

# EU-NET SURVEYS ANALYSIS



## Introduction

Surveys' Analysis gathers baseline information on situation, issues, and attitudes of youth work and youth workers in partner countries. Online surveys submitted at 105 youth workers in total:

- Spain: 26
- Italy: 25
- Greece: 28
- Germany: 26

The main aim is to conduct a research at local level. A series of questions related to the situation of the Youth Work in their own local and national realities with the objective of highlight the different skills, tools, good practices, national policies related to Youth Work.

**Activity Leading Organisation:** Asociación Intercultural Europea - Go Europe (Spain)

### Participating Organisations:

IDEA (Spain)  
Futuro Digitale (Italy)  
Inter Alia (Greece)  
Jugend-& Kulturprojekt E.V. (Germany)



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# 1. REPRESENTED ORGANISATIONS:

Youth Workers, who cooperated to the EU-NET Project by answering the Surveys, represent the following organisations from:

SPAIN		
Alfara del Patriarca Municipality	CIJ Alzira	IDEA (Alzira Municipality)
Alquas Municipality	CIPFP Luis Suñer Sanchis	IMCJB
Aras de los Olmos Municipality	Consell de la Joventut de València	Las Niñas del Tul
Asoiación Bokatas	Espai Jove del Puig (Youth Centre)	Pij Fundació Caixa Carlet
Carlet Municipality	Fundación ASINDOWN	REVE (Red de Ex-Voluntarios Europeos)
Chelva Municipality	Fundación Gestión y Participación Social	XERACION VALENCIA
Centro Juvenil Racó Jove Santa Pola (Youth Centre)	Go Europe	

*\*Freelancers as well*

ITALY		
ADV Iqbal Masih	Atelier Creativo Acciarito	La Gurfata
ASD Iulia	Cardiopoetica (informal group)	Live Artena
Associazione Culturale Onlus ICT Ad Dues Lauros	Comitato territoriale della Municipalità XII di Roma	Ossigeno per l'Informazione
Ass. Cult. Valle Giovane	Frosinone County	Polygonal
Associazione Volontari Il Cavallo Bianco	Il Sole Associazione	Sbandieratori dei Rioni di Cori

*\*Freelancers too*

GREECE		
Achaia Adult Education Institute	General Secretariat of Lifelong Learning	SCI-Hellas Ngo
Arcadia	Hellenic Youth Participation NGO	Solidarity Tracks NGO
Balkans Beyond Borders	Inter Alia	Synergy Flow NGO
CIVIS PLUS Ngo	KANE NGO	UNESCO Youth Club of Thessaloniki
Embassy of S. Germany in Athens	Kids in Action NGO	Youth in Advance 18+ NGO

Elix NGO	Ministry of Education	Youthnet Hellas
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\*Freelancers too

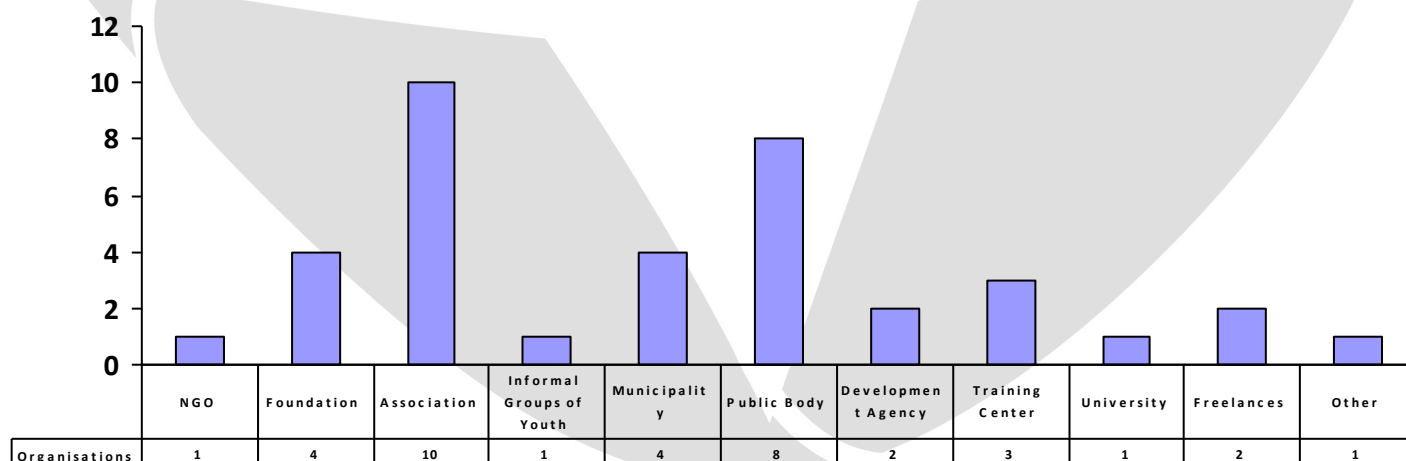
GERMANY		
AktivHof	Johannstädter Kulturtreff e.V.	riesa efau. Kultur Forum Dresden e.V.
Alte Feuerwache Loschwitz	Jugendverein „Roter Baum“ e.V.	Spike Dresden e.V.
artderkultur e.V.	Jugend- & Kulturprojekt e.V.	Stadtjugendring Dresden e.V.
AWO Dresden	Kukulida e.V.	Steinhaus e.V.
Caritas Dresden	kultur aktiv e.v.	TU Dresden
Deutsche Kinder- & Jugendstiftung	Projektschmiede gGmbH	Weltoffen e.V.
DRK Bildungswerk Sachsen	Quilombo “Eine Welt“- Verein & -Laden	

