



Prism Research & Consulting d.o.o.

Socio-economic Perceptions Of Young People In Bosnia And Herzegovina



This project is funded
by the European Union



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Resilient nations.*

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ACRONYMS

BiH – Bosnia and Herzegovina

FBiH – Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

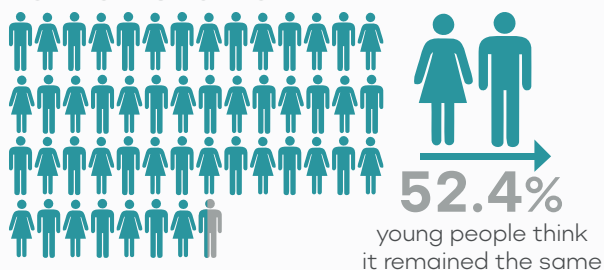
RS – Republic of Srpska

BD – Brčko district

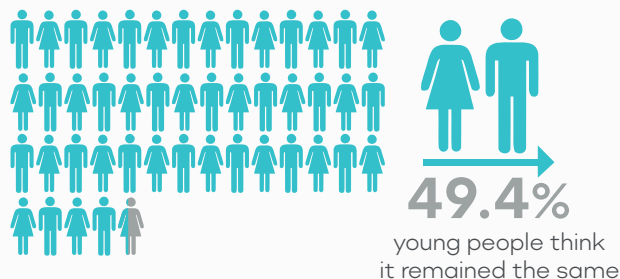
CG – Montenegro

EU – European Union

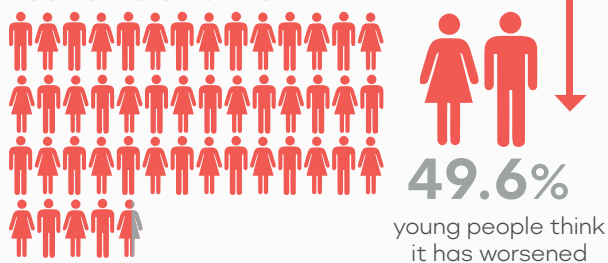
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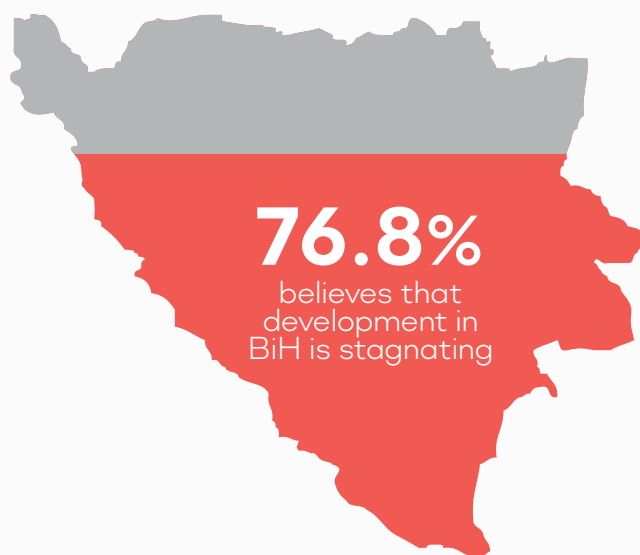
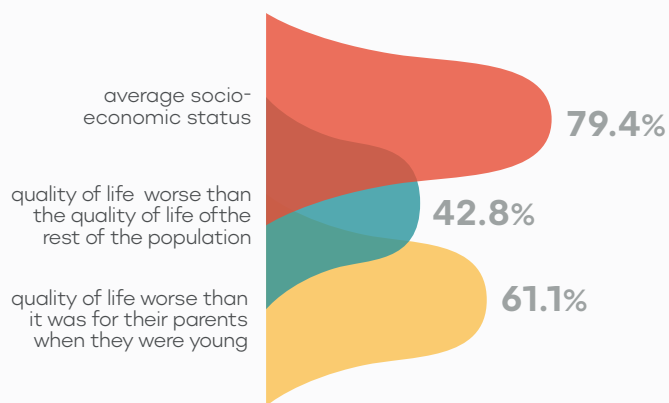
SOCIAL SITUATION*



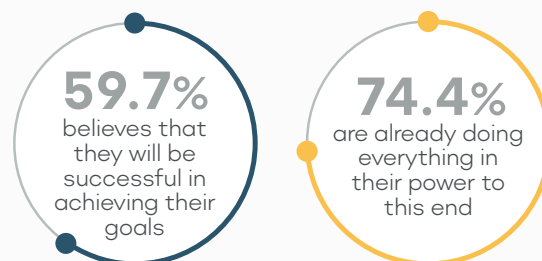
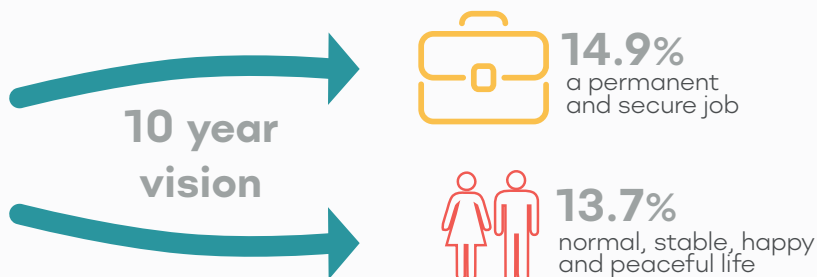
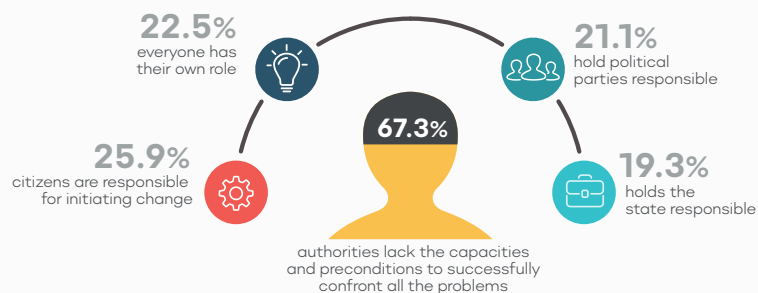
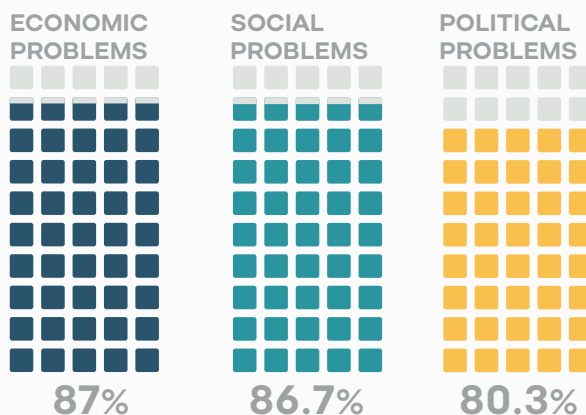
ECONOMIC SITUATION*



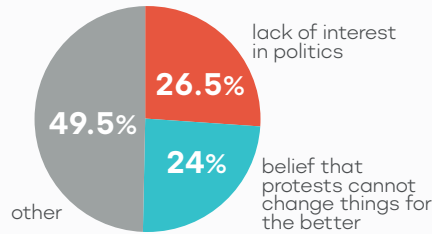
* in the past two years



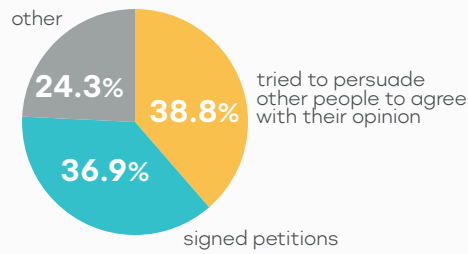
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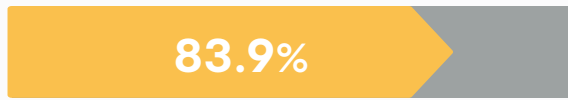
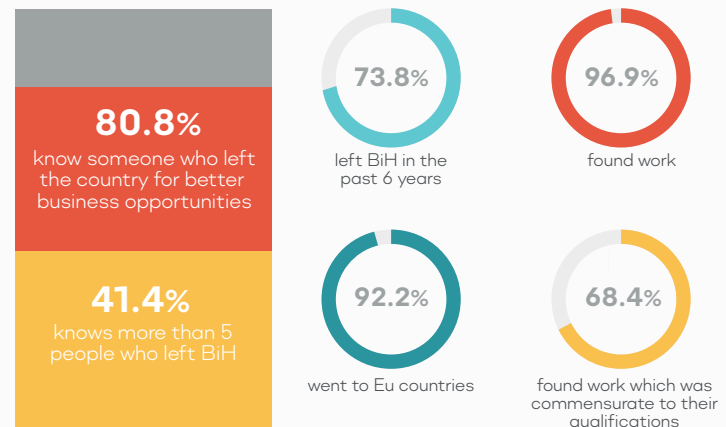
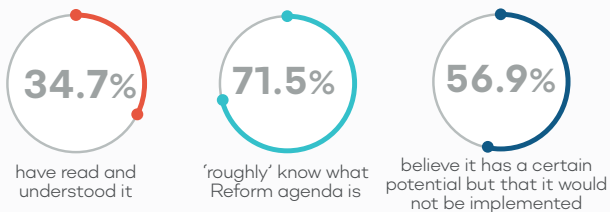
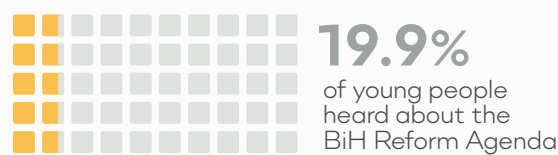
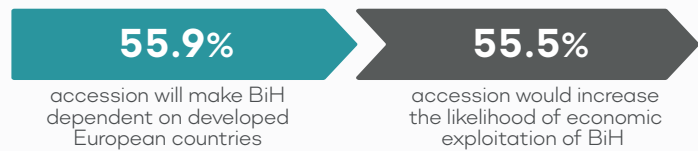
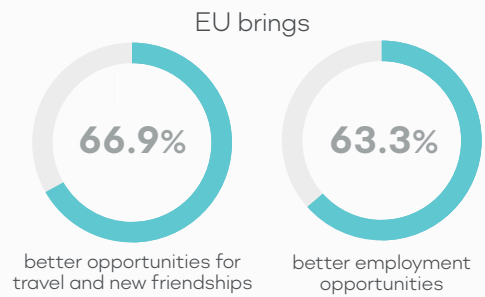
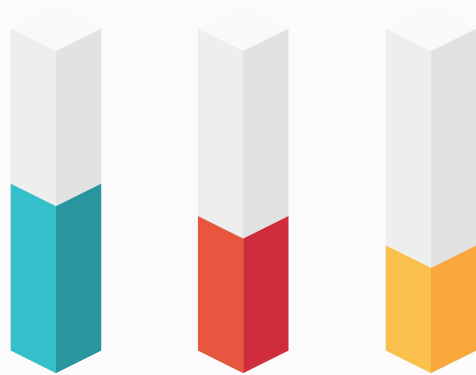
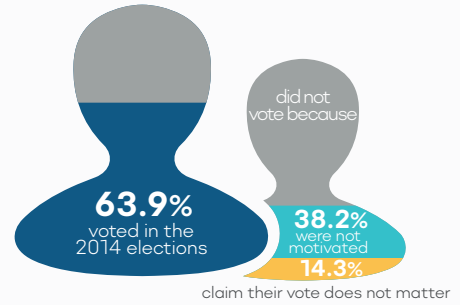
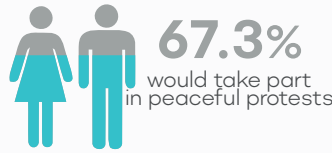
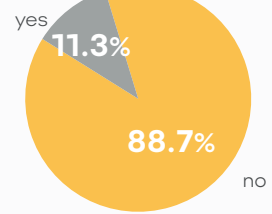
Reasons for not participating



Public activities participation



Activities aimed at strengthening cooperation with the youth from other countries



young people mostly or fully agree that regional cooperation can contribute to an improvement of the political, economic and security situation



Vast majority of respondents never, or almost never, felt discriminated on the basis of gender, religion, ethnic affiliation or some other characteristic

SUMMARY

A high percentage of young people in BiH think that the political (52,4%) and social (49.4%) situation have remained the same as two years ago and that the economic situation has worsened (49.6%). In general, most respondents also believe that development in BiH is stagnating (76.8%). At the same time, respondents do not think that the authorities in BiH deal with the country's economic (87%), social (86.8%) and political (80.3%) problems in an adequate manner. Two-thirds of young people (67.3%) believe that the authorities lack the capacities and preconditions to successfully confront all the problems that the country is facing. On the other hand, they think that citizens themselves are most responsible for initiating change (25.9%) and that, individually, everyone has his or her own role and nobody should be exempted from responsibility (22.5%). They also hold responsible political parties (21.1%) and the state (19.3%).

The majority of young people assessed their current socio-economic status as average (79.4%), but at the same time they think that the quality of life for young people is worse than the quality of life of the rest of the population (42.8%). Moreover, most young people (61.1%) think that quality of their lives is worse than it was for their parents when they were young. Over the next 10 years, young people most desire a permanent and secure job (14.9%) and normal, stable, happy and peaceful life (13.7%). A majority (59.7%) believes that they will be successful in achieving manage to make their wishes come true, while three-quarters (74.4%) state that they are already doing everything in their power to this end.

Over the course of the past year some young people faced problems with covering the cost of basic life necessities, such as paying rent or utility bills (12.3%) while nearly one-third of young people (31.5%) could not afford a one week vacation trip away from home.

Out of all above-mentioned items and values that they considered either modern or old-fashioned, young people most often believe that it is modern to look good (85%) and wear branded clothes (81.3%) while the values like faithfulness to your partner (44.3%) and drug (ab)use (44%) were mentioned the least. The most important values for young people are personal dignity (19.8%), fairness and equality before the law (16.8%) and combativeness in achieving goals (15.3%).

Young people find most stated problems very alarming, most salient being unemployment, which 87.3% of young people consider to be an extremely alarming problem as well as the increase in poverty (81.9%) and uncertainty of employment (79.6%). Young people hold politicians (29.7%) and authorities (29.1%) most responsible for this state of affairs.

Very few young people (13.8%) took part in volunteering activities in the last 12 months, and most of those who did worked on charity, humanitarian and development efforts (27.7%).

Around two-thirds of the young people questioned (67.3%) state that they would take part in peaceful protests for the goals they care for. Those who stated that they would not participate claimed the lack of interest in politics as the primary reason (26.5%), as well as the belief that protests cannot change things for the better (24%). A relatively low share of young people state that they participated in

certain forms of public activities. If they did, they mostly mention that they tried to persuade other people to agree with their opinion (38.8%) or that they signed petitions (36.9%).

Most young people (88.7%) did not participate in any kind of activities aimed at strengthening cooperation with the youth from other countries during the last 12 months.

Less than two-thirds of survey respondents (63.9%) stated that they voted in the 2014 elections and they mostly did that as a part of civic responsibility (70.7%). Those who did not vote claimed that they were not motivated to vote (38.2%) and that their vote did not matter (14.3%). A similar percentage of young people stated their intention to vote in the next elections in October 2016 (64.3%). A majority of participants did not want to respond to the question for whom they intend to vote (55.2%) and those who did most often stated that they intended to vote for one of the ruling parties. They think that increased employment opportunities (17.5%) and young and educated political candidates (11.8%) could entice young people to take an increased part in the elections.

Young people primarily expect better business opportunities (44.3%) and an increase of national income (28.9%) from the authorities. However, most young people believe that their vote has no influence on governance either on the state (51.2%) or on the local (44.9%) level. In addition, many young people (45.1%) stated that they felt only somewhat or not at all represented by the young people currently active in politics (33.5%).

The majority of young people (60.8%) totally or mostly support BiH EU accession and they believe that EU accession will bring better opportunities for travel and new friendships (66.9%), as well as better employment opportunities (63.3%). Regarding negative consequences of joining the EU, most young people completely or mostly agree that EU accession will make BiH dependent on developed European countries (55.9%) and it would increase the likelihood of economic exploitation of BiH (55.5%).

Only 19.9% of young people responded that they heard about the BiH Reform Agenda, with 34.7% of those stating that they read and understood it, while 71.5% of respondents who heard about it claimed that they 'roughly' knew what the Reform Agenda was. Most young people believe that the Reform Agenda has a certain potential but that it would not be implemented by the leading politicians (56.9%).

83.9% of young people mostly or fully agree that regional cooperation can contribute to an improvement of the political, economic and security situation.

Most young people stated that they were employed (23.2%), students (22.4%) or pupils (19.3%). Employed young people mostly did not need to change their vocations to get their current jobs (66.2%). Approximately half of the respondents (47.5%) stated that they were satisfied with their salaries while an equal number of young people (47.2%) were dissatisfied with their pay, with 11.5% believing that variations in their salaries were due to their gender (male and female respondents equally). 59.1% of young people responded that they can afford some social activities, such as travel or going out. Young people believe that a reasonable salary for a person of their age is 896 BAM. More than half of young people (55.7%) state that their income is bigger than the income of one of their parents.

Unemployed survey respondents most often mention the lack of employment prospects (39.6%) and the fact that they are too young (12.6) as the main reasons for unemployment. Around half of unemployed respondents (50.4%) are not actively looking for work, which is most likely caused by the fact that they are still in school. 56% of those actively looking for work stated that they applied between 1 and 10 times. 47.1% of young people stated that they would be ready to move to the other entity in order to find a better job, while a smaller number (25%) state that they are actively searching for work abroad.

Young people say that people of their age most often make a living by working for others (69.3%) and only 9.4% by running private businesses. With regards to finding a job, their main concerns are the inability of finding a stable job (38.8%) and the salary level (29.4%). Most young people have unsatisfactory experience with employment bureaus. Just 9.6% responded that they found work through employment bureaus, and only 33.3% mentioned even hearing about anyone finding a job through this particular channel.

A relatively high percentage of young people state that they would pay for a safe job (44.9%) or that they would use their parents' contacts in order to secure a job (60.1%). Moreover, they themselves would use their personal connections to secure a job for a friend (59.3%).

The majority of respondents stated that they never thought about starting their own businesses (48.9%) and more than a third (37.3%) believed that starting a business would probably fail, regardless of the size of the business. Still, 45.3% of respondents claimed that they knew at least one person who successfully started their own business.

80.8% of respondents stated that they knew someone of their age who left the country for better business opportunities abroad and as many as 41.4% of respondents declared that they knew more than 5 people who had left BiH for the same reason. The great majority of people that they know left BiH in the last six years (73.8%) and for the most part they went to EU countries (92.2%). Almost all (96.6%) managed to find work which was, in most cases commensurate to their qualifications (68.4%).

In the past 12 months, 20% to 35% of young people encountered informal procedures such as handing out bribes or exchange of favors in various situations related to public service or getting a job. Although most of the statements provided were met with disapproval, some respondents admitted that, if necessary, they would pay to secure enrollment into a university of their preference (26.5%) while as many respondents noted that they did not believe that the quality of education mattered as much as receiving a degree (26.2%).

A large majority of respondents professed that they would report a corruption case, but a significant number respondents admitted that they would avoid reporting such a case (17.5%) or at least that they would not report it in all cases, depending on the case (23.3%), while 10.1% would not know to whom and where to file such a report.

A vast majority of respondents never, or almost never, felt discriminated on the basis of gender, religion, ethnic affiliation or some other characteristic.

INTRODUCTION

The Prism Research & Consulting, marketing, media and social research agency conducted during September 2016 quantitative survey in the course of which data was collected from 1200 respondents aged between 15 and 30.

The goals of this survey were to examine the attitudes and opinions of young people regarding employment and work, economic, social, and political situation, and other forms of political participation, as well as to learn about their own relevant experiences.

Some of the questions posed in this survey are complementary to similar surveys conducted in BiH and in the region for comparison. Those questions are based on the following survey reports:

- ▶ Youth Flash Eurobarometer 408 – Youth 2014:
http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/flash/fl_408_en.pdf
- ▶ KAP– Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Survey on youth employment and participation, Montenegro 2013:
https://issuu.com/un_montenegro/docs/survey_on_knowledge_attitudes_and
- ▶ Croatia: Youth in the Time of Crisis, 2013:
http://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/1017981/8586048/Youth_Croatia_FES.pdf/69a94015-9047-4107-b23a-628a299651d0
- ▶ UNICEF Voices of Youth 2016
- ▶ UN CDA for BiH 2015:
http://ba.one.un.org/content/dam/unct/bih/PDFs/Prism%20Research%20for%20UN%20RCO_Report.pdf
- ▶ RCC Balkan Barometer 2016:
http://www.rcc.int/seeds/files/RCC_BalkanBarometer_PublicOpinion_2016.pdf
- ▶ and Nepal Youth Survey 2011:
http://www.youthpolicy.org/national/Nepal_2011_Youth_Survey.pdf

The following report presents the main findings of the survey we conducted.

METHODOLOGY

In order to study attitudes, opinions, and experiences of young people in BiH regarding different aspects of their lives, the quantitative research method was applied. The specific quantitative method used in this survey is computer-assisted personal interviewing – CAPI. Basic information about the survey process is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Basic information about the survey

Survey period	September, 2016.
Method of data collection	Computer-assisted personal interviewing – CAPI
Instruments	The instrument used in this survey was developed by Prism Research & Consulting in cooperation with the client.
Survey sample	Young people 15 to 30 years old, members of the general population of BiH
Sample size	1200 respondents 15 to 30 years old from the general BiH population
Representativeness	General population: a random stratified sample representative of entire BiH, entities, regions, municipality size and type of respondents. Respondents are members of randomly selected households with most recent dates of birth.

Sample

The sampling for this survey was based on the following principles.

The first stratification of the sample was conducted for the level of the entire BiH (according to the population of individual settlements and municipalities). Stratification was then conducted for the level of two entities, Brčko District and a total of 18 regions in BiH.

In the next step, stratification was conducted within each region, taking into account the level of urbanization and population size. By combining the two above-mentioned methods, we selected a total of 49 sampling levels. The sample that we used is distributed across all 49 levels, taking into account the size of the population of young people aged 15 to 30 years. In this process, we created 240 primary sampling points, which were used as survey starting points. It was necessary to conduct a maximum of 5 surveys with respondents who met the established criteria for participation in the survey.

The following criteria were used to select survey participants:

1. Young people between the ages of 15 and 30.

Respondents are members of randomly selected households with most recent dates of birth.

Data collection methodology

Computer-assisted personal interviewing - CAPI is one of the most sophisticated survey methods. This method implies application of a procedure in which survey questionnaires are programmed and uploaded on tablet devices. Questions appear on the screen in a predetermined and preordained order and logic and interviewers enter responses directly into the device. Both the conduct of the interview and selection of the sample are monitored with special software.

Displaying results

An analysis of every question in the survey questionnaire is presented below, with the respondents' answers shown in either charts or tables on the level of the entire sample, as well as by entity. Further differences between various groups on the basis of gender, age, education and place of residence are described in the text, if significant.

In addition to the results of the current survey, for some questions comparisons are shown with other studies in which the same questions were posed to different respondent samples. Furthermore, the report includes an examination of multivariable models used to study the factors that lead young people to make certain decisions.

Interviewers, Coordinators, and Supervisors

A team of 48 interviewers and 10 regional coordinators was employed to conduct this survey. Interviewers and coordinators were selected on the basis of their previous experience, age, gender, and region of origin.

Only researchers with at least one year of experience on similar projects were eligible to work on the survey.

All researchers attended the training for implementation of this survey during which they were introduced to the sample and the manner for conducting the survey. A Q-by-Q analysis was conducted, as well as role play exercises.

Supervising Interviewers' Work

Supervision of field work was carried out in several ways. Coordinators made field visits to interviewers conducting the survey. In addition, a verification of the questionnaire by phone was also conducted for 10% of randomly selected questionnaires completed by each interviewer, using contact phone numbers provided by respondents. The Prism Research & Consulting also implements special computer-based controls of questionnaire validity made possible due to the application of the CAPI method, which includes the use of GPS data about interviewers' movements.

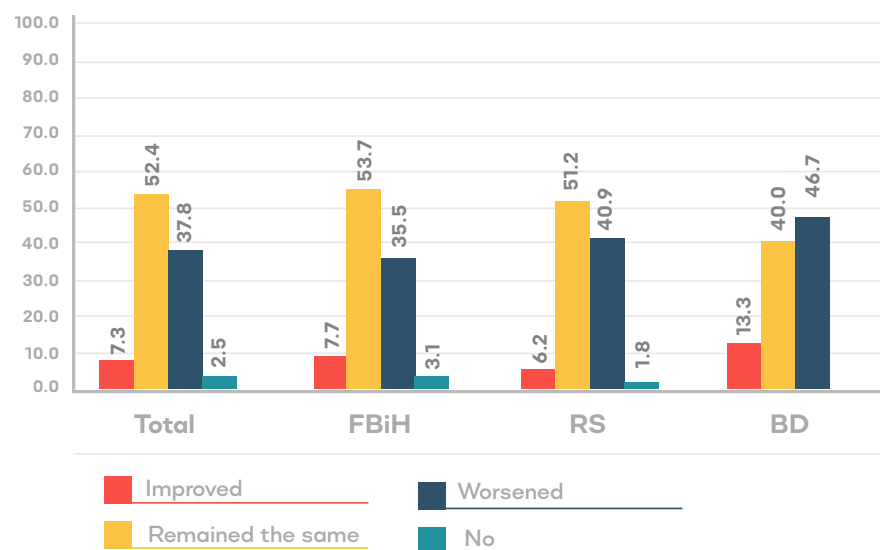
Data processing, Reporting, and Delivery

All processing of the collected data was conducted in the Prism Research & Consulting headquarters office in Sarajevo. Data analysis was conducted using IBM SPSS Statistics v.22 program – the professional software for statistical data processing. IBM SPSS Statistics was used for data cleaning and logical control, and for cross-tabulation of results.

MAIN FINDINGS

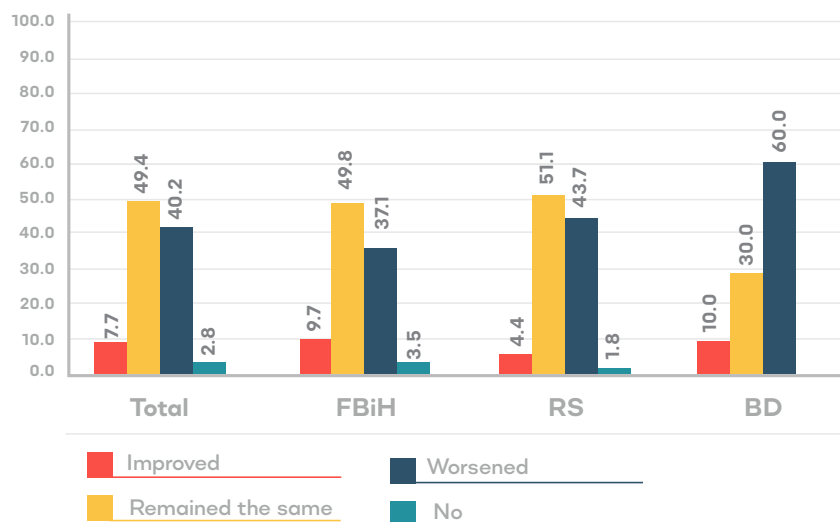
Current situation and young people activism

Chart 1. Q1a. Has the political situation improved, remained the same or worsened?



