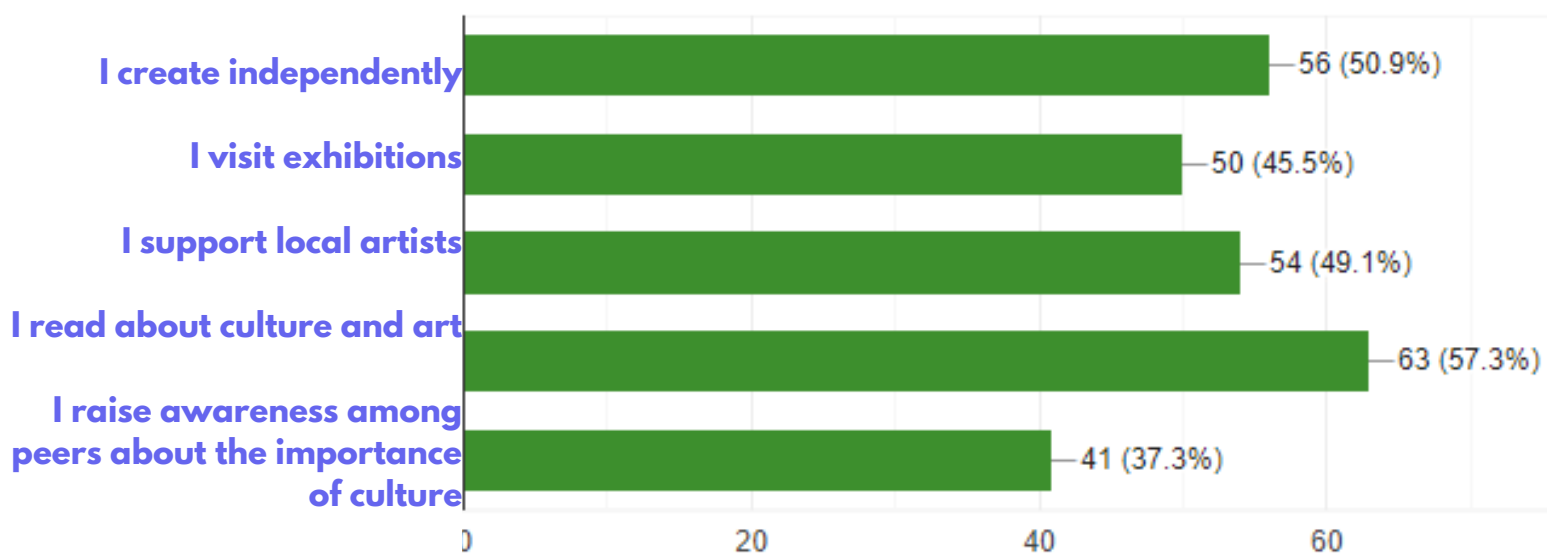


## Do you participate in cultural life?

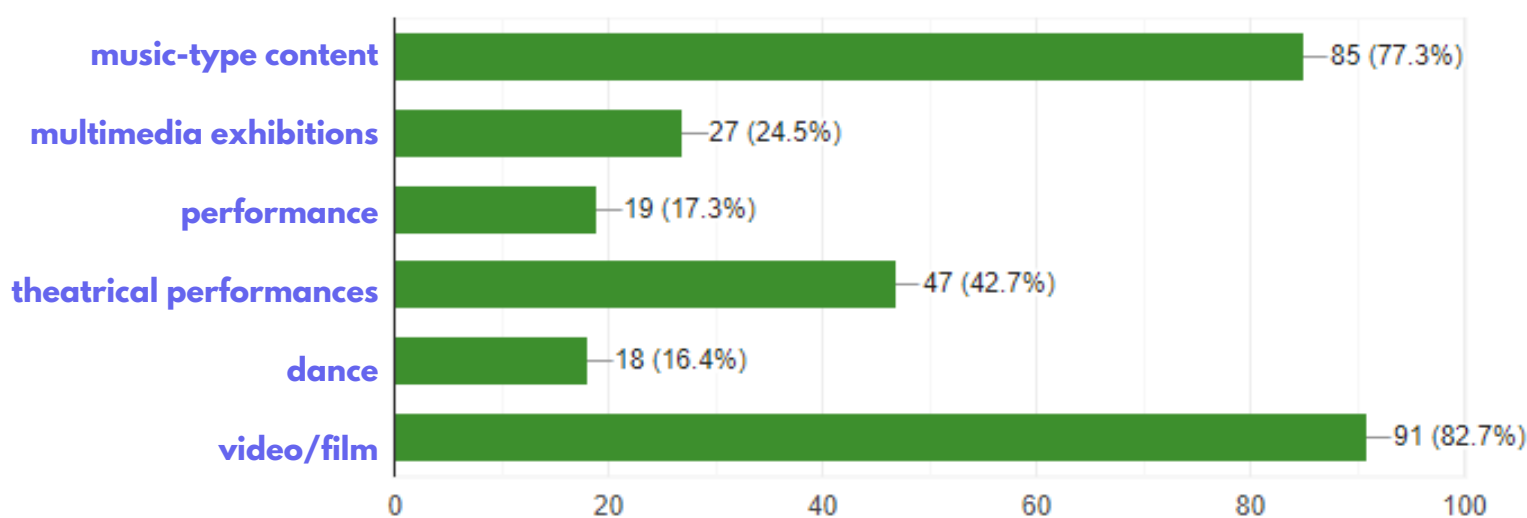


**Questions about culture are part of the survey from which the most positive answers were drawn, the majority of young people agree that culture is generally important to young people, but more than 92% of them actively participate in cultural life.**

## In what way?

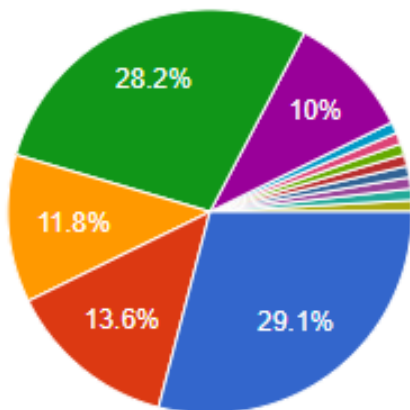


## What cultural contents most interest young people?



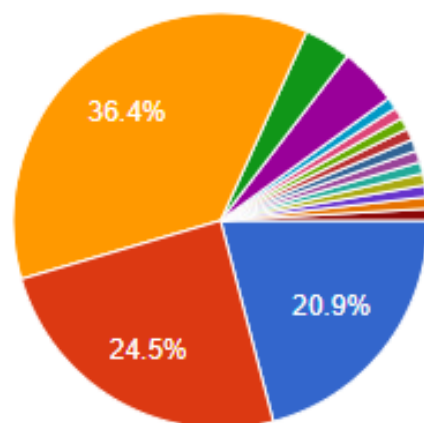
**When asked how young people participate in culture, most of them answered that they read about culture and create it themselves, and that the cultural content that young people are most interested in is video/film and music-type content.**

## What is intercultural dialogue for you?



- broadening horizons
- getting to know new cultures
- meeting new people
- the realization of the existence of the different
- learning
