

Inclusion

What are the challenges young people are facing?

Ending discrimination and promoting of equality is widely accepted as a social goal for Europe. In general, young people within the consultation were supportive of this goal, so discussion focused on how this could be achieved and **how marginalised groups could be more effectively included within society**.

Here young people had concerns about **inequality of opportunity** for young people from marginalized groups, such as access to work opportunities, unequal social support and access to quality education. This was linked to **lack of effective social support overall**.

There were concerns about **direct discrimination, prejudice and hate crimes** - this was particularly raised when consultation occurred with young people within those groups such as young Roma or LGBTQI+ young people.

Young people were concerned about **segregation** between communities and groups. A lot of discussion focused on **integration of marginalised communities** into a multicultural society, particularly with regard to **migrants to the EU**. On the topic of migration, which often focused on refugee and asylum seekers, most young people in the consultation remained **supportive of the inclusion of migrants**. However, some were **concerned about the climate of fear** around migration, and the effectiveness of the EU in addressing **security concerns** and adopting an **effective approach to refugees and migration**.

What is young people's vision for the future?

According to young people in the consultation, the creation of a more inclusive society requires a **shift in attitude within society**, so marginalised groups feel a **sense of belonging** and there is an overall **greater tolerance, acceptance and reduced fear of difference**. An integrated multicultural society, which still preserves the cultural heritage of various groups was desired. Greater integration was said to require **more interaction between communities** on a social level, (particularly migrants and non-migrants) and marginalised young people having a greater role within culture, sports and civil society.

Young people desired **equalisation of opportunities within the labour market**, and **stronger political representation of marginalised groups and migrants**. Participants, also identified a need for **greater social support for marginalised young people**, so that all people have

an acceptable standard of living. This means improving support overall, but also **addressing specific needs**, such accessible transport for young people with disabilities.

What solutions did young people propose in the consultation?

Solutions suggested in the consultation included;

- **More inclusive education systems**, enabling marginalised groups better access to quality education and ensuring institutions embraced diversity.
- **Providing human rights education** or other forms of education focused on tolerance, awareness of other cultures and valuing diversity.
- **Promoting and improving the role of youth work and inclusion.** Providing more youth work opportunities for marginalised groups, collaboration between the youth sector and specialist provisions such as faith organisation or refugees centres, and encouraging more youth workers from diverse backgrounds,
- Developing **youth programmes that enable interaction and collaboration between different groups.** To encourage community cohesion, tolerance and understanding of diversity.
- Developing **dedicated participation tools and strategies for marginalised groups.** Such as migrant representatives in youth councils, dedicated forums for young people who are marginalised, and promoting political representatives from marginalised backgrounds.
- **Improving social support for marginalised groups** - e.g. housing, healthcare, counselling, and **financial support** such as scholarships or transport passes.
- **Improving equal access to the labour market**, by providing more support for marginalised groups or immigrants and ending discriminatory practices.
- **Improving legal protections** against discrimination, hate crime and violence.
- **Media and information campaigns** to promote equality, tolerance and diversity.

- **Specific measures for individual groups**, such as recognition of same sex marriage, language course for migrants, and developing transport that is accessible for young people with disabilities.

The Survey Data

How important is this issue to young people?

This issue ranks high among the priorities, as rated by the young people when it comes to young women and marginalized groups but lists as last but one when it comes to young migrants. It has been measured by three separate items: item focusing on gender equality per se ranked first among priorities of the young people; item focusing on marginalized communities ranked fifth as rated by young people; and item focusing on young migrants comes eighteenth.