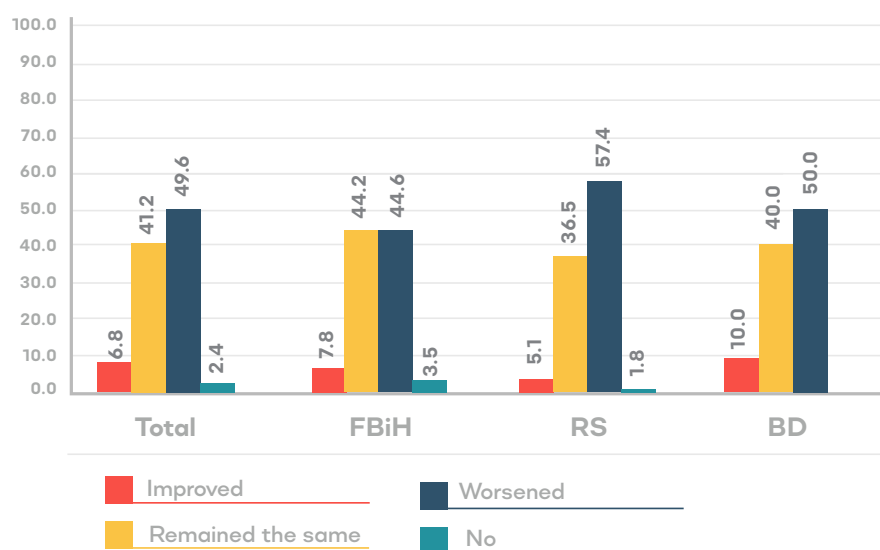
In regard to the political situation, most respondents (52.4%) believe that it has remained the same relative to the situation two years ago. Next most frequent answer is “it has deteriorated”, which was selected by 37.8% of respondents. The pattern of responses of respondents from FBiH and RS is similar, while in the Brčko District most respondents (46.7%) feel that the situation has deteriorated, while 40% of respondents think that it has remained the same. Only 7.3% of respondents think that the political situation has improved. Women (40.7%) are more likely than men (34.6%) to believe that the political situation has worsened. In addition, respondents between the ages of 26 and 30 (42.7%) are more likely to think that the situation has deteriorated in comparison to respondents between the ages of 15 and 20 (34.2%).

Chart 2. Q1b. Has the social situation improved, remained the same or worsened?



Approximately half of the respondents (49.4%) believe that the social situation has remained the same in comparison to two years ago while 40.2% of respondents think that the social situation has deteriorated. A very low percentage of respondents (7.7%) think that the social situation in the last two years has improved. A significantly higher percentage of respondents from FBiH (9.7%) think that the social situation has improved, in comparison to respondents from RS (4.4%). In the Brčko District, however, 60% of the respondents think that the situation has deteriorated, which is significantly higher in comparison to the percentage of respondents holding the same view in FBiH (37.1%) and RS (43.7%). Respondents between the ages 26 and 30 (45.6%) are more likely to consider that the situation has deteriorated than respondents between the ages of 15 and 20.

Chart 3. Q7c. Has the economic situation improved, remained the same or worsened?



Most respondents (49.6%) think that the economic situation has deteriorated in comparison to two years ago. 41.2% of respondents think that it has remained the same and only 6.8% believe that the situation has improved. Respondents from FBiH (44.2%) are more inclined to think that the situation has remained the same than those from RS (36.5%), while respondents from RS (57.4%) are more likely than those from FBiH (44.6%) to consider the economic situation to be worse. Male respondents (9.6%) more often state that the situation has improved than female respondents (4.4%), while female respondents (53.2%), more often than the males (45.5%), state that the economic situation has worsened.

A comparison can be made with the results of the 2015 UN CDA – Conflict Dynamics Assessment for BiH research, when 14.3% of respondents stated that the things, in general, were getting better in their life in comparison to the year before, while 26.8% stated that they were worse off than the year before. The percentages of positive answers to the questions regarding the improvement of political, social and economic situation recorded in 2016 were lower (7.3%, 7.7%, and 6.8%, respectively) than 2015. At the same time, the percentage of respondents who declared that the situation was deteriorating has increased (37.8% - 49.6%) relative to the 2015 survey. It is important to note that the question in the 2015 survey was related to the general situation in the life of respondents, while the questions in the current survey focus on specific aspects.

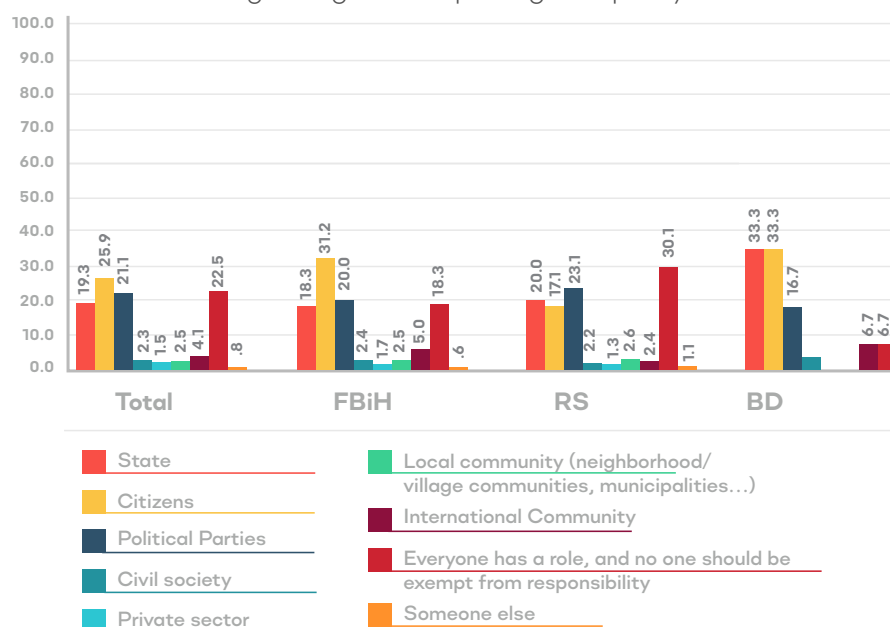
Table 2. Q4. Please respond whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ No answer
BiH is stagnating in its development	76.8	14.8	8.3
BiH development is on track and is slowly moving forward	17.8	75.0	7.2
The BiH authorities are dealing adequately with the economic problems in the country.	7.4	87.0	5.6
The BiH authorities are dealing adequately with the social/welfare problems in the country.	6.9	86.8	6.3
The BiH authorities are dealing adequately with the political problems in the country.	13.1	80.3	6.7
The BiH authorities possess the capacity and necessary prerequisites to successfully deal with all challenges the country is facing.	22.3	67.3	10.4
The BiH authorities are prepared to implement the adopted Reform Agenda	12.3	64.1	23.6
The BiH authorities have public support for implementation of the Reform Agenda	27.2	47.3	25.5
The BiH authorities and leading political parties have the will and capacity to take part in constructive politics and social dialogue	10.4	75.2	14.4

When talking about the perception of the situation in BiH regarding specific questions, the majority of respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the situation and the lack of trust in the capacity of the authorities. Approximately three-quarters of respondents agreed that development of BiH was stagnating (76.85%) and disagreed with the statement that the development of BiH was on the right path and that it was slowly progressing (75%). Moreover, 87% of respondents disagree that the authorities in BiH are adequately dealing with economic problems and as many (86.8%) think that the authorities are not adequately dealing with neither social nor political problems (80.3%). Some two-thirds of respondents (67.3%) believe that the authorities in BiH lack the capacity to deal with the challenges which the country is facing and they disbelieve that the authorities in BiH are prepared for implementation of the adopted Reform Agenda (64.1%), with only 12.3% of respondents believing that the authorities are prepared for the Agenda's implementation. 47.3% of respondents state that the authorities do not have public support for the implementation of the Reform Agenda. Only 10.4% of respondents think that the authorities in BiH and leading political parties have the will and capacities to engage in constructive politics and social dialogue, while 75.2% of respondents do not think that there is will and capacity for constructive politics and social dialogue.

More often than respondents from RS, respondents from FBiH and BD, state that the development of BiH is on the right path, that the authorities are adequately dealing with economic and social problems, and also state more often that the authorities have the capacity to deal with the challenges successfully, that they are prepared for implementation of the Reform Agenda and that during this process they will have public support, as well as that there is will and capacity for engaging in constructive social dialogue.

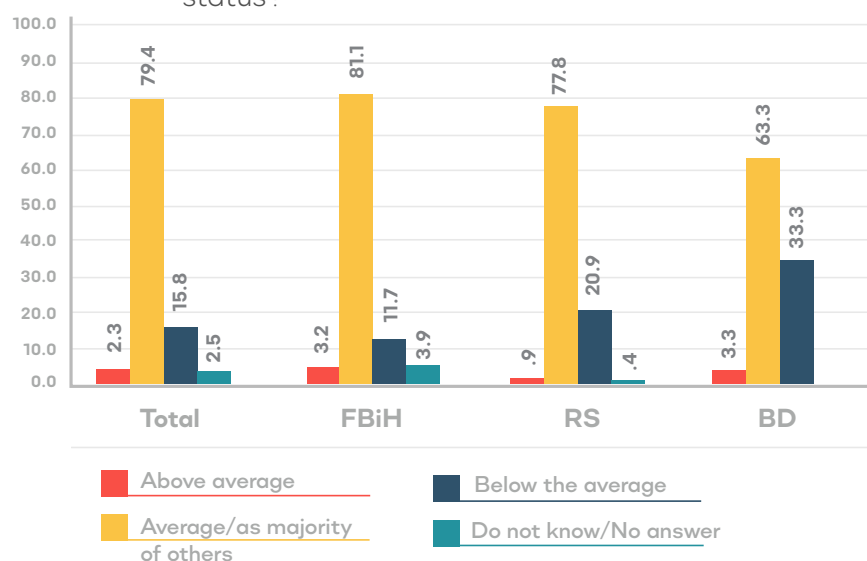
Chart 4. Q5. In your opinion, who has the greatest responsibility for driving change and improving the quality of life in BiH?



Approximately one-quarter of respondents (25.9%) consider citizens to be most responsible for initiating change and improvement of the quality of life in BiH, followed by the answers “everyone has a role, and no one should be exempt from responsibility” (22.5%), “political parties” (21.1%), and “state” (19.3%). Respondents from FBiH (31.2%), more often than respondents from RS (17.1%), think that citizens have the greatest responsibility for initiating change, while respondents from RS (30.1%), more often than respondents from FBiH (18.3%) and BD (6.7%), believe that everyone has a role in initiating change. More men than women think that citizens (28.6% in comparison to 23.5%) and private sector (2.8% in comparison to 0.3%) have the greatest responsibility for initiating change. On the other hand, women more often than men think that everybody has their role (to play) and that individuals should not be exempt from responsibility (25.7% women in comparison to 18.8% men).

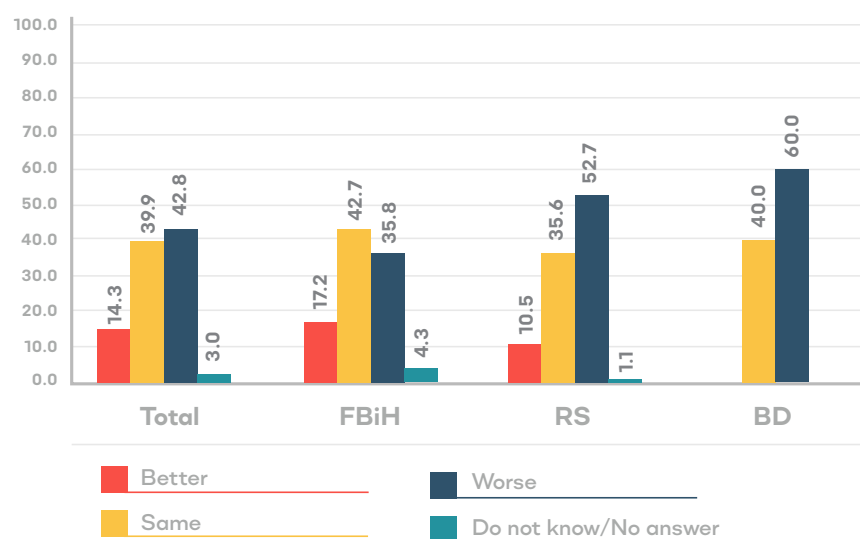
In the 2015 UN CDA survey report, 31.2% of respondents answered that they considered the authorities, i.e. the state, responsible for driving change, in comparison with 19.3% in the current survey. Also, a much greater percentage of respondents in the 2015 survey thought that civil society was responsible for initiating change (18.4%) in comparison with the current survey (2.3%).

Chart 5. Q6. How would you evaluate your current socio-economic status?



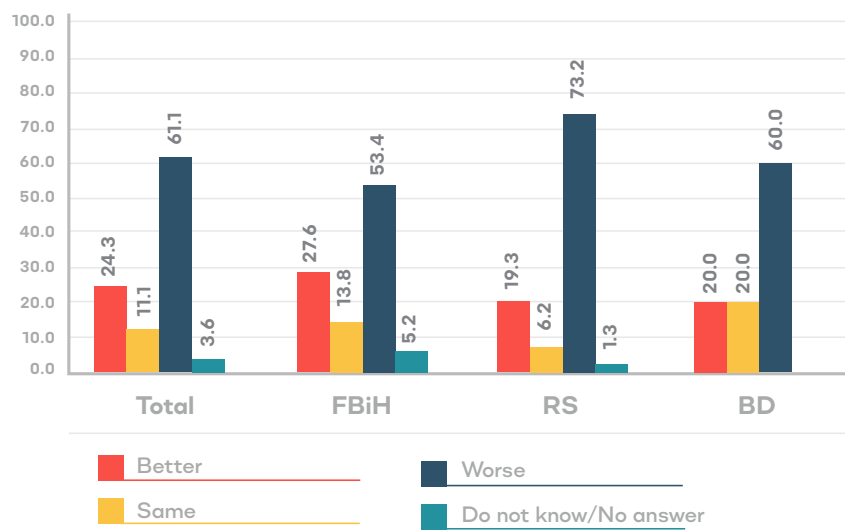
Four-fifths of respondents (79.4%) assessed their current socio-economic status as average, and further 15.8% as “below average”. Only 2.3% of respondents considered their current socio-economic status to be above average. More respondents from FBiH (3.2%) assessed their current status as “above average” compared to respondents from RS (0.9%), while they saw their status as “below average” less often than respondents from RS and BD (11.7% in FBiH in comparison to 20.9% in RS and 33.3 in BD). Respondents aged between 15 and 20 (82.3%) and 21 to 25 (81.7%) were more likely to state that their status was average compared to the respondents aged between 26 and 30 (73.8%).

Chart 6. Q7. What is the quality of young people's life when compared to other population?



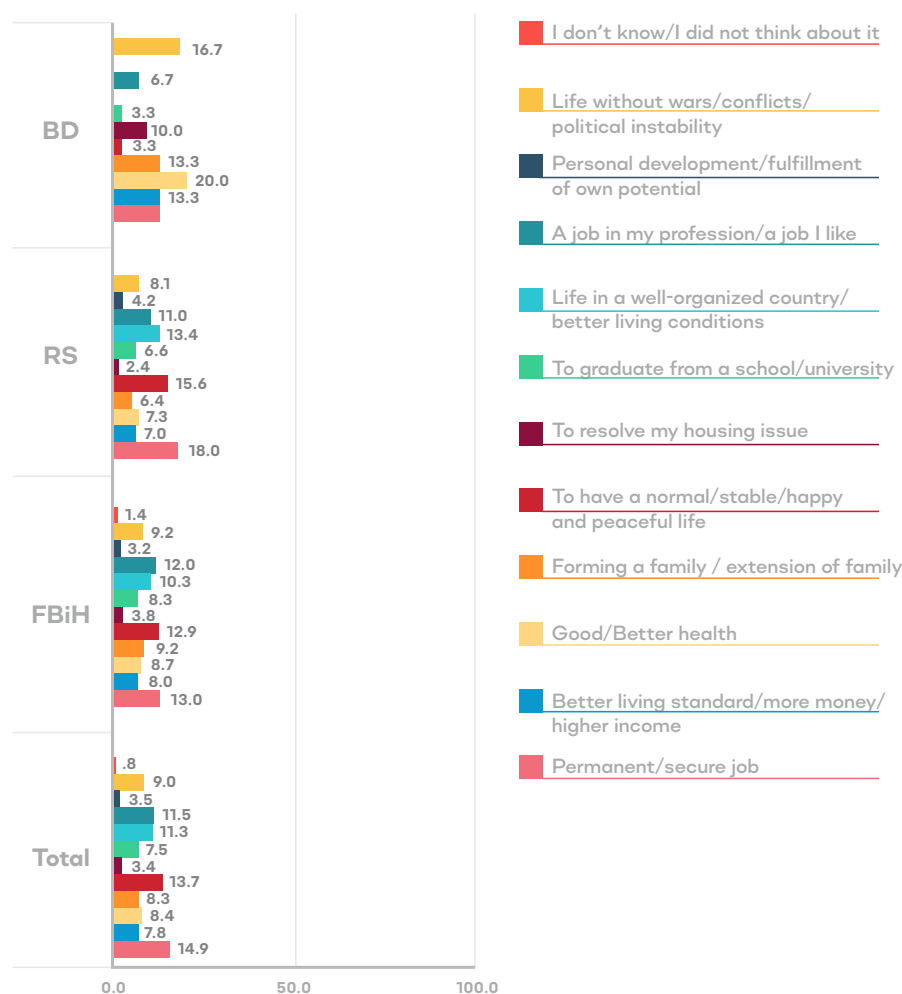
Most respondents believe that the quality of life of young people, in comparison with the rest of the population, is worse (42.8%) or same (39.9%). Only 14.3% of young people feel that the quality of life for young people is better when compared to the rest of the population. Respondents from RS (52.7%) and BD (60%) are significantly more likely than respondents from FBiH (35.8%) to claim that the quality of life for young people is worse, while respondents from FBiH are more likely than respondents from RS to say that quality of life remains the same (42.7% in comparison with 35.6%) or that it is better (17.2% in comparison with 10.5%). Men (16.5%) more often than women (12.2%) consider the quality of life of young people better in comparison with the rest of the population. Also, respondents aged between 15 and 20 (18.8%) state that the quality of life is better significantly more often than those aged between 21 and 25 (12.2%) and 26 to 30 (10.9%). Respondents living in cities are more likely to state that the quality of life for young people is better in comparison with respondents residing in rural areas (16.3% of urban dwellers compared to 11.8% of the rural population).

Chart 7. Q8. What is the quality of young people's life when compared to the quality of life of your parents when they were young?



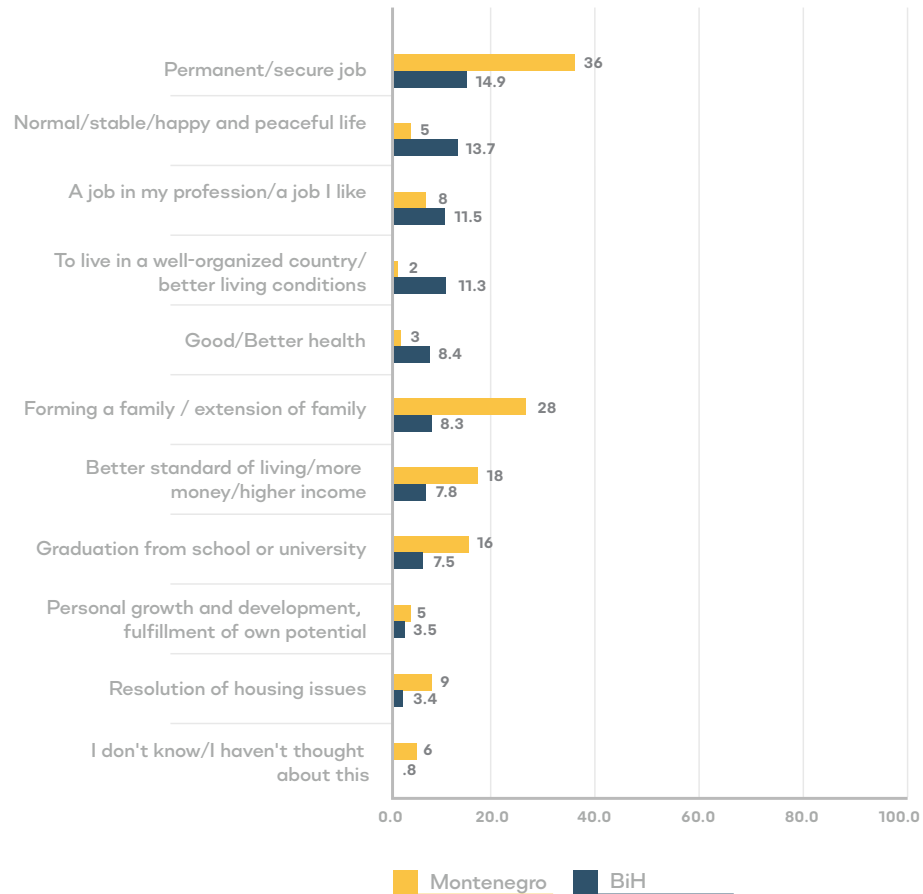
However, more than half of all respondents (61.1%) think that the quality of life of young people is worse than the quality of life their parents enjoyed when they were young. Nearly one-quarter of respondents (24.3%) consider the current quality of life better, and 11.1% think that the quality of life is the same. Respondents in FBiH (13.8%) and BD (20%) are significantly more likely to find the quality of life to be the same in comparison with 6.2% of respondents from RS. Respondents in FBiH (27.6%) are more likely than respondents from RS (19.3%) to think that their quality of life is better, while respondents from RS are more likely (73.2%) to consider their quality of life to be worse (53.4%) than the participants from FBiH. Women are more likely than men (57.9%) to find the quality of life to be worse (63.9%). More respondents aged between 15 and 20 (34.7%) think that the quality of life is better than is the case in other age groups, while respondents aged between 26 and 30 (71.2%) are more likely to find their quality of life to be worse. Respondents who completed elementary education (35.3%) are more likely than other groups to state that their quality of life is better, while respondents holding college degrees are more likely (72.4%) to declare that their quality of life is worse. Respondents living in rural areas (27.5%), more often than respondents living in cities (21.5%), are likely to claim that their current quality of life is better when compared with the quality of life of their parents when they were young.

Chart 8. Q9. What would you like for your life to be in 10 years?



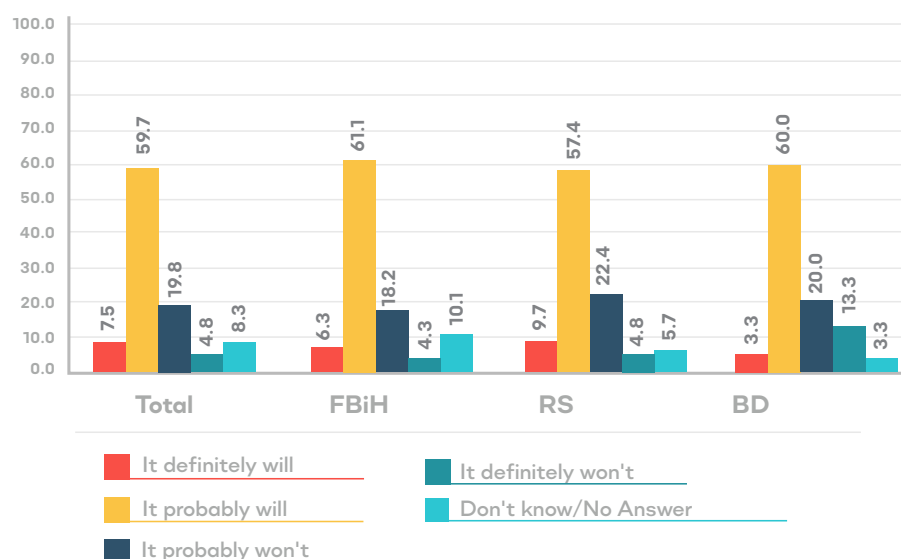
When it comes to future expectations, most respondents primarily desire a permanent and safe job (14.9%), followed by a normal, happy and peaceful life (13.7%), a job in their own profession, or rather a job they like (11.5%), and to live in a well-organized country (11.3%). More often than respondents from RS, respondents from BD rated higher the importance of good health (20% vs. 7.3% in RS) and resolution of housing issues (10% vs. 2.4% in RS). Men are more likely than women to declare that they want to establish or expand their families (10.7% vs. 6.1%) while women are more likely to state that they prefer waiting until they earn a university degree (9.1% vs. 5.7%). Respondents between the ages of 15 to 20 (13.5%) and those with completed elementary education (16.5%) are more likely than other age and educational attainment groups to declare that they expect to earn a university degree. Respondents with university degrees are more likely than those with secondary education to state that they want jobs in their professions (16.5% vs. 9.8%). Moreover, university-educated respondents (14.1%) are more likely to state that they want a life without wars and political instability than respondents who only completed elementary education (6.3%).

Chart 9. Q9. What would you like for your life to be in 10 years? -
A comparison with the 2013 Montenegro KAP on Youth.



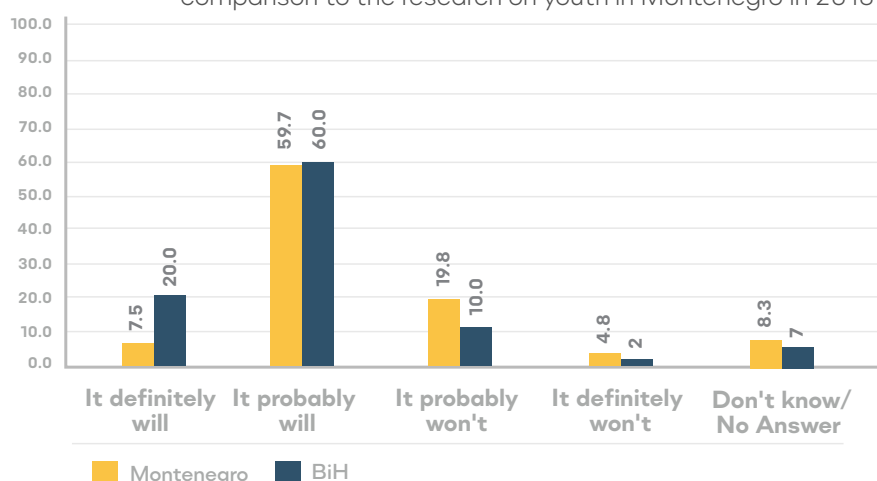
In comparison with the KAP research conducted with young people in Montenegro in 2013, we notice certain differences in expectations of respondents from Montenegro and BiH. Respondents from both countries are most likely to declare that they want a stable job (36% in MN, 14.9% in BiH). 28% of respondents from MN hope to establish or expand a family, while only 8.3% of those from BiH expressed the same wish. Besides, respondents from MN are more likely to state that they want a better standard of living (18% vs. 8.3%) and to graduate from a school or university (16% vs. 7.5%). On the other hand, respondents from BiH are more likely to say that they desire a normal and peaceful life (13.7% vs. 5%), to live in a well-organized country (11.3% - 2%) and to be in good health (8.4% vs. 3%).

Chart 10. Q10. What is the probability for that actually happening?



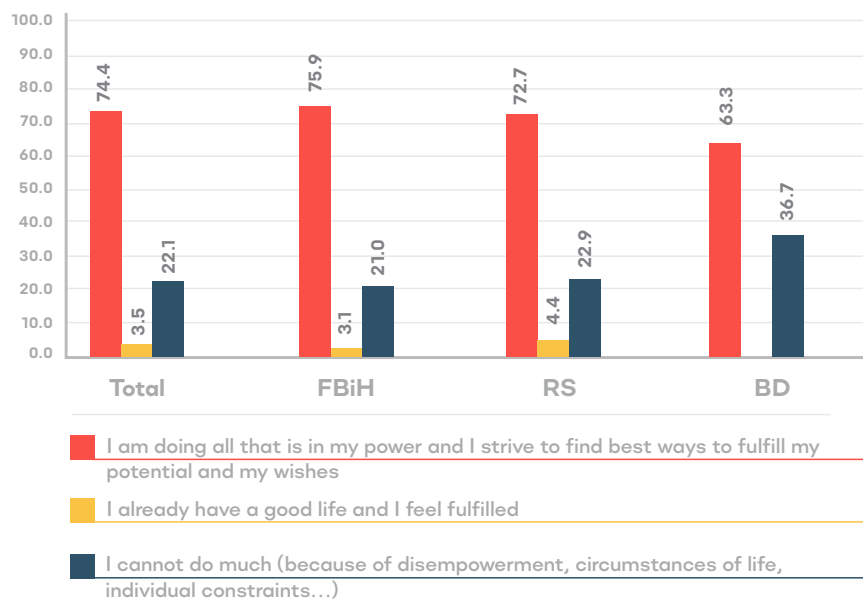
When talking about respondents' beliefs regarding the fulfillment of their dreams for the future, most of them express a positive attitude and state that their wishes "probably will" be fulfilled (59.7%), with 7.5% of respondents declaring that they felt sure their wishes will come true. Around one fifth of respondents think that their wishes probably will not be fulfilled (19.8%) and 4.8% are sure that it will not happen. Male respondents are more likely to feel that their wishes would probably come true (62.7% vs. 57% women), while female respondents are more likely to state that their wishes would probably not come true (22.8%), relative to male respondents (16.5%). Respondents aged between 15 and 20 are more likely to declare that their wishes will certainly be fulfilled compared to respondents aged between 26 and 30 (11% vs. 6.4%), while respondents aged between 26 and 30 are more likely than the 15-20 age group to state that their wishes probably would not come true (24.4% vs. 15.9%). A polarization of opinion is more evident in the cities, with respondents more likely to state that their wishes will definitely be fulfilled (9.2% vs. 5.5% of respondents living in rural areas) while more of them are also certain that they would not be fulfilled (6% - 3.3% respondents from rural areas).