\*Freelancers too

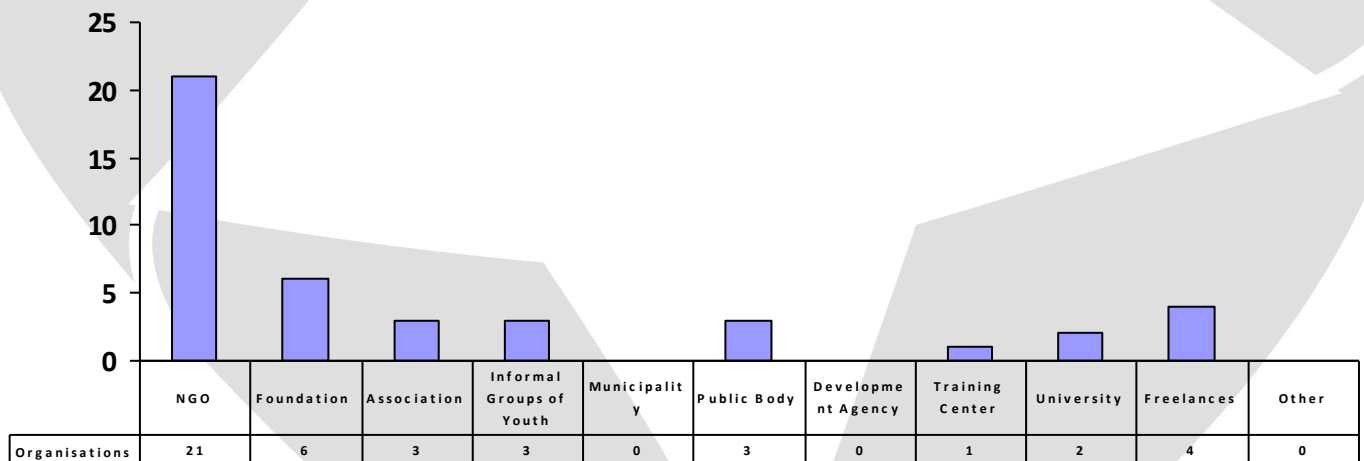
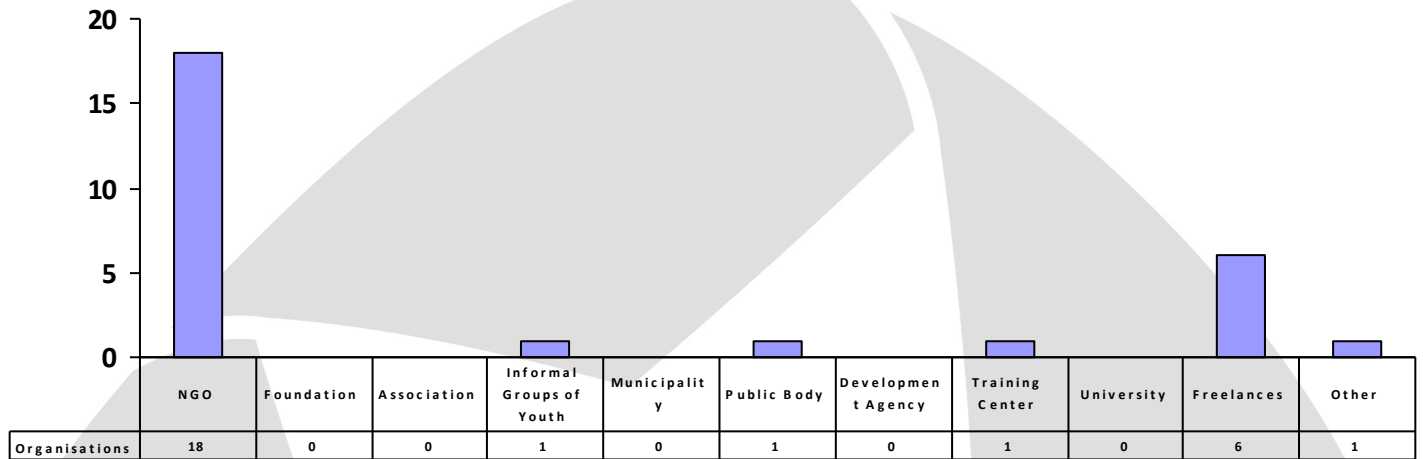
Mainly, represented organisations come from EU-NET participating countries Spain (25), Italy (25), Greece (26) and Germany (26) However, there are exceptions: 1 organisations Greek-American and 2 European.

## 2. TYPE OF ORGANISATIONS:

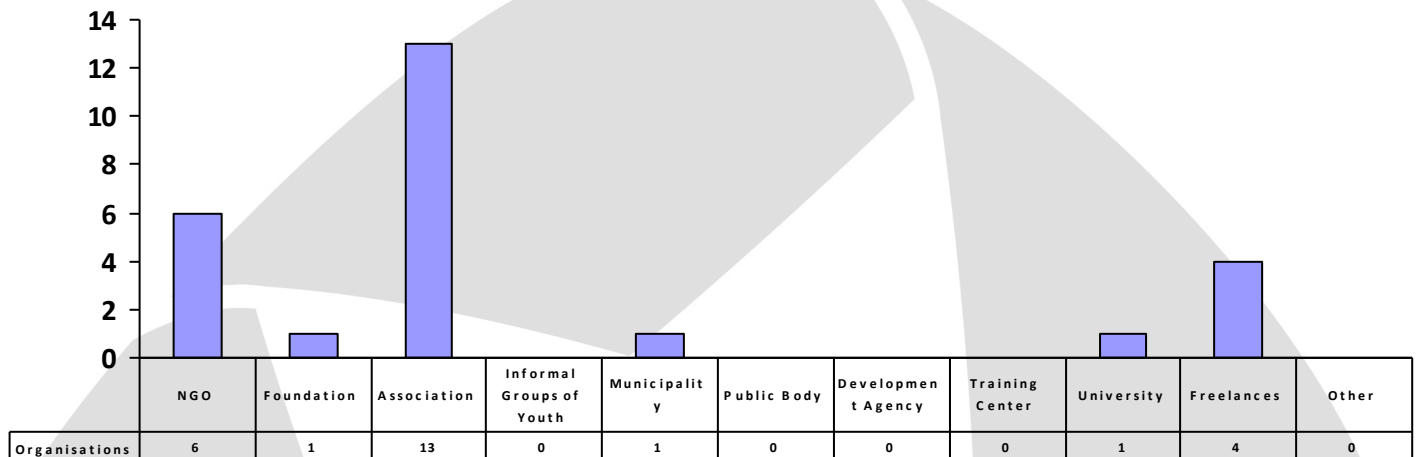
In Spain and Germany, surveyed youth workers work for or collaborate with Associations mainly; whereas in Italy and Greece do it with NGOs.



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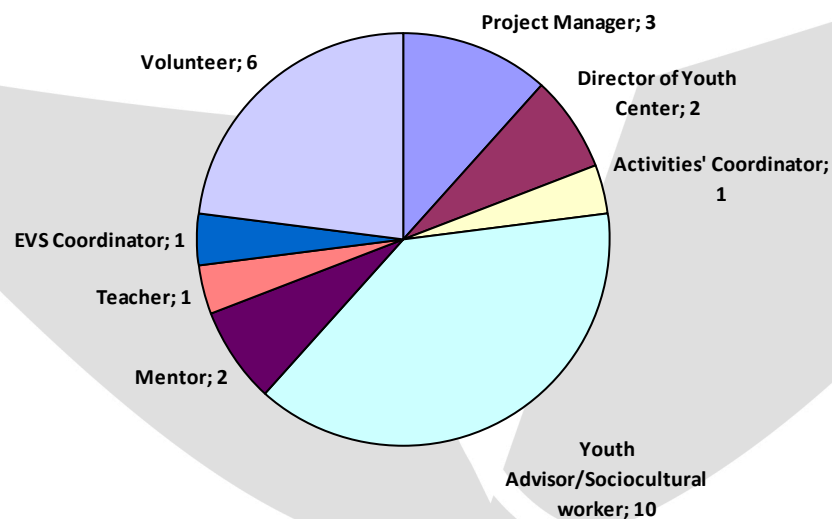


