

# Youth participation in Bacau (Romania) and Donegal (Ireland)



Similarities and differences between youth participation

Romanian Youth Movement  
**RYMD**  
for Democracy

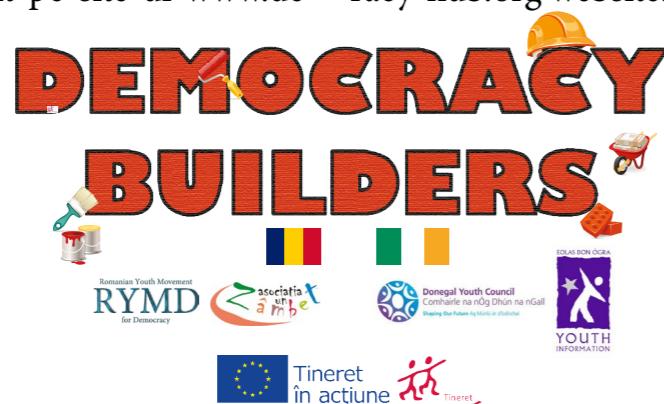


Donegal Youth Council  
Comhairle na nÓg Dhún na nGall  
Shaping Our Future Ag Münlü ar d'Todhcháí



**CONTEXT GENERAL.** Cercetarea de fata reprezinta unul dintre rezultatele proiectului "Democracy Builders" implementat de organizatia Romanian Youth Movement for Democracy, in parteneriat cu Asociatia Un Zambet Bacau, Donegal Youth Council si Letterkenny Youth Information Center din Irlanda.

Proiectul si-a propus promovarea si implementarea unor programe concentrate asupra temei participarii democratice a tinerilor. Pe parcursul a noua luni, in perioada februarie - octombrie 2014, cele patru organizatii partenere au aplicat un chestionar online asupra tinerilor din grupul tinta, atat in Irlanda cat si in Romania, pentru a vedea perceptia tinerilor asupra participarii democratice si a extrage o serie de concluzii ce vor ajuta pe viitor alte organizatii si institutii pentru a proiecta programe adaptate nevoilor tinerilor. In al doilea rand, organizatiile au coordonat metoda Photovoice, aplicata in cele doua tari partenere, prin care s-au evideniat problemele tinerilor din cele doua comunitati. Seminarul pe tema instrumentelor participarii, ce a avut loc in Bacau, Romania, in iulie 2014, a inclus 24 de participanti in activitati non-formale adaptate tinerilor si coordonate de trainieri specializati. Activitatile au dorit transmiterea informatiilor necesare pentru toti participantii, precum si testarea instrumentelor de democraie participativa. Informatiile rezultate au dus la crearea unui Ghid de Abilitati si Instrumente de Participare Democratica. Acest material-suport pentru ong-urile interesate de promovarea activitatilor de tineret in domeniul participarii poate fi consultat gratuit pe site-ul [www.democracy-hub.org](http://www.democracy-hub.org).



**GENERAL CONTEXT.** The research represents one of the results of the "Democracy Builders" project, implemented by the Romanian Youth Movement for Democracy Association, in partnership with A Smile Organization Bacau, Donegal Youth Council and Letterkenny Youth Information Center, from Ireland.

The project aims at promoting and implementing programs that have participatory democracy for the youth as their central focus. On the span of 9 months, February - October 2014, the four organizations conducted an online survey applied to the youth as the target group, both in Ireland and Romania, to determine youth's perception on participatory democracy and draw conclusions that will help us and other organizations and institutions design better programs for the youth. Secondly, the four organizations coordinated a Photovoice action in both countries, with focus on youth problems in both communities. The workshop on participatory democracy tools, that took place in Bacau, Romania in July 2014, engaged 24 participants in non-formal activities, especially designed for them with the help of a specialised trainer. These activities aimed at transmitting the necessary information for all the participants and testing participatory democracy tools. The information gathered from all participants lead to the creating of a best practices Guide on Participatory Democracy Tools and Skills. This support-material is available for the interested organizations in promoting youth programs on participatory democracy on [www.democracy-hub.org](http://www.democracy-hub.org) website.

## CONCLUZIILE PRINCIPALE

Chestionarul a fost realizat in perioada 1 - 30 iunie 2014 pe un numar de 106 participanti, dintre care 55 de respondenti romani si 51 respondenti irlandezi, cu varsta cuprinsa intre 14-25 de ani. Grupul de respondenti a fost reprezentat de tineri proveniti din judetul Bacau (Romania) si regiunea Donegal (Irlanda).

Atat tinerii romani cat si cei irlandezi considera intr-o foarte mare masura ca este foarte important ca tinerii sa se implice in procesul decizional de la nivel local, diferentele aparand insa atunci cand vine vorba despre preocuparile personale fata de acest subiect.

In ceea ce priveste obstacolele din calea participarii tinerilor, in Romania, principala problema cu care se confrunta tinerii este, in opinia acestora, mentalitatea de a nu se implica fara recompense, in timp ce slaba dezvoltare a structurilor de participare a societatii civile este vazuta ca principala cauza de tinerii din Irlanda. Lipsa banilor reprezinta o problema intr-o masura mult mai mare pentru tinerii irlandezi decat pentru cei romani, iar ambele categorii considera ca tinerii ar trebui sa manifeste mai mult interes in procesul de participare.

Tinerii din cele doua comunitati devin foarte critici atunci cand vine vorba de calitatea democratiei in tara in care traiesc, si tend sa perceapa democracia de la nivel european ca fiind mai satisfacatoare decat cea din propria tara.

The questionnaire was applied between 1st -30th of June 2014. There were 106 research participants, 55 from Romania and 51 from Ireland, aged 14-25 .The group of respondents was represented by young people from Bacau (Romania) and Donegal region (Ireland).

Romanian young people, as well as Irish young people, highly consider that it is very important for youth in general to get involved in the local decision-making process. The difference appears when we talk about the personal preoccupation with this subject.

Regarding the obstacle in the way of youth participation, in the opinion of Romanians, the main problem is the involvement without rewards, while, the poor development of participation structure of the civil society is the essential cause for the Irish. Also for the Irish, the lack of money is a bigger problem than it is for Romanians, and both of the nationalities claim that young people should show a higher interest in participation process.

The young people from both of the communities become very critical when it comes to the quality of democracy in their country and tend to consider the democracy in European Union better than in their own countries.