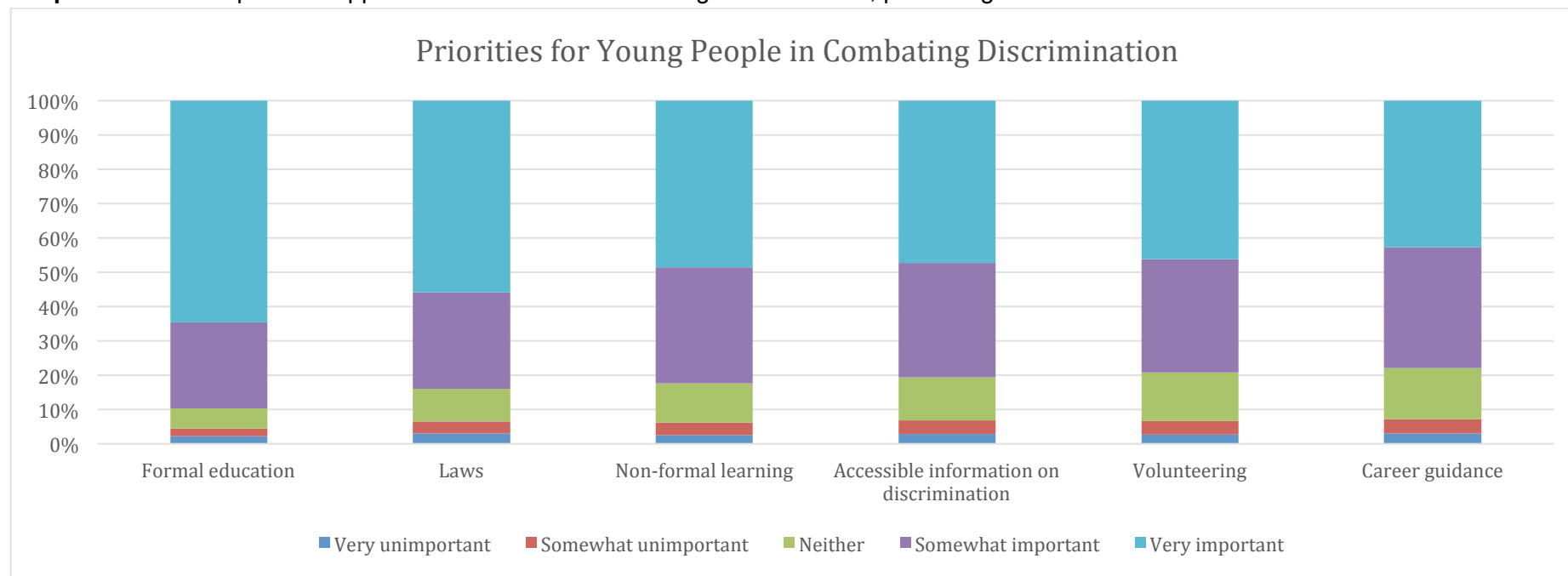
What are the priorities for young people?

Inclusion has been one of the topics of the national consultations, namely focusing on young girls and women and generally on marginalized communities.¹ General analysis shown in the graph below suggests that the young people believe more stress should be put on the topic of gender equality mainly in schools, with law changes where appropriate, and an attention from the non-formal learning sector as well. At the same time, average scores are rather similar for all support mechanisms, which suggests that the young people would welcome a wide variety of support in this matter.

Detailed analysis in the graph below confirm the finding stated above, that the young people's preferences in this area are more towards a wider palette of support mechanisms, than towards any particular set; with a preference on schooling, support in laws, and non-formal learning.

¹ The item read: „ How important do you think the following steps are in order to combat discrimination (e.g. to help the young girls and women to be able to fully participate in labour market, to enable marginalized groups to participate in community life, etc.)?”

Graph: The most important support mechanisms for combating discrimination; percentages.