Chart 11. Q10. What is the probability for that actually happening? - comparison to the research on youth in Montenegro in 2013



When making the comparison with the results of the survey in Montenegro, a similar pattern of responses is evident regarding the probability that the expectations of respondents will be fulfilled in the next 10 years. Respondents from Montenegro are a bit more optimistic, with 20% choosing the answer “It definitely will”, in comparison with 7.5% of respondents in BiH. On the other hand, approximately one-fifth of respondents from BiH (19.8%) declare that this probably would not happen, compared with 10% respondents from Montenegro.

Chart 12. Q17. Are you already working on attaining your ideal life, or do you consider it beyond your reach? Please list everything you are doing.



In terms of trying to achieve an ideal life, around three-quarters of respondents (74.4%) state that they are already doing everything in their power in order to realize their wishes. 22.1% of respondents declare that they are helpless and that because of various circumstances they are unable to do much. Only 3.5% of all respondents state that they already have a good life and that they feel fulfilled. Women are more likely than men to claim that they cannot do much (24.3% vs. 19.5% of men). Respondents in younger age groups, between 15-20 (81.2%) and 21-25 (77%) express more positive views and are more likely than respondents from the 26-30 group (64%) to claim that they are doing everything in their power to realize their wishes. On the other hand, respondents from the 26-30 age group (29.8%) are significantly more likely to state that they are unable to do anything when compared with the 15-20 (17.7%) and 21-25 (19.4%) age groups. 87.9% of respondents who completed elementary education declare that they are doing everything in their power to achieve the life they want, which is significantly more than for respondents who completed secondary (71.1%) and university education (72.4%). At the same time, respondents with secondary (25.3%) and university (20.6%) education are more likely than respondents with elementary education (11.6%) to state that they are unable to do much.

Table 3. Q12. Did your household encounter any of the following problems, at least once in the past 12 months?

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Yes	No	DK/NO	Yes	No	DK/NO	Yes	No	DK/NO	Yes	No	DK/NO
You couldn't pay the rent or the bills	12.3	84.8	2.8	8.8	89.0	2.2	16.3	79.8	4.0	36.7	63.3	0.0
You couldn't pay an installment of your credit/loan.	9.3	86.7	4.0	7.3	89.9	2.8	11.4	83.5	5.1	26.7	56.7	16.7
You were not able to adequately heat your house or the apartment	7.0	89.8	3.2	6.9	90.3	2.8	5.5	90.5	4.0	33.3	66.7	0.0
You couldn't afford food, clothes and other supplies.	4.6	92.3	3.2	4.6	92.4	2.9	2.4	93.8	3.7	36.7	63.3	0.0
You couldn't afford a week of vacation by going away from your home.	31.5	65.1	3.4	31.6	65.6	2.8	29.7	65.7	4.6	56.7	43.3	0.0

Most respondents state that they did not encounter problems like the inability to pay rent or bills (84.8%), repay an installment of their credit or a loan (86.7%), or ensure adequate heating for their house or apartment (89.8%). 92.3% of respondents did not encounter problems of affording food or elementary supplies. However, the percentage is relatively high when it comes to respondents who noted that they were not able to pay rent or bills at least once in the last 12 months (12.3%), could not repay an installment of their loan, while 7% could not afford to heat the house or the apartment, or afford food and basic supplies (4.6%). Almost one-third of all respondents (31.5%) stated that they could not afford a week of vacation away from home. As this question was not directly posed in the survey, it is not possible to determine whether the reasons for inability to take vacation travel is caused by a shortage of funds, inability of take vacation days at work or some other responsibilities of respondents.

Respondents from the Brčko District were significantly more likely to note that they encountered problems such as inability to pay the rent or utility bills (36.7%), repay an installment of credit (26.7%), or to adequately heat their house or apartment (33.3%). 36.7% of respondents from BD faced the problem of affording food or basic necessities in the last 12 months faced with problems affording food or basic life provisions, and 56.7% of them could not afford a week of vacation travel. Moreover, respondents from RS were also more likely to state that they had problems with paying the rent or utility bills (16.3% vs 8.8%) or to pay an installment for a loan (11.4% vs. 7.3%) than respondents from FBiH. Respondents living in cities are more likely to note that they had problems to heat the house or the apartment adequately (8.4%) in comparison with respondents from rural areas. (5.3%). In addition, a higher percentage of respondents from rural areas stated that they did not have problems with the inability of buying food or basic foodstuffs (94% vs. 90.8%). Respondents from the city were more likely to reply that they did not know or to refuse to answer a question when compared with respondents from rural areas.

In comparison with the average answers of respondents from Balkan countries (RCC 2016 Balkan Barometer), fewer respondents in BiH described having above mentioned problems in the last 12 months. While 12.3% of respondents in the current survey stated that they could not pay rent or utility bills, 23% of all respondents from all Balkan countries stated that they had encountered such a problem. 9.3% of all respondents stated that they could not repay an installment of a loan in comparison with 15% for the population of the Balkan countries. Around one-fifth (19%) of respondents on the Balkan level were unable to adequately heat their house/apartment, while the same claim was made by 7% of respondents from the Balkan countries. 18% of participants from Balkan countries could not afford food, while this figure is significantly lower for BiH, where only 4.6% of respondents who made the same claim. While 31.5% of respondents in BiH state that they could not afford a week of vacation away from home, on average, more than half of all respondents (53%) from Balkan countries made the same statement. It is important to mention that potential sample variations prevent an adequate comparison of results of these two surveys.

Table 4. Q13. Please respond, for each statement, whether it is -in your opinion- fashionable (in), unfashionable/old-fashioned ('out') or neither fashionable nor old-fashioned:

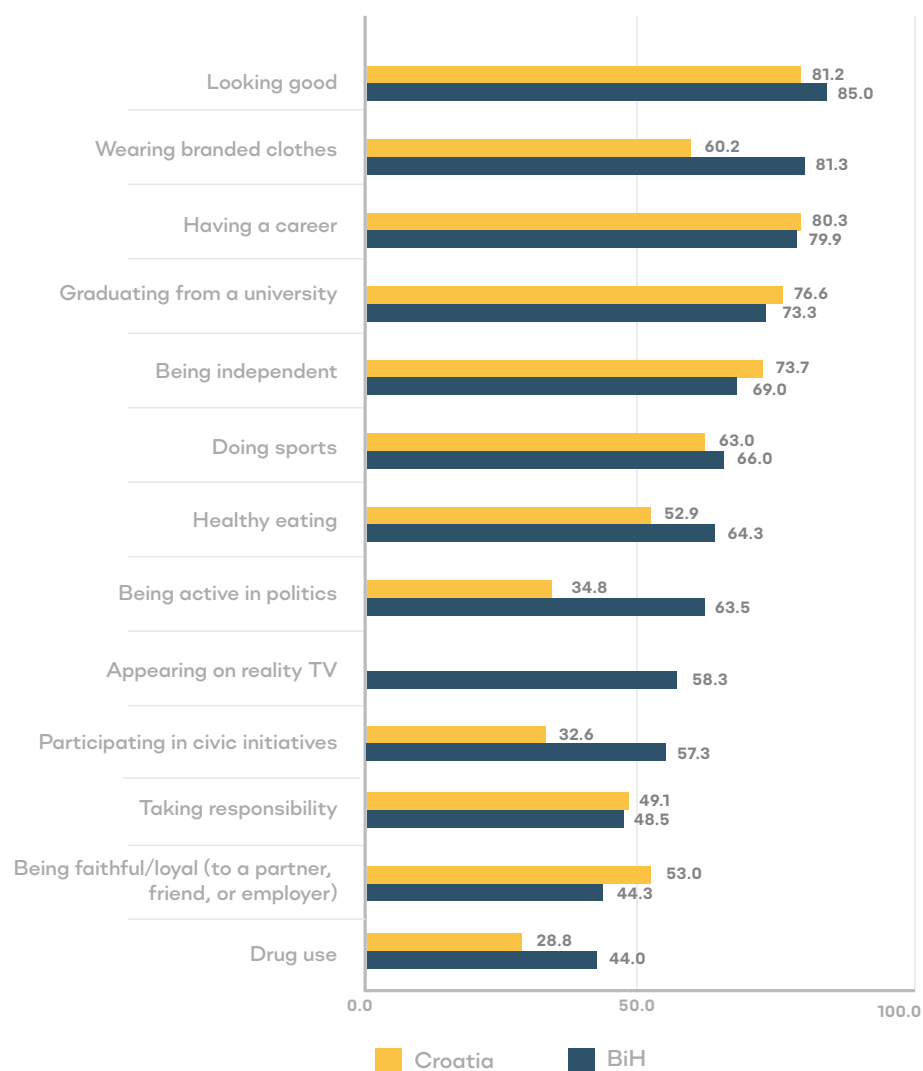
	Fashionable	Unfashionable/ old-fashioned	Neither fashionable nor old-fashioned	Don't know/ No answer
Being loyal/faithful (to partner, friend, employer)	44.3	20.9	32.9	1.8
Taking responsibility	48.5	19.4	30.0	2.1
Being independent	69.0	9.1	20.7	1.3
Graduating from a university	73.3	5.3	20.0	1.4
Having a career	79.9	3.7	15.2	1.3
Being active in politics	63.5	13.4	20.6	2.5
Participating in civic actions/ initiatives	57.3	17.2	23.5	2.1
Looking good	85.0	3.9	10.3	.8
Wearing branded clothes	81.3	6.7	11.1	1.0
Healthy eating	64.3	12.4	22.4	.8
Drug use	44.0	27.2	19.7	9.2
Doing sports	66.0	11.1	21.8	1.1
Appearing on reality TV shows	58.3	19.8	14.5	7.4

Nearly half of all respondents hold that being loyal/faithful to one's partner, friend or employer is fashionable (44.3%), as well as taking responsibility (48.5%). Most respondents think that it is also fashionable to be independent (69%), graduate from college (73.3%), have a career (79.9%), and be active in politics (63.5%). Just over half of all respondents consider participation in civic initiatives to be fashionable. A very large majority of respondents find looking good (81.3%) and wearing branded clothes (81.3%) to be fashionable. Around two-thirds of respondents think that eating healthy foods

(64.3%), as well as doing sports (66%), is fashionable. Almost half of all respondents state that using drugs is fashionable (44%), while little more than half consider appearing in reality TV shows to be fashionable (58.3%).

Respondents from FBiH are more likely to rate fidelity (52.7%), taking responsibility (57.6%) and independence (72.2%) as fashionable, and are more likely than respondents from RS to state that being active in politics (15.9%), drug abuse (35.8%) and appearing on reality TV shows (26.6%) is old-fashioned. Respondents from the RS are more likely than respondents from FBiH to state that it is fashionable to wear branded clothes (85.3%), abuse drugs (49.5%) and appear on reality TV shows (68.6%). On the other hand, respondents from RS are more likely than respondents to state that it is old-fashioned to be faithful (26.6%) and take responsibility (26.8%). Respondents from BD are significantly more likely to declare that drug abuse is fashionable (76.7%) compared to respondents from FBiH (39.2%) and RS (49.5%).

Chart 13. Q13. Share of respondents recognizing specific statements as fashionable – in comparison with the findings of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia



In a survey conducted with young people in Croatia in 2013 (Youth in time of crisis) respondents revealed a similar pattern of results in comparison with the survey of young people conducted in BiH regarding the perception of what is fashionable. Larger differences are evident in answers such as “wear branded clothes” with 81.3% of young people in BiH finding that to be fashionable, while 60.2% of young people from Croatia hold the same view. Furthermore, respondents from BiH are more likely to state that it is fashionable to eat healthy foods, (64.3% vs. 52.9%), be active in politics (63.5% vs. 34.8%), participate in civic initiatives (57.3% vs. 32.6%) and use drugs (44% vs. 28.8%).

Chart 14. Q13a. Which of the following values do you value most?
- First responses



Regarding the values that young people appreciate most, the most prevalent answer given, was personal dignity (19.8%), followed by justice and equality before law (16.8%), fighting to achieve your goals (15.3%), freedom and safety in their own community (13.9%) and tolerance (12.9%). Respondents from the Brcko District (13.3%) were more likely than those from the FBiH (2.7%) and RS (2.6%) to declare that material wealth was something that they appreciated. Women (16%) were more likely than men (11.5%) to state that they appreciated freedom and security in their communities.

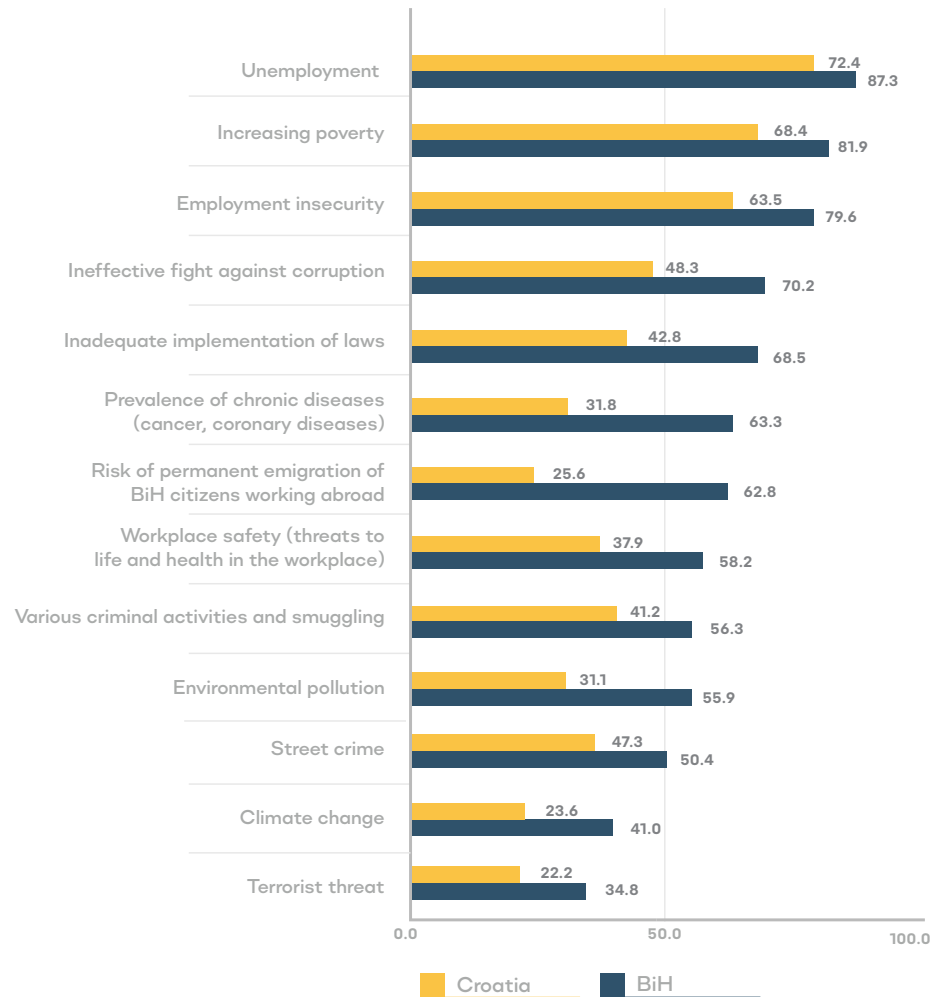
Table 5. Q14. In your view, how alarming are the following problems for the society in BiH?

	Very alarming	Moderately alarming	Not very alarming	Not alarming at all	Don't know/ No answer
Increase in poverty	81.9	14.5	2.3	.4	.9
Unemployment	87.3	9.5	1.9	.3	.9
Environmental pollution	56.9	28.8	12.1	2.2	1.0
Terrorist threats	34.8	23.5	25.8	14.3	1.6
AIDS/HIV (risk, increase)	24.8	24.2	27.3	20.3	3.5
Prevalence of chronic diseases (cancer, heart conditions)	63.3	24.6	9.1	1.5	1.4
Inadequate implementation of laws	68.5	22.9	5.8	.8	2.0
Employment insecurity	79.6	15.6	2.9	.9	1.0
Workplace safety (threats to life and health in the workplace)	56.2	26.8	12.1	1.3	1.7
Risk of permanent emigration of BiH citizens working abroad	62.8	25.2	7.3	3.6	1.2
Street crime	50.4	23.3	21.4	3.4	1.4
Various criminal activities and smuggling	56.3	25.3	14.1	2.8	1.5
Climate change	41.0	28.1	24.5	5.0	1.4
Ineffective fight against corruption	70.2	21.0	6.3	1.1	1.4
Hate speech	61.3	24.5	11.3	1.8	1.2
Deteriorating political discourse	57.9	27.8	8.9	2.3	3.2

With regard to problems in BiH, most respondents find unemployment (87.3%), an increase in poverty (81.9%) and employment insecurity (79.6%) to be very alarming. Moreover, other problems, such as environmental pollution (55.9%), prevalence of chronic diseases (63.3%), inadequate implementation of laws (68.5%), poor workplace safety (58.2%), danger of permanent migration of BiH population to find employment in other countries (62.8%), street crime (50.4%) and various criminal activities (56.3%), ineffective fight against corruption (70.2%), hate speech (61.3%) and deterioration of political discourse (57.9%) are recognized as very alarming by the majority of respondents. On the other hand, respondents believe that AIDS/HIV is the least alarming problem, with 47.6% finding this problem to be not very, or not at all alarming. Furthermore, 40.1% of respondents believe that terrorist threats are not very, or not at all alarming, while 34.8% of them consider that to be a very alarming problem in BiH.

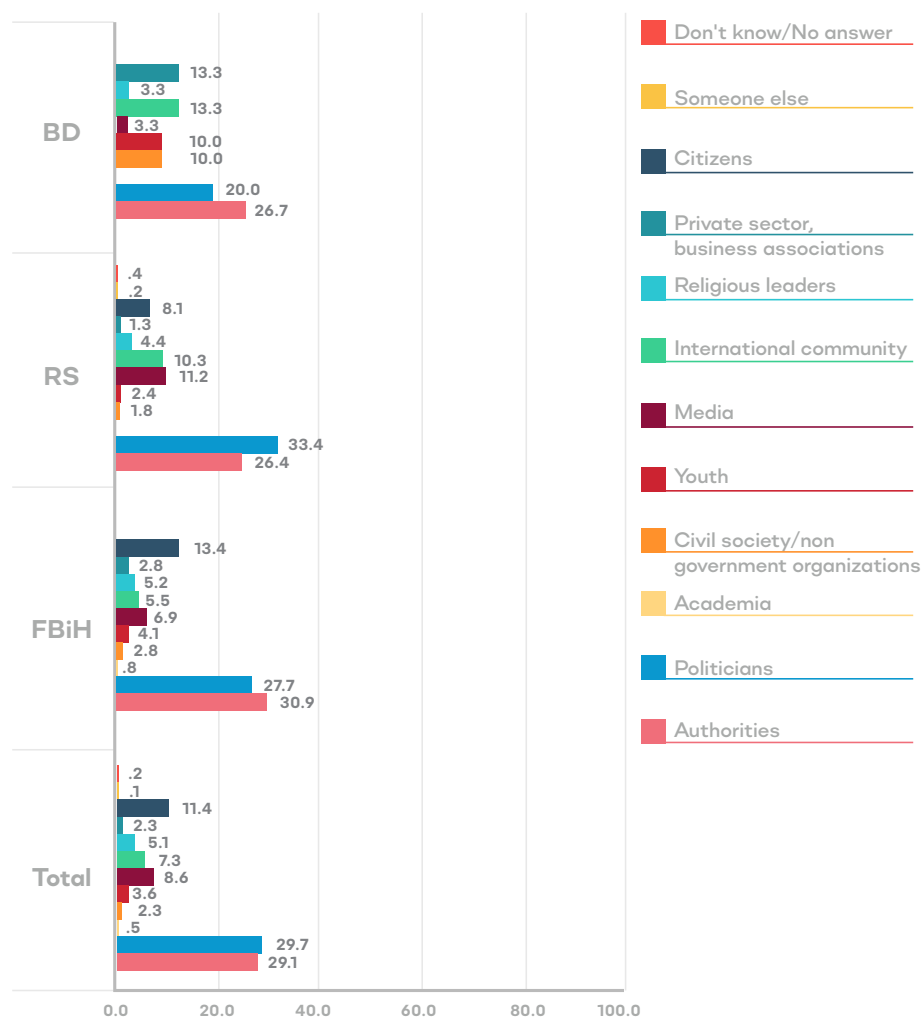
Respondents from RS are more likely than respondents from FBiH and BD to see the problems of AIDS/HIV (35.4%), prevalence of chronic diseases (79.6%), lack of workplace safety (69%), climate change (48.6%) and deterioration of political discourse (65.1%) as very alarming.

P14. In your view, how alarming are the following problems for the society in BiH? Comparison with the results of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia



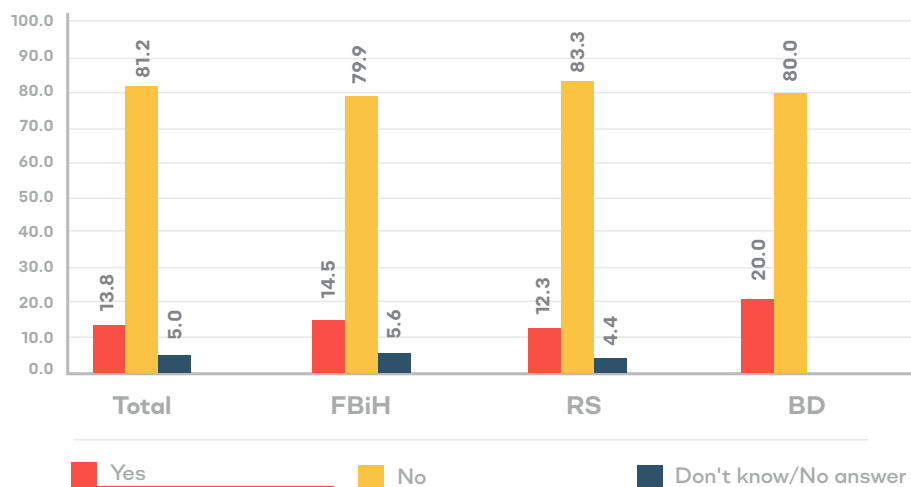
In terms of the level of alarm of each of the listed problems, it is evident that respondents in BiH are more likely to consider that certain problems to be very alarming in comparison to respondents from Croatia. The results are only equal on the issue of unemployment, with 87.3% of respondents from BiH considering unemployment to be a very alarming issue, and 79.4% of young people from Croatia are of the same opinion.

Q14a. In your opinion, who is the most responsible for these problems?
- First response



Regarding the responsibility for the problems listed in the question 14, most respondents find politicians (29.7%) and authorities (29.1%) to have the greatest responsibility, followed by citizens (11.4%), media (8.6%) and the international community (7.3%). Civil society and non-government organizations (0.5%) are believed to be the least responsible. Respondents from FBiH are more likely than respondents from RS to consider citizens (13.4% vs. 8.1%) to be most responsible, while respondents from RS are more likely, in comparison with FBiH, to consider that the media (11.2% vs. 6.9%) and the international community (10.3% vs. 5.5%) have the greatest responsibility. Respondents with university-level education are more likely (1.8%) to ascribe responsibility to the academia compared to respondents who completed only secondary education (0.4%).

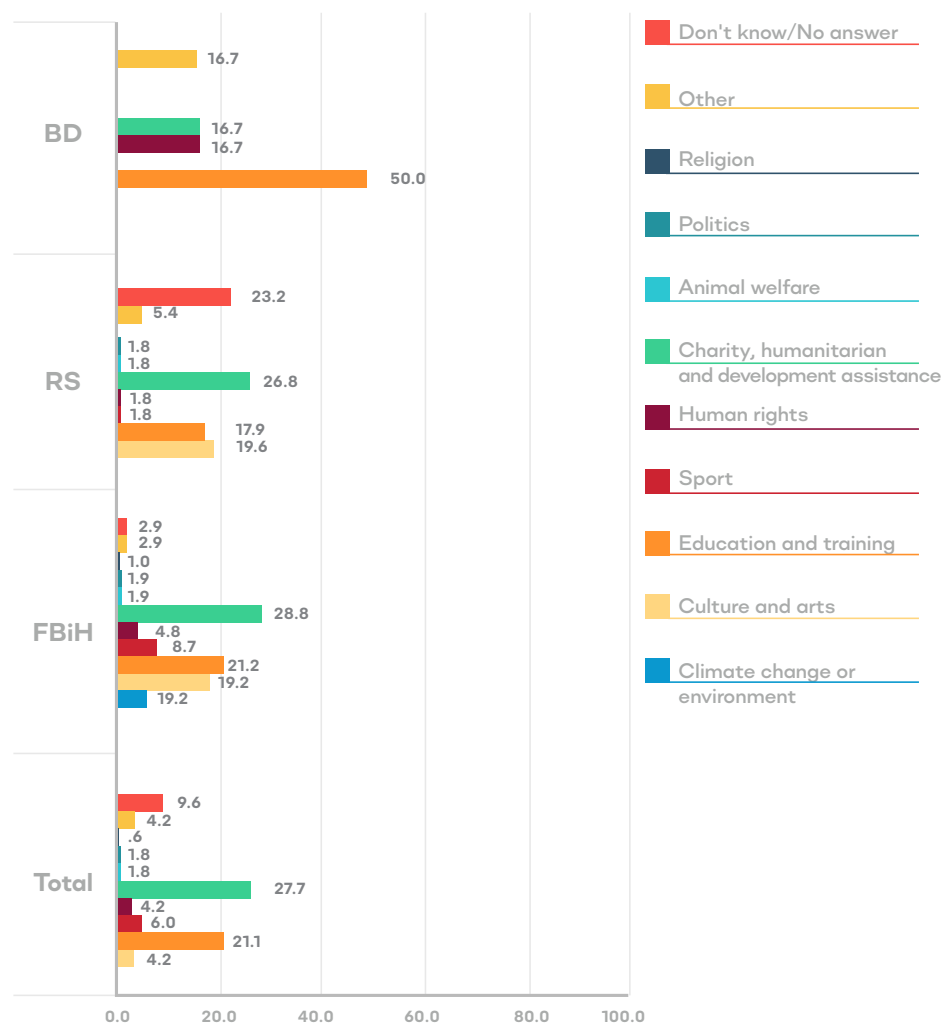
Chart 15. Q15. In the last 12 months, did you take part in any organized volunteering activities?



Especially discouraging is the information that four out of five respondents (81.2%) were not included in any kind of organized volunteering activities in the last 12 months. Only 13.8% of respondents state that they were involved in such activities. Respondents holding university degrees (20.6%) are significantly more likely to say that they participated in such activities than respondents who completed just elementary (14.3%) or secondary education (12.3%) respectively. Also, respondents living in cities are more likely to state that they participated in volunteering activities (17.5% vs. 9.5%) than respondents living in rural areas.

While 13.8% of respondents from BiH state that they were involved in volunteering activities, at the level of the EU this percentage is almost twice as high. The information from the European Youth Flash Eurobarometer, a survey conducted in 2014, shows that 25% of young people from EU were involved in volunteering activities in the 12 preceding months.