*The content of this publication does not reflect the official opinion of the European Commission.  
Responsibility for the information and views expressed lies entirely with the author.*

### Credits:

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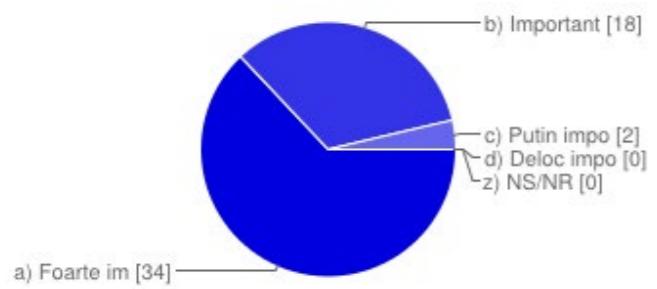
Marian Damoc, project manager, Romanian Youth Movement for Democracy

Cover Foto Letterkenny: [www.donegalupdates.com](http://www.donegalupdates.com)

Cover Foto Bacau: [www.inimabacaului.ro](http://www.inimabacaului.ro)

**1. Considerati ca este important ca tinerii sa fie implicați în luarea deciziilor, la nivel local?**

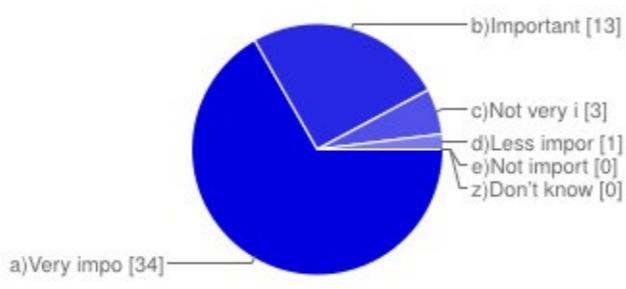
## Romania



a) Very important	63%
b) Important	33%
c) Not very important	4%
e) Not important at all	0%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%

**1. How important do you think it is for young people to be involved in the decision-making process at a local level?**

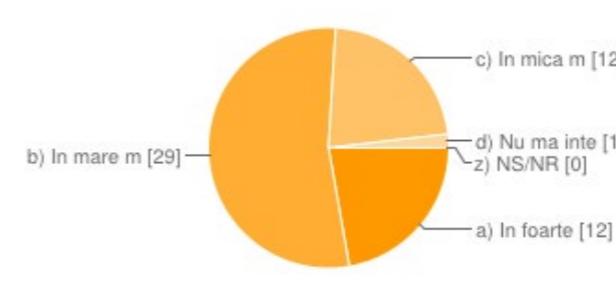
## Ireland



a) Very important	67%
b) Important	25%
c) Not very important	8%
e) Not important at all	0%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%

**2. Dvs. personal, va considerati preocupat de rezolvarea problemelor din localitatea dvs.?**

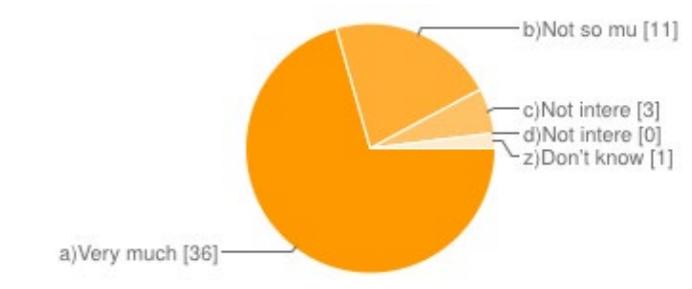
## Romania



a) Very much	22%
b) Not so much	54%
c) Not interested	22%
d) Not interested at all	2%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%

**2. Are you personally concerned of solving problems in your town?**

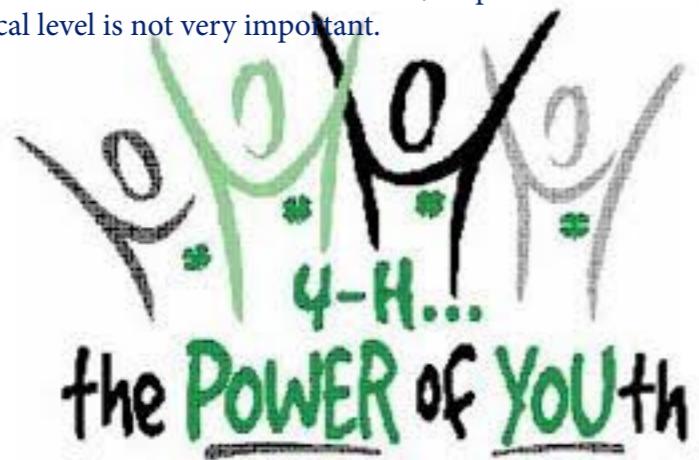
## Ireland



a) Very much	71%
b) Not so much	22%
c) Not interested	6%
d) Not interested at all	0%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%

Implicarea tinerilor in procesul decizional este vazuta in mod similar de catre tinerii din cele doua tari participante la studiu, 63% dintre respondentii romani, respective 67% dintre cei irlandezi considerand ca este foarte important ca tinerii sa se implice in acest proces la nivel local. 33% dintre participantii romani, respectiv 25% dintre cei irlandezi apreciaza ca acest lucru este important, iar intr-un procent foarte mic : 4% dintre cei romani si 8% dintre irlandezi au raspuns ca implicarea tinerilor in procesul decizional la nivel local nu este foarte importanta. Din randul respondentilor ambelor tari, nici unul dintre ei nu a considerat ca acest lucru nu este deloc important.

The young people from both countries participating in the research, similarly consider that the involvement of youngsters in the decision-making process at a local level is very important: 63% of Romanian respondents and 67% of Irish ones. 33% of Romanians and 25% of Irish youth think it is important, and a small percentage, 4% from Romania and 8% from Ireland, responded that being involved in the decision-making process at a local level is not very important.



Daca in ceea ce priveste respondentii romani, proportia celor care sunt foarte mult preocupati este mica, de doar 22%, la polul opus, irlandezii sunt preocupati de solutionarea problemelor in propriul oras intr-o proportie destul de ridicata de 71%. Nu foarte mult interesati s-au declarat 54% dintre romani si 22% dintre irlandezi. Neinteresati de solutionelor sunt 22 % dintre repondentii cei irlandezi. Desi in proportie mica, sunt deloc interesati, in timp ce nu deloc interesat.

When we talk about the Romanian age of those who are very much concerned, it's 22%. On the contrast, a very high 71%, are very much concerned of solving problems in their town. Not very much interested are 54% of Romanians and 22% of Irish. 22% of Romanian young people and just 6% of Irish young people declared that they are not interested in solving problems in their town. There is a small percentage of 2% of Romanians who are not interested at all, while there is not any Irish.



participants, the percentage concerned is quite low, only 22% of Irish people, solving problems in their town. There is a small percentage of 2% of Romanians who are not interested at all, while there is not any Irish.