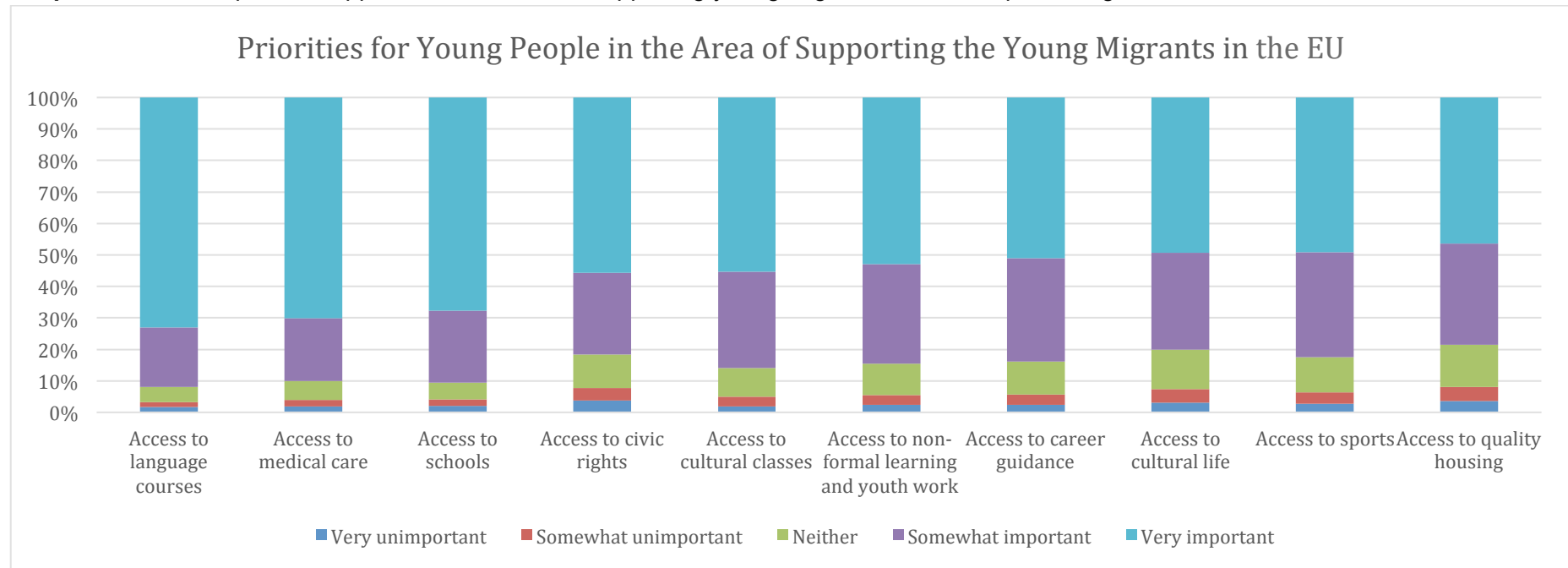


In this respect, young people feel the whole range of the suggested mechanisms is needed in order to support young migrants coming to the EU.² It is obvious, that rather high average scores in basic support systems, such as language education, or medical care, mirror the view of the young people to provide the young migrants with the means to become active society members as soon as possible. Noteworthy is the importance the young people put on the non-formal learning and youth work, which in their view comes before other activities connected to leisure time spending, such as sports or cultural life in general.

Detailed analysis brings forward the importance the young respondents put on three basic needs of young migrants: language education, access to medical care, and access to schooling. All other support systems are stressed as well but come with a visible distance from the first three.

² The item read: “How important do you think access to the following areas is in supporting the young migrants in the EU (e.g. to help the young migrants to settle down and become part of the community, etc.)?”

Graph: The most important support mechanisms for supporting young migrants in the EU; percentages.



Where does this report come from?

This report is based on responses to consultation question ‘*What can be done to enable young people from marginalized backgrounds to fully participate in society?*’ and ‘*What would enable young girls and women to overcome discrimination and inequality?*’ and ‘*How could the EU support young migrants who come to the EU countries?*’. These questions were developed from harvesting tools submitted at the first conference. The Education and Employment reports also discuss aspects of inclusion, and these have been taken into account.