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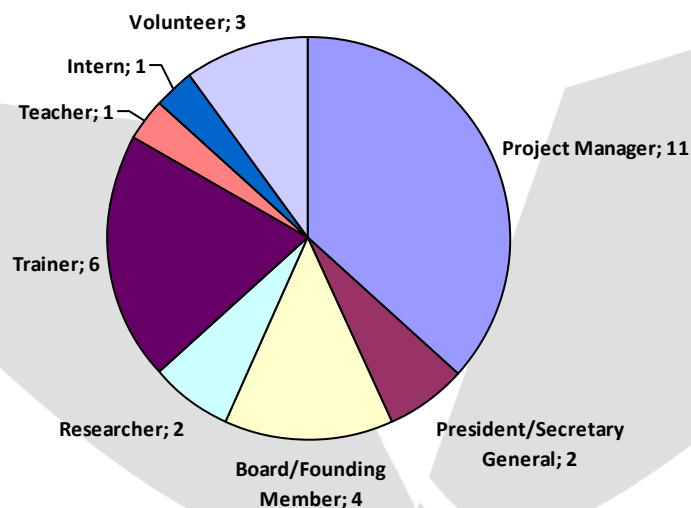
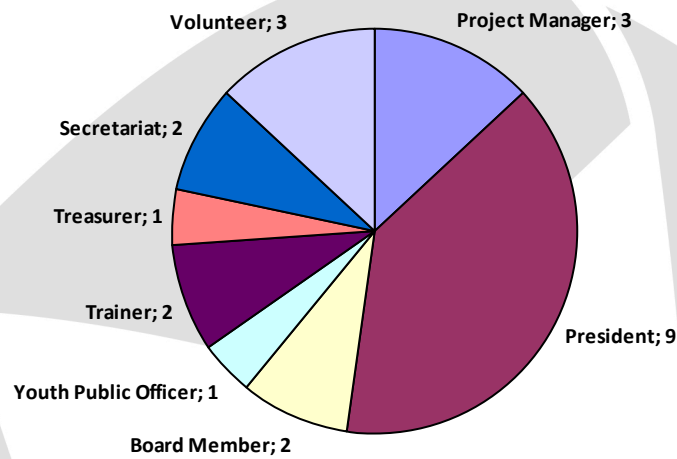


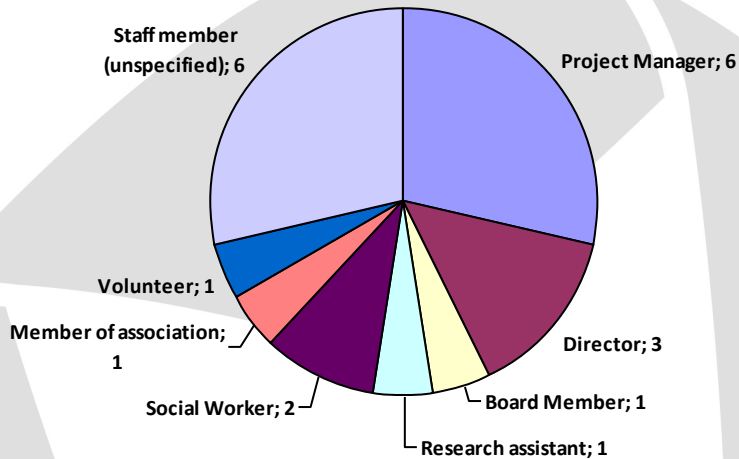
### 3. REPRESENTED ROLES/POSITIONS BY SURVEYED YOUTH WORKERS

There is a variety of roles, from volunteers to management positions. Notwithstanding, the represented size of roles differs among countries.



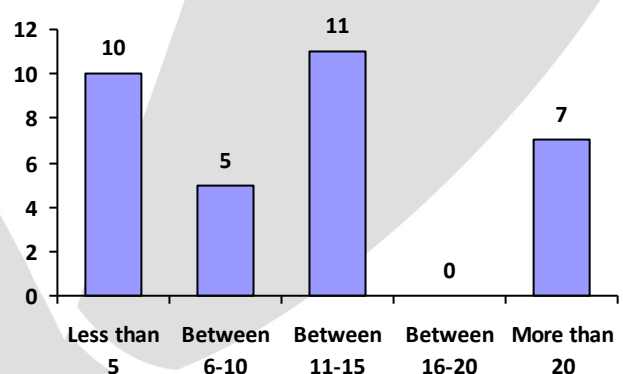
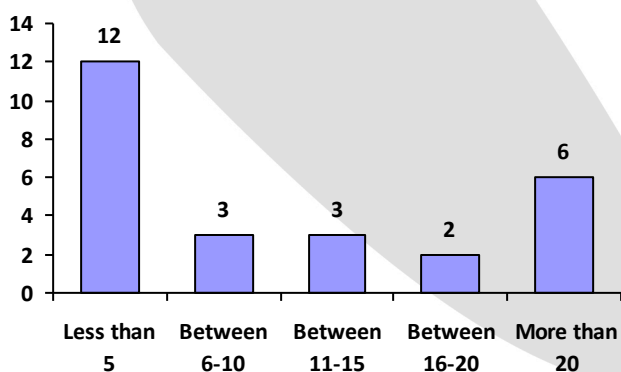
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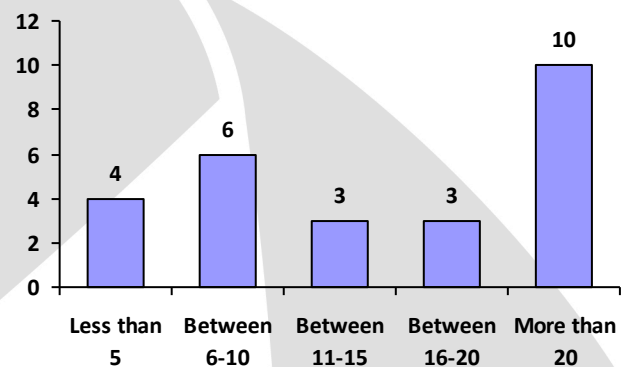
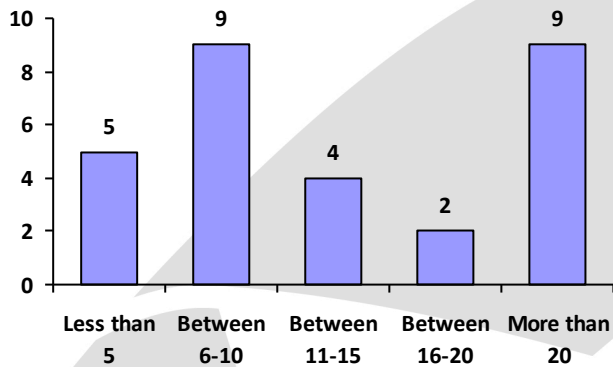