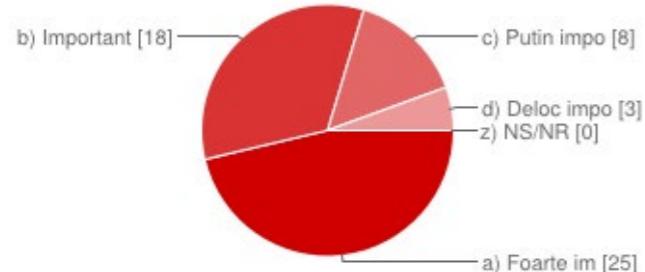
**3. In ce masura considerati ca este important sa fiti informat despre politica si probleme politice:**

**3. To what extent do you consider it is important to be informed about political issues:**

**4. Care sunt principalele surse din care va informati cu privire la problemele politice?**

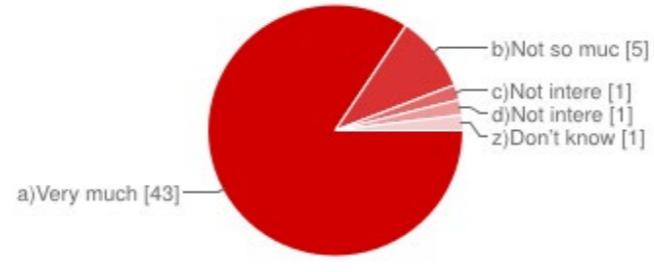
**4. What are your main sources of information regarding political issues?**

## Romania



a) Very much	46%	a) Very much	84%
b) Not so much	33%	b) Not so much	10%
c) Not interested	15%	c) Not interested	2%
d) Not interested at all	6%	d) Not interested at all	2%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%	z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%

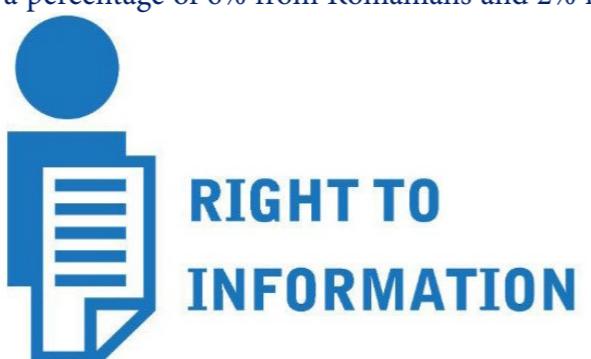
## Ireland



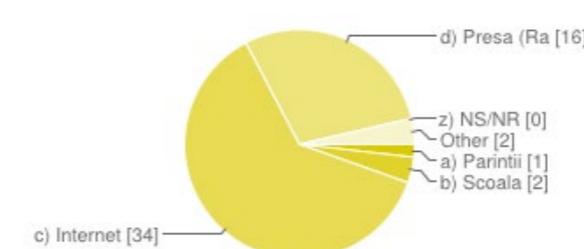
a) Very much	84%
b) Not so much	10%
c) Not interested	2%
d) Not interested at all	2%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%

Informarea cu privire la temele politice este foarte importanta pentru tinerii din Irlanda. Astfel, un procent foarte mare de respondenti, 84% considera ca este foarte important sa fie informati. Spre deosebire de acestia, numai 46% dintre tinerii din Romania cred ca acest lucru este este foarte important, iar 33% dintre romani sunt de parere ca a fi informati nu este foarte important, in timp ce aceeasi opinie o impartasesc doar 10% dintre irlandezi. In Romania, 15% dintre tinerii chestionati sunt neinteresati, iar in Irlanda 2%. 6% dintre respondentii romani, respectiv 2% dintre cei irlandezi nu sunt deloc interesati de informarea in privinta subiectelor politice.

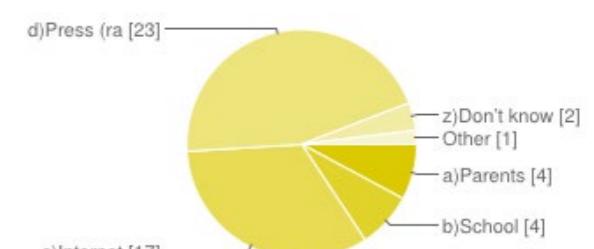
Being informed about political issues is a very important aspect for the Irish youngsters. Hence, a large number of answerers, 84%, said it is very important to be informed. Unlike them, only 46% of Romanians consider it very important. 33% of people from Romania believe that it is not very important to be informed about political issues, whereas, only 10% of Irish share the same opinion. 15% of Romanians and 2% of Irish are not interested in the topic, followed by a percentage of 6% from Romanians and 2% from Irish who are not interested at all about political issues.



## Romania



a) Parents	2%
b) School	4%
c) Internet	62%
d) Press (radio/tv/newspapers)	29%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%
Other	4%



a) Parents	8%
b) School	8%
c) Internet	33%
d) Press (radio/tv/newspapers)	45%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	4%
Other	2%

Atat in Romania cat si in Irlanda, tinerii primesc relativ putina informatie de la parinti. Doar 2% dintre cei din Romania primesc informatii de la parinti si 8% dintre cei din Irlanda. Scoala ocupa, de asemenea, un rol mai putin important in informarea despre chestiunile politice. Astfel, un procent de 4% dintre respondenitii romani se informeaza prin intermediul scolii, in timp ce in Irlanda procentul este dublu, adica 8%. In randul tinerilor romani, principala sursa de informare despre chestiunile politice o reprezinta internetul. 62% dintre cei chestionati preiau informatii de pe internet, in timp ce 33% din tinerii irlandezi folosesc aceeasi sursa de informare politica. Spre deosebire de tinerii din Romania, pentru care internetul reprezinta cea mai importanta sursa de informare, pentru cei din Irlanda, presa (TV, radio, ziare) este principala sursa de informare. Un procent de 45% dintre respondentii irlandezi primesc informatii din presa, in timp ce in Romania procentul este de 29%. 4% dintre romani si 2% dintre irlandezi au mentionat ca exista alte surse de informare despre chestiunile politice.

In Romania, as well as in Ireland, the young people receive little information from their parents. Only 2% from Romanians and 8% from Irish get the information from their parents. The school, also, has an unimportant role in informing about the political subjects. Thus, 4% of Romanian youth get information from the school, while in Ireland the percentage is double: 8%. Through Romanians, the main source of information regarding political issues is the internet. 62% of the responders take the information from the internet, and 33% of Irish use the internet as an information source. In contrast with Romanian youth, for whom the internet is the first source, for the Irish youth, the media (radio, TV, newspaper) is the main source of information. 45% of Irish use the media to find out about political issues, and 29% of Romanians. 4% of Romanian people and 2% of Irish mentioned there are other sources of information.

**5. Care considerati ca sunt principalele obstacole care impiedica participarea tinerilor? (selectati maxim trei raspunsuri)**

# Romania

a) Limited access to information	14%
b) Lack of NGO's	4%
c) Lack of money	7%
d) Legislative instability	16%
e) Dysfunctional youth institutions	25%
f) Low quality of education	23%
g) Getting ahead in your career	18%
h) Generation gap	14%
i) Lack of support/trust from their families/communities	12%
j) Low media coverage of community activism	11%
k) Not getting involved without rewards	44%
l) Settling because nothing gets done anyway	39%
m) Lack of participation culture	35%
n) Distrust in politicians	19%
o) Activism turning political	14%
p) Lack of participation structure	26%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%
Other	7%

In Romania, principalul obstacol cu care se confrunta tinerii este, in opinia acestora, mentalitatea de a nu se implica fara recompensa. 44% dintre tinerii chestionati nu se considera suficient de motivati pentru a face voluntariat sau alte actiuni fara a avea un beneficiu material direct. Spre deosebire de tinerii romani, doar 4% dintre respondentii irlandezi au afirmat acelasi lucru. In schimb, slaba dezvoltare a structurilor de participare a societatii civile este vazuta ca o problema in ambele comunitati, aceasta regasindu-se printre raspunsurile a 25% dintre romani si irlandezi. O diferenta neasteptata o obsevam la procentul celor care au bifat lipsa banilor ca o problema, tinerii din Donegal considerand in procent de 33% ca fiind o problema, fata de doar 7% din tinerii bacauani.