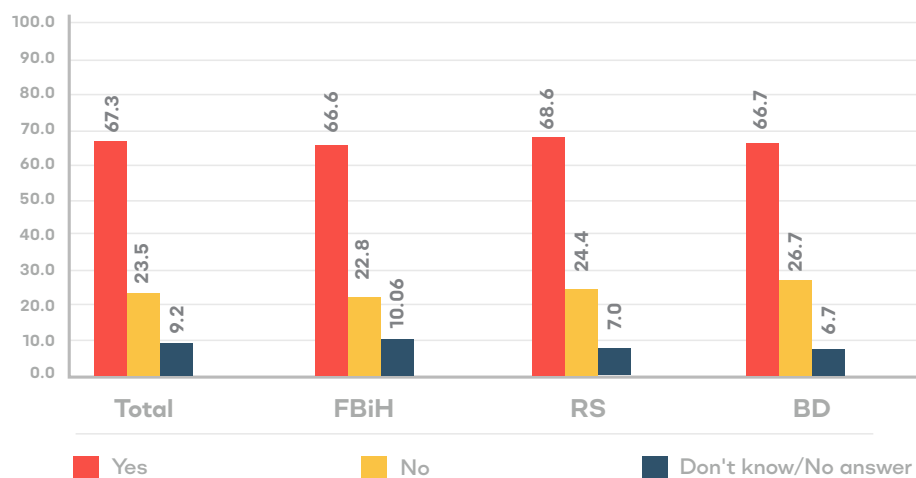
Chart 16. Q16a. Please state in which areas you participated in volunteering work in the last 12 months? First response



Areas that respondents who did volunteer work most often list include charity work, humanitarian and development assistance (27.7%), education and training (21.1%), and culture and arts (18.7%). Men are more likely than women to state that they volunteered in the area of sports (10.4% - 2.2%) while respondents holding university degrees are more likely to state that they volunteered in the domain of education or training when compared to those who completed secondary education (34.3% vs. 13.1%).

In comparison with respondents from EU, young people from BiH are more likely to state that they volunteered in the area of culture and arts (18.7% vs. 15% in EU). On the other hand, young people from the EU are more likely to state that they volunteered in any other area. More significant differences are observed in the area of the animal welfare (9% in EU vs. 1.8% in BiH), politics (8% EU vs. 1.8% BiH), and religion (12% EU vs. 0.6% BiH).

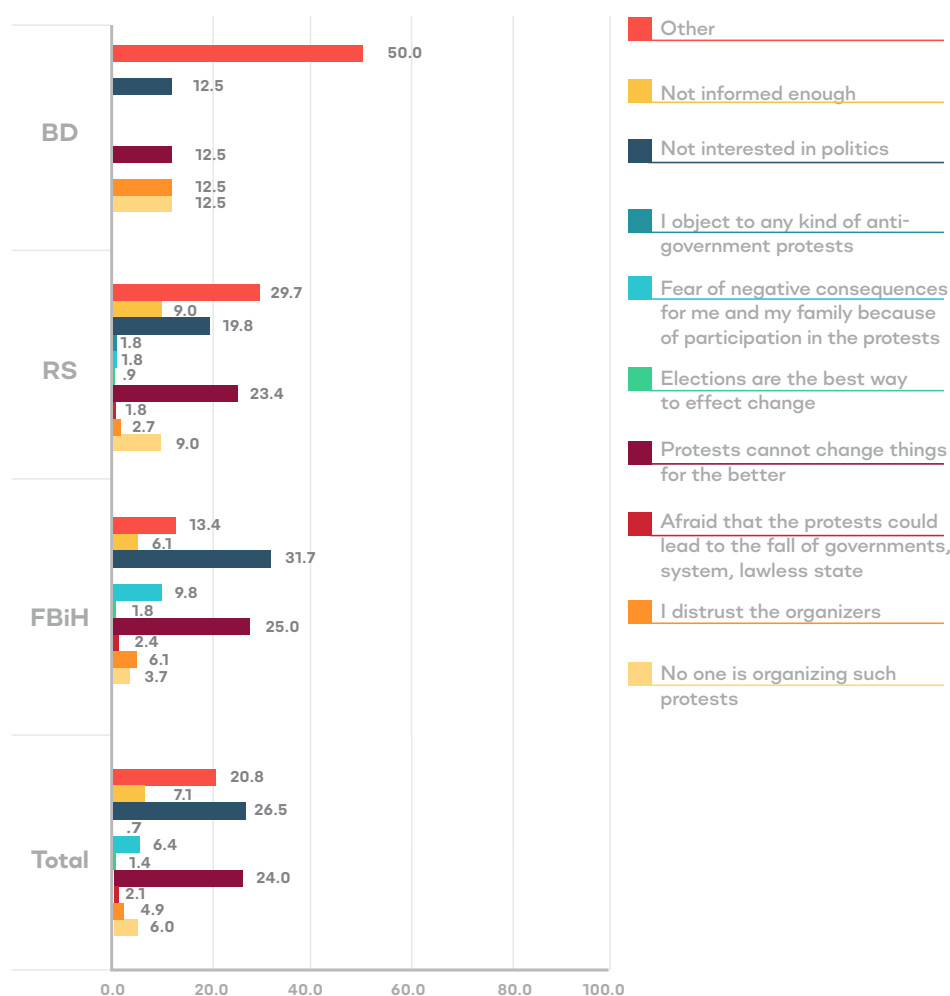
Chart 17. Q17. Would you participate in peaceful protests for the goal that you care about?



Around two-thirds of respondents (67.3%) state that they would be willing to participate in peaceful protests for the goal that they personally care about. Respondents aged 15 to 20 (69.8%) and 21 to 25 (71.7%) are more willing to take part in such activities compared to respondents aged 26 to 30 (60.4%). Respondents who completed secondary education are more likely to state that they would be willing to join peaceful protests compared to respondents holding university degrees (69% vs. 59.4%).

In comparison to the 2015 UN CDA survey, when 37.3% of respondents in BiH stated that they would take part in protests, the current survey finds a significantly higher numbers of respondents making the same statement (67.3%). It is important to note the difference in the formulation of questions, as in the current survey the respondents are clearly asked whether they would participate in “peaceful” protests, while in last year’s survey protests were not characterized as “peaceful protests” which could account for the difference in respondents’ responses.

Chart 18. Q18. You answered “No”, why?



When looking at the reasons that motivate respondents to try and change things through peaceful protests, respondents who answered that they would not participate in such protest most often state that this is because they are not interested in politics (26.5%), because they think protests cannot change things for the better (24%) or for some other reason (20.8%), whereby they most commonly say that “they simply do not want to”. Respondents from FBiH are more likely to mention fear of negative consequences for them and their family as a reason than respondents from RS (9.8% vs. 1.8%), as well as that they are not interested in politics (31.7% vs. 19.8%). A higher percentage of respondents aged 21-25 are likely to state that they are not interested in politics than those of the 26-30 age group (39.4% vs. 21.2%), while respondents who hold university degrees are more likely than respondents who completed only primary education to state that they think that protests cannot change things for the better (37.5% vs. 14.8%).

In comparison with the UN 2015 survey, young people in the current survey are more likely to claim that nobody is organizing such protests (6% vs. 2.8% in the UN survey), lack of interest for politics (26.5% vs. 10.2%) and insufficient awareness (7.1% vs. 1.9%). On the other hand, respondents in the 2015 survey were more likely to state that they did not trust the organizers (19.8% vs. 4.9%), that protests could not change things for the better (32.4% vs. 24%) and that elections were the best way for things to change (15.4% vs. 1.4%).

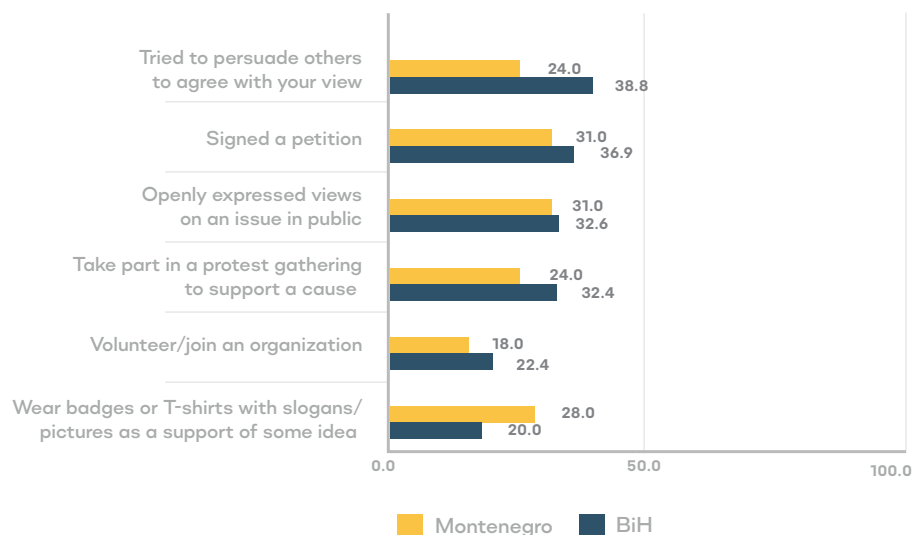
Q19. Please state whether you ever took part in any of the following organized activities, or not?

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Yes	No	Don't know/ No answer	Yes	No	Don't know/ No answer	Yes	No	Don't know/ No answer	Yes	No	Don't know/ No answer
Openly expressed views on an issue in public.	32.6	65.3	2.1	37.1	60.1	2.8	25.5	73.4	1.1	33.3	66.7	0.0
Openly expressed views on an issue through social media (FB, Twitter, Instagram, on forums, web sites, etc.)	31.0	67.1	1.9	36.4	60.7	2.9	22.6	76.9	.4	30.0	70.0	0.0
Signed a petition	36.9	61.3	1.8	40.3	57.3	2.4	32.3	66.8	.9	26.7	73.3	0.0
Tried to persuade other people to agree with your views	38.8	59.1	2.2	41.0	56.2	2.8	35.2	63.4	1.3	40.0	60.0	0.0
Participated in the meeting/gathering in order to support certain idea	32.4	65.8	1.8	36.6	60.4	2.9	25.7	74.1	.2	33.3	66.7	0.0
Wearing badges or T-shirts with slogans/pictures as a support of a cause	20.0	75.0	2.0	24.3	72.6	3.1	13.4	86.2	.4	16.7	83.3	0.0
Volunteered in/was a member of an organization.	22.4	75.6	2.0	28.1	68.8	3.1	13.2	86.4	.4	26.7	73.3	0.0

A few respondents stated that they participated in some of the organized activities that were listed. Approximately one-third of respondents (32.6%) stated that they openly expressed their opinion about a topic in public, or that they expressed their opinion through social media (31%). 36.9% of respondents signed petition on occasion, and 38.8% of them tried to persuade other people to agree with their opinion, while 32.4% of respondents sometimes participated in support gatherings for a cause. One fifth of respondents (20%) wore T-shirts or badges with slogans/image as a sign of support for a cause, and 22.4% volunteered, or were members of an organization.

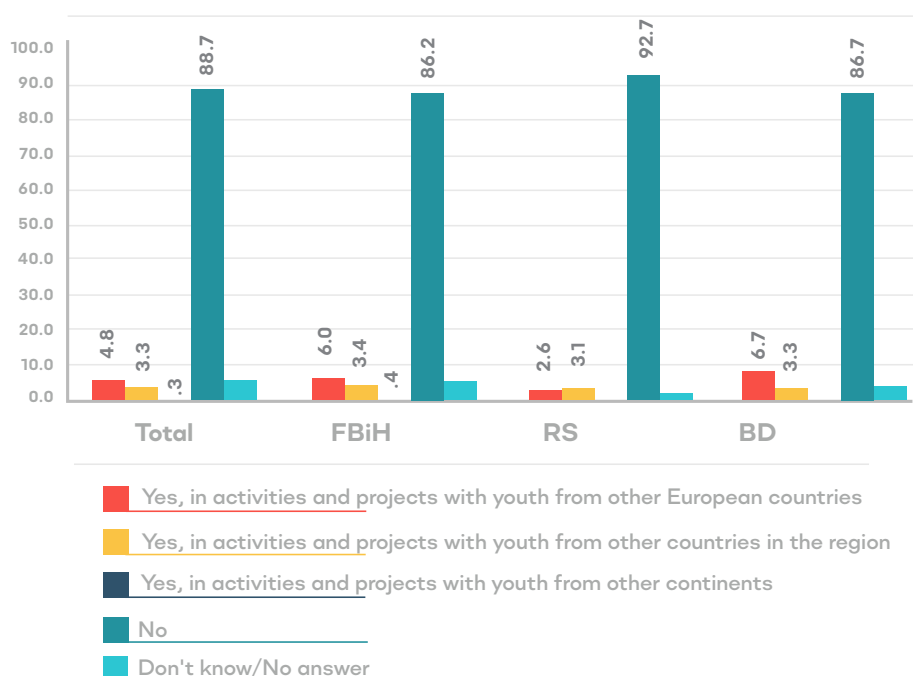
Respondents from FBiH were more likely to give affirmative answers for all listed activities than respondents from RS. Men were more likely than women to state that they openly expressed their opinion in public (36.1% vs. 29.5%) and tried to persuade others to agree with their opinion (41.7% vs. 36.1%).

Chart 19. Q19. Please state whether you ever took part in any of the following organized activities, or not? A comparison with the 2013 KAP survey on youth in Montenegro



In a similar survey conducted in 2013 in Montenegro, respondents were generally less likely to state that they took part in listed activities, with the exception of wearing T-shirts or badges with slogans. A more significant difference is evident in respondents' answers regarding their attempts to persuade other people to agree with their opinion, as 38.8% of respondents from BiH claimed they had tried to do so, as opposed to 24% of respondents Montenegro.

Chart 20. Q20. In the last 12 months, did you take part in any activities or projects aimed at fostering cooperation with young people from other countries?



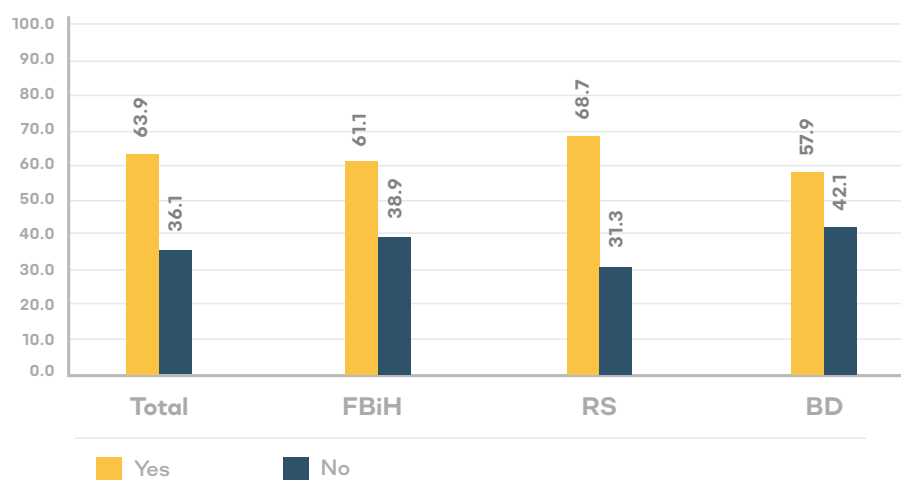
A quite high percentage of 88.7% of young people stated that, in the last 12 months, they had not taken part in any activities and projects aimed at fostering cooperation with young people from other countries. 4.8% of respondents state they participated in activities and projects with young people from other European countries, 3.3% state that they participated in activities with young people from other countries in the region, while only 0.3% state that they participated in such activities with young people from other continents.

Respondents from FBiH (6%) are more likely to state that they took part in activities with young people from other European countries than respondents from RS (2.6%), while respondents from RS (92.7%) are more likely than respondents from FBiH (86.2%) to declare that they did not take part in any activities aimed at strengthening cooperation with the youth from other countries. Respondents who completed only primary (89.7%) or secondary education (91.1%) are more likely to state that they did not take part in any such activities than respondents holding university degrees (75.9%) Also, a higher percentage of respondents living in cities participated in activities with young people from European countries, than it was the case for respondents from rural areas (7.2% vs. 1.8%), and the members of this latter group is more likely (94%) to state that they did not participate in any such activities.

In comparison with respondents from EU, it seems that respondents from BiH do not lag behind when it comes to cooperation with young people from other European countries, with 4.8% of respondents from BiH declaring that they had such cooperation, compared to 5% of respondents from EU. Respondents from EU are more likely to state that they cooperated with young people from other continents (3%) compared to respondents from BiH (0.3%).

Political awareness and activism of young people

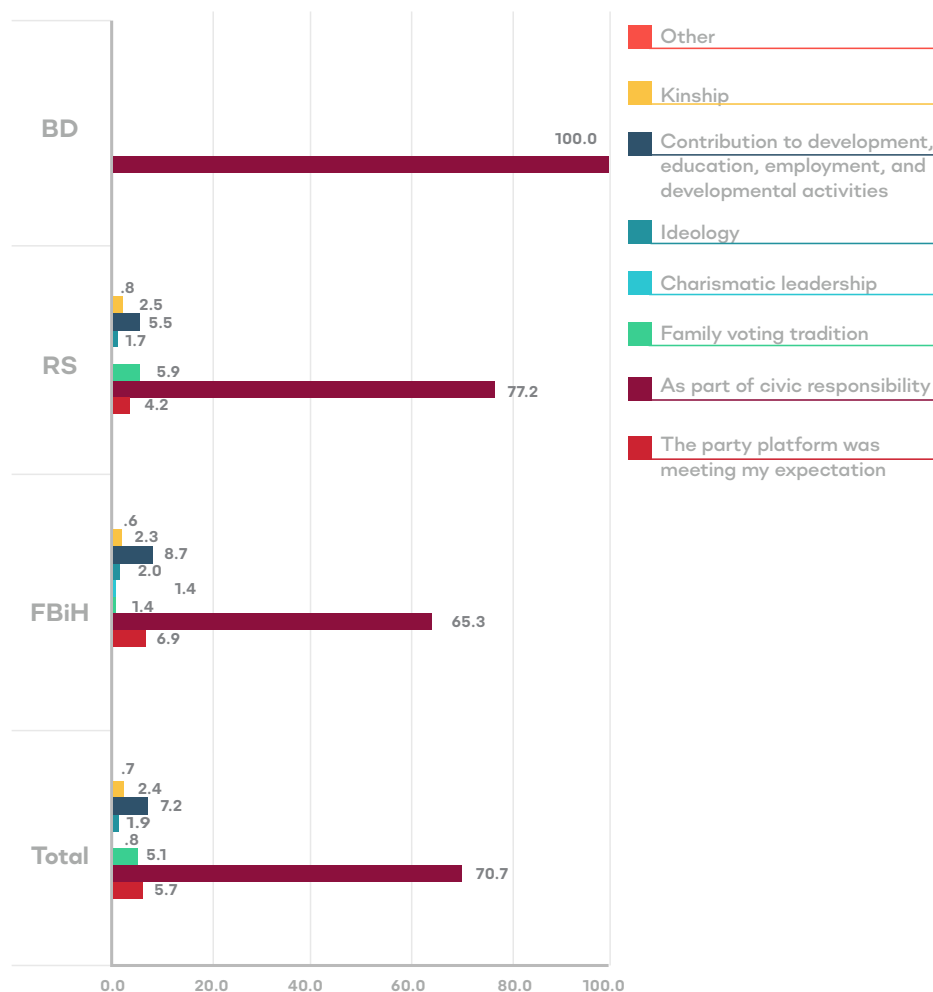
Chart 27. Q27. Did you vote in the last elections?



63.9% of respondents aged 19 and older stated that they voted in the last general elections in 2014. Men were more likely than women to state that they cast their votes (68% vs. 60.4%). Respondents aged 26 to 30 were more likely (77.7%) to state that they voted, compared to respondents aged 21 to

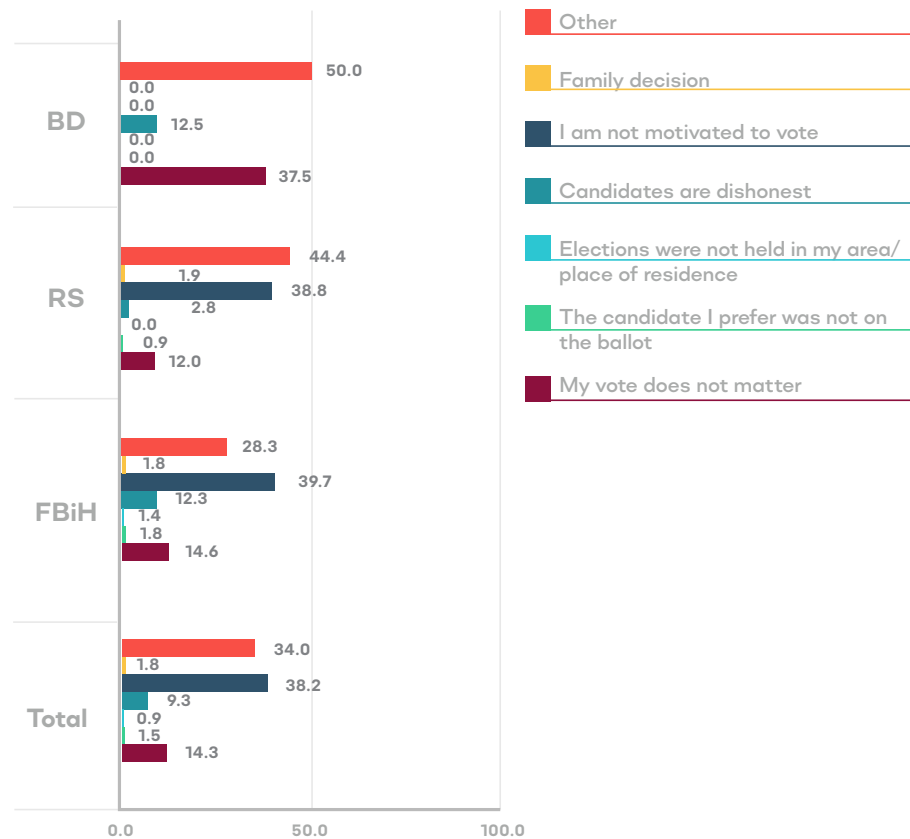
25 (68.4%), and respondents aged 19 to 20 (25%). Respondents holding university degrees were more likely to state that they voted respondents who completed secondary education (77.6% vs. 60.9%). It is important to note that some among 19-year old respondents were not of age at the time of the last elections and hence could not vote.

Chart 22. Q22. What was the reason that led you to vote for your candidate?



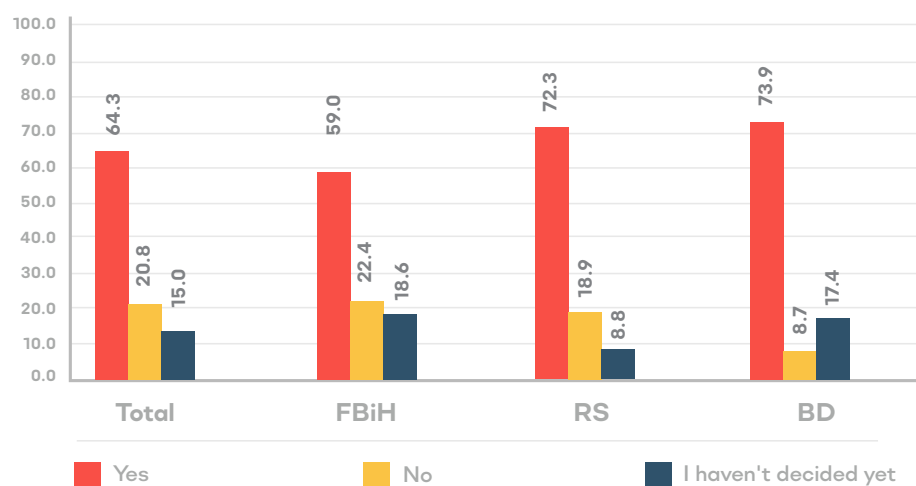
The majority of respondents - 70.7% - stated that they voted for their candidate as a part of their civic duty. The next most common response was the contribution to development, education and employment (7.2%), followed by responses "This political party platform meets my expectations" (5.7%) and "Family voting tradition" (5.1%). Respondents from RS were more likely (77.2%) than respondents from FBiH (65.3) to state that they voted for their candidate as an element of their civic duty. Concurrently, all respondents (100%) from the Brčko District responded that they voted for their candidate as an element of their civic duty, but note that theirs is a small-sized sample, which is why this result is not comparable with other groups. Respondents holding university degrees were more likely than those with just secondary education to state that they made their voting choices on the basis of the contribution to development, education and employment (13.6% vs. 5.6%). Respondents living in rural areas were more likely (76%) than respondents who live in urban areas (66.7%) to claim that they voted for their candidate as an element of their civic duty.

Chart 23. Q23. What was the main reason that you did not vote?



The majority of respondents declare that they did not vote because they were not motivated to vote (39.7%). The second most common response is “Other”, which was mostly given by respondents who were included in the survey but were not of age to vote in the last elections. 14.3% of respondents believe that their vote does not count, which is why they did not vote, whereas 9.3% of respondents believe that the candidates were dishonest. This view is more prevalent in FBiH (12.3%) than in RS (2.8%). Respondents aged 21 to 25 (18.4%) and 26 to 30 (24.4%) were more likely than those aged 19-20 (4.4%) to state that they believed their vote did not matter.

Chart 24. Q23a. Do you plan to vote in the 2016 elections?



Approximately two-thirds of adult respondents (64.3%) stated that they planned to vote in the elections in October 2016, which is similar to the number of respondents who stated that they had voted in the previous elections (63.9%). 20.8% of respondents stated that they did not plan to vote, while 15% had not decided yet. Respondents from RS (72.3%) are more likely than respondents from FBiH (59%) to state that they plan to vote in the next elections. More respondents residing in rural areas (67.7%) state that they plan to vote, compared to respondents living in cities (61.5%).

Table 6. Q23b. Which political party do you intend to vote for?

	Total	Entity			Ethnic belonging			
		FBiH	RS	BD	Bosniak	Croat	Serb	Others
Party of Democratic Action / SDA	12.0	20.8	0.0	17.6	23.3	2.2	0.0	6.7
SNSD Milorad Dodik	8.5	.3	18.4	23.5	0.0	0.0	20.9	0.0
Serb Democratic Party / SDS	3.4	0.0	7.4	11.8	.3	2.2	7.2	6.7
BiH Social-Democratic Party / SDP BiH	3.1	5.3	.4	0.0	4.9	4.3	.4	6.7
BiH Croat Democratic Union / HDZ BiH	3.1	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.1	0.0	13.3
Other	2.9	2.5	3.7	0.0	3.7	0.0	2.7	0.0
Democratic People's Union / DNS	2.8	0.0	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	0.0
BiH Union for Better Future / SBB BiH	2.5	4.2	0.0	5.9	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Democratic Front – Zeljko Komsic	2.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	.4	0.0
Democratic Party – Dragan Cavic	1.1	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0
Our Party	.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	.9	2.2	0.0	0.0
Party for BiH	.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Party of Democratic Progress / PDP	.6	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0
BiH Patriots' Party – Sefer Halilovic / BPS	.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	.9	0.0	0.0	6.7
Party of Democratic Action / A-SDA	.5	.8	0.0	0.0	.6	0.0	.4	0.0
Progressive Srpska	.3	0.0	.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	.8	0.0
United Srpska	.3	0.0	.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	.8	0.0
Don't know/No answer	55.2	53.7	58.1	41.2	55.5	50.0	55.5	60.0

The majority of respondents (55.2%) state that they do not know or do not want to answer the question about the party they plan to vote for. 12% of respondents stated that they planned to vote for the Party of Democratic Action (SDA), while 8.5% planned to vote for the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats (SNSD). 3.4% planned to vote for the Serb Democratic Party (SDS), while 3.1% planned to vote for the BiH Social-Democratic Party (SDP) and the BiH Croat Democratic Union (HDZ BiH), respectively. Respondents from FBiH most often mentioned SDA (20.8%), followed by HDZ BiH (5.5%) and SDP (5.3%). In RS, respondents most often mentioned SNSD (18.4%) and SDS (7.4%) as the parties they planned to vote for. Young people of the Brčko District for the most part mentioned SNSD (23.5%), followed by SDA (17.6%) and SDS (11.8%). These responses largely correspond to the official election results from October 2016.

