
The 2030 Agenda & the SDGs

— A youth perspective —

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YOUACT

youact.org

A glimpse - the process for defining the 2030 agenda

one of the most open and receptive to civil society's inputs

young people across the world have been involved in shaping the agenda

- participating in various consultations, both online and in person
- at national, regional and international levels



**Inclusiveness
gave ownership
to young
people**



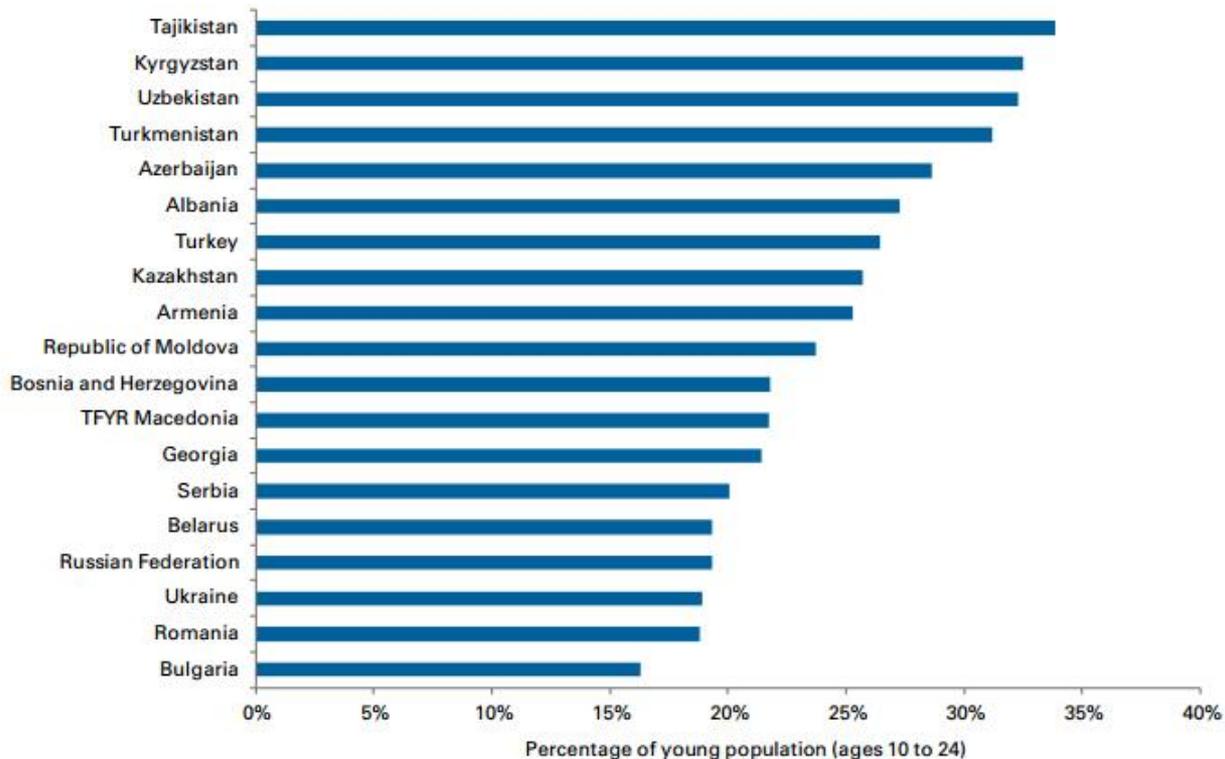
Young people - beneficiaries and actors of the SDGs



What is going on in our region?