#### 4. SIZE OF ORGANISATIONS

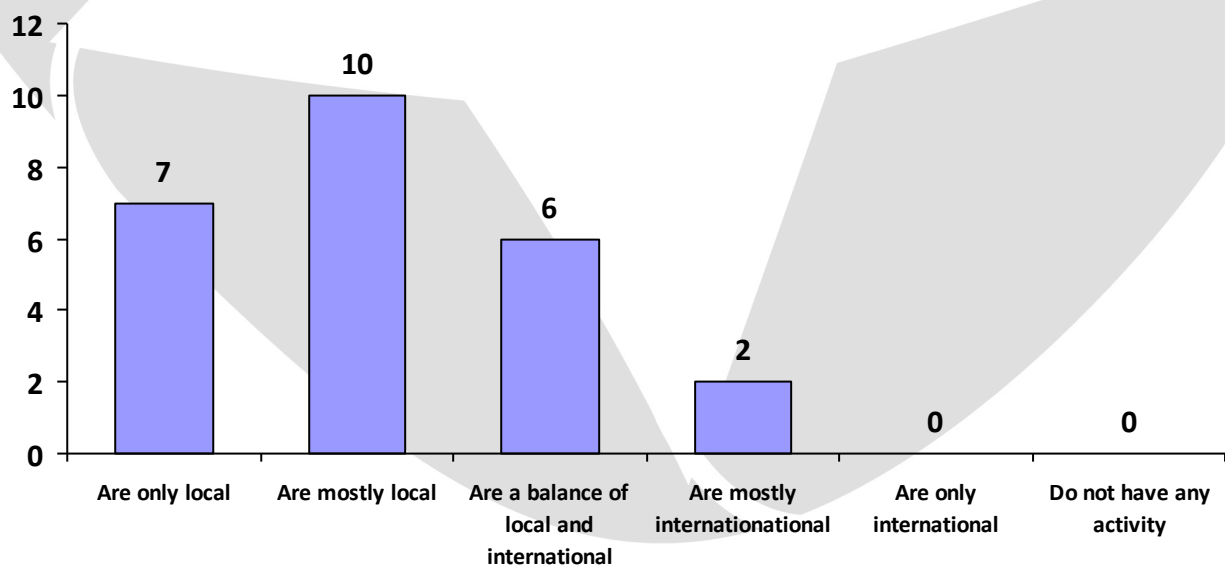
Regarding the number of employees/volunteers who are fully engaged in the organisation, represented organisations in Germany and Greece are bigger comparing to organisations from Italy and Spain.



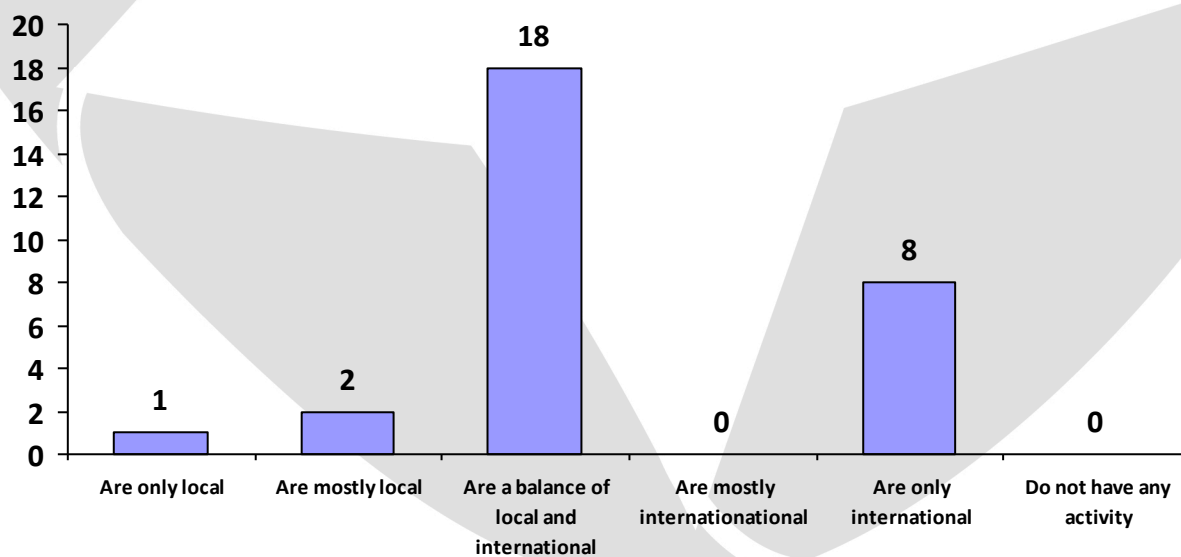
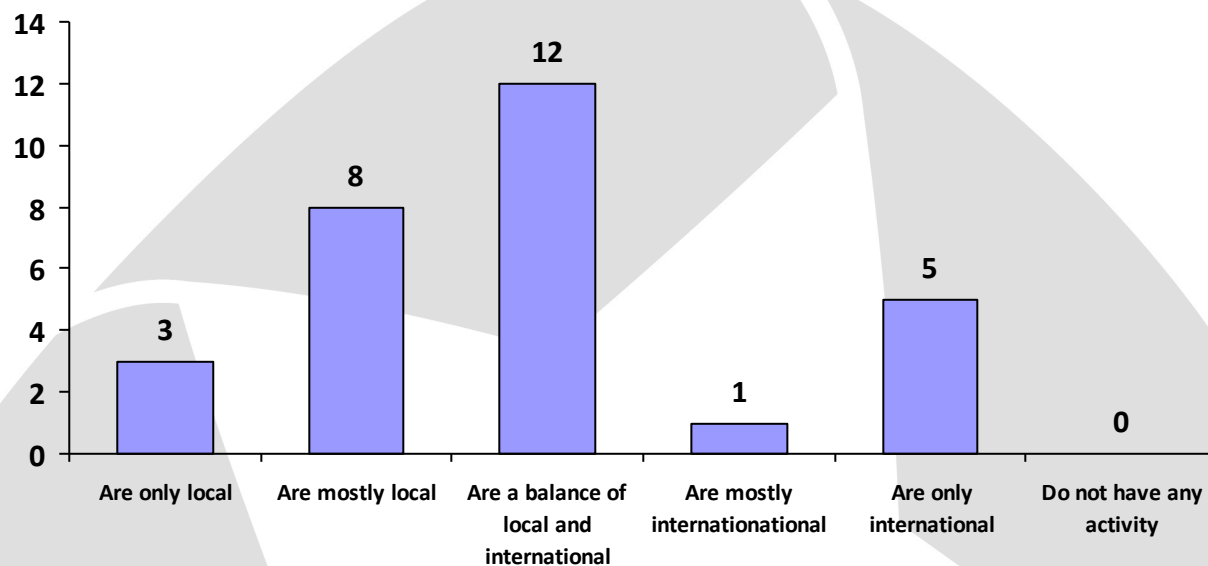