- that nationalists do not pretend to be leftists
- I do not know
- I think it's all listed

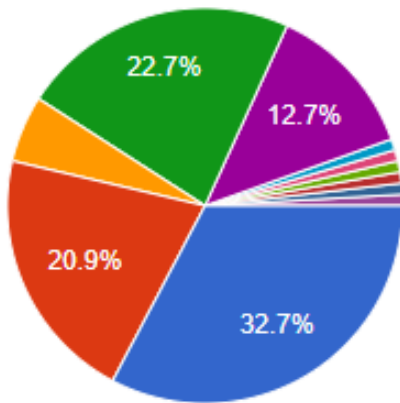
## What are the biggest problems that prevent intercultural dialogue?



- nationalism
- fear of the unknown
- lack of education
- language barrier
- asociality
- answer above
- all of the above
- I guess all of the above

**When it comes to intercultural dialogue, young people think that it is actually a broadening of horizons and knowledge of the existence of different mentalities, and when it comes to problems that prevent intercultural dialogue, young people think that the main problems are lack of education, fear of the unknown and nationalism.**

**What is one of the solutions for you against populism, hate speech, extremism and discrimination?**



- Education
- Non-formal education
- Interview with experts
- Raising awareness of the importance of the individual
- Providing an opportunity to meet a new...
- For the last 3 questions can be rounded...