Table 7. Q24. What can be done to encourage greater participation of young people in the elections in order to introduce more accountable democracy? First response

	Total	FBiH	RS	DB
Employment opportunities	17.5	14.7	21.8	20.0
Young and educated political candidates	11.8	12.2	10.8	16.7
Facilitating development of young people across the country	8.9	10.5	6.8	3.3
Effective educational and employment institutions	8.5	7.8	9.5	10.0
Eradication of power politics	8.4	9.7	6.8	3.3
New ideas in political programs	7.4	7.4	7.7	3.3
Higher appreciation and incentives for youth activities	6.9	5.3	9.2	10.0
Better organization of elections	6.6	7.7	5.1	3.3
Awareness-raising through various platforms	5.4	5.3	5.5	6.7
Provision of capacities for productive involvement of young people in the community	5.2	4.6	6.2	3.3
Better interaction of young people with public representatives in local election units	4.7	4.8	4.4	6.7
Effective student politics	4.2	4.9	3.1	3.3
Dynamic and affirmative leadership in various sectors	2.8	2.8	2.4	6.7
Transparent portfolios of political candidates	1.8	2.4	.9	3.3

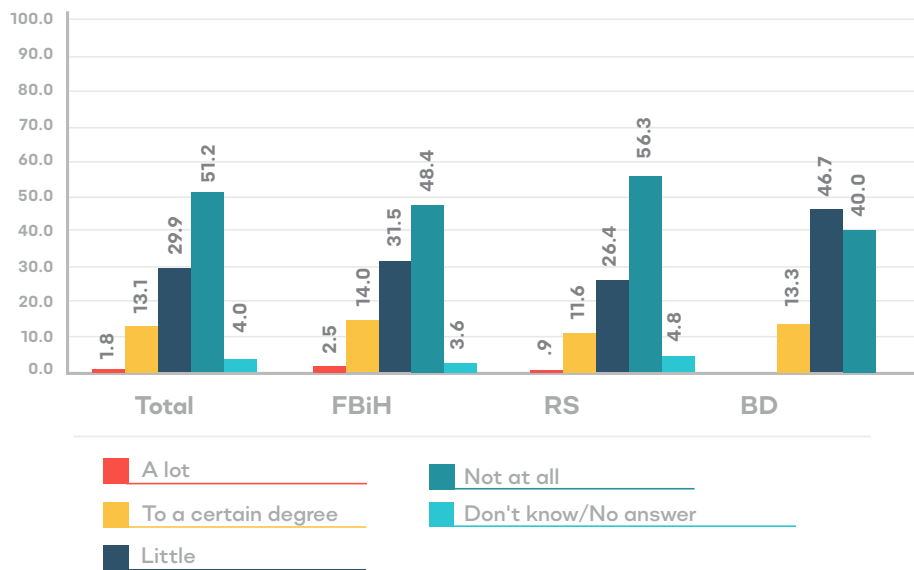
Regarding actions to be taken to encourage young people to vote, the greatest number respondents (17.5%) stated that employment opportunities should be improved, followed by the view that young and educated political candidates (11.8%) might attract young people to vote. Other common responses were facilitating development of young people across the country (8.9%), effective education and employment institutions (8.5%) and eradication of power politics (8.4%). It is interesting that the lowest percentage of respondents stated that a transparent portfolio of political candidates might encourage young people to vote (1.8%). Respondents from RS were more likely than from FBiH to state that employment opportunities (21.8% vs. 14.7%) and more respect and encouragement for young people's activities (9.2% vs. 5.3%) could encourage young people to vote.

Table 8. Q24a. What are your expectations from the authorities? First response

	Total	FBiH	RS	DB
Better business opportunities	44.3	45.9	41.5	50.0
Increase of national income	28.9	26.6	34.3	3.3
Religious harmony	11.1	11.5	9.9	20.0
Reduction of economic inequality	6.8	7.1	5.9	10.0
Better health care institutions	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.3
Access to better quality higher education	2.8	2.5	2.6	13.3
Other	.8	1.0	.7	0.0
Improvement of law and order	.8	.7	.9	0.0
Lesser bureaucracy	.3	.4	0.0	0.0
Transparency in public institutions	.2	.1	.2	0.0
Improved energy situation (electricity, gas, better distribution systems)	.2	.3	0.0	0.0
Better roads and transport system	.2	.1	.2	0.0
Better access to information and communication technologies (ICT)	.1	.1	0.0	0.0

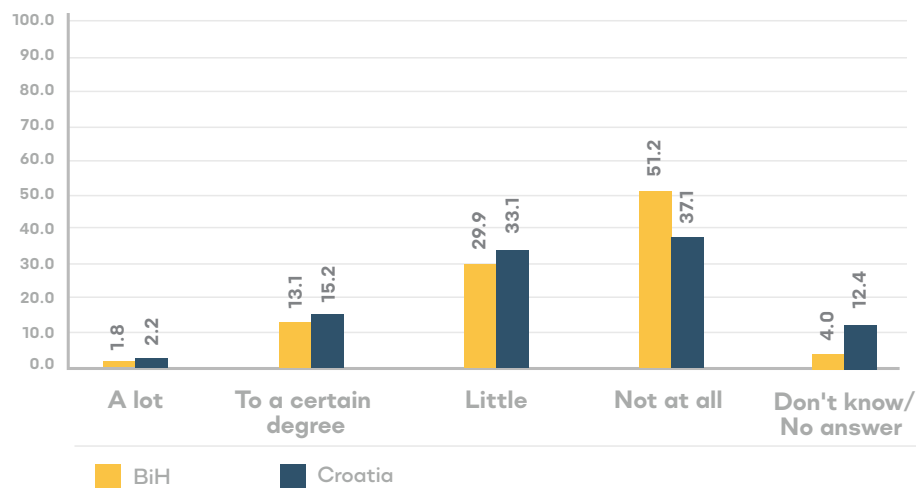
Young people primarily expect the authorities to provide better business opportunities (44.3%) and to increase national income (28.9%). The responses that come next are religious harmony (11.1%), reduction of economic inequality (6.8%), better health care institutions (3.7%) and access to better higher education (2.8%). More often than respondents from FBiH (26.6%) and BD (3.3%), respondents from RS (34.3%) state that they expect the authorities to increase national income. Respondents from BD (13.3%) are more likely than respondents from RS (2.6%) and FBiH (2.5%) to declare that they expect the authorities to provide access to better higher education.

Chart 25. Q25a. In your view, to what degree does your vote influence running of the institutions at the state level?



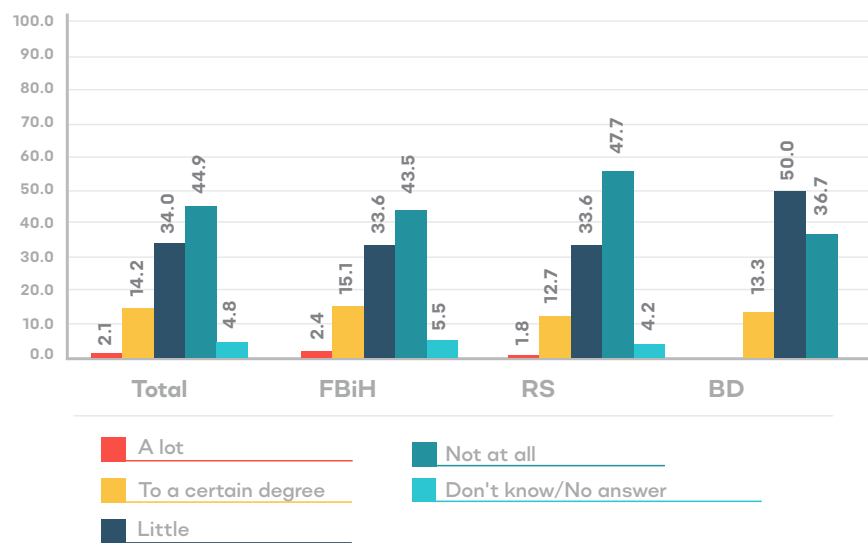
The majority of respondents believe that their vote does not impact the state-level institutions at all (51.2%). 29.9% of respondents believe that their vote has little impact at all, 13.1% believe it has some, while only 1.8% believe that their vote has considerable influence on these institutions. Respondents from FBiH (2.5%) are slightly more inclined to believe that their vote has considerable impact compared than respondents from RS (0.9%). On the other hand, respondents from RS (56.3%) are more likely to believe that their vote does not count at all than is the case for respondents from FBiH (48.4%). Respondents from BD most frequently feel that their vote counts for little (46.7%). Urban respondents are more likely to state that their vote can have some influence on these institutions than those living in rural areas (15.4% vs. 10.4%). Respondents from rural areas are more likely to believe that their vote does not count (54.8% vs. 48.1% respondents living in cities).

Chart 26. Q25a. In your view, to what degree does your vote influence running of the institutions at the state-level? A comparison with the results of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia



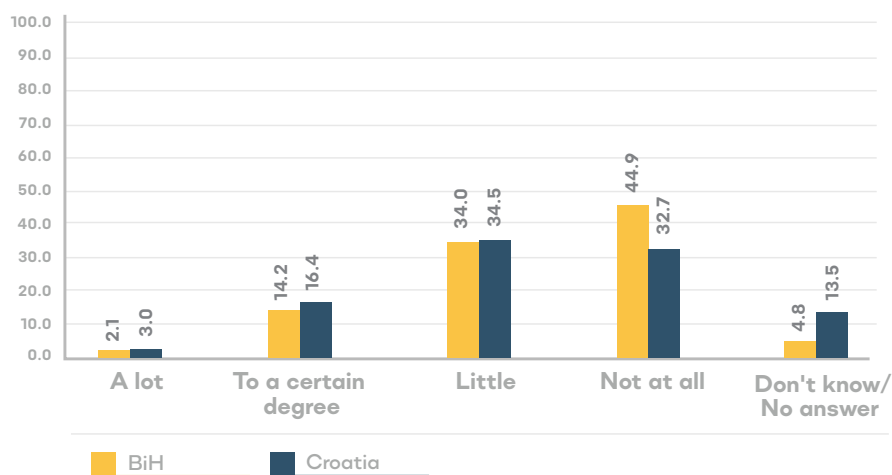
Young people from BiH and Croatia share the same opinion when it comes to the impact their vote can have on the running of state-level institutions. Somewhat greater differences are evident between the percentage of respondents from BiH (51.2%) who stated their belief that their votes did not have any influence on administration of state institutions, relative to 37.1% of respondents from Croatia who are of the same opinion.

Chart 27. Q25b. In your view, to what degree does your vote influence the running of local institutions (local community, municipal and city administration)?



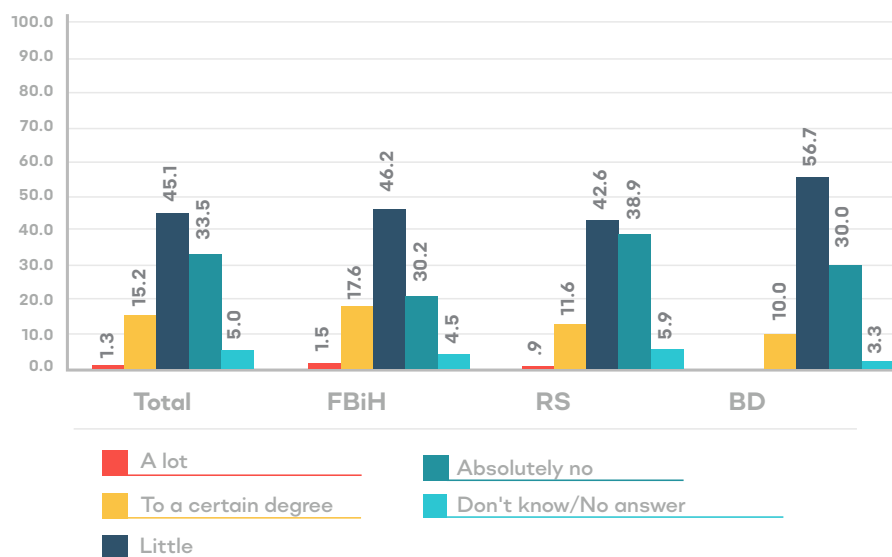
Similar results were obtained with regard to the impact of respondent votes on administration of local-level institutions. Most respondents believe that their vote has no influence (44.9%), followed by little influence (34%), some (14.2%) and a great deal of influence (2.1%). Significant differences are observed among respondents who completed primary (7.5%) and secondary (3.6%) education, who are more likely than respondents with university degrees (2.8%) to believe that their vote has no impact. Moreover, respondents from urban areas (16.1%) are more likely to state that their vote has some influence on the operation of local institutions, whereas those from rural areas are less convinced (11.8%).

Chart 28. Q25b. In your view, to what degree does your vote influence the running of local institutions (local community, municipal and city administration)? A comparison with the results of the 2013 survey in Croatia



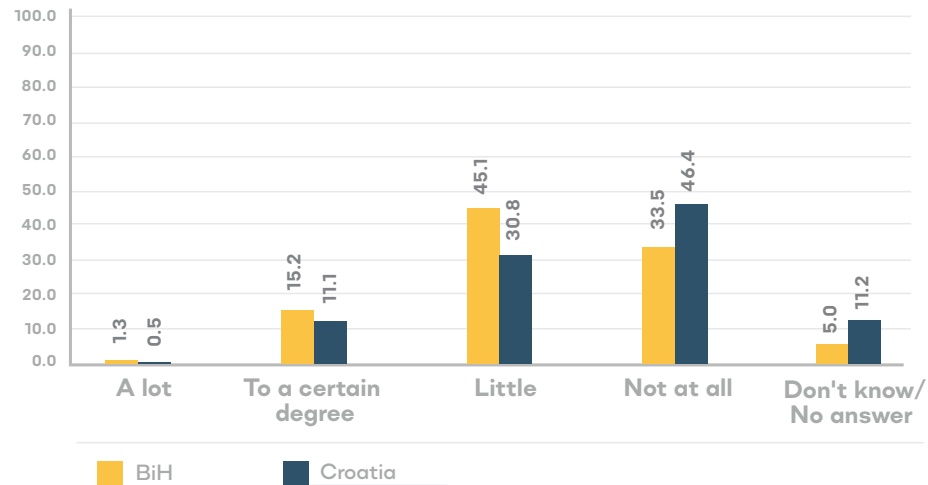
As in the case of respondents' opinion concerning the importance of their vote for the state-level administration, the results are similar for the question about the importance of their vote for local-level administration. Respondents from BiH and Croatia provided similar responses, where the only noticeable difference again concerning the opinion that their votes have no influence whatsoever, which is the view of 44.9% of respondents from BiH, while only 32.7% of respondents from Croatia believe that their vote has no impact at all.

Chart 29. Q26. To what degree do you feel represented by young people who are active in politics?



Young people most often stated that they felt little represented by young people in politics (45.1%), while older survey respondents are more likely to believe that they are not represented at all (33.5%). Only 15.2% of respondents believe that young people in politics represent them to a certain extent, while only 1.3% of respondents gave the response “A lot”. Respondents from FBiH are more likely to believe that young people in politics represent them to a certain extent (17.6%) than is the case for respondents from RS (11.6%). On the other hand, respondents from RS are more likely (38.9%) to believe that young people in politics do not represent them at all than respondents from FBiH (30.2%). Respondents living in urban areas are more likely to respond “to a certain extent” than those living in rural areas (17.4% vs. 12.6%).

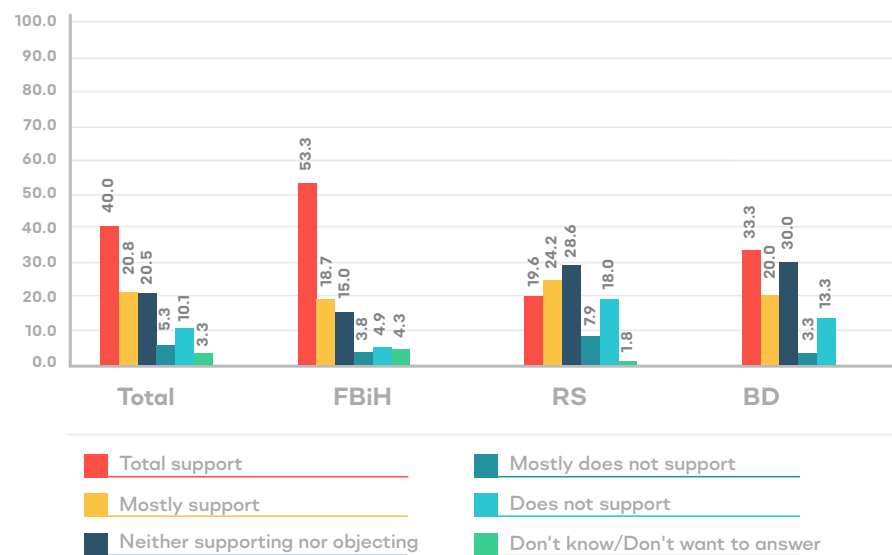
Chart 30. Q26. To what degree do you feel represented by young people who are active in politics? A comparison with the results of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia.



Respondents from Croatia expressed a more negative view concerning the degree in which they are represented by young people in politics. A smaller percentage of respondents from Croatia, relative to BiH, state that they feel represented by young people in politics to a small extent (30.8% vs. 45.1%), while a greater percentage of respondents from Croatia (46.4%), compared to BiH (33.5%) declared that they were not represented at all by young people in politics.

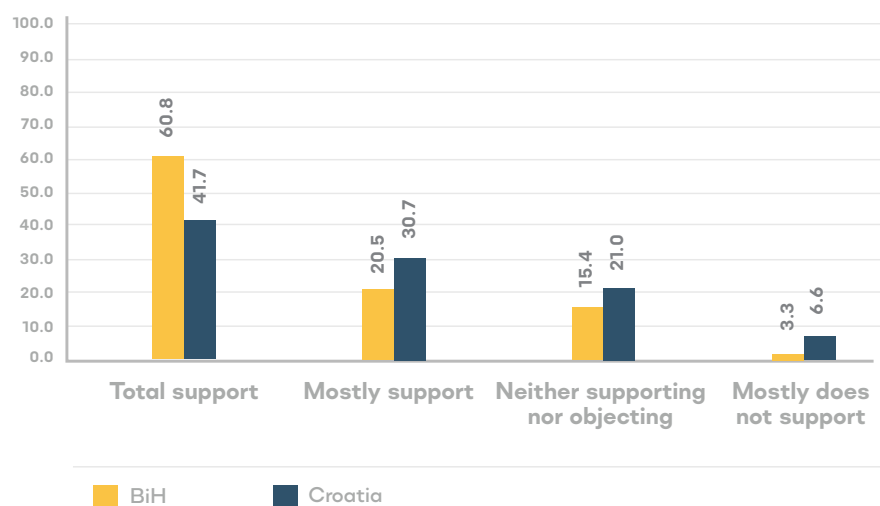
BiH accession to the European Union

Chart 37. Q28. Do you support BiH becoming a member of EU?



The majority of respondents state that they fully support the accession of BiH to the European Union (40%), and further 20.8 % declare that they mostly support this idea. 20.5% of respondents state that they are neither supportive nor opposed, while 5.3% of respondents state that they mostly do not support the BiH accession, and 10.1% of respondents do not support it at all. Respondents from FBiH (53.3%) are significantly more likely than respondents from RS (19.6%) to declare that they fully support the BiH accession. On the other hand, respondents from RS state, more often than respondents from FBiH, that they are neither supportive nor opposed (28.6% vs.15%), that they mostly do not support (7.9% vs. 3.8%) or do not support the EU membership at all (18%, vs. 4.9%). Respondents living in rural areas (23.1%) more often state that they neither support nor oppose the EU accession, compared to respondents from urban areas (18.3%).

Chart 32. Q28. Do you support the accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina/ Croatia to the EU? A comparison with the results of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia



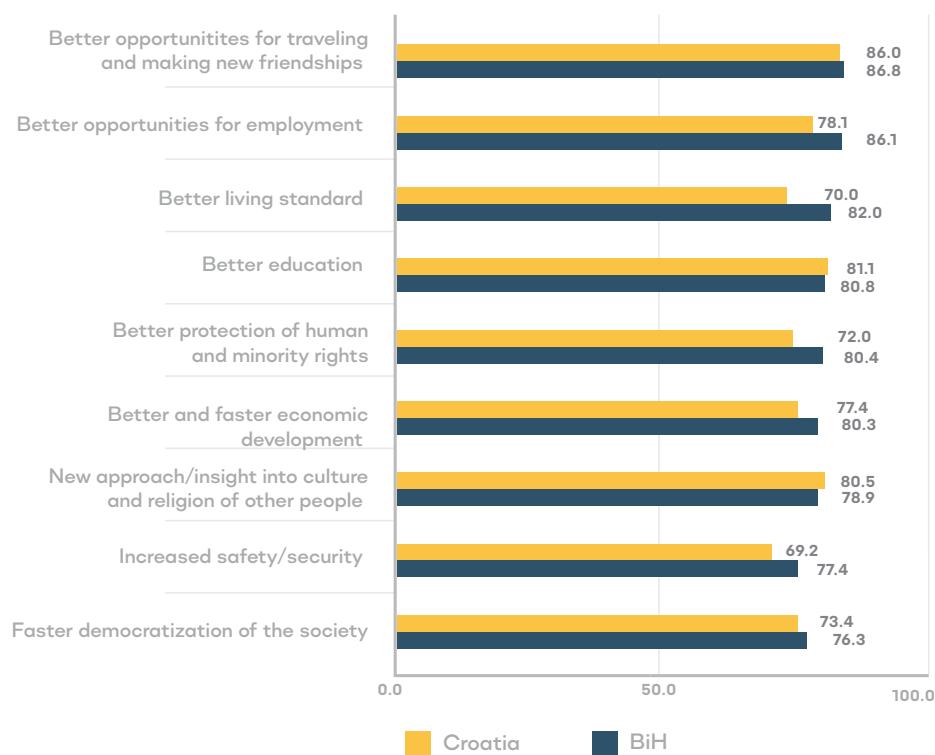
In comparison with the "Youth in the Time of Crisis" survey conducted in Croatia in 2013, before its accession to the EU, it is evident that respondents are more supportive of the accession of BiH to the EU (60.8%) in comparison with the support of respondents from Croatia for the accession of Croatia to the EU at the time (41.7%). Furthermore, 21% of respondents in Croatia stated that they somewhat, or fully, opposed the EU accession, while this percentage is somewhat lower in BiH (15.4%).

Table 9. Q29. Please estimate why and how is the BiH accession to the EU desirable?

	Totally agree	Mostly agree	Mostly disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
Better and faster economic development	53.6	26.7	9.7	5.3	4.8
Faster democratization of the society	46.8	29.4	13.4	5.4	4.9
Better living standard	55.8	26.3	8.6	4.7	4.8
Better protection of human and minority rights	53.8	26.6	10.3	4.5	4.8
New approach/insight into culture and religion of other people	50.6	28.3	12.0	4.5	4.6
Better opportunities for employment	63.3	22.8	6.5	3.6	3.8
Better opportunities for business development.	59.1	25.6	7.3	3.4	4.7
Better education	53.9	26.8	10.8	4.5	4.0
Increased safety/security	51.8	25.6	12.8	5.3	4.4
Better opportunities for traveling and making new friendships	66.9	19.9	5.8	3.8	3.7

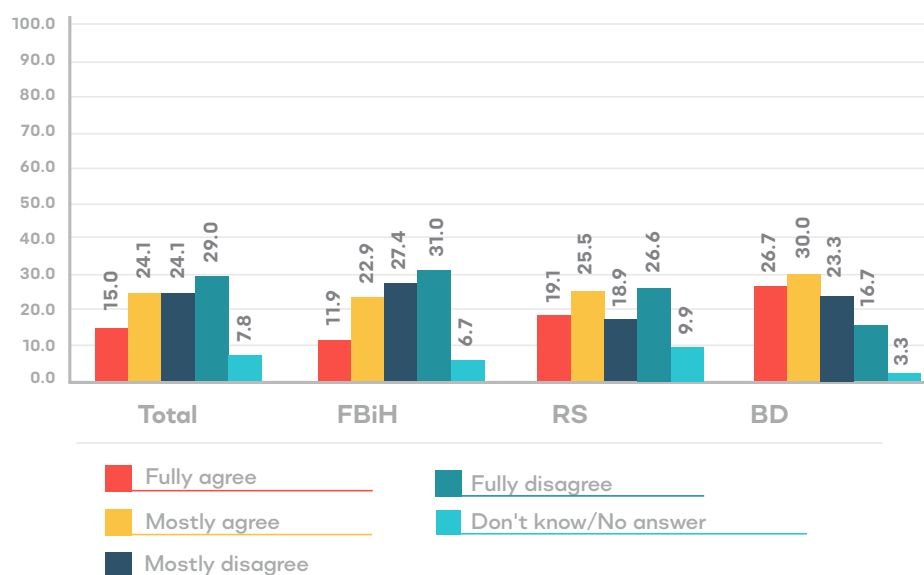
The majority of respondents entirely agree with all statements proposed as potential reasons why the EU membership of BiH would be desirable. Most respondents entirely agree with the statement that the BiH membership in the EU brings better opportunities for travel and making new friendships (66.9%), better employment opportunities (63.3%) as well as better business opportunities (59.1%). 55.8% of respondents entirely agree with the statement that the BiH membership in the EU would mean a better standard of living, better education (53.9%) and better human and minority rights protection (53.8%). Respondents took the most reserved, although still very favorable, stance regarding the matter of faster democratization of society (46.8%) and new insights into culture and religion of other countries (50.6%). Respondents from FBiH and BD, compared to respondents from RS, are more likely to state that they completely agree with all proposed statements.

Chart 33. Q29. Please estimate why and how is the BiH accession to the EU desirable? A comparison with the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia.



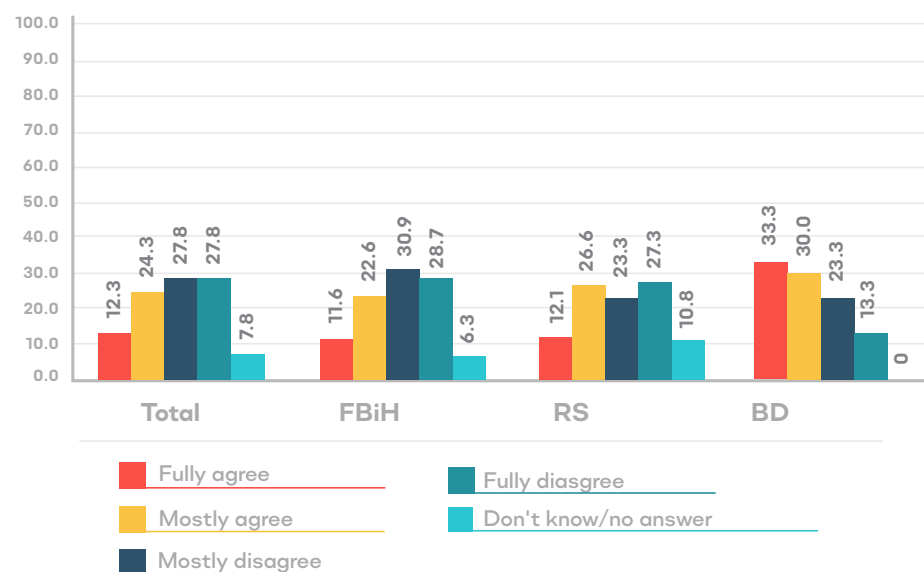
With regard to the reasons why the EU membership is desirable, respondents from BiH and Croatia exhibit similar response patterns, i.e. a similar percentage of respondents from both countries completely or mostly agree with the stated reasons, although somewhat higher percentage of respondents from BiH agree with the suggested benefits. Differences are more pronounced regarding the question of the improved living standards, as more respondents from BiH (82%) than from Croatia (70%) believe that the EU accession would have such an effect. In addition, respondents from BiH were more likely to agree than those from Croatia that EU membership would bring better human and minority rights protection (80.4% vs. 72%) and increased security/safety (77.4% vs. 69.2%).