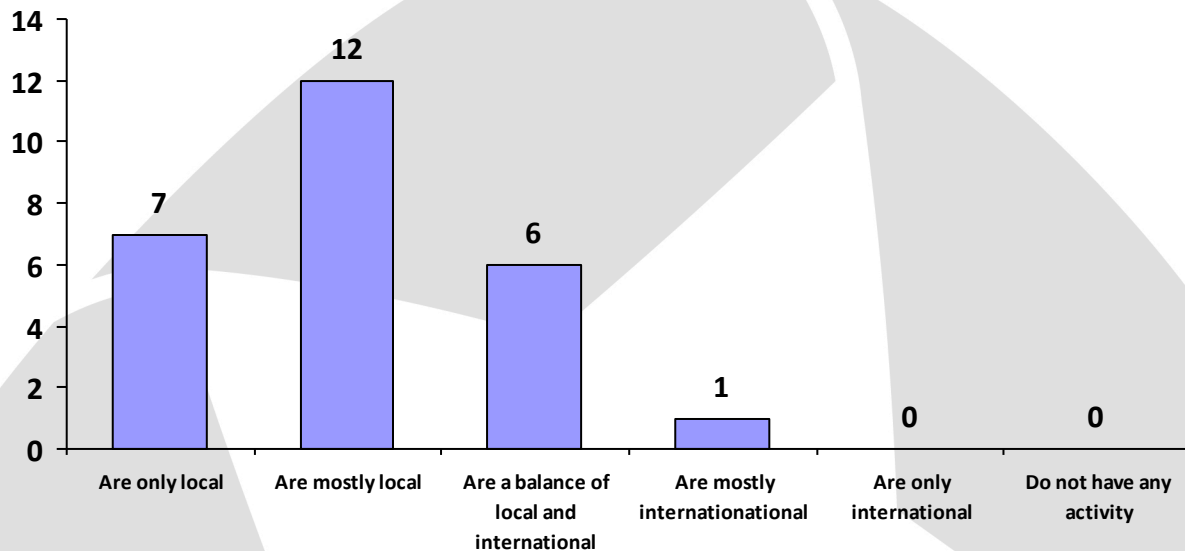
## 5. SCOPE OF ORGANISATIONS' ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES

In general, represented organisations develop actions/activities at local level, as well as a combination of local and international. In Greece and Italy, there is a remarkable increase of organisations that work only at international level.



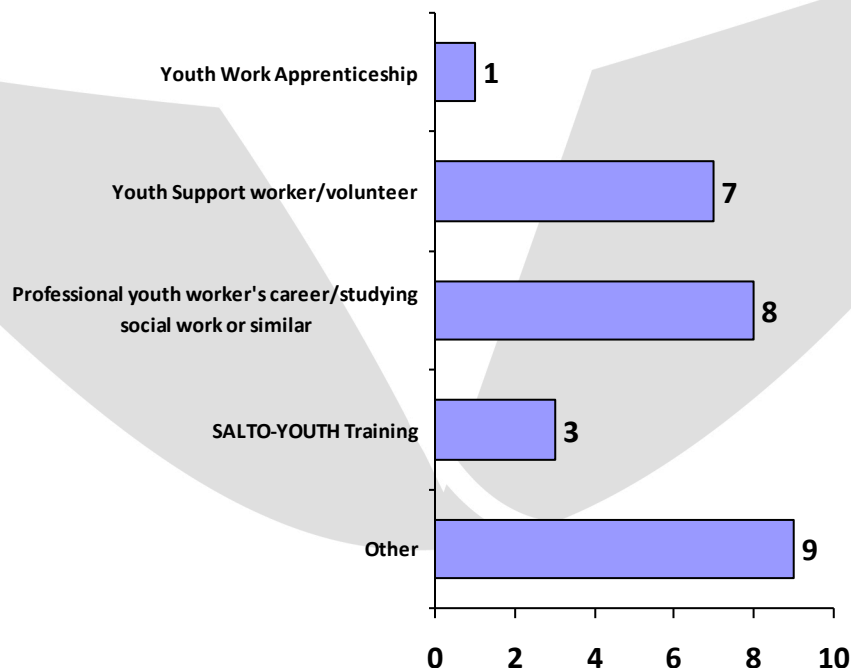


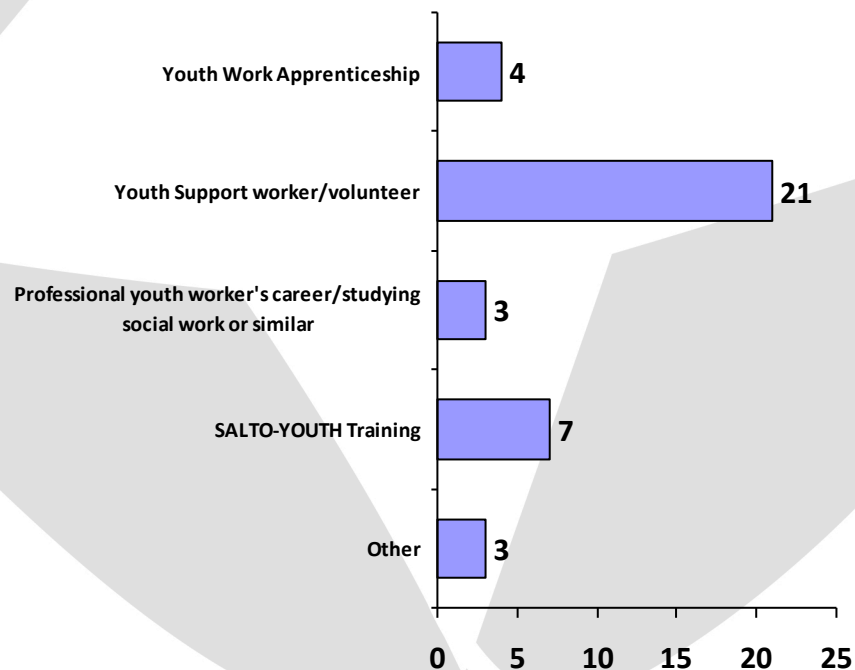
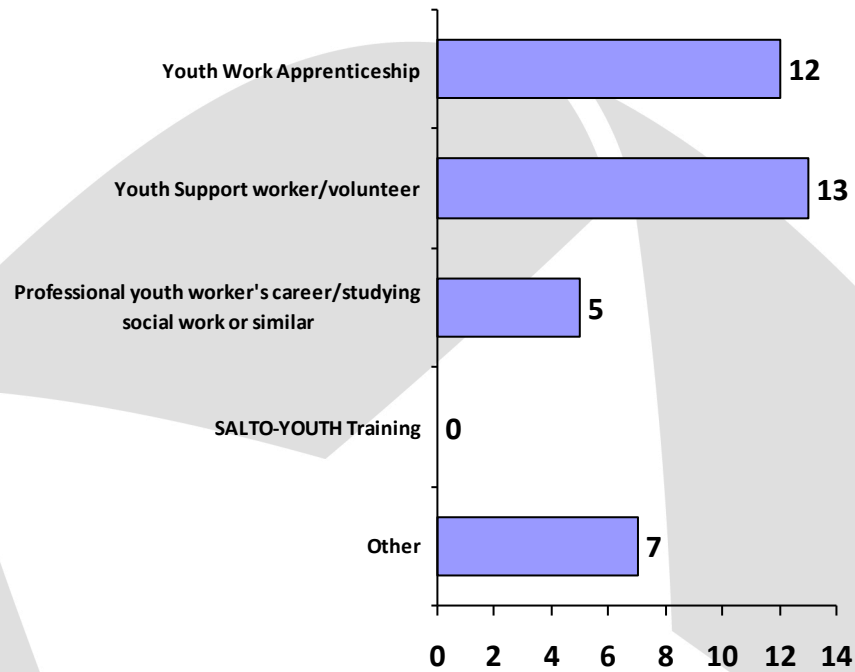