In Romania, the main obstacle that young people face, is, in their opinion, the mentality of getting involved without being rewarded. 44% of the questioned youngsters said that they are not motivated enough to volunteer or to get involved in other actions without having a direct physical benefit. In contrast with Romanians, only 4% of Irish declared the same. Alternatively, the poor development of participation structure of the civil society is regarded as a problem in both communities and we can see this fact within 25% of the Romanian and Irish respondents. An unexpected gap is visible through those who chose the lack of money as being a problem. Thus, 33% of the youth from Donegal believe this is a problem, in comparison with only 7% of

**5. Which are the main obstacles in the way of youth participation? (select three answers)**

## Ireland

a) Limited access to information	29%
b) Lack of NGO's	0%
c) Lack of money	33%
d) Legislative instability	2%
e) Dysfunctional youth institutions	14%
f) Low quality of education	24%
g) Getting ahead in your career	0%
h) Generation gap	27%
i) Lack of support/trust from their families/communities	27%
j) Low media coverage of community activism	8%
k) Not getting involved without rewards	4%
l) Settling because nothing gets done anyway	24%
m) Lack of participation culture	20%
n) Distrust in politicians	29%
o) Activism turning political	2%
p) Lack of participation structure	25%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	4%
Other	8%

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## **6. Care credeti ca sunt principalele probleme ale tinerilor din comunitatea dumneavoastră? (selectati maxim trei raspunsuri)**

# Romania

a) Unemployment, lack of professional perspective	58
b) Lack of money	11
c) Lack of housing for the youth	18
d) Indifference towards the youth	20
e) Lack of interest and involvement of youth	55
f) Corruption inside the state institution	28
g) Lack of models for youth	25
h) Youth are not organized	25
i) Delinquency, violence, scandal among youth	14
j) Vices/ addiction	11
k) Inflexible mentalities	33
Z) Don't know/Don't answer	0
Other	4

Cea mai mare parte dintre romani, 58%, cred ca somajul este problema majora cu care se confrunta tinerii. Totodata, si cea mai mare parte a irlandezilor, 67%, este de aceeasi parere. O alta problema, in opinia a 51% dintre respondentii din Romania, este reprezentata de lipsa de interes si implicare a tinerilor, iar 26% din tinerii chestionati din Romania se lovesc de indiferenta adultilor fata de problemelor tinerilor. Totodata, un procent de 33% dintre respondentii irlandei au aceeasi opinie. Lipsa banilor, reprezinta pentru 45% dintre irlandezi chestionati o problema principală comunitate, in timp ce doar 12% din aceeasi problema. Coruptia din instiția problema grava cu precadere de catre irlandezi, 10%. Acestia din urma pentru tineri si prezenta viciilor in

The majority of Romanians, 58%, biggest problem young people have of Irish share the same idea. Another of Romanian responders, is the lack of youth, and 26% have to deal with towards the youth. Simultaneously share the same feeling. The lack of problem for 45% of Irish, while only 12% of Romanians complain about the same problem. Corruption inside the state institution is seen as a big problem, particularly for Romanians, 28%, comparing with 10% of Irish, who, however, complain about the lack of models for youth and the existence of various addictions.



WE HAVE  
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**PROBLEM!**

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— 1 —

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**6. In your opinion, what are the main problems young people in your community have to face? (select three answers)**

## Ireland

a) Unemployment, lack of professional perspective	67%
b) Lack of money	45%
c) Lack of housing for the youth	6%
d) Indifference towards the youth	33%
e) Lack of interest and involvement of youth	31%
f) Corruption inside the state institution	10%
g) Lack of models for youth	16%
h) Youth are not organized	10%
i) Delinquency, violence, scandal among youth	10%
j) Vices/ addiction	18%
k) Inflexibel mentalities	22%
Z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%
Other	2%

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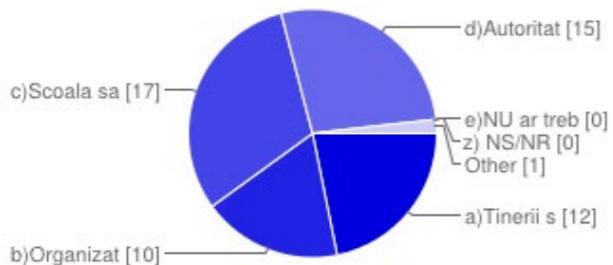
**7. Ce credeți ca ar trebui facut, în primul rand, pentru ca tinerii să fie angrenati mai mult in deciziile din localitatea dvs. ?**

**7. What do you think it needs to get done for young people to be more involved in the decision-making process?**

**8. Exista mai multe pareri cu privire la caile/metodele prin care cineva poate influenta deciziile luate la nivelul unei societati. Cat de eficiente credeți ca sunt fiecare dintre acestea?**

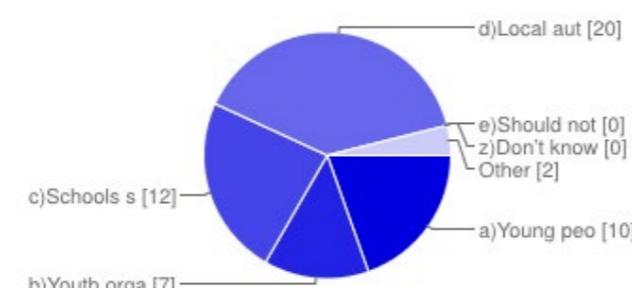
**8. There are more ways in which someone may get involved and influence the decision-making process. How efficient do you consider these?**

# Romania



a) Young people to be more interested to participate	22%
b) Youth organizations to be more active and varied	18%
c) Schools should teach young people how to get involved in the decision-making process	31%
d) Local authorities to pay more attention to youth problems	27%

# Ireland



a) Young people to be more interested to participate	20%
b) Youth organizations to be more active and varied	14%
c) Schools should teach young people how to get involved in the decision-making process	24%
d) Local authorities to pay more attention to youth problems	39%

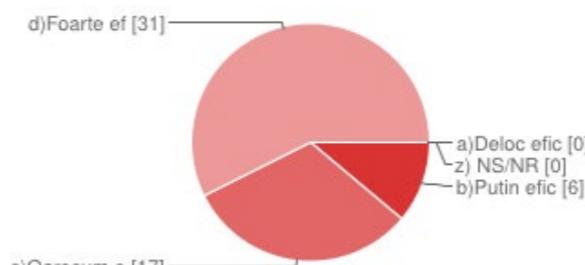
Atât tinerii români, în procent de 22%, cât și cei irlandezi, 20%, consideră că tinerii, la nivel personal, ar trebui să manifeste mai mult interes în procesul de participare. În același timp, implicarea și varietatea organizațiilor de tineret este un factor important care ar putea motiva tinerii. 18% dintre respondenți români, respectiv 14% din cei irlandezi împartășesc această idee. Rolul scolilor în determinarea tinerilor de a se implica mai mult în procesul decizional este, de asemenea, important. Astfel, 31% din români și 24% din irlandezi consideră că școala ar trebui să îi învețe pe tineri cum se pot implica în procesul decizional. Nu în ultimul rand, un procent semnificativ al respondenților, 27% români și 39% irlandezi, pun accent pe faptul că autoritățile locale ar trebui să acorde o atenție mai mare tinerilor și problemelor cu care aceștia se confruntă.