**At the very end, the young people answered what their solutions were for acting against the populism of hate speech, extremism and discrimination. The majority of young people agreed that the mechanisms for acting against these problems are in fact awareness-raising and non-formal education.**

**Also, a large number of young people wrote in additional comments on the last question that all the answers offered should be part of the solution to these problems.**

# Focus group work analysis



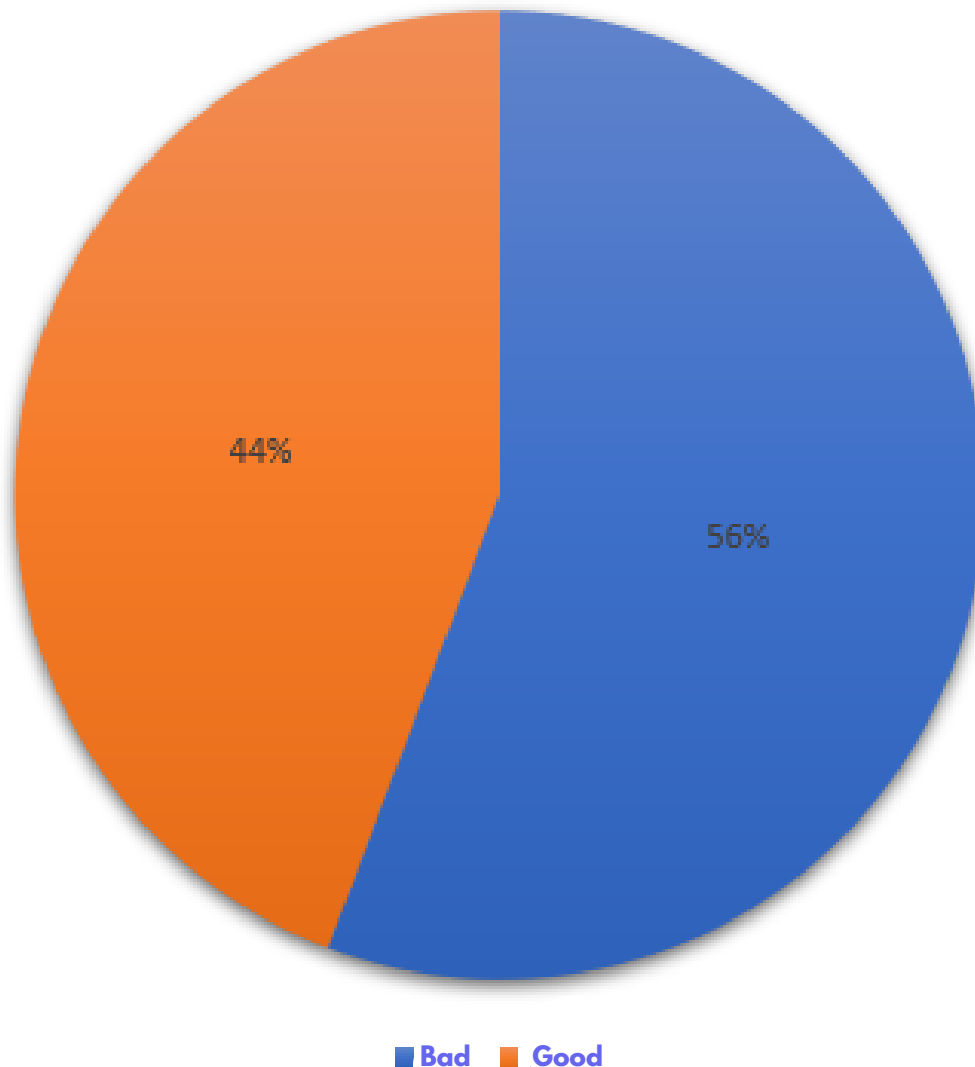
**93**  
**participants**

**Average age:**  
**20 years**





## How do you assess the current position of young people about your local community?



**When it comes to their position, young people believe that more than 55% of them have a bad position in the local community. This data is worrying to say the least and is an indication of the urgent need for reform processes when it comes to the general situation of young people in B&H.**