Chart 34. Q30a. Threat to national identities of people in BiH



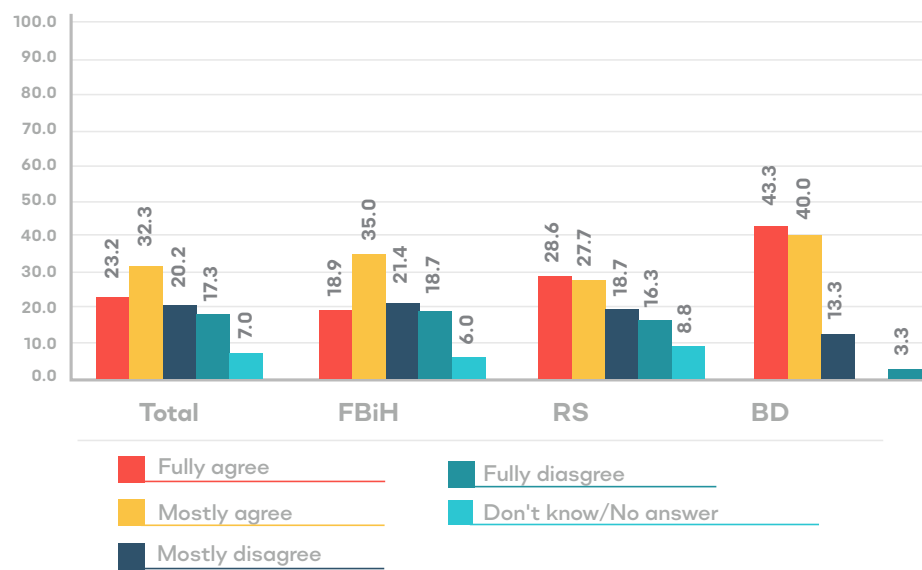
With regard to reasons why the EU membership of BiH would not be desirable, the majority of respondents state that they completely (29%) or mostly disagree (24.1%) with the statement that the EU accession would be a threat to national identities of the people in BiH. 15% of respondents completely agree that EU accession would represent a threat to national identities in BiH. Significantly more respondents from RS (19.1%) and BD (26.7%) completely agree with this statement, compared to respondents from FBiH (11.9%). An almost equal number of young people from RS “mostly agree” and “completely disagree” with this statement (25.5% vs. 26.6%). Men were also more likely to opt for the response “completely agree” (17.2%), compared to female respondents (13%).

Chart 35. Q30b. Threat to BiH sovereignty



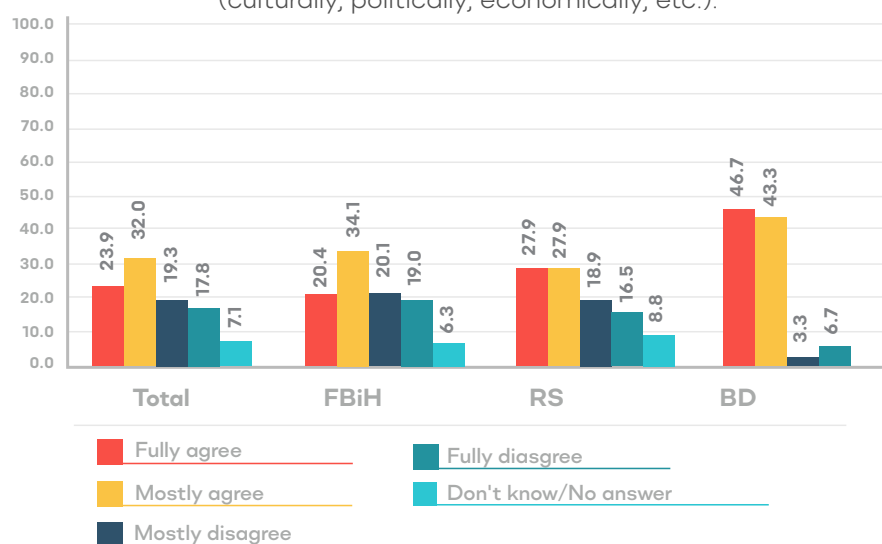
More than half of all respondents mostly or completely disagree with the statement that the EU accession would represent a threat to the sovereignty of BiH (55.6%), while 12.3% of respondents completely agree, and additional 24.3% of respondents mostly agree with the statement. Respondents from BD (33.3%) are more likely than respondents from FBiH (11.6%) and RS (12.1%) to declare that they completely agree with the statement that the EU accession would represent a threat to the sovereignty of BiH. As with the previous statement, there is almost an identical number of respondents from RS who “mostly agree” and “completely disagree”. Furthermore, respondents who completed primary education (36.2%) are more likely than respondents who completed secondary (27%) or university-level education (20.6%) to state that they mostly disagree with this statement.

Chart 36. Q30c. Increases potential for economic exploitation of BiH.



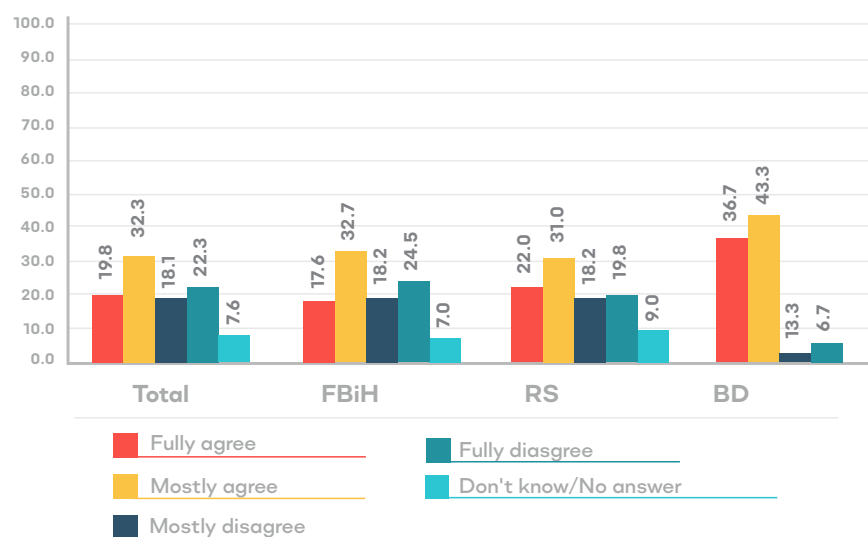
Most respondents mostly agree with the statement that the BiH accession to EU would increase the possibility of economic exploitation of BiH (32.3%). When we combine responses of respondents who mostly or completely agree with this statement, more than half of respondents (55.5%) believe that the EU accession would increase the possibility of economic exploitation of BiH, whereas 37.5% of respondents mostly or completely disagree with this statement. Respondents from RS (28.6%) and BD (43.3%) are more likely than respondents from FBiH (18.9%) to declare that they completely agree with this statement. Respondents who secondary (24.2%) or university-level education (29.4%) are more likely than those with completed primary education (14.7%) to declare that they completely agree with this statement.

Chart 37. Q30d. Makes BiH dependent on developed European countries (culturally, politically, economically, etc.).



More than half of respondents (55.9%) mostly or completely agree with the statement that EU accession would make BiH dependent on developed European countries, whether culturally, politically or economically. A greater percentage of respondents from RS (27.9%) and BD (46.7%) completely agree with this statement, compared to respondents from FBiH (20.4%). Men are more likely than women to opt for the response “completely disagree” (20.6%, vs. 15.2%).

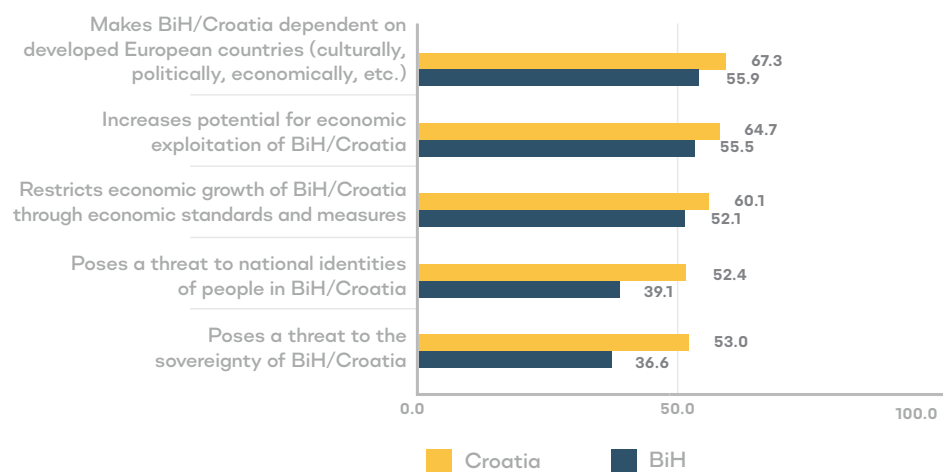
Chart 38. Q30e. Restricts economic growth of BiH through economic standards and measures.



Many respondents (32.3%) mostly agree that the EU accession would restrict the economic growth of BiH through economic standards and measures imposed by the EU, while further 19.8% of respondents completely agree with this statement. Consequently, most respondents (52.1%) believe that the EU accession would restrict the economic growth of BiH. On the other hand, 40.4% of respondents somewhat or completely disagree with this statement. Respondents from BD (36.7%) are more likely

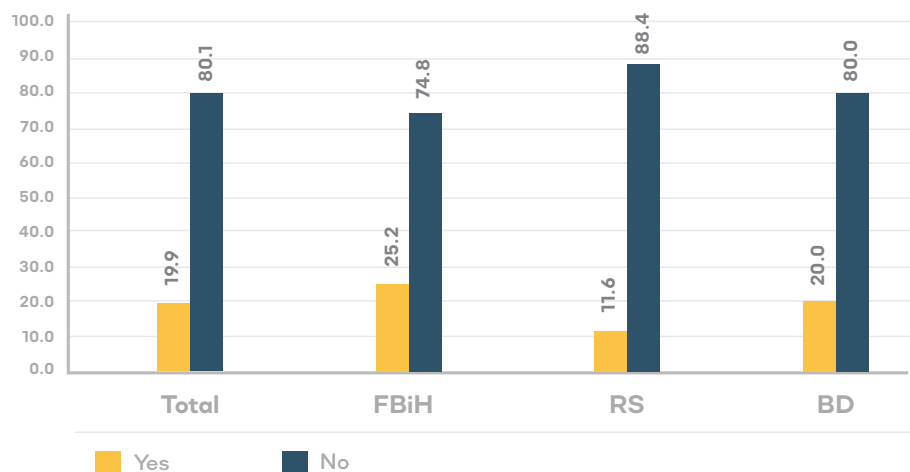
than respondents from FBiH (17.6%) to state that they completely agree with this statement. Men are more likely than women to completely disagree with the statement that the EU accession would restrict the economic growth of BiH (25.4% vs. 19.5%). Respondents who completed secondary (21%) and university-level education (25.3%) are significantly more likely to state that they completely agree with this statement.

Chart 39. Q30a. Please assess why the accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina/Croatia to the EU is undesirable? A comparison with the results of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia.



Considering the reasons why the accession of BiH/Croatia to EU would be undesirable, respondents from both countries exhibited a similar response pattern, with a higher percentage of respondents from Croatia agreeing with each of the stated reasons. Particularly prominent is the opinion of 52.4% of respondents from Croatia who consider the accession to EU a threat to the national identity of people in Croatia, compared to 39.1% of respondents from BiH who are of the same opinion. In addition, 53% of respondents believe that the accession to the EU is a threat to the sovereignty of Croatia, while 36.6% of respondents from BiH have the same view when it comes to the sovereignty of BiH.

Chart 40. Q31. Have you heard about the BiH Reform Agenda?



As many as four out of five respondents (80.1%) declared that they had not heard about the Reform Agenda, while only 19.9% stated that they heard about it. Respondents from FBiH (25.2%) are more likely than respondents from RS (11.6%) to declare that they heard about the Reform Agenda. More men (22.9%) than women (17.3%) heard about the Reform Agenda. Respondents aged 21-25 (21.9%) and 26-30 (25.6%) were more likely to state that they had heard about the Agenda, compared to the respondents aged 15 to 20 years (13.5%). More of respondents who completed secondary (19%) and university-level education (38.2%) have heard about the Reform Agenda compared the respondents who only completed primary education. A larger percentage of respondents living in cities (24.3%) have heard about the Reform Agenda, compared to respondents residing in rural areas (14.8%).

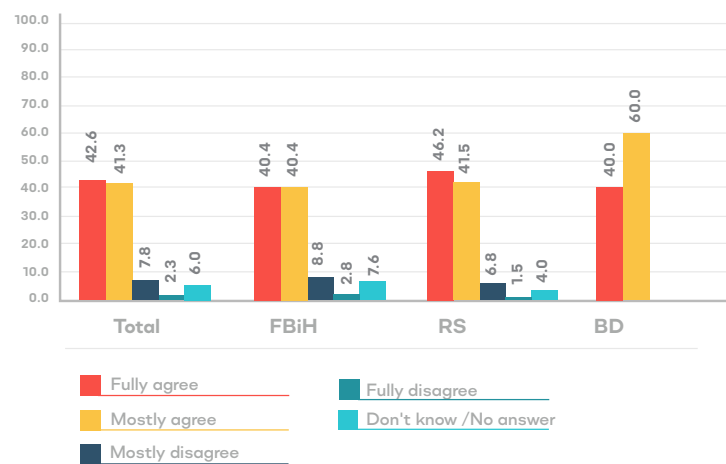
Table 10. Q32. You answered that you had heard about the Reform Agenda. Please respond with "I agree" or "I disagree" to each of the following statements

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	I agree	I disagree	Don't know/ No answer	I agree	I disagree	Don't know/ No answer	I agree	I disagree	Don't know/ No answer	I agree	I disagree	Don't know/ No answer
I read the Reform Agenda and I understood it	34.7	56.1	9.2	38.9	50.6	10.6	18.9	75.5	5.7	50.0	50.0	0.0
I roughly know what the Reform Agenda is	71.5	25.1	3.3	70.0	26.1	3.9	75.5	22.6	1.9	83.3	16.7	0.0
Implementing the Reform Agenda is directly linked with achievement of necessary standards for the EU integration.	64.4	14.2	21.3	68.9	13.3	17.8	47.2	18.9	34.0	83.3	0.0	16.7
I believe that implementation of the Reform Agenda will have no real impact on the overall state in BiH.	37.7	30.1	32.2	38.3	31.7	30.0	35.8	20.8	43.4	33.3	66.7	0.0
I believe that implementation of the Reform Agenda will have no real impact on my individual wellbeing.	42.3	28.5	29.3	42.8	28.9	28.3	37.7	26.4	35.8	66.7	33.3	0.0
I believe that the Reform Agenda has the necessary potential, but the leading politicians will not implement it	56.9	18.8	24.3	57.8	19.4	22.8	50.9	17.0	32.1	83.3	16.7	0.0
I believe that the leading politicians will successfully implement the Reform Agenda.	21.3	53.6	25.1	23.3	54.4	22.2	15.1	47.2	37.7	16.7	83.3	0.0
Overall, reform agenda, if implemented, will be a positive outcome for the country and its people.	59.8	16.7	23.4	66.1	14.4	19.4	35.8	24.5	39.6	83.3	16.7	0.0

The finding that barely one-third (34.7%) of respondents who stated that they have heard about the Reform Agenda say that they have read and understood it is somewhat discouraging. About three quarters (71.5%) of respondents state that they are roughly familiar with the Reform Agenda¹, while one-quarter declare that they do not know what it refers to. About two-thirds (64.4%) of respondents state that they believe that the implementation of the Reform Agenda is directly linked with the achievement of necessary standards for the EU integration. Respondents are most divided in their opinion regarding its actual impact on the situation in BiH. While 37.7% of respondents believe that the implementation of the Reform Agenda will not have any actual impact on the situation in BiH, 30.1% disagree with this statement, while 32.2% of respondents state that they do not know or they do not have an answer to this question. 42.3% of respondents believe that they will not personally benefit from the implementation of the Reform Agenda. Somewhat more than half of all respondents (56.9%) believe that the Reform Agenda has a certain potential, but that the leading politicians will not implement it. Accordingly, more than half of respondents (53.6%) disagree with the subsequent statement that the leading politicians will successfully implement the Reform Agenda, whereas barely 21.3% think that it will be successfully implemented by leading politicians. The majority of respondents (59.8%) feel that the Reform Agenda, if it is implemented, will produce a positive outcome for the country and its people, whereas 16.7% disagree with this statement.

More respondents from FBiH than from RS (38.9% vs. 18.9%) state that they read and understood the Reform Agenda, that they believe that the implementation of the Reform Agenda is directly linked with the necessary standards for the EU integration (68.9% vs. 47.2%), and that the Reform Agenda, if it is implemented, will produce a positive outcome for the country and its people (66.1% vs. 35.8%). Respondents from BD exhibited a more positive stance toward positive effects of the Reform Agenda, unlike respondents from both entities. More men than women state that they read and understood the Reform Agenda (41.9% vs. 26.4%) and that they believe that leading politicians will implement it successfully (26.4% vs. 15.5%). Respondents living in cities are more likely to agree with the statement that the Reform Agenda, if it gets implemented, will produce a positive outcome for the country and its people, compared to respondents who reside in rural areas (66.5% vs. 46.9%).

Chart 41. Q33. Do you agree that regional cooperation can contribute to the political, economic or security situation of your society?



¹ As examples, respondents from the focus groups conducted in Banja Luka, Sarajevo, Mostar and Brcko (September 2016) gave the following answers when asked what is the Reform Agenda: "I believe it is the reform of the justice system, economy and other things..."; "the Agenda is a set of tasks that must be completed in order to get the assistance from the European Union, the International Fund...," or "The sentence everyone plays with, no one knows what it means but it sounds nice." See Annex1.

The majority of respondents agree completely (42.6%) or mostly (41.3%) that the regional cooperation can improve the political, economic, and security situation in the society. 7.8% of respondents declare that they mostly disagree, while 2.3% completely disagree with this statement. There are no significant differences on any of the parameters: an equal number of respondents from FBiH (40.4%), RS (46.2%) and BD (40%) state that they completely agree with this statement. Respondents aged 21-25 (4.2%) and respondents holding university degrees (5.3%) are also more likely to state that they completely disagree with this statement, compared to other age and education groups. Respondents living in rural areas more often state that they completely agree with the statement (46.3% vs. 39.5% of respondents in urban areas), whereas respondents living in cities, more often than those in rural areas, state that they mostly (3.1% vs. 1.3%) or completely disagree (7.2% vs. 4.6%) with this statement.

Compared to average responses of respondents from the Balkan region – as per RCC Barometer - (77%), respondents from BiH (83.9%) are somewhat more likely to agree, completely or mostly, that the regional cooperation can improve the political, economic and security situation.

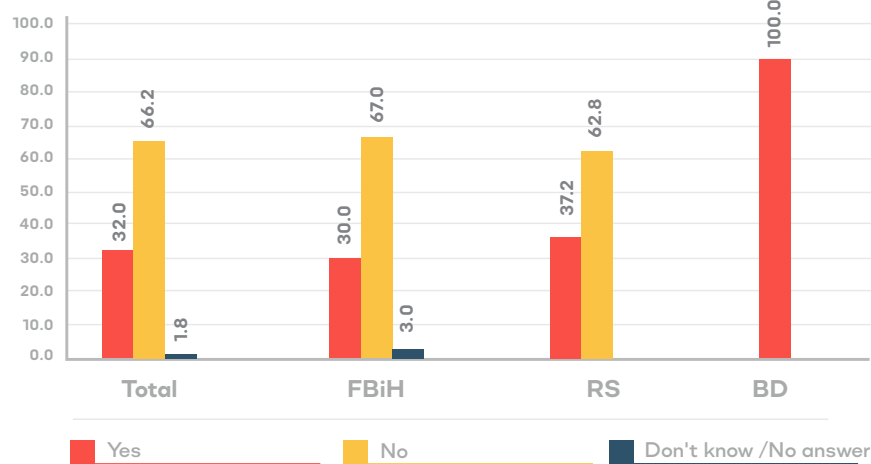
Experiences with work environment and job seeking

Tabela 11. P34. Which of the following statements best describes your situation in the course of last week?

	Total	FBiH	RS	DB
Employed – full time – as a rule working 35 or more hours per week	23.2	21.7	25.9	16.7
Employed – part time – as a rule working between 15 and 34 hours per week	1.9	2.4	1.1	3.3
Employed – part time – as a rule working less than 15 hours a week	.8	1.0	.2	3.3
Employed on my own farm and NOT LOOKING for another job	.6	.6	.4	3.3
Employed on my own farm and LOOKING for another job	.3	.6	0.0	0.0
Maternity leave	.2	.3	0.0	0.0
Intern/Trainee	1.2	1.5	.7	0.0
Unemployed, taking temporary and occasional work, actively seeking work (includes volunteer work)	2.5	2.7	2.2	3.3
Unemployed, actively seeking work	18.8	17.5	20.7	23.3
Unemployed, desiring work, but no seeking actively	4.1	4.6	3.1	6.7
Unemployed and not looking for work	1.3	1.4	1.1	0.0
Person with disability – disability is the main reason I am not in the work force	.1	0.0	.2	0.0
Housewife	2.8	2.8	3.1	0.0
Student	19.3	17.3	22.0	23.3
University student	22.4	24.9	19.1	13.3
Other	.7	.8	.2	3.3

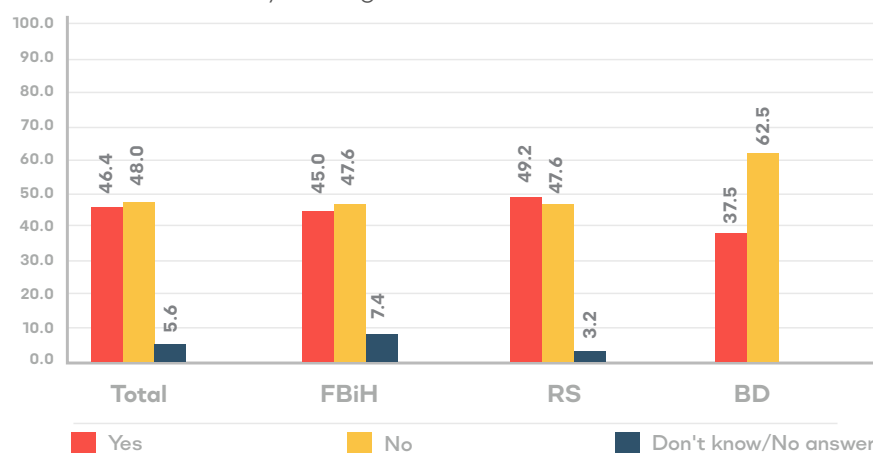
With regard to the status of young people included in this survey, approximately one-quarter of respondents (23.2%) declare that they have full-time jobs. 22.4% state that they are university students, 19.3% that they are students, whereas 18.8% state that they are unemployed and actively seeking work. As expected, the majority of respondents aged 15-20 stated that they are pupils (50.6%), whereas most respondents aged 21-25 state they are students (38.8%). Approximately half of respondents aged 26-30 state that they are employed (46.4%). A somewhat higher number of respondents living in rural areas declare that they are unemployed and actively seeking jobs, compared to respondents from the cities (21.7% vs. 16.4%).

Chart 42. Q35. Have you changed your occupation or requalified to obtain your current job??



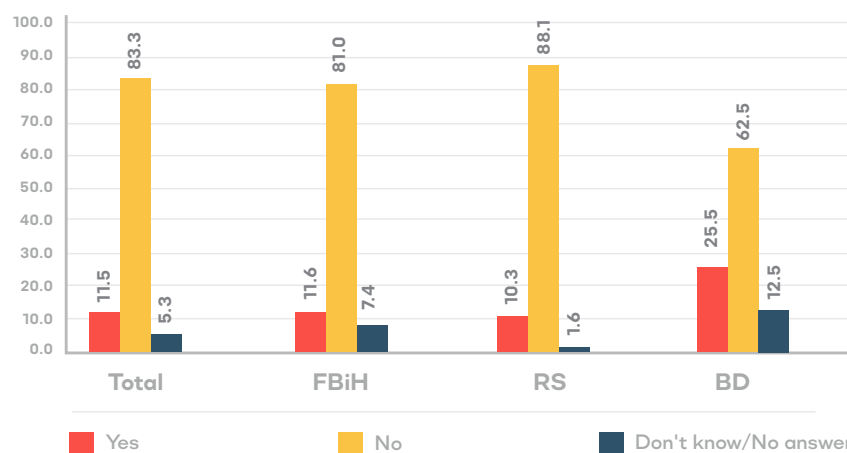
Approximately two-thirds of respondents (66.2%), who had previously stated that they have jobs or internships, state that they did not need to switch careers/change occupation or requalify to get their current jobs, while approximately one-third of respondents (32%) declare that they had to. The pattern of results in FBiH and RS is similar, while all respondents in BD (100%) state that they did not have to change occupation or requalify. It is important to note that the size of the sample respondents from BD who were included in the analysis was very small (N=8). Respondents who completed secondary education (38.3%) are more likely to state that they changed occupation compared to respondents holding university degrees (13.4%), whereas respondents with university degrees (84.1%) are more likely to state that they did not have to change occupation than respondents who completed secondary education (60.1%).

Chart 43. Q36. As an employee, would you say that you are satisfied with your wage?



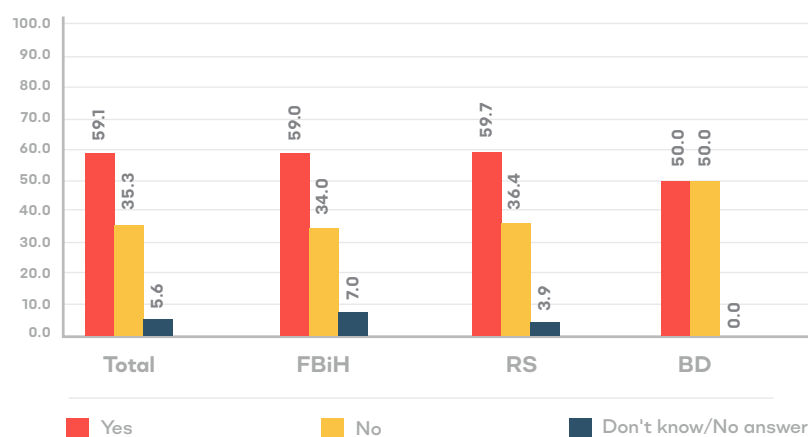
Opinions of employed respondents differ regarding their satisfaction with wages, with almost an equal number of respondents declaring that they are satisfied (46.4%) as of those who are dissatisfied (48%) with their wages. A significant difference is evident among respondents with university degrees, with 59.2% of them stating that they are satisfied with their wages, in comparison with 43.2% of respondents who completed secondary education.

Chart 44. Q37. Do you think that your salary might differ in relation to your gender?



A large majority of employed respondents do not believe that their wages vary on the basis of gender (83.7%), i.e. 11.3% of respondents believe that their wages differ on the basis of gender/sex. There are no significant variations in responses of respondents from different groups categorized according to demographic characteristics.

Chart 45. Q38. Are you able to afford any social activities (such as, e.g. tourist trips, cultural events)?



More than half of employed respondents (59.1%) state that they can afford certain social activities such as traveling or attending cultural events. A somewhat smaller percentage of respondents (35.3%) declare that they cannot afford such activities. Respondents from FBiH (59%) and RS (59.7%) are more likely to state that they can afford such activities than respondents from BD (50%). However, due to a

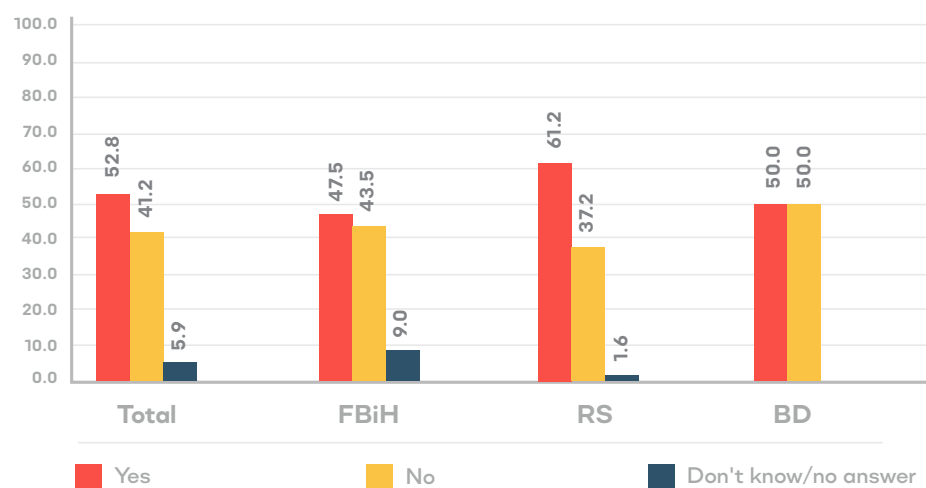
small size of the sample of respondents from BD, it is not possible to determine whether this difference is statistically significant.