Not only Romanians, 22%, but also the Irish, 20%, think that the young people should show more interest in participation process. At the same time, youth organizations to be more active and varied is an important motivation for 18% from Romanians and 14% from Irish. 31% from Romanian youth and 24% from the Irish ones share the idea that schools should teach young people how to get involved in the decision-making process. Last, but not least, a significant percentage of responders, 27% Romanians and 39% Irish emphasize the fact that local authorities should pay more attention to youth problems.

Meaningful youth participation means involving young people in decision making process, not just making them as decoration!

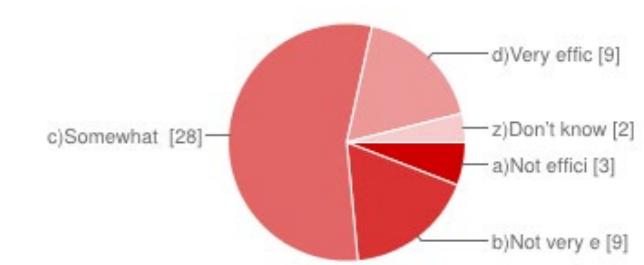
## To get involved in a non-governmental organization

# Romania



a) Not efficient at all	0%
b) Not very efficient	11%
c) Somewhat efficient	31%
d) Very efficient	57%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%

# Ireland



a) Not efficient at all	6%
b) Not very efficient	18%
c) Somewhat efficient	55%
d) Very efficient	18%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	4%

**Implicitarea intr-o organizatie non-guvernamentală.** Nici un respondent roman nu consideră aceata posibilitate ineficientă, în timp ce 6% dintre cei irlandezi cred că este ineficientă. 11% dintre români și 18% dintre irlandezi cred că implicitarea intr-o organizatie non-guvernamentală nu este foarte eficientă, în timp ce oarecum eficientă este considerată de 31% dintre români și 55% dintre irlandezi. Intr-un procent foarte mare de 57% din respondenți români, cred că este foarte eficientă, iar prin comparativ, într-un procent relativ mic, doar 18% dintre irlandezi consideră că este foarte eficientă. Nu stiu / nu raspund au ales 4% din respondenți irlandezi.

**To get involved in a non-governmental organization.** 6% of Irish think this way is not efficient at all. 11% of Romanians and 18% of Irish believe that getting involved in a non-governmental organization is not very efficient. Somehow efficient is considered by 31% of Romanians and 55% of Irish. A high percentage of the Romanian young people, 57% assume it is very efficient, while a low percent of 18% of Irish have the same opinion. I don't know/ don't answer is the response of 4% of Irish people.



**8. Exista mai multe pareri cu privire la caile/metodele prin care cineva poate influenta deciziile luate la nivelul unei societati. Cat de eficiente credeti ca sunt fiecare dintre acestea?**

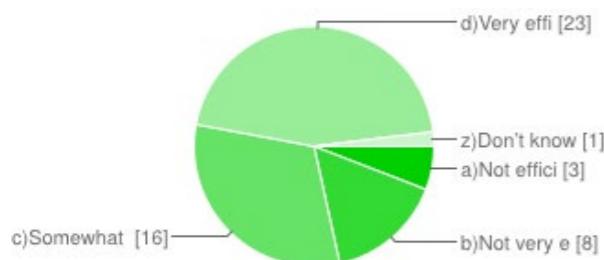
**8. There are more ways in which someone may get involved and influence the decision-making process. How efficient do you consider these?**

**8. Exista mai multe pareri cu privire la caile/metodele prin care cineva poate influenta deciziile luate la nivelul unei societati. Cat de eficiente credeti ca sunt fiecare dintre acestea?**

**8. There are more ways in which someone may get involved and influence the decision-making process. How efficient do you consider these?**

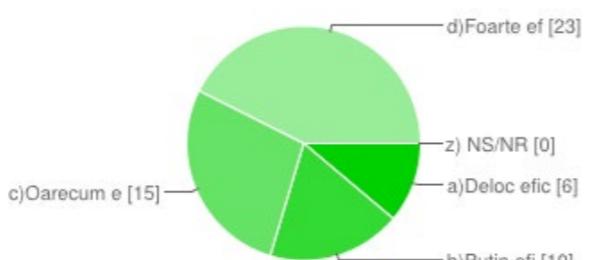
## To vote

### Romania



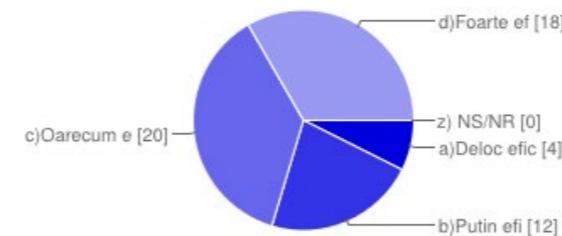
a) Not efficient at all	11%	a) Not efficient at all	6%
b) Not very efficient	19%	b) Not very efficient	16%
c) Somewhat efficient	28%	c) Somewhat efficient	31%
d) Very efficient	43%	d) Very efficient	45%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%	z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%

### Ireland



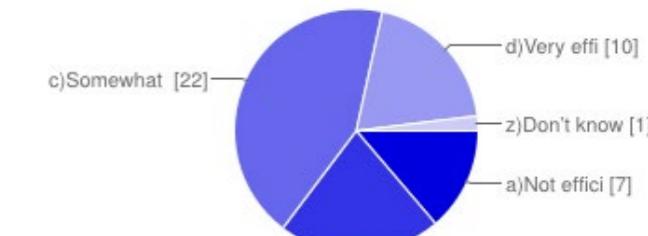
a) Not efficient at all	6%
b) Not very efficient	16%
c) Somewhat efficient	31%
d) Very efficient	45%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%

### Romania



a) Not efficient at all	7%
b) Not very efficient	22%
c) Somewhat efficient	37%
d) Very efficient	33%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%

### Ireland



a) Not efficient at all	14%
b) Not very efficient	22%
c) Somewhat efficient	43%
d) Very efficient	20%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%

**Votul.** Un procent apropiat al tinerilor celor doua grupuri, respectiv 43% din cei romani si 45% din cei irlandezi, considera votul ca fiind o posibilitate foarte eficienta de implicare si influentare a procesului decizional. Oarecum eficienta este pentru 28% din romani si 31% din irlandezi, iar nu foarte eficienta sunt de parere 19% din romani si 16% din irlandezi. Desi in procent mai mic, sunt si respondent care cred ca votul este o modalitate deloc eficienta de implicare si influentare a procesului decizional : 11% din respondentii romani si 6 % dintre cei irlandezi. Doar un procent de 2% dintre acestia din urma s-au abtinut de la raspuns.