## Some of the young people's answers to this question:

1. "The situation regarding young people is bad, because a large number of our peers, both for objective and subjective reasons, moved to Western countries. There is a bit of a problem in people's minds, there is some apathy in society, and there is a noticeable lack of social content and events."
2. "The way and conditions of life of young people have not changed in the last hundred years. Everything has stopped;"

3. Here is hell. From prejudice to fornication. Everyone has their own philosophy and it is the most important. And nobody asks us anything. Nobody is watching us, we are not important to anyone.



4. We have our habits and our desires. We have our dreams. We would like to live in a city where there are many offers from the cultural and entertainment life. We miss exhibitions, concerts, plays, movies. We miss some tourists coming to our beautiful city and meeting new people, young and interesting.

**5. There is great disrespect for us young people in our environment. I have a feeling we all live for some of their interests. They often tell us that the world stays with us and then when it comes to doing something they keep us aside because we are young and they know more than us.**

**6. They don't teach us anything at school, they just copy from textbooks, we don't have practice, we don't know what we will do after school.**

**7. Insufficient investment in youth, talents and culture as well as entertainment and educational programs (by the government);**

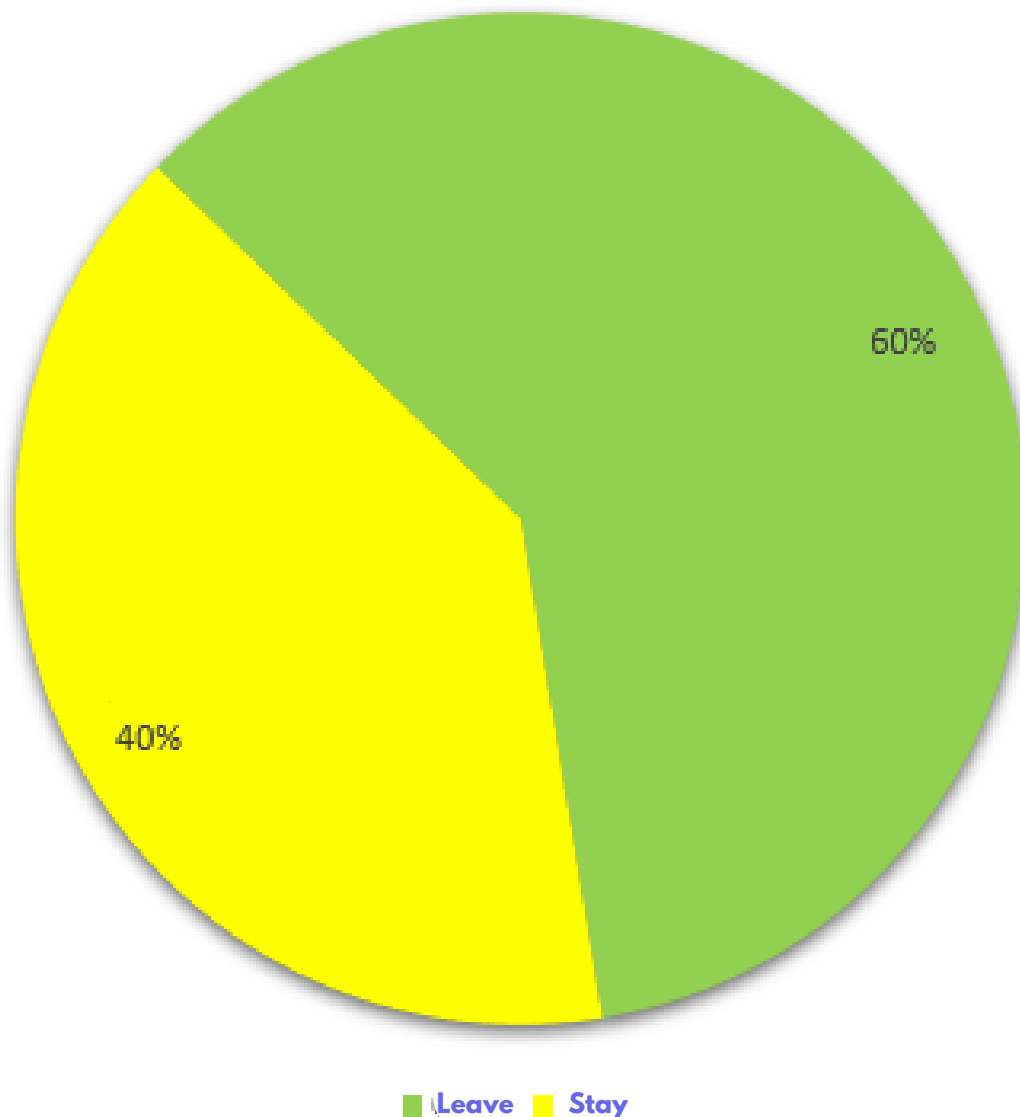


**8. It's awful here. In a place ruled by the politically fit and obedient.**

**9. No one cares about our needs. As if that doesn't matter at all. It's as if we're all here just to have voters.**

**10. I wish you a good concert, play, festival, but it's not here. Unfortunately, it is the 21st century.**

## To leave or stay in B&H?



**When it comes to the departure of young people from BiH, as many as 60% of them answered that they intend to leave the country in the future, and that they do not see a perspective here. Such data are alarming and it is necessary to work on broader reports on what young people in BiH need and what needs to be worked on immediately.**

## Some of the young people's answers to this question:

**1. There, human rights are really real and some things cannot happen, such as discrimination based on gender or age.**

**2. I will go to earn money, because I can never do that here, except to deal with crime or politics, and neither of them interests me.**

**3. With your head regardless, because the terror of political powerful people is unbearable here.**



**4. Stay. As a future medical professional, I am aware of how many young people are leaving here, although I am expected to leave, I really haven't thought about it at any point.