In respondents' opinion, a decent average wage for a person their age should be 896 KM, which is a little higher than the current average wage in BiH, i.e. 832 KM¹. Respondents from FBiH expect an average wage of 883 KM, while the average wage in FBiH in August 2016 was 836 KM². Respondents from RS expect a somewhat higher average wage of 912 KM, while the average wage in RS in September 2016 was 834 KM³. Young people in BD consider 947 KM to be the appropriate wage, while the average wage in BD in June 2016 was 833 KM⁴.

Men expect a higher wage (921 KM) than women (873 KM). Respondents aged 21-25 expect a higher wage (910 KM) than respondents aged 15-20 (806 KM), while the respondents aged 26-30 expect a significantly higher wage than both younger age groups and consider the average wage of 981 KM to be appropriate.

Respondents holding university degrees believe that a wage of 1108 KM is appropriate for a person of their age, which is significantly higher than the amount expected by persons with primary (805 KM) and secondary education (874 KM).

Chart 46. Q40. Is your income higher than the income of one of your parents?



More than half of respondents (52.8%) state that their wages are higher than the wages of at least one of their parents. 41.2% state that their wages are lower than the wages of their parents. Respondents from RS (61.2%) are more likely to state than those from FBiH (47.5%) that their wages are higher than the wages of at least one of their parents. Compared to the age groups 21-25 (43.2%) and 15-20 (39%), respondents aged 26-30 state significantly more often that their wages are higher than the wages of one

1 BiH Agency for Statistics - <http://www.bhas.ba/>

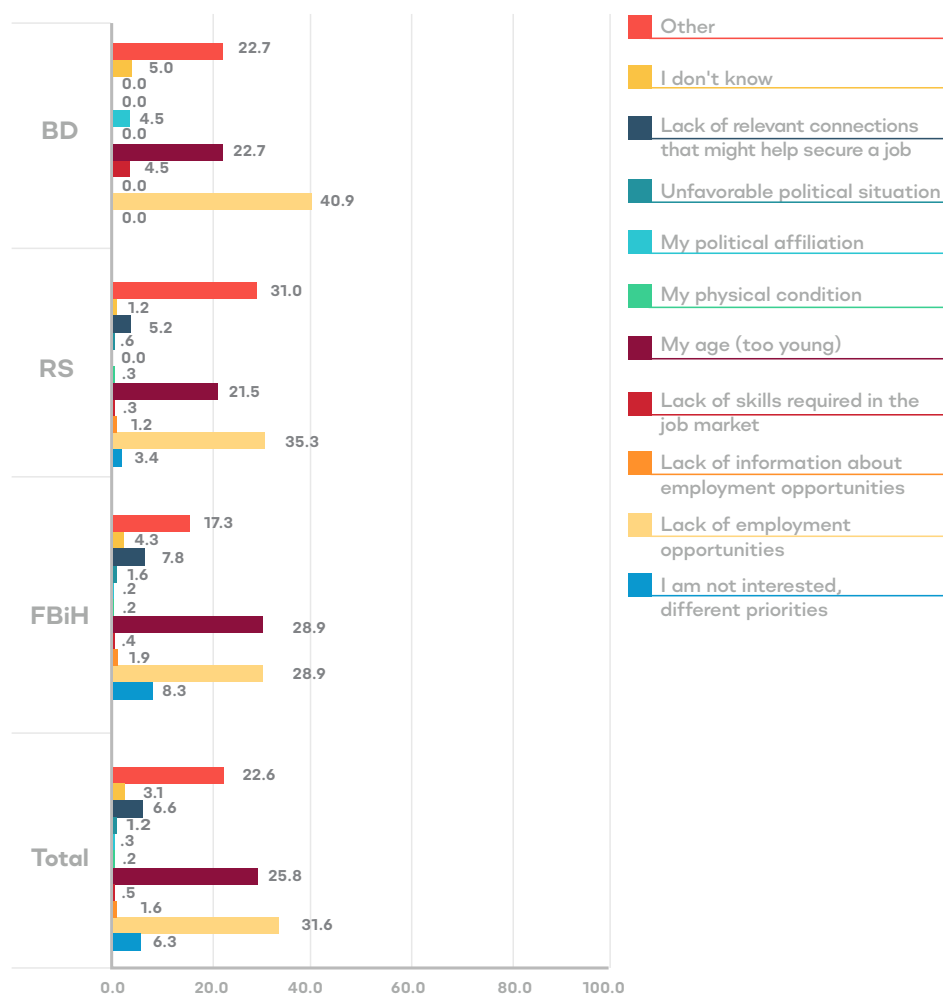
2 FBiH Institute for Statistics - <https://docs.google.com/gview?url=http://fzs.ba/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Mjesecni-statisticki-bilten-F-BiH-10.pdf>

3 RS Institute for Statistics - http://www2.rzs.rs.ba/static/uploads/bilteni/mesecni_statisticki_pregled/2016/Mjesecni_statisticki_pregled_Septembar_2016_web.pdf

4 BiH Agency for Statistics - http://www.bhas.ba/publikacijebd/BRC_2016_004_OPS.pdf

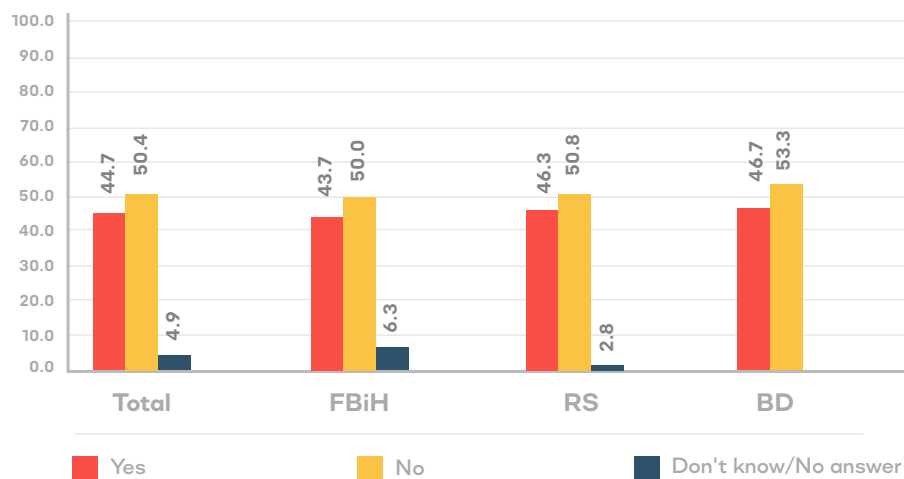
of their parents (60.2%). Moreover, respondents living in rural areas are more likely to give an affirmative response (62.2%) than respondents living in cities (45.5%).

Chart 47. Q41. If you are unemployed, what is the reason?



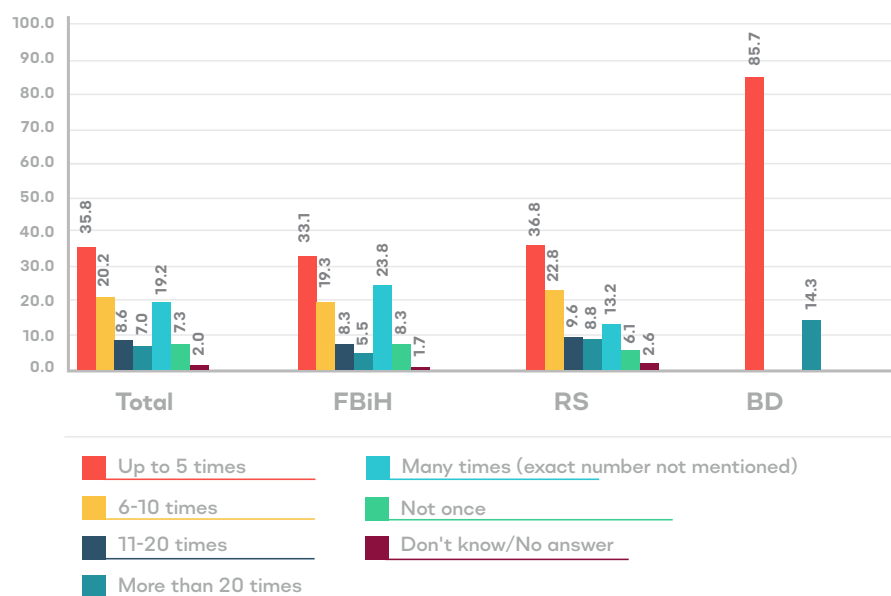
Unemployed respondents are most likely to mention the lack of job opportunities (31.6%) as the main reason, followed by being too young (25.8%). Additional 22.6% of respondents state other reasons, but these are usually students who are too young to get a job, i.e. they are still in school. 6.6% of respondents state that the main reason is that they lack relevant connections to secure a job, and 6.3% declare that they are not interested in looking for a job since they have different priorities. Respondents from BD (4.5%) state more often than those from FBiH (0.4%) and RS (0.3%) that they lack the skills necessary in the labor market. Respondents aged 26-30 mention the lack of job opportunities (61.6%) more often than respondents aged 15-20 (14.8%) and 21-25 (36.8%). Respondents living in rural areas mention the absence of employment opportunities more often than respondents residing in urban areas (36.2% vs. 27.7%).

Chart 48. Q42. If you are unemployed, are you actively looking for a job?



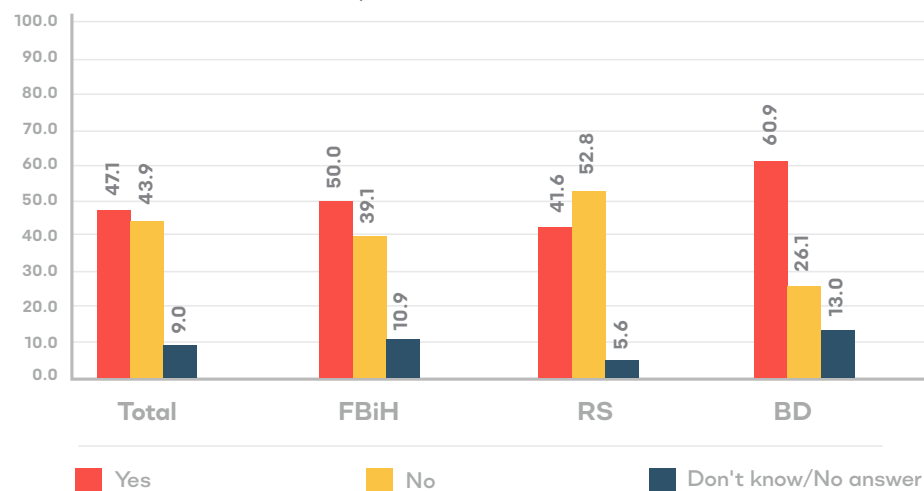
Approximately half of unemployed respondents aged 18 and over state that they are not actively looking for a job (50.4%), while 44.7% state that they are. Men (50%) more often than women (41%) state that they are actively looking for a job. Respondents aged 26-30 (67.6%) are significantly more likely to state that they are actively looking for a job, compared to those aged 15-20 (29.5%) and 21-25 (41.7%). Also, unemployed respondents holding university degrees (61.4%) are more likely to state that they are actively looking for a job than respondents who completed primary (22%) and secondary (44.5%) education.

Chart 49. Q43. How many times have you, approximately, applied for jobs?



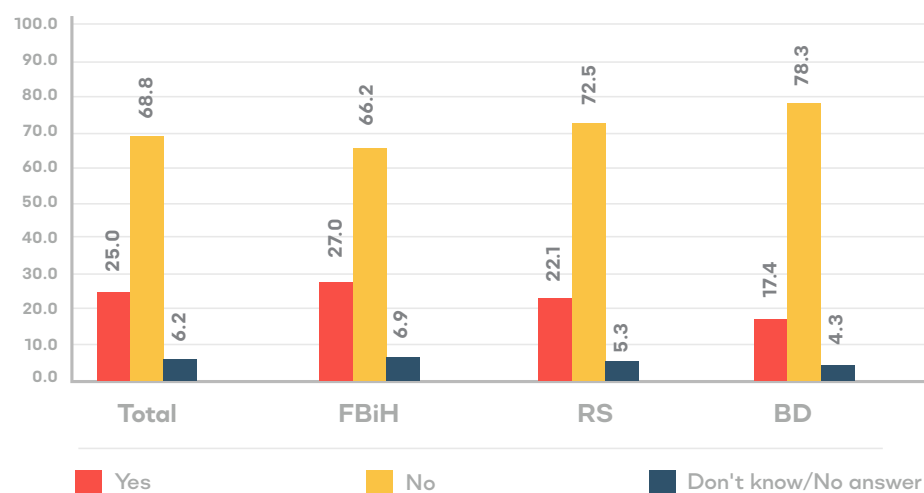
Most young people who stated that they were actively looking for a job declared that they had applied for jobs up to five times (35.8%), or 6-10 times (20.2%). A significant number stated that they applied multiple times but without providing exact figures (19.2%).

Chart 50. Q44. Would you move, if you could find a better job in the other entity?



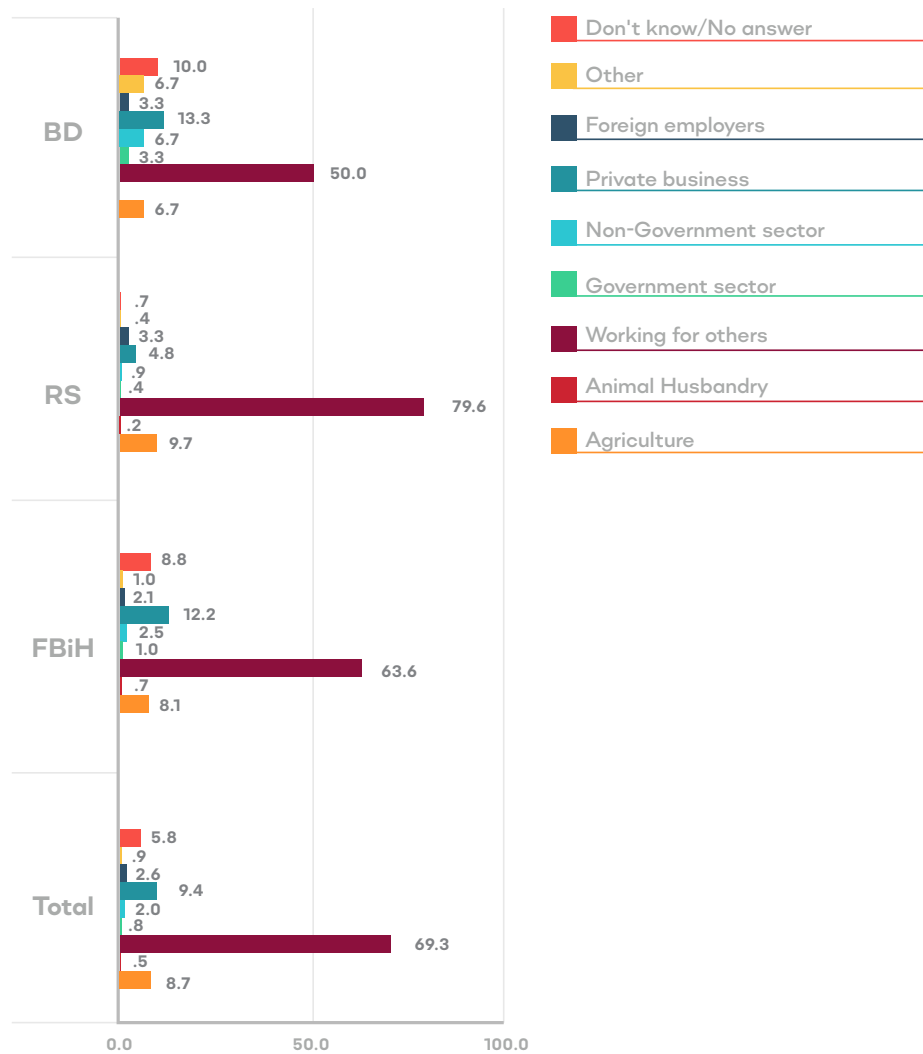
The opinion of adult respondents about moving to a different entity if they could find a better job there are split. A somewhat higher percentage of respondents (47.1%) state that they would move to a different entity for a better job, while 43.9% state they would not. The situation in BD is somewhat different, with 60.9% of respondents declaring that they would move, and only 26.1% that they would not. Respondents from RS (52.8%) are significantly more likely than respondents from FBiH (39.1%) and BD (26.1%) to declare that they would not move to a different entity for a better job. Also, respondents aged 21-25 (52.4%) are more likely than those aged 26-30 (43.3%) to state that they would be ready to move to a different entity to find a better job.

Chart 51. Q45. Are you actively looking for work abroad?



A little more than two-thirds of respondents aged 18 and older (68.8%) state that they are not actively looking for a job abroad¹, while one-quarter of them declare that they are (25%). Respondents aged 18-20 (17.9%) are less likely to state that they are actively looking for a job abroad compared to respondents aged 21-25 (27.7%) and 26-30 (27.2%). Respondents who completed secondary education stated that they are not actively looking for a job abroad more often than respondents holding university degrees (71% vs. 57.1%).

Chart 52. Q46. Which type of business activities generate most income for young people in your community?

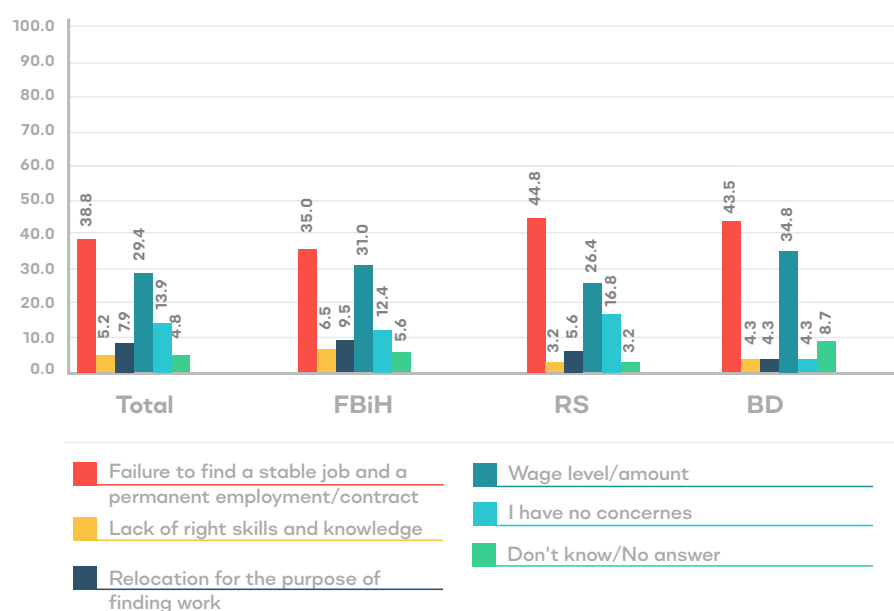


Survey respondents state that young people in their community most commonly earn income by working for others (69.3%), followed by private business (9.4%) and agriculture (8.7%). Respondents from RS (79.6%) are more likely to state that young people earn income by working for others than is the case in FBiH (63.6%) and BD (50%). Respondents from FBiH are more likely to state that private business (12.2%) is a source of income, compared to respondents from the (4.8%), while respondents

¹ Young people from focus groups stated that they would primarily like to succeed in BiH, and finding a job abroad is a secondary option: "Primarily, I would like to succeed here"; "I have an opportunity, but I don't want to"; "I believe that life is better here, as stupid as it may sound. An entirely different lifestyle; it isn't easy when you are born here and accustomed to living here. Of course, if I don't find something, that's an option, but as long as there are opportunities here I will keep on looking." See Annex 1.

from BD mention non-governmental organizations (6.7%) more often than respondents from RS (0.9%). Male respondents are more likely (12.1%) than women (7.1%) to state that private business is a source of income for young people. Respondents who completed primary (75%) and secondary education (69.9%) are more likely to mention working for others than respondents with university education (59.4%), who are more likely to cite private business (12.4%) and non-governmental sector (4.7%). Respondents living rural areas are more likely than those who live in urban areas to mention agriculture (14% vs. 4.1%) and working for others (72.5% vs. 66.7%), while respondents living in cities more often mention non-governmental organizations (3.4% vs. 0.4%) and private business (12.9% vs. 5.3%) as sources of income of young people in their community.

Chart 53. Q47. What are your main concerns when you think about finding work? First responses



With regard to finding a job, young adults are mainly concerned about the inability to find a secure job and permanent employment/contracts (38.8%). Next is the concern about the wage amounts/level (29.4%), while 13.9% of respondents state that they have no concerns finding a job. 7.9% of respondents are concerned about a possibility to have to relocate in order to find a job, while 5.2% are concerned about the lack of proper skills and knowledge. Respondents from RS (44.8%) are more likely than those from FBiH (35%) to declare that they are concerned about the failure to find a secure job and permanent employment.

In comparison with the average responses of young people from the EU (Flash Eurobarometer Youth 2014), respondents from BiH are more likely to state that they are concerned about the inability to find a secure job and permanent employment (38.8% vs. 31%) and about wage levels (29.4% vs. 12%), whereas respondents from EU are more concerned than those from BiH about not having the proper skills (13% vs. 5.2%), and about having to relocate in order to find a job (16% vs. 7.9%), but are also more likely to claim that they have no concerns about finding a job (19% vs. 13.9%).

Table 13. Q48. You will be read a series of statements related to experiences with employment bureaus. Please state whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer
I was registered with the employment bureau earlier and eventually I found a job through the bureau	9.6	81.7	8.7	10.5	80.1	9.5	6.9	85.3	7.7	30.4	65.2	4.3
I am registered with the employment bureau, but no one has ever called me to apply for a job	38.4	52.6	9.0	37.6	52.0	10.5	38.9	53.9	7.2	52.2	47.8	0.0
I am registered with the bureau, but I work illegally/in an unregistered job	10.4	78.8	10.8	10.8	76.3	12.9	9.1	83.2	7.7	21.7	73.9	4.3
I am registered with the bureau, but I would accept an unregistered job	24.5	64.4	11.2	21.6	64.9	13.6	28.5	63.7	7.7	34.8	60.9	4.3
I am registered with the bureau, but I am employed. I have remained registered just for the medical insurance	7.5	82.0	10.5	7.8	79.6	12.6	5.9	86.9	7.2	26.1	65.2	8.7
I have heard about people finding jobs through employment bureaus	33.3	58.9	7.8	34.5	57.5	8.0	31.7	60.5	7.7	26.1	69.6	4.3
I have never heard of anyone finding a job through the bureaus.	44.4	48.0	7.6	45.9	45.9	8.2	42.9	49.9	7.2	26.1	73.9	0.0
I am not registered and I was never registered with the employment bureau.	41.0	52.7	6.3	44.1	49.0	6.9	36.8	57.6	5.6	26.1	69.6	4.3

With regard to the work of employment bureaus, adult respondents state that they do not have positive experiences. Only 9.6% of respondents state that they found a job through the help of the bureau, while 81.7% of respondents state that they never found a job through the bureau. 38.4% of respondents state that no one from the employment bureau ever called them to apply for a job, whereas somewhat more than half (52.6%) do not share this experience. 10.4% of respondents state that they are registered with the employment bureau, but that at the same time they are working in an unregistered job, while one-quarter of respondents (24.5%) state that they are registered with the employment bureau but they would accept unregistered work. 7.5% of respondents state that they are registered with the employment bureau because they want to be retain health insurance benefits. One-third of respondents state that

they have heard about people who found a job with the help of the employment bureau, whereas a little less than two-thirds of respondents (58.9%) state that they did not hear about such cases. 44.4% of respondents claim that they never heard of anyone who found a job with the help of the employment bureau. 41% of respondents declare that they are not and never were registered with the employment bureau. It is important to note that the sample includes many university students who are not registered with the employment bureau due to their student status.

Respondents from BD (21.7%) are more likely to state than those from FBiH (10.8%) and RS (9.1%) that they are registered with the employment bureau, but that, at the same time, they are working in an unregistered job. Respondents aged 26-30 (46.1%) are more likely than respondents aged 18-20 (28.5%) and 21-25 (37.4%) to state that they are registered with the employment bureau but that no one has ever called them to apply for a job.

Table 14. Q49. You will be read a series of statements related to securing employment. Please state whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer
If needed, I would pay a certain amount of money to secure a job	44.9	44.2	11.0	43.3	44.6	12.1	46.7	43.5	9.9	56.5	43.5	0.0
If needed, I would use my parents' contacts to secure a job	61.1	29.4	9.5	57.5	31.7	10.8	67.2	24.8	8.0	56.5	43.5	0.0
I would not feel morally comfortable to secure a job through connections or payments	45.3	41.9	12.8	46.7	38.6	14.7	42.4	47.2	10.4	56.5	43.5	0.0
I would not feel morally comfortable to secure a job for a friend with personal connections	39.6	47.8	12.6	43.1	41.7	15.2	33.6	57.3	9.1	43.5	56.5	0.0
I would use personal connections to secure a job for a friend	60.2	30.0	9.8	57.0	32.0	10.9	65.3	26.1	8.5	60.9	39.1	0.0
For wealth, I would be willing to compromise my reputation or values	7.1	85.8	7.0	10.5	81.7	7.8	1.9	92.0	6.1	4.3	95.7	0.0
I would rather be less well-off than compromise my reputation or values	68.6	24.6	6.8	69.8	22.1	8.2	66.7	28.3	5.1	69.6	30.4	0.0

When asked about securing a job for themselves and others, a relatively high percentage of respondents (44.9%) state that they would be prepared to pay a certain sum of money in order to secure a job, while an equal number of respondents (44.2%) state they disagree. Almost two-thirds of

respondents (61.1%) state that they would make use of their parents' contacts to secure a job. 45.3% of respondents state that they would feel morally uncomfortable to secure a job through a connection or by way of payment, whereas 41.9% of respondents state that they would not have moral qualms in such a situation. 39.6% of respondents state that they would feel morally uncomfortable to secure a job for a friend through personal connections, however, nearly half of respondents (47.8%) state that they would not. 60.2% of respondents stated that they would use personal connections to secure a job for a friend. A somewhat encouraging finding is that 85.8% of respondents state that they would not put their reputation or values at risk to get rich, while only 7.1% of respondents state that, for wealth they would be ready to put their reputation or values in jeopardy. Somewhat more than two-thirds of respondents (68.6%) agree with the statement that they would rather be less wealthy than jeopardize their reputation or values. However, one-quarter of respondents doesn't agree with this statement.

Young people and entrepreneurship

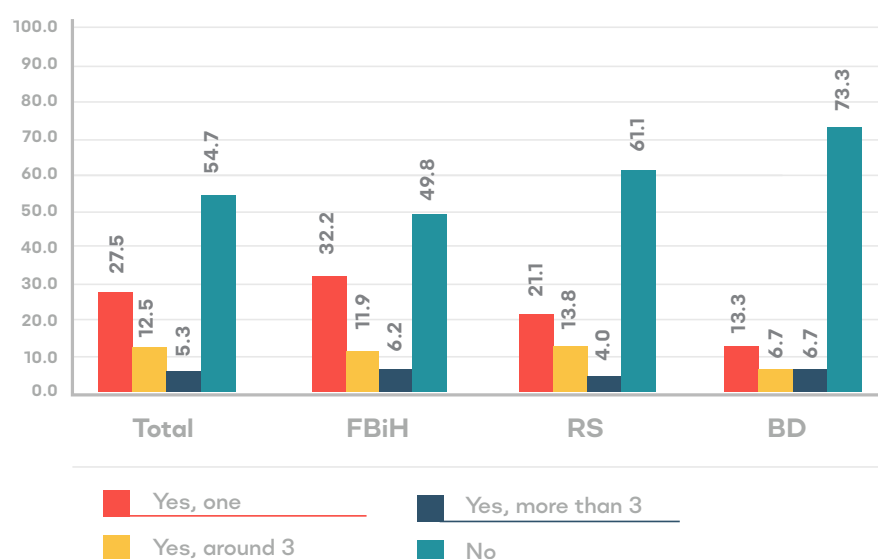
Table 15. Q50. Which of the following statements describes your views/experience with starting your own business/company?