## Winning the Youth Vote

**The vote.** A close percentage of the both groups, respectively 43% of Romanians and 45% of Irish, consider the vote as a very efficient way to get involved and influence the decision-making process. Somehow efficient it is seen by 28% of Romanians and 31% of Irish, and not very efficient is the opinion of 19% of Romanians and 16% of Irish youth. Even the percentage is quite small, there are also youngsters who believe that voting is not efficient at all: 11% of Romanians and 6 % of Irish. 2% of the latter ones have no answer.



**Participarea la demonstratiile publice.** Cel mai mare procent al ambelor grupuri : 37% din romani si 43% din irlandezi cred ca participarea la demonstratiile publice este oarecum eficienta. In procente de 33%, romani si 20% irlandezii, au ales ca varianta de raspuns foarte eficienta, iar in procent egal de 22%, tinerii considera aceasta modalitate nu foarte eficienta. Deloc eficienta este raspunsul a 7% dintre romani si 14% din irlandezi. Un procent de 2% dintre acestia din urma au preferat sa nu raspunda.

**To take part in public demonstrations.** The biggest percentage of the both nationalities, 37% of Romanians and 43% of Irish, consider that to take part in public demonstrations is somehow efficient. 33% of Romanians and 20% of Irish young people answered that this way is very efficient, and with an equal percent of 22%, they think it is not very efficient. 7% of Romanians and 14% of Irish chose not efficient at all as an answer.

**8. Există mai multe pareri cu privire la caile/metodele prin care cineva poate influenta deciziile luate la nivelul unei societăți. Cat de eficiente credeti că sunt fiecare dintre acestea?**

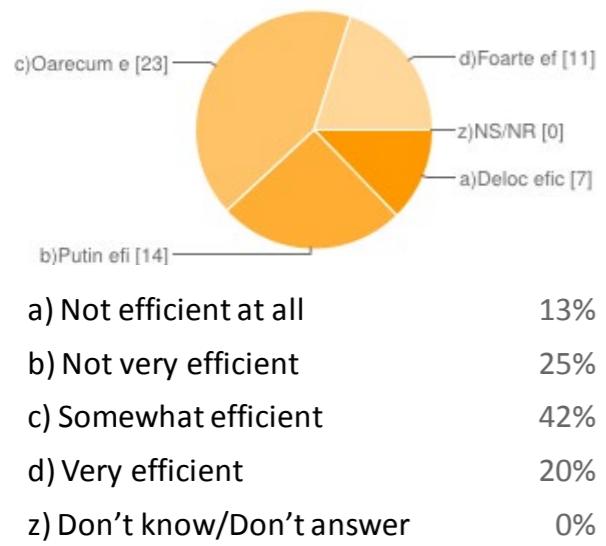
**8. There are more ways in which someone may get involved and influence the decision-making process. How efficient do you consider these?**

**9. La care dintre următoarele modalități de implicare ati luat parte cel puțin o dată, până în prezent:**

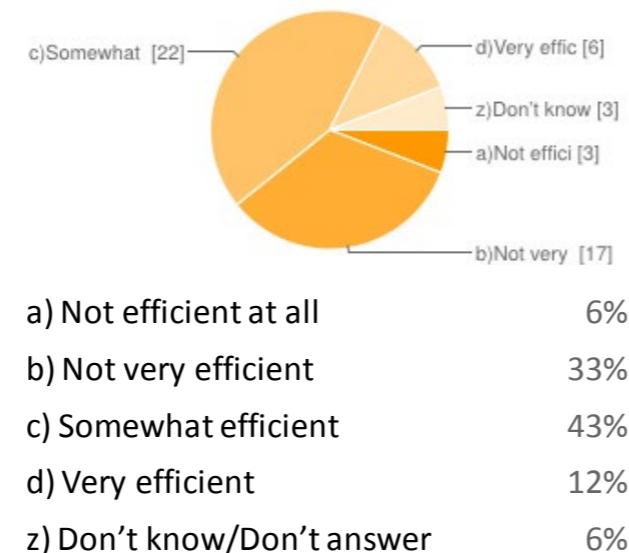
**9. Which of the following participation tools have you used before?**

## To get involved in a political party

### Romania

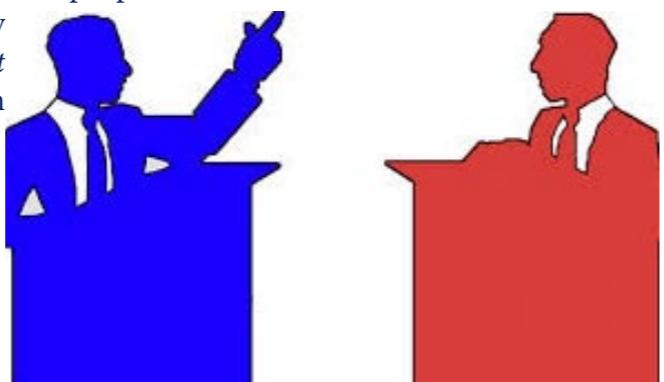


### Ireland



**Participarea la demonstrații publice.** Cel mai mare procent al ambelor grupuri : 37% din români și 43% din irlandezii cred că participarea la demonstrații publice este oarecum eficientă. În procente de 33%, români și 20% irlandezii, au ales ca varianta de răspuns foarte eficientă, iar în procent egal de 22%, tinerii consideră această modalitate nu foarte eficientă. Deloc eficientă este răspunsul a 7% dintre români și 14% din irlandezii. Un procent de 2% dintre acestia din urmă au preferat să nu răspunda.

**To get involved in a political party.** According to the answers of both Romanians and Irish, getting involved in a political party is considered a somehow efficient way to be involved and influence the decision-making process. There is just one percent difference between the answers: Romanians 42% and Irish 43%. A very efficient way, it's seen by 20% of people from Romania and 12% from Ireland. A quite significant percentage was given to not very efficient answer: 25% Romanians, 33% Irish. *Not efficient at all* is the opinion of 13% of Romanian young people and 6% Irish.



### Romania

a) Member in a political party	6%	a) Member in a political party	9%
b) Member of a non-governmental organization	25%	b) Member of a non-governmental organization	18%
c) Member of a labor union	3%	c) Member of a labor union	2%
d) Voted in elections	27%	d) Voted in elections	13%
e) I've contacted powerful people	11%	e) I've contacted powerful people	18%
f) I've participated in public demonstrations	15%	f) I've participated in public demonstrations	12%
g) I've contacted the press, radio, TV	11%	g) I've contacted the press, radio, TV	20%
h) I've participated in illegal protest actions	2%	h) I've participated in illegal protest actions	2%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%	z) Don't know/Don't answer	4%
Other	0%	Other	2%

Comparând răspunsurile tinerilor celor două țări, se observă o diferență de 14% procente în ceea ce privește votul în alegeri. Acest fapt poate fi însă explicat prin varsta de sub 18 ani a unei parti din respondenții irlandezi. De asemenea, contactarea presei, radioului, TV-ului este preferată mai mult de irlandezii (20%), decât de tinerii români (11%). De asemenea, un procent de 18% dintre tinerii din Irlanda au utilizat contactarea persoanelor - resursa ca formă de participare, comparativ cu 11% dintre români. În privința celorlalte forme de participare, răspunsurile tinerilor sunt relativ asemănătoare procentual. În ceea ce privește apartenența la diferite structuri, observăm că tinerii irlandezi tend să fie mai implicați în partidele politice (9% față de 6%); în schimb, tinerii români sunt mai prezenti în organizații non-guvernamentale, 25%, față de 18%, procentul tinerilor irlandezi.