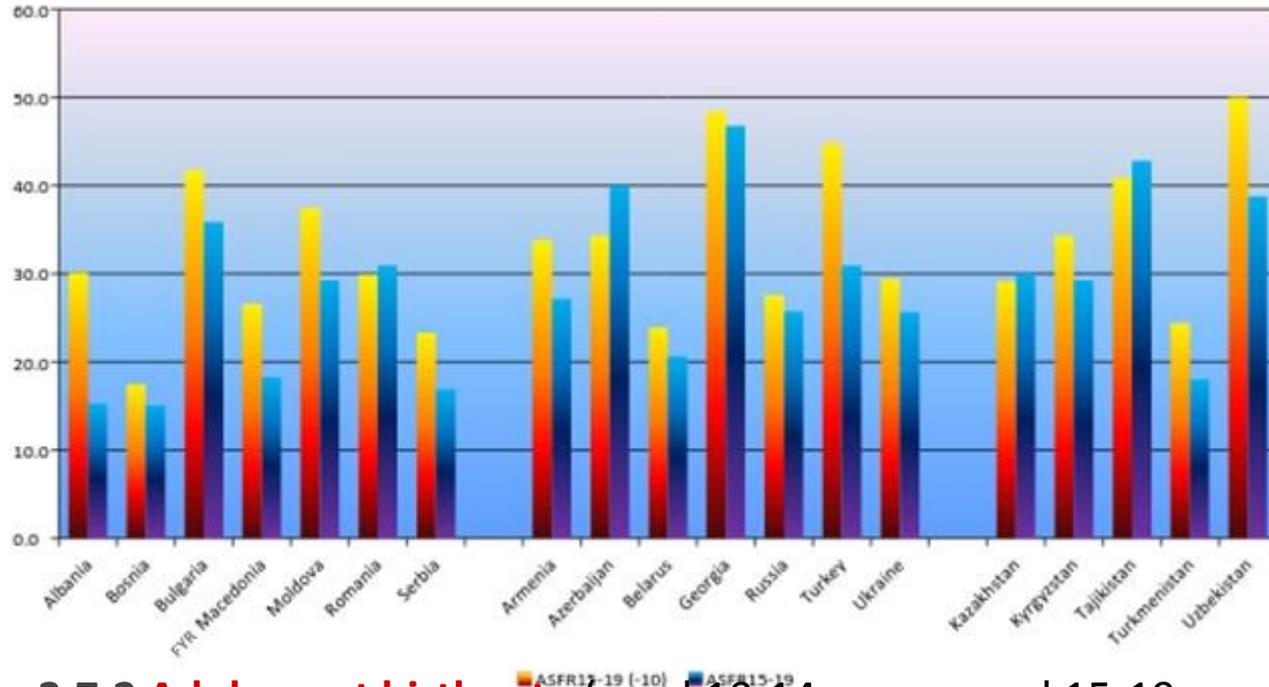
Figure 2: Percentage of young population, EECA countries, 2010

Source: UN World Population Prospects, 2012



What is going on in our region?