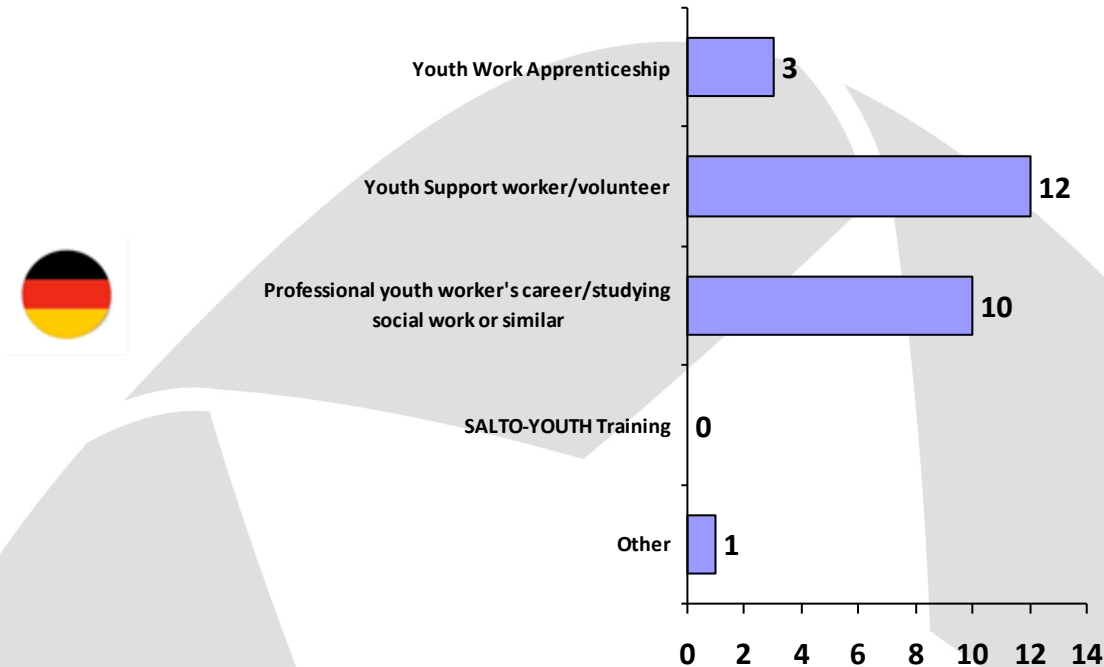


## 6. PATHWAYS TO BECOME YOUTH WORKER

In four countries, surveyed Youth Workers have mainly highlighted “passing youth support work or volunteering” as the way to become Youth Workers. “Others” encompasses ways such as making internships in Social Work, joining EVS projects or doing scouts trainings.



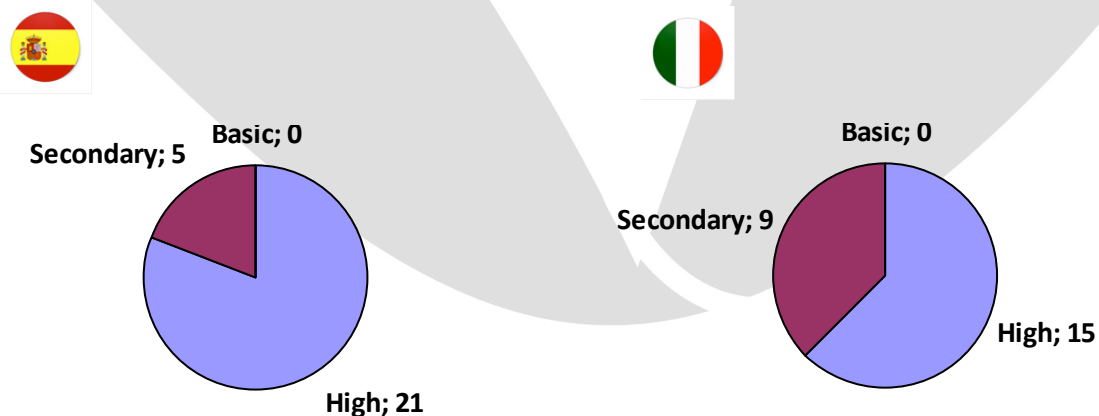


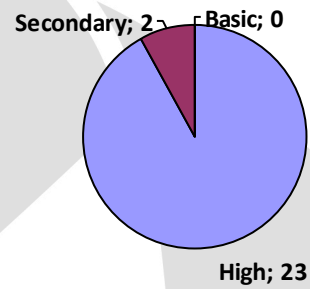
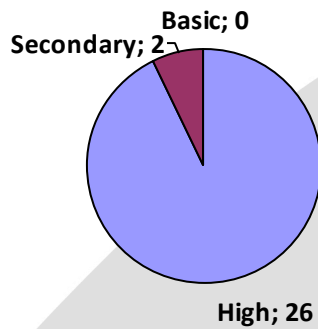


## 7. LEVEL OF STUDIES

In general, surveyed youth workers hold high-level diplomas such as bachelors and masters. In addition, educational background come from many different fields: Teaching, Business and Management, Psychology, Philology, Tourism, Journalist, Social Education, Social Work, Fine Arts, Anthropology, Political Science, International Relations, Marketing, Architecture, Pedagogy, Archaeology, Computing, Economics and Sociology.