Comparing the answers from both countries, we can see a difference of 14% when it comes to voting in elections. However, the age under 18 years old of some Irish responders it is an explanation for this answer. In Ireland, 20% of the young people prefer to contact the press, radio, TV and in Romania only 11% choose this option. Furthermore, 18% of Irish contacted the powerful people as a participation tool, in contrast with 11% of Romanians. Regarding the other participation tools, the youth's answers are percentually similar. As for the affiliation to different structures, the Irish youngsters tend to get more involved in political parties (9% to 6%). Instead, Romanians are more active in NGOs, 25%, than 18% of Irish.

### Ireland

a) Member in a political party	9%	a) Member in a political party	18%
b) Member of a non-governmental organization	18%	b) Member of a non-governmental organization	13%
c) Member of a labor union	2%	c) Member of a labor union	18%
d) Voted in elections	13%	d) Voted in elections	12%
e) I've contacted powerful people	18%	e) I've contacted powerful people	20%
f) I've participated in public demonstrations	12%	f) I've participated in public demonstrations	2%
g) I've contacted the press, radio, TV	20%	g) I've contacted the press, radio, TV	2%
h) I've participated in illegal protest actions	2%	h) I've participated in illegal protest actions	4%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	4%	z) Don't know/Don't answer	2%
Other	2%	Other	2%

Comparand răspunsurile tinerilor celor două țări, se observă o diferență de 14% procente în ceea ce privește votul în alegeri. Acest fapt poate fi însă explicat prin varsta de sub 18 ani a unei parti din respondenții irlandezi. De asemenea, contactarea presei, radioului, TV-ului este preferată mai mult de irlandezii (20%), decât de tinerii români (11%). De asemenea, un procent de 18% dintre tinerii din Irlanda au utilizat contactarea persoanelor - resursa ca formă de participare, comparativ cu 11% dintre români. În privința celorlalte forme de participare, răspunsurile tinerilor sunt relativ asemănătoare procentual. În ceea ce privește apartenența la diferite structuri, observăm că tinerii irlandezi tend să fie mai implicați în partidele politice (9% față de 6%); în schimb, tinerii români sunt mai prezenti în organizații non-guvernamentale, 25%, față de 18%, procentul tinerilor irlandezi.

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**10. Pentru care dintre urmatoarele cauze ati fi dispus sa participati la o actiune de protest: (selectati maxim trei raspunsuri)**

# Romania

a) Standing up for a denied right	19%
b) Corruption	19%
c) Jobs	15%
d) The right to education	19%
e) Improving hospital conditions	15%
f) Standing up against VAT increase	3%
g) Subsidies	1%
h) Protecting national treasures	9%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%
Other	1%

**10. Which of the following causes would determine you to participate in a demonstration? (select three answers)**

# Ireland

a) Standing up for a denied right	29%
b) Corruption	16%
c) Jobs	10%
d) The right to education	23%
e) Improving hospital conditions	11%
f) Standing up against VAT increase	2%
g) Subsidies	3%
h) Protecting national treasures	4%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	1%
Other	1%

**11. Ce activitati credeti ca ar trebui implementate in comunitatea dumneavostra?**

# Romania

a) Job fairs	13%
b) Clubs for free time	14%
c) Sports clubs	7%
d) Non-formal activities	24%
e) Concerts	1%
f) Debates for young people	26%
g) Newspaper for the youth/ info points	15%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%
Other	0%

**11. What activities do you think should be done for the youth in your town? (select three answers)**

# Ireland

a) Job fairs	18%
b) Clubs for free time	18%
c) Sports clubs	9%
d) Non-formal activities	14%
e) Concerts	12%
f) Debates for young people	14%
g) Newspaper for the youth/ info points	15%
z) Don't know/Don't answer	0%
Other	1%

Dupa cum reiese din tabelul de mai sus, sustinerea unui drept neacordat este o cauza esentiala care i-ar determina pe tineri sa ia parte la o demonstratie : 19% dintre cei romani si 29% dintre cei irlandezi cred ca drepturile omului sunt foarte importante. Privarea de dreptul la educatie este , de asemenea, o cauza importanta : 19% din romani si 23% din irlandezi pun accent pe acest drept. Coruptia reprezinta si ea una dintre cauzele majore care i-ar determina pe tineri sa participe la o demonstratie : Romania-19% si Irlanda 16%. Locurile de munca precum si Im bunatatirea conditiilor din spitale sunt cauze la fel de importante.

As we can see from the table above, standing up for a denied right is an essential cause that would determine youth to participate in a demonstration: 19% of Romanians and 29% of Irish believe that the human rights are very important. Denying the right to education is, as well, an important cause: 19% of Romanians and 23% of Irish insist on this right. The corruption also represents a major cause which can determine youth to participate in a demonstration: 19%, respectively 16%. Jobs and improving hospital conditions are important causes too.



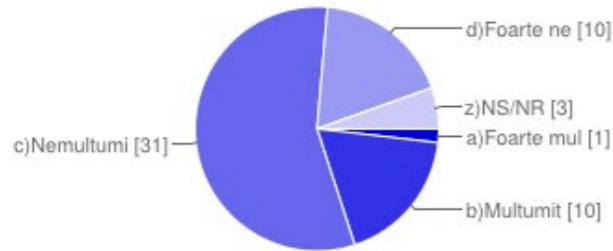
Organizarea targurilor locurilor de munca si petrecerea timpului liber in cadrul unui club care sa ofere activitati pentru tineri, au o pondere egala de 18% pentru tinerii irlandezi, si detin un procent de 13% si respectiv 14% pentru cei romani. Cele mai dorite activitati de catre tinerii din Romania sunt debaterile pentru tineri, 26%, acestia ducand lipsa si organizatii activitatilor non-formale, 24%, in timp ce irlandezii sustin intr-un procent de 14% fiecare dintre aceste doua activitati. 15% dintre respondentii din ambele tari cred ca ziarele si centrele de informare pentru tineri sunt activitati care ar trebui facute in orasele in care locuiesc.



Clubs for free time and job fairs hold an equal percentage of 18% for the Irish young people, and have a percent of 14, respectively 13 for Romanians. The main activity for youngsters from Romania is based on debates, 26%, and, at the same time ,there is a lack of non-formal activites through young people, 24%. Meanwhile, youth from Ireland favour this activities equally, 14%. Newspaper for the youth/ info points should also be done in their city: the percentage is same in both countries, 15%.