Adolescent birth rates



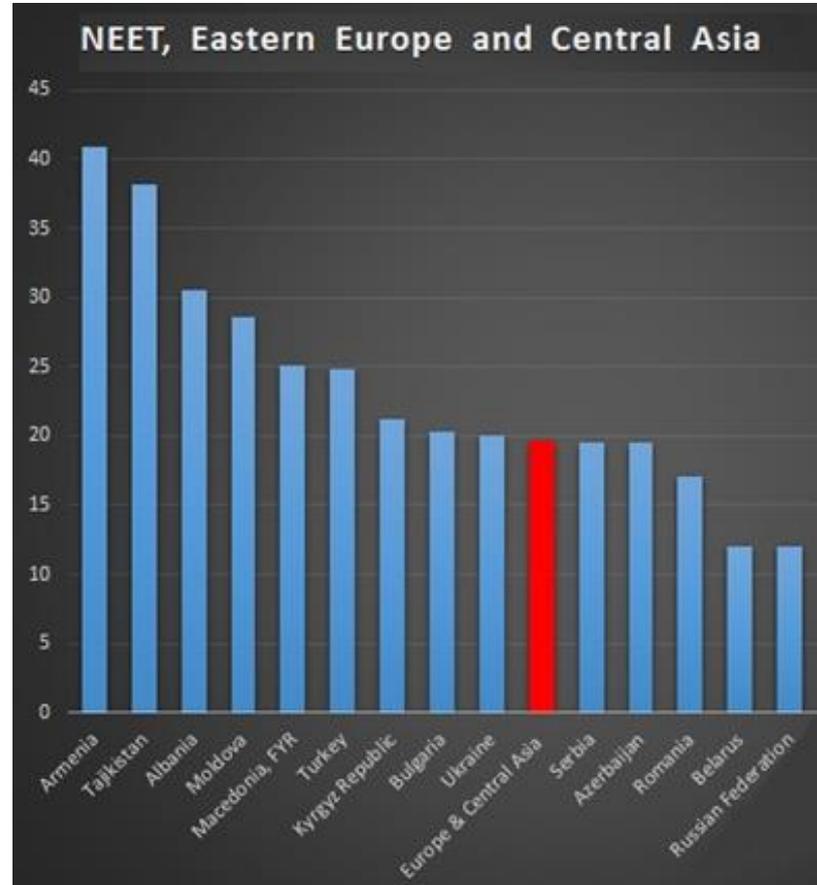
- ❖ Indicator 3.7.2 **Adolescent birth rate** (aged 10-14 years; aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group

What is going on in our region?

Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)

❖ Indicator 8.6.1

Proportion of **youth (aged 15-24 years)** not in education, employment or training



What is going on in our region?

Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)

- 20% average for the region
- up to 40% in Armenia
- best performing country in the world, the Netherlands - 5%

- Youth NEET are more likely to continue being unemployed
- Prolonged time being NEET greatly affects lifetime income, both in terms of lost years of income, but also in terms how well youth will do as they transition into adulthood
- Being NEET is also associated with
 - poorer health outcomes
 - mental health issues
 - conflicts with the law
 - violence

What is going on in our region?

Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET)

There is a large potential of bringing the NEET down by **investing in**

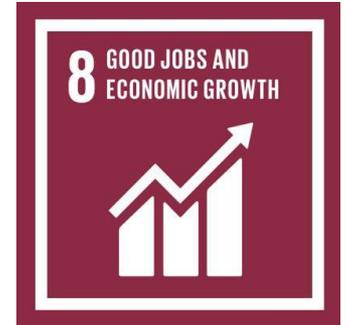
- ❑ **education**
- ❑ **training**
- ❑ **life skills and sexuality education**
- ❑ **counseling**
- ❑ **youth friendly health services**
- ❑ **job creation**

Young people and the 2030 Agenda

The Declaration

- Recognizes the centrality of empowering women and **young people**, including for realizing the demographic dividend;
- Includes language on qualitative education and lifelong learning opportunities (para 25)
- Includes a commitment to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, family planning, information and education (para 26)
- Reference to sport and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of **young people** (para 38)

Young people and the SDGs, Targets and Indicators



Young people and the 2030 Agenda

Means of implementation and the Global Partnership

- Mentions the participation of civil society (in para 60 and in para 70)

Follow up and review

- Mentions the participation of civil society (in para 79 regarding national and subnational reviews and in para 84 regarding the role of the High Level Political Forum)

The participation of young people is not directly mentioned but youth networks are part of civil society so this is an important entry point

We, the young people in our region

Young people and youth-led organizations need to have the recognition and the space to participate in

- the translation of the agenda into local, national and regional policy
- the implementation of strategies and action plans to achieve progress
- the monitoring and review and accountability mechanisms

The impact depends on how countries commit to these goals, adapt and implement them locally and measure their progress.

We, the young people in our region

We are the generation that is more connected than ever before

We act as active drivers of change in local communities

We have a role in engaging people at the grassroots level

We work for social development through activism, social movements and creative expressions

We have a huge **potential and show results** - but **we need support and investments**

Young people - beneficiaries and actors of the SDGs