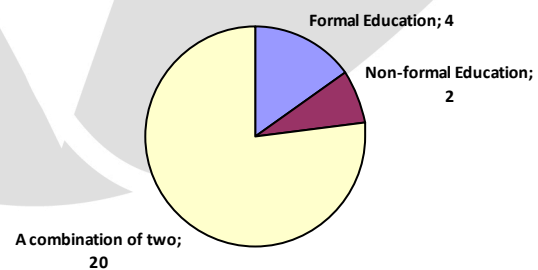
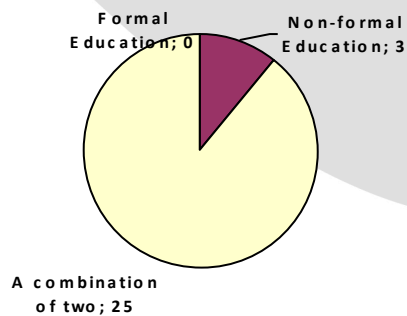
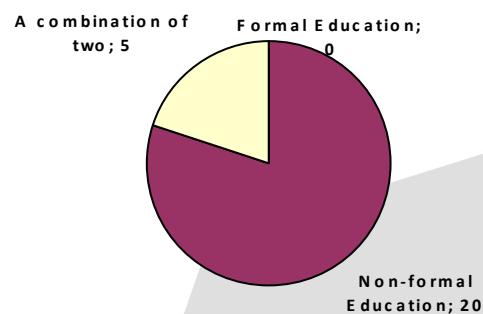
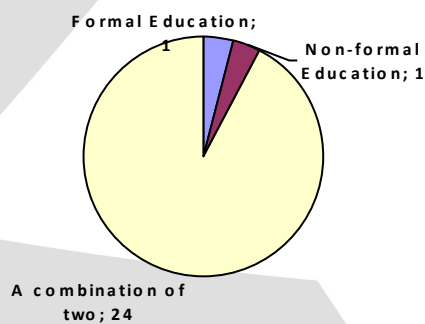
It is remarkable that 68% of surveyed Youth Workers in Germany come from Educational and Social fields (Pedagogy, Teaching, Social Work and Social Pedagogy), followed by surveyed Youth Workers in Spain (27%), Greece (12%) and Italy (8%)





## 8. PERCEPTION OF MEANS OF TRAINING TO BECOME YOUTH WORKER

In three countries, surveyed Youth Workers stated that a combination of formal and non-formal education is the best mean of training to become youth worker. However, in Italy they consider more important non-formal education than other ways.



## 9. DEFINITION OF YOUTH WORKER

According to many different definitions of “youth worker” made by surveyed Youth Workers in represented countries, we can encompass following definitions:



*A motivating person who provides counselling/orientation for young people and promotes youth activities of non-formal education to develop young people’s skills and to contribute to youth participation.*



*An enricher/promoter and dynamic actor that encourages youth potential and provides guidance for young people.*



*A person who contributes to personal, professional and social development of young people by enhancing their competences and providing advice/mentoring. Moreover, a person who promotes the empowerment of young people through non-formal education trainings and educational activities.*



*A person who develops and implements non-formal education methods to enhance personal and professional competences of young people, thereby becoming a supporter of young people and their affairs.*
















## 10. RECOMMENDATIONS TO BECOME A “YOUTH WORKER”



















Previous charts showed that it is very important to combine formal and non-formal education in order to have the necessary educational background to become youth worker. In four countries, surveyed youth workers highlighted that, apart from the combination of formal and non-formal education, practical experience is very important.

Hence, surveyed youth workers in represented countries stated that future Youth Workers ought to spend time doing activities such as volunteering or non-formal activities that entail international experiences.

# 11. RELEVANT COMPETENCES AND SKILLS OF YOUTH WORKERS

The tab below shows how surveyed Youth Workers rated the following key competences in Youth Work from (1) Not Important (2) Slightly Important (3) Moderately Important (4) Important, to (5) Very Important in Youth Work (the No. in the cell/s represents the actual number of surveyed youth workers that rated the specific competence from 1 to 5)



















		1	2	3	4	5
Cultural awareness				2	7	17
				3	3	19
				2	7	19
				3	8	15
Time management				5	15	6
				2	12	11
				7	9	10
				7	9	10
Effective communication with peers				2	11	12
				2	6	17
					7	20
			1	1	13	11
Communication in English			2	6	14	4
			2	8	8	6
			1	6	7	14



















		2	3	6	9	6
Communication in mother tongue			2	4	10	10
			1	2	5	17
			2	7	5	12
				1	5	20
Communication in another (additional) foreign language			6	14	4	2
			2	11	8	4
		1	6	12	7	2
		2		8	10	6
Sense of initiative			1	4	11	10
			1	3	8	13
		1		2	10	15
		1			9	17
Resourcefulness		1		3	10	11
			1	3	8	13
				3	6	18
				2	6	18
Teamwork and collaboration				1	7	18










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2016-3-ES02-KA205-008769

				2	3	20
					2	13
				1	4	21
Networking			1	3	11	11
				2	11	12
			1	2	9	16
				2	3	21
Mentoring			1	2	15	8
			1	5	11	8
		1	1	4	8	14
				2	9	15
ICT & Digital Competences			2	6	7	11
			2	4	14	5
			1	10	11	6
		7	3	3	10	3
Adaptability to a new environment				2	12	12
					8	17
			1	1	8	17

				1	9	16
Problem solving				1	7	18
				1	7	17
				1	9	18
					6	20
Critical thinking and observation				1	13	12
				1	5	19
			1	3	3	21
				3	7	16
Conflict resolution				1	8	17
			1	1	3	20
				3	5	20
			1		4	21
Creative and innovative thinking				4	7	15
				3	3	19
				2	8	18
			1	5	7	13
Learning to Learn			1	1	7	17

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2016-3-ES02-KA205-008769

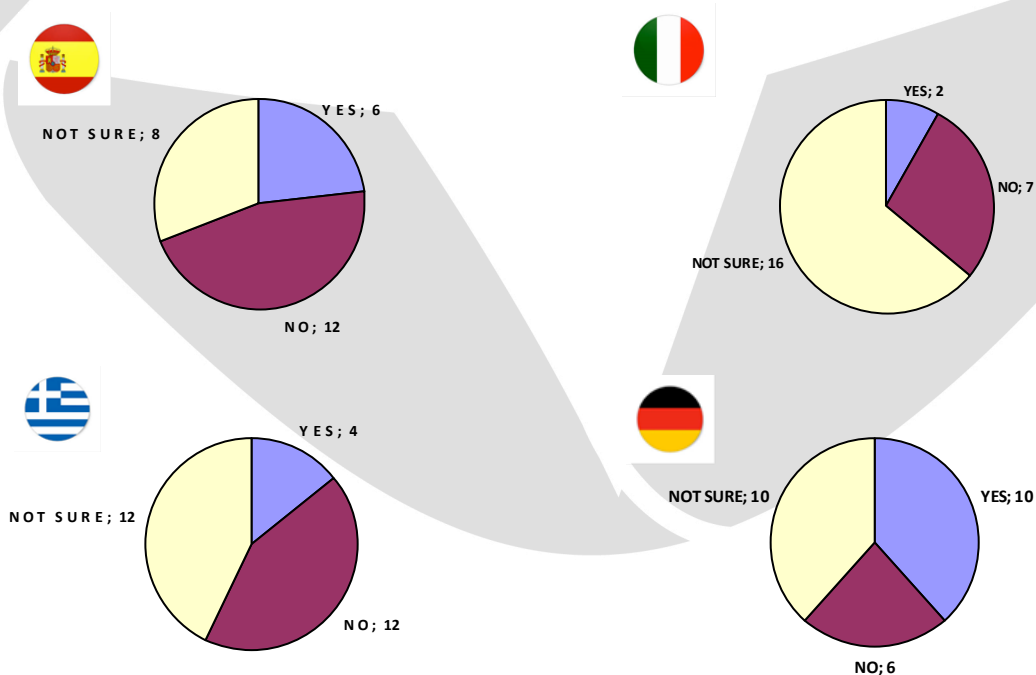
				1	10	14
				1	9	18
				1	5	20
Self'-reflection and ability for personal development				5	5	16
			1	1	7	16
					5	23
					6	20

Other highlighted competences: "love to travel", "empathy and listening ability", "concentration", "'less is more' attitude", "profundity", "big frustration tolerance", "'do it yourself' attitude", "being on time", "empowerment strategy", "motivation", "safety awareness"

## 12. AWARENESS OF A YOUTH STRATEGY AT NATIONAL LEVEL

In general, there is a perception of not having a youth strategy at national level. If not, surveyed youth workers are not sure about it.