**12. In general, cat de multumit sau nemultumit sunteți de felul în care funcționează democratia în România?**

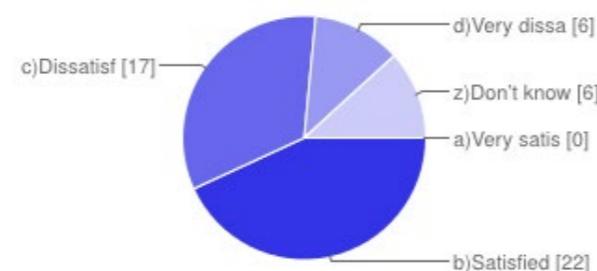
## Romania



a) Very satisfied	2%
b) Satisfied	18%
c) Dissatisfied	56%
d) Very dissatisfied	18%
z) Don't know/ Don't answer	5%

**12. In general how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in your country?**

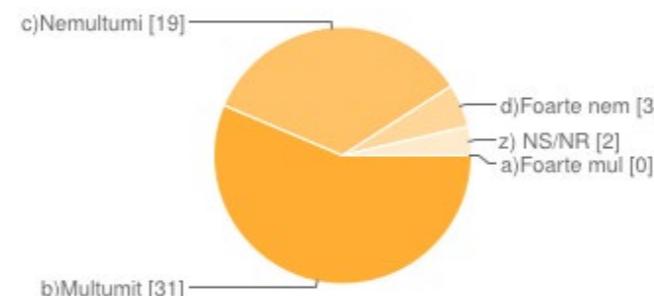
## Ireland



a) Very satisfied	0%
b) Satisfied	43%
c) Dissatisfied	33%
d) Very dissatisfied	12%
z) Don't know/ Don't answer	12%

**13. In general, cat de multumit sau nemultumit sunteți de felul în care funcționează democratia la nivelul Uniunii Europene?**

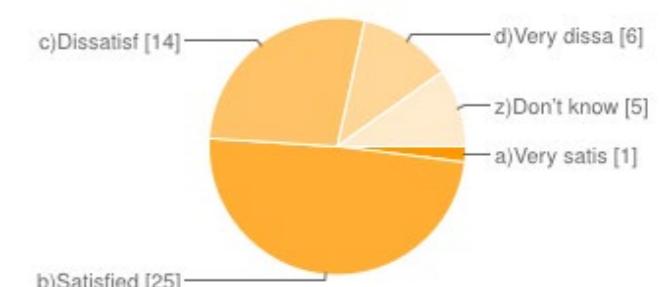
## Romania



a) Very satisfied	0%
b) Satisfied	56%
c) Dissatisfied	35%
d) Very dissatisfied	5%
z) Don't know/ Don't answer	4%

**13. In general how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in European Union?**

## Ireland



a) Very satisfied	2%
b) Satisfied	49%
c) Dissatisfied	27%
d) Very dissatisfied	12%
z) Don't know/ Don't answer	10%

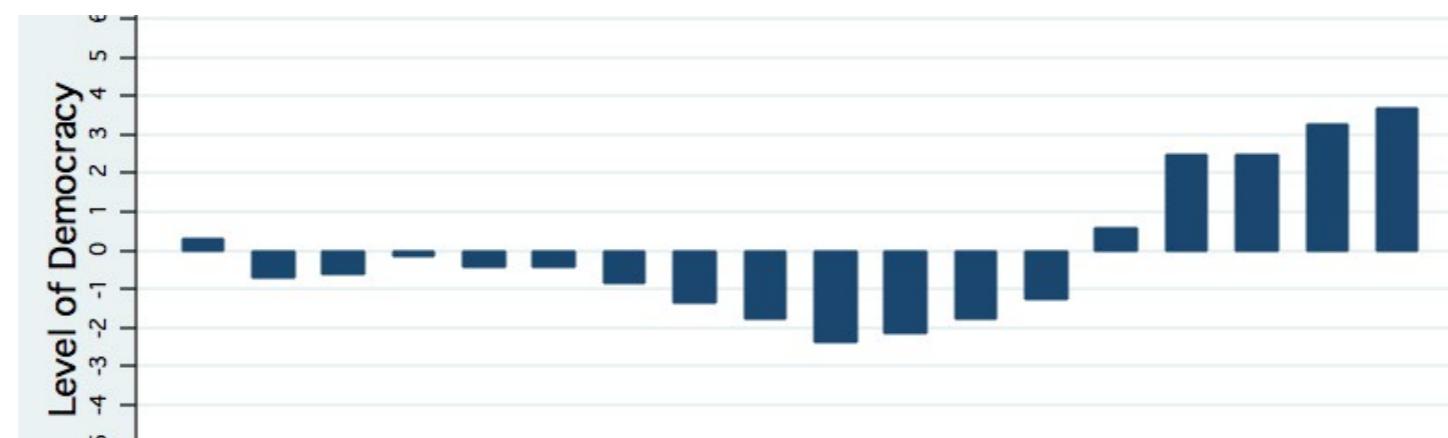
Tinerii din cele două comunități devin foarte critici atunci cand vine vorba de calitatea democratiei în țara în care trăiesc. Mai mult de jumătate dintre tinerii romani, 56%, și aproximativ o treime din cei irlandezi, 33%, se declară nesatisfacuti de modul în care se prezinta democratia în țara lor. Foarte nesatisfacuti de modul în care se prezinta democratia în țara lor sunt în procent de 18% romanii și 12% irlandezii.

In contrast cu romanii, care sunt satisfacuti într-un procent de 18%, tinerii irlandezi sunt în mare parte satisfacuti: 43%. Procentul celor foarte satisfacuti este unul mic în randul respondentilor romani, 2% și inexistent la irlandezi: 0%.

The young people from both of the communities become very critical when it comes to the quality of democracy in their country. More of the half of Romanians, 56%, and nearly a third of Irish, 33%, said they are dissatisfied with the democracy in their countries. Very dissatisfied are 18% of Romanians and 12% of Irish. By contrast with the people from Romania, who are 18% satisfied, the Irish are mostly satisfied: 43%. The percent of those very satisfied with the way democracy works in their country is very low at Romanians, 2% and it's missing at Irish 0%.

Tinerii tend să considere democratia de la nivelul Uniunii Europene mai buna decat cea din propria țară. Mai mult de jumătate dintre tinerii romani, 56%, și aproape o jumătate din cei irlandezi, 49%, se declară satisfacuti de modul în care se prezinta democratia în Uniunea Europeană. Chiar si asa, nici unul dintre respondentii romani nu este foarte satisfacut, iar procentul este scazut în randul irlandezilor : 2%. Un numar mare al tinerilor din cele două țari este nesatisfacut : 35% romanii și 27% irlandezii, iar foarte nesatisfacuti sunt în procent de 5% respondentii romani și 12% cei irlandezi.

There is a tendency among youth to consider the democracy in European Union better than in their own countries. A high number of participants, 56% in Romania and 59% in Ireland, are satisfied with the way democracy works in European Union. Even so, there is not any Romanian respondent who is very satisfied, and the percentage is small among the Irish, 2%. A big percent of people from both countries is dissatisfied, 35% in Romania and 27% in Ireland. 5% of Romanians and 12% of Irish young people are very dissatisfied with the way democracy works in European Union.





Education and Culture DG

‘Youth in Action’ Programme



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