**



**5. I remain to show that even with all the aggravating circumstances, a young individual must not waver, nor become a pawn of the system that is trying to exploit him.**

**6. I would run away if I had a place to go. I know languages and I hope to be able to use them someday. I have not traveled anywhere far, and I have a desire to meet many other cultures.**

**7. I am leaving so that I can live normally and as befits a man.**

**8. "My desire is first of all to try to realize myself in my environment and do something useful in and for my community, and then for myself and my family. I would certainly not leave my parents, and I have already pointed out that I believe that a lot of work can be done with dedicated work, even having a decent life in our country. "**

**9. Leave because there is nothing to keep us.**



**10. It is obligatory to leave because other countries are happy to invest in the potential.**

# What can realistically be done to improve the position of young people in your community? (descriptive)



**When asked what needs to be done to improve the position of young people in the local community, young people suggested dozens of quality proposals, which is an indication that if we include young people in the decision-making process we can achieve concrete results very quickly, at least when it comes to their problems.**



**1. The first step in our changes is to explain to "adults" that they should ask us what we want and what we need, and not think that they know our wishes and needs better than us.**

**2. Introduce tougher sanctions for evident exploitation and abuse of youth work, volunteering and initiatives, disable the work of coordinators who are not trained not only in what they do, but also in the field of legal restrictions, so that they know what to ask from their volunteers/employees/wards...**

**3. Send young people on exchanges.**





**3. More media space, a larger budget dedicated to young people living in poor conditions without funds, correcting the school system, raising awareness about mental health, as well as the impact of cultural life on young people, encouraging environmental protection and promoting the importance of community life.**

**4. Strengthen the strength of young people by supporting their projects.**

**5. More opportunities to talk about our problems.**



**6. It is necessary to work on increasing the employment rate as well as increasing the average salary, which would significantly affect the lives of young people and the reason for staying.**

**7. Change the school system, connect employers and young people (for easier employment and economic independence and stability), improve study programs by introducing new fields and hiring new professors.**

**8. Invest in healthy ideas and give young people a chance to say what they want and how they see the future and the present.**



Co-funded by  
the European Union



Anna Lindh  
Foundation  
— EUROMED —

Project implemented by