Exceptionally, the awareness of having a youth strategy at national level is higher in Germany than in other represented countries.

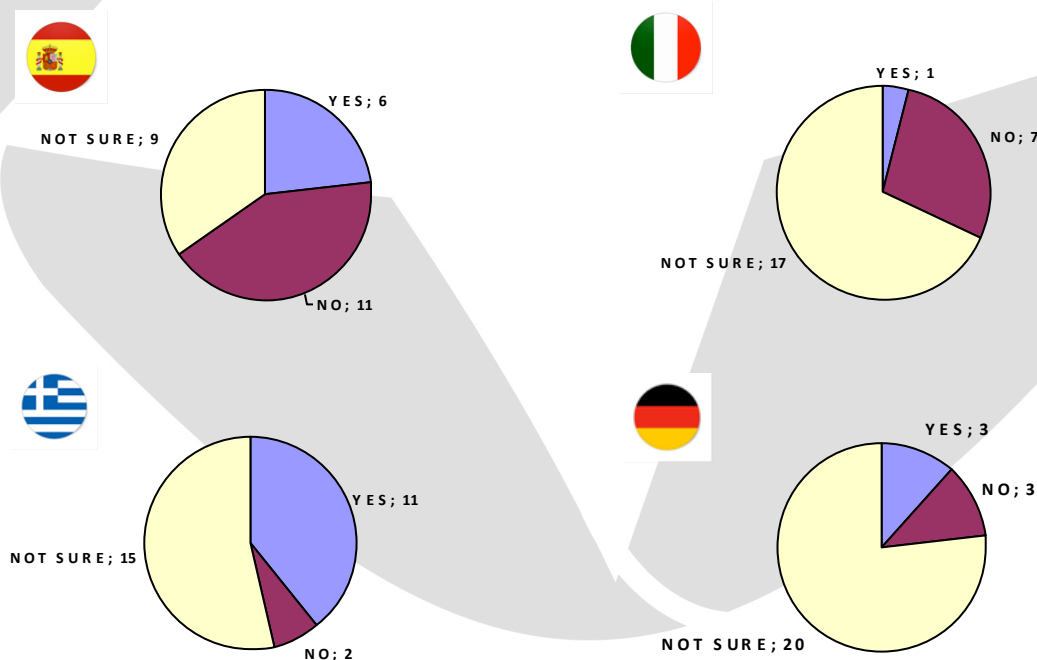


Surveyed Youth Workers, who were aware about national youth strategies, were asked to mention the ones they know.

- Spain
  - Aim to develop a recognition process by the Youth Institute to Andalusia (regional level)
- Greece
  - Pan-Hellenic Association of Youth Workers statute has been approved
  - New National Working Group on Structured Dialogue on Youth has been formed by the General Secretary of Youth and Lifelong Learning: We are under the process of defining a National Greek Strategy that will probably involve the official recognition of youth workers in Greece
- Germany
  - Country-wide structure for the recognition by youth associations
  - Based on the law (SGB 8), the local governments have the responsibility that the structures (professional and on voluntary level) are available based on the law
  - It shows in the many existent paid jobs in the field of youth work, which are spread all over the country
  - Strategy available, which supports the youth work in cultural institutions
  - Youth Welfare Service which has the task to support young people and their families with the help by public and private agencies of the youth work
  - Certificates of the universities especially for youth / social worker: "Staatliche Anerkennung"

### 13. AWARENESS OF A YOUTH STRATEGY AT EUROPEAN LEVEL

"I'm not sure" is the most repeated answer in four countries. However, the awareness of having a youth strategy at European level is higher than at national level.



Surveyed Youth Workers, who were aware about European youth strategies, were asked to mention the ones they know.

- Spain
  - European Training Strategy
- Italy
  - Erasmus+
  - EU Youth Strategy
- Greece
  - Erasmus+ and other EU funding opportunities
  - Europe Goes Local
  - EU Youth Strategy about Youth Work
  - 3rd European Youth Work Convention (Estonian Presidency Priorities for Youth: Smart youth work and youth volunteering)
  - European Solidarity Corps
- Germany
  - Erasmus+ Youth Pass
  - Aid money by the EU for the development of youth work
  - European Youth Strategy 2020

#### 14. RECOMMENDATIONS TO SUPPORT THE RECOGNITION OF YOUTH WORK AT NATIONAL AND EU LEVEL

There are many recommendations, although the most repeated ones in each country are underlined.



- More professional recognition of “Youth Work” and a specific academic career/diploma
- More awareness about European programmes that promote non-formal education among schools and high schools (formal sphere)
- Stronger links between youth work and formal education
- More recognition of volunteer social actions



- Official political recognition,
- Annual European meeting among youth workers,
- More information/communication among young people to take up the profession
- Facilitating the access to grants/funds for micro-organisations that do not have enough expertise



- Political reasons mainly hinder the processes
- Funding opportunities and attention paid differ on national level compared to EU level
- Gather all active youth and student NGOs and invite them to share their ideas on the matter
- Definition and official recognition of the term “youth work” in Greek
- Collaboration between organizations and responsible authorities for the official recognition and standardization of youth work
- Certification based on already existing models in Europe, from and beyond the universities (EOPPEP, Master’s programmes, Special seminars, Specific university departments. Consider the high amount of non-formally qualified youth workers in Greece that might have long experience
- Promotion of good practices and the necessity of the youth workers especially to state institutions, businesses and a series of other stakeholders who ignore the existence of the profession. The vast majority of training courses has limited recognition on national level and often is solely focused and recognised within the youth work community only
- Official recognition of volunteering work from the Ministry of Education and provision of social services



- Re-evaluation of the social sector and its importance in supporting young people and more financial support
- Generate Certificates for social organisations and social workers regarding non-formal education (e.g. via SALTO trainings with the help of ERASMUS+)
- To support sustainable projects regarding youth work which are followed-up instead of projects which don't have a continuity and a real social impact
- To invest more in youth as they are the future
- To establish one common EU-strategy for youth work, so that youth work is standardized in all EU-countries
- It needs more non-formal learning opportunities for a better career path
- Every youth worker should go abroad at least once per year in order to get to know youth workers from other EU-countries
- EU-strategies regarding youth work need to be better spread in social associations, youth centres and through social media