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ no answer
I never considered starting my own business	48.9	40.6	10.5	45.3	41.3	13.4	54.1	39.5	6.4	60.9	39.1	0.0
I believe that starting a company in BiH would most likely fail, regardless of the scope of the operation	37.3	42.1	20.6	32.2	44.0	23.9	45.6	38.4	16.0	39.1	52.2	8.7
I tried to start/register a business, but I gave up because of complicated procedures	8.1	78.6	13.3	8.8	75.2	16.0	6.7	84.3	9.1	13.0	78.3	8.7
I registered my own business, but I had to close it due to high costs of doing business	5.4	81.0	13.6	6.5	77.5	16.0	2.9	86.9	10.1	17.4	78.3	4.3
I am successfully running my own firm and have no intention of closing it	4.1	81.4	14.6	4.9	77.9	17.2	2.1	87.2	10.7	13.0	78.3	8.7
I am successfully running my own firm and I don't have the intention of closing it.	4.9	80.9	14.3	5.6	77.5	17.0	3.2	86.4	10.4	13.0	82.6	4.3
I intend to start a business, but it is difficult due to insufficient institutional support	11.6	73.5	15.0	12.7	68.6	18.6	9.3	81.3	9.3	17.4	73.9	8.7
I intend to start a business but I will need a mentor.	7.5	75.5	16.9	9.5	69.3	21.2	3.7	85.6	10.7	17.4	78.3	4.3
I lack the right skills	19.4	63.0	17.6	22.4	56.0	21.6	13.9	74.4	11.7	30.4	60.9	8.7
I cannot get a loan	31.8	43.7	24.6	37.9	36.9	25.2	21.9	53.9	24.3	30.4	56.5	13.0

With regard to experiences about starting their own businesses, almost half of respondents (48.9%) state that they have never thought about starting a business. 42.1% of respondents disagree with the statement that starting a company in BiH would probably fail, whereas 37.3% agree with this view. 8.1% state that they tried to launch their own business, but they gave up because of complicated procedures, while additional 5.4% claim that they had registered their own company, but due to high costs of doing business they had to close it. 4.1% of respondents state that they are currently running a business, but they will soon have to close it because of high costs of doing business. Only 4.9% of respondents state that they are successfully running a business and that they do not plan to close it. 11.6% of respondents state that they plan to start a business but the lack of institutional support makes it difficult. 7.5% of respondents state that they will require mentorship to start a business. Almost one fifth of respondents (19.4%) state that they lack the proper skills to start a business, and one-third of respondents (31.8%) state that they cannot get a loan they need to start a business.

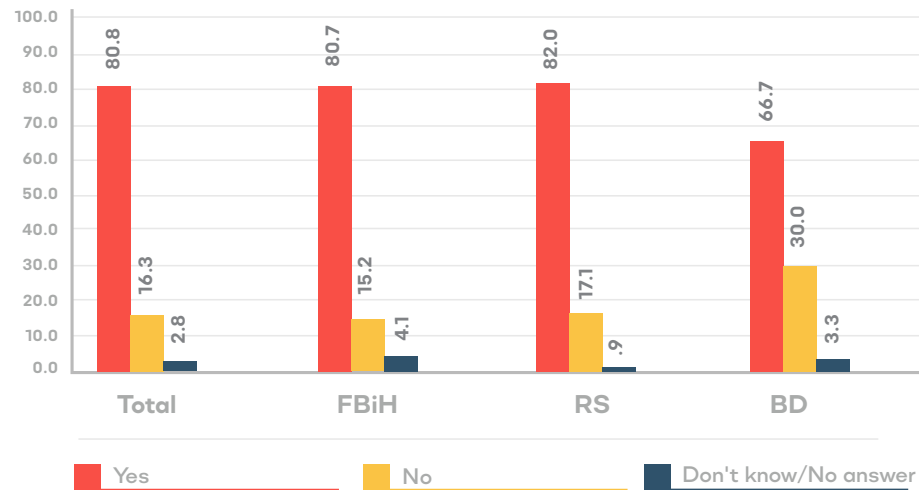
Respondents from RS, when compared to those from FBiH, are more likely to state that they had never thought about starting a business (54.1% vs. 45.3%), and that their startup would probably fail (45.6% vs. 32.2%). Respondents from FBiH (6.5%) and BD (17.4%) state that they had registered a company but had to shut it down due to high operating costs more often than the respondents from RS (2.9%), but that they had to close it because of high costs of doing business.

Chart 54. Q51. Do you know any young person who has successfully started their company/business?



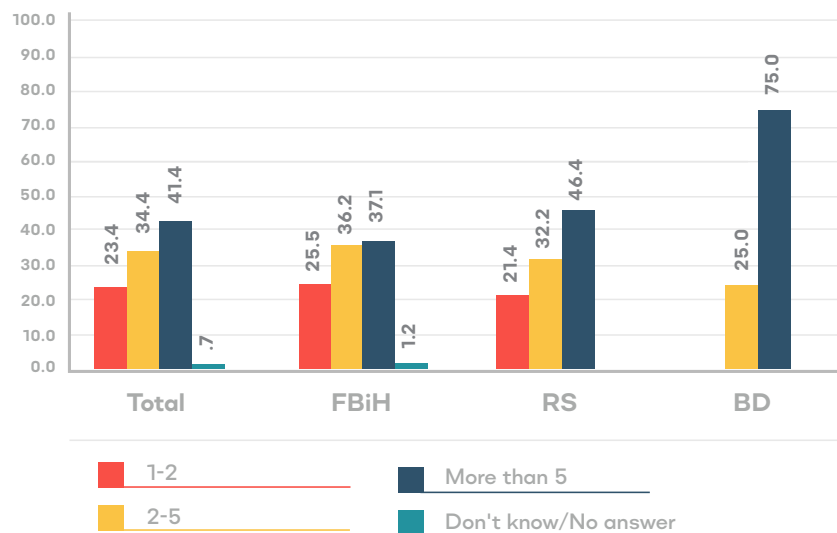
Most respondents state that they do not know a single person who has successfully started a business (54.7%). Somewhat more than one-quarter of respondents (27.5%) state that they know one such person, 12.5% knows up to 3 such people, and 5.3% knows more than 3 such people. Respondents from FBiH (32.2%) are considerably more likely than those from RS (21.1%) and BD (13.3%) to claim that they know one such person. Respondents aged 26-30 are more likely to respond with “Yes, up to 3 persons” (16.6%) and “Yes, more than 3 persons” (9.1%) than respondents from other age groups.

Chart 55. Q52. Do you have any close friends or relatives (of your age/generation) who have left the country to seek better employment opportunities abroad?



Most respondents (80.8%) state that they have a close friend or relative who left the country to seek better business opportunities abroad. Respondents who completed primary (19.2%) and secondary education (17%) are more likely to respond that they do not know such people than respondents holding university degrees. Respondents living in rural areas (84.9%) are more likely to state that they have a friend or relative who left BiH, compared to those living in cities (77.4%).

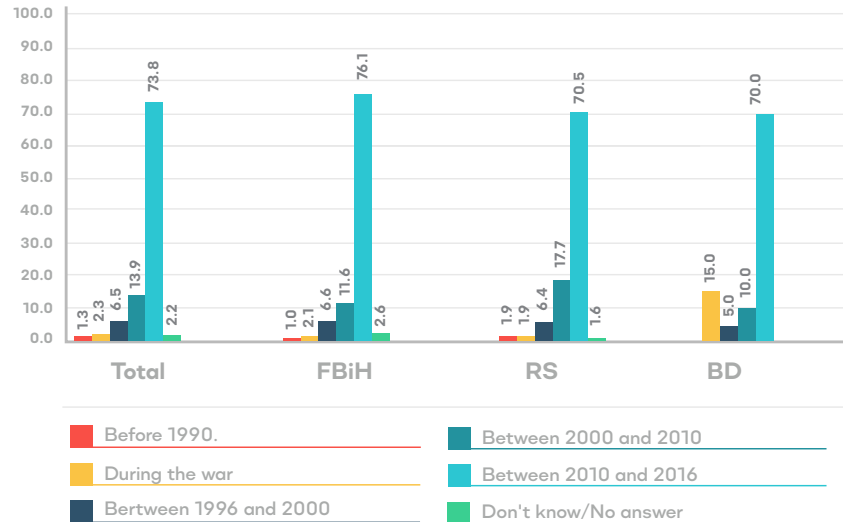
Chart 56. Q53. How many?



A devastating finding is that a great majority of respondents who know someone who left the country to seek better business/employment opportunities abroad state that they know more than 5 such people (41.4%), followed by 2-5 people (34.4%) and 1-2 people (23.4%). Respondents from BD (75%) are more likely than those from FBiH (37.1%) and RS (46.4%) to state that they know more than 5 such people. Respondents aged 15 to 20 are more likely (31.8%) to state that they know 1-2 such persons compared to respondents aged 21 to 25 (18.5%) and 26 to 30 (18.4%). Respondents from rural areas are more

likely to claim that they know 5 or more such people than respondents living in cities (45.3% vs. 37.9%).

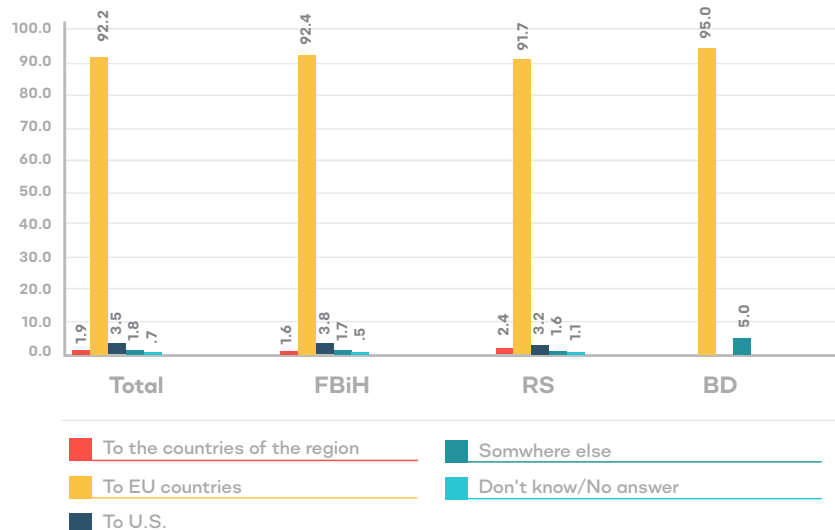
Chart 57. Q54. When did they leave?



Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73.8%) state that they know people who left BiH in the period 2010-2016. Next are 13.9% of respondents who state that they know people who left BiH in the 2000-2010 period. Although there are no direct indicators why nearly three-quarters of people our respondents know left BiH in the period after 2010, it can be assumed that these young people came of age in this period, became active in the labor market and got the opportunity to travel independently and seek employment in EU countries, given that this question refers to people of similar age as the respondents.

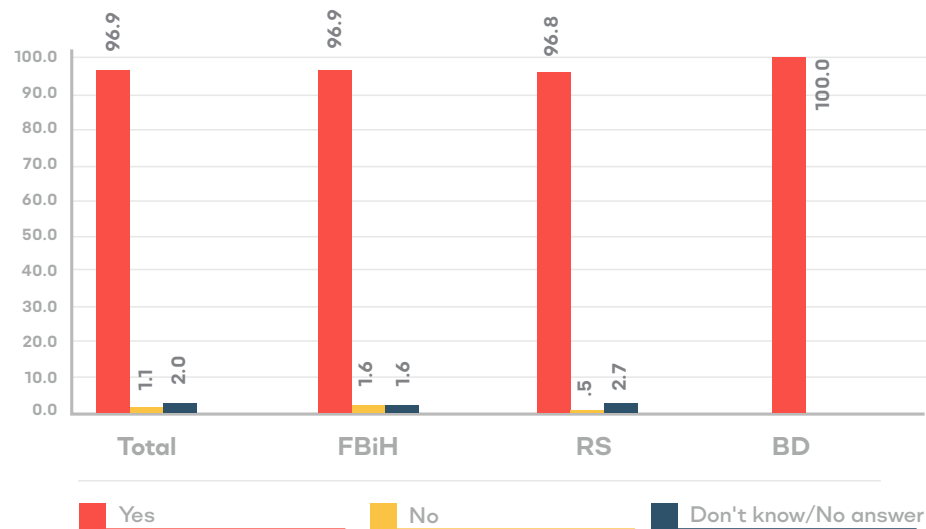
Respondents from BD (15%) are more likely than the respondents from FBiH (2.1%) and RS (1.9%) to declare that they know persons who left BiH in the post-war period. In addition, respondents living in rural areas are more likely (77.3%) to claim that they know persons who left BiH in the 2010-2016 period than respondents living in cities (70.6%).

Chart 58. Q55. Where did they go?



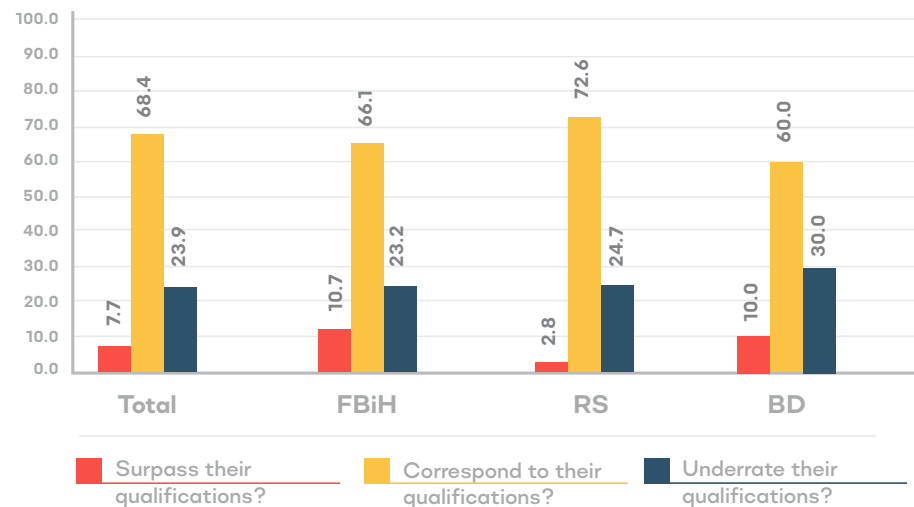
A large majority of respondents state that their friends or relatives went to EU countries after leaving BiH (92.2%). A negligible percentage of persons left to the U.S. (3.5%), other countries in the region (1.9%) or some other countries (1.8%). Respondents from cities are more likely than respondents living in rural areas (1.7%) to claim that their friends or relatives went to the U.S. (5.2%).

Chart 59. Q56. Did they find work?



According to respondents' statements, as many as 96.9% of their acquaintances who left BiH to seek better business opportunities abroad have found jobs there.

Chart 60. Q56a. Does this job...



Respondents state that most of their friends or relatives who found employment outside BiH have found jobs that matched their qualifications (68.4%). Approximately one-quarter of such people (23.9%) found jobs below their qualifications, and 7.7% found jobs that exceeded their qualifications.

Values young people cherish

Table 16 Q57. In the last 12 months, did you witness or been personally confronted with informal procedures (bribing, exchange of favors, etc.) while...

	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Yes	No	Don't know/ no answer	Yes	No	Don't know/ no answer	Yes	No	Don't know/ no answer	Yes	No	Don't know/ no answer
Obtaining a document/ Applying for an administrative permit	33.9	62.2	3.9	28.5	66.0	5.5	41.8	56.5	1.8	43.3	56.7	0.0
Passing an exam	22.2	73.3	4.6	20.3	73.4	6.3	24.8	73.4	1.8	26.7	66.7	6.7
Receiving medical treatment in a public hospital	35.0	60.6	4.4	26.6	67.1	6.3	46.8	51.6	1.5	56.7	40.0	3.3
Avoiding problems with the police	20.8	74.6	4.7	15.1	78.5	6.4	28.6	69.2	2.2	36.7	63.3	0.0
Getting a job	20.3	75.6	4.2	16.6	77.9	5.5	25.1	72.7	2.2	33.3	63.3	3.3
Enrolling in a school/ university	21.3	74.4	4.3	19.2	75.1	5.7	24.4	74.1	1.5	26.7	63.3	10.0

A significant number of respondents state that they encountered informal procedures, such as paying bribes, an exchange of favors or something similar in different situations in the past 12 months. Approximately one-third of respondents (33.9%) state that they encountered such procedures when obtaining documents or administrative permits. Approximately one-quarter of respondents (22.2%) encountered such procedures when taking exams, and 35% during medical treatments in public hospitals. About one-fifth of respondents encountered such procedures while avoiding problems with the police (20.8%), getting a job (20.3%) or enrolling in schools or universities (21.3%).

A significantly greater number respondents in RS and BD claim to have encountered such procedures during medical treatments in hospitals (RS – 46.8%, BD – 56.7%, vs. 26.6% in FBiH) and while avoiding problems with the police (RS – 28.6%, BD – 36.7%, vs. 15.1% in FBiH). Moreover, respondents from RS are more likely than those from FBiH to state that they encountered such procedures when obtaining documents (41.8% vs. 28.5%) or getting a job (25.1% vs. 16.6%). The highest percentage of respondents from BD claim to have encountered such procedures in each category.

Table 17. Q58. When it comes to education, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

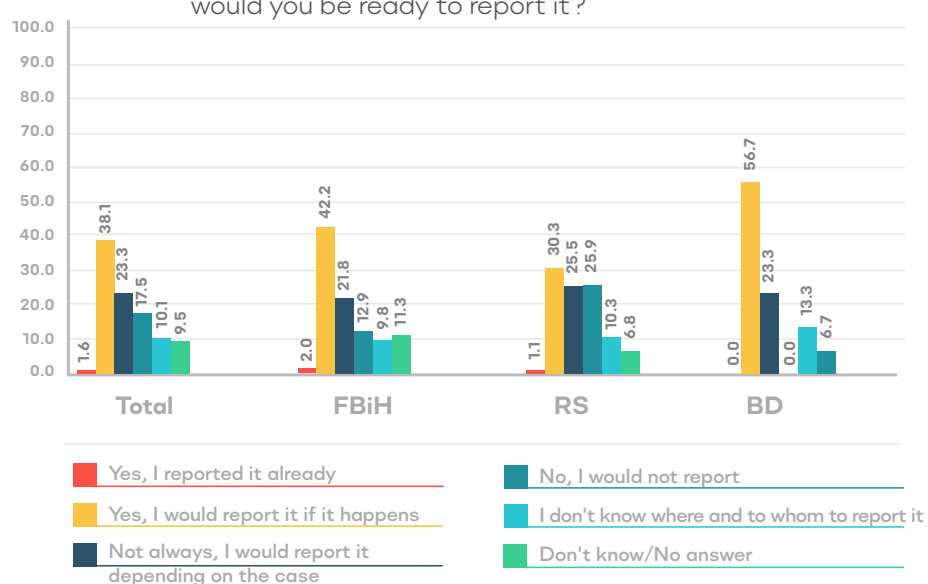
	Total			FBiH			RS			BD		
	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ No answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ No answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ No answer	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ No answer
If needed, I would pay a certain amount or use any connections possible to secure enrollment to the university of my choice	26.5	63.1	10.4	28.0	60.3	11.7	23.1	69.0	7.9	43.3	40.0	16.7
I would not feel morally comfortable to secure enrollment into a university by means of connections or payment	52.8	32.8	14.4	51.7	31.7	16.5	55.6	33.4	11.0	33.3	50.0	16.7
I believe that my education is important and that it should be quality-based	82.8	10.0	7.3	80.4	11.9	7.7	87.5	6.2	6.4	66.7	23.3	10.0
I do not believe the quality of education is as important as obtaining a degree is	26.2	63.5	10.3	30.2	58.5	11.3	19.8	71.2	9.0	26.7	66.7	6.7
I believe that securing a degree is the only thing that matters and I would pay, or use any kind of connections to obtain one, to get one, regardless of the type or faculty providing it.	12.2	77.1	10.8	15.8	73.0	11.2	6.2	83.5	10.3	16.7	76.7	6.7

Experiences with informal procedures are reflected in similar percentages of disagreement with the following statements. When it comes to education, over one-quarter of respondents (26.5%) declare that, if necessary they would pay a certain amount of money or use any connections to ensure they enroll in a university of their choice. Almost one-third of respondents (32.8%) state that they would not feel uncomfortable to enroll in a university through connections or money, whereas only slightly over half of respondents (52.8%) declare that it would be morally uncomfortable. Although 82.8% of respondents believe that their education is important and should be based on quality foundation, 10% of them disagree with this statement. As many as 26.2% of respondents believe that the quality of education is not as important as obtaining a degree, and 12.2% declare that securing a degree is the only thing that matters and that they would pay, or use any kind of connections to obtain a degree, regardless of the type or faculty providing it.

Respondents from FBiH are more likely than those from RS to declare that they do not believe that quality education is as important as a degree (30.2% vs. 19.8%), and that getting a degree is the only thing that matters even if by means of payment or using private connections (15.8% vs. 6.2%). Respondents from BD (43.3%) are more likely than respondents from RS (23.1%) to state that they would be ready to pay a certain amount to ensure enrollment a university of their choice. Respondents

from RS are more likely than respondents from FBiH and BD to declare that they would not pay to enroll in the university of their choice (69%) and that their education is important and should be above all based on quality foundation (87.5%). Respondents holding university degrees (63.5%) are more likely than respondents who completed only primary (45.1%) and secondary education (52.6%) to claim that it would be morally uncomfortable to use connections to enroll into university. The same opinion is more often expressed by women (56.4%) than by men (48.7), as well as by respondents from the cities (56.2%) more often than by respondents from rural areas (48.6%). Men are more likely than women to state that they do not believe that quality education is as important as a degree (29.3% vs. 23.4%) and that they are prepared to pay or use connections to get a degree (16.3% vs. 8.5%).

Chart 61. Q59. If you happen to be confronted with an act of corruption would you be ready to report it?



The majority of respondents state that if they encountered a case of corruption they would report it (38.1%). However, 23.3% stated that they would not report it in every case, and 17.5% stated that they would not report it in any case, which totals 40.8% of respondents who declared that they probably would not report a case of corruption, which is more than 38.1% of respondents who stated that they would report such a case. 10.1% of respondents stated that they did not know to whom and where to report such a case, while only 1.6% of respondents already reported a corruption case. A relatively high percentage of respondents did not respond to this question (9.5%).

Respondents aged 15 to 20 (41%) were more likely to respond that they would not report corruption, compared to those aged 26 to 30 (32.4%), while the latter group was more likely to declare that they would not report corruption than respondents aged 15 to 20 (13.5%).

Table 18. Q60. How often do you feel discriminated...

	Never	Almost never	Sometimes	Often	Very often	Don't know/ no answer
Because of your gender	61.7	31.8	4.1	.8	.3	1.5
Because of your economic status	60.3	33.3	3.8	1.1	.4	1.0
Because of your religion	59.7	33.1	4.2	1.5	.5	1.1
Because of your ethnic origin	61.0	33.0	3.5	1.3	.2	1.0
Because of your level of education	61.8	33.4	2.8	.7	.4	1.0
Because of your party affiliation	61.5	33.1	2.6	1.2	.6	1.1
Because of your regional origins	62.7	32.8	2.3	1.0	.2	1.0
Because of your rural/urban roots	61.6	32.3	4.0	1.0	.3	.9

It is an extremely positive finding that in a great majority of cases respondents stated that they were never or almost never discriminated on the basis of gender (93.5%), economic status (93.6%), religion (92.8%), ethnic origin (94%), level of education (95.2%), party affiliation (94.6%), regional origins (95.5%) or rural/urban roots (93.9%). With regard to differences between the entities, respondents from RS and BD were more likely than respondents from FBiH to respond "Never" to all above-mentioned statements.

Table 19. Q60. How often do you feel discriminated... A comparison with the results of the 2013 Youth Survey in Croatia

	BiH			Croatia		
	Never and almost never	Sometimes	Often and very often	Never and almost never	Sometimes	Often and very often
Because of your gender	93.4	4.1	1.0	89.9	6.9	2.7
Because of your economic status	93.7	3.8	1.5	90.7	5.4	2.7
Because of your religion	92.8	4.2	2.0	93.1	3.9	1.7
Because of your ethnic origin	94.0	3.5	1.5	93.8	3.1	1.7
Because of your level of education	95.2	2.8	1.1	92.6	4.2	2.1
Because of your party affiliation	94.6	2.6	1.8	92.1	2.6	1.8
Because of your regional origins	95.5	2.3	1.2	92.8	3.4	2.0
Because of your rural/urban roots	93.8	4.0	1.3	91.0	5.4	2.3

In comparison with the results of the survey of respondents from Croatia, it is evident that respondents from Croatia were slightly more likely than respondents from BiH to declare that they were often or very often discriminated on the basis of gender (2.7% vs. 1%), economic status (2.7% vs. 1.5%), level of education (2.1% vs. 1.1%), regional origins (2% vs. 1.2%) or rural/urban roots (2.3% vs. 1.3%).

RESULTS OF MULTIVARIATE MODELS

The report presents multivariate logistic regression models applied to identify specific interests of young people (their views) based on a set of socio-demographic and economic predictors such as: gender, age, entity, ethnic affiliation, type of settlement, education, and work status.

Effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on the views of young people about the political situation in BiH

The logistic regression analysis was applied to examine the multiple dependence of different socio-demographic and economic variables with young people's views about the current political situation in BiH. The dependent variable "political situation" was transformed into two discrete categories; situation deteriorated and situation improved. The following variables are included as a set of independent variables (predictors) used to predict young people views: age, gender, entity, level of education, type of settlement, and work status. These variables were modified to allow for easier model interpretation. A reference category was chosen for each variable in order to permit interpretation of coefficient as presented in Table 20 below.

Table 20. Modality status of dependent and independent variables in the regression model

		Coding of categories within the model	
		(1)	(2)
Political situation	Worse*	0	
	Better	1	
Age	15-20*	0	0
	21-25	1	0
	26-30	0	1
Entity	FBIH*	0	0
	RS	1	0
	DB	0	1
Level of education	Primary*	0	0
	Secondary	1	0
	University	0	1
Environment	Urban*	0	
	Rural	1	
Employment	Unemployed*	0	
	Employed	1	

Table 21 presents the results of the logistic regression model. The beta coefficient (B) shows the effect of each independent variable on a certain outcome. The larger beta coefficient, the stronger the relation. If the coefficient has a negative sign, then the predictor is negatively associated with the dependent variable. The second column in each table shows a standard error (SE) that represents the error of the regression coefficient resulting from the fact that the estimates were made using a sample. The third column presents the probability ratios (Exp(B)) for evaluating the extent to which a certain category belongs to a dependent outcome.

The results of multiple logistic regression models lead to the following conclusions. The views of young people about an improved political situation largely depend on their employment status, i.e. if a young person has a job then there is 2.6 times greater probability that he/she will perceive the political situation as improved than in the case of an unemployed person. Young people living in BD are 2.3 times more likely to express views that the political situation is improved than young people from FBiH. Similar conclusions can be drawn from other variables.

Table 21. Regression coefficients and probability ratios of young people's views

Predictors	B	S.E.	Exp(B)
RS vs. FBiH	-0,68	0,71	0,51
BD vs. FBiH	0,82	0,75	2,27
21-25 vs. 15-20	-0,35	0,55	0,70
26-30 vs. 15-20	-0,17	0,51	0,85
Secondary vs. primary education	-0,56	1,18	0,57
University vs. primary education	-0,39	1,25	0,68
Rural vs. urban	0,34	0,38	1,40
Employed vs. unemployed	0,96	0,38	2,62
Constant	-1,79	1,23	0,17

B - beta coefficient, S.E. - standard error, Exp(B) - probability

Dependence of socio-demographic and economic characteristics with young people views of the quality of life

The effect of socio-demographic and economic variables on the views of young people about the quality of life, compared to the life of their parents when they were young was also examined. The dependent variable and a set of independent variables incorporated in the logistic regression model are shown in the Table 19 above. The same table presents the category coding methods to permit proper interpretation of realized coefficients. The regression model realized coefficients are presented in Table 21 below.

The strongest predictor that influences the young people' views about the quality of life being better than their parents' when they were young is the employment status predictor. Accordingly, if a young person is employed, he/she is 2.6 times more likely to express an opinion that they have a better quality

of life than their parents. The second predictor is the type of settlement as well as the level of education. If a young person lives in a rural area, the probability is 1.8 times higher that he/she will perceive a “better quality of life of young people” than it would be the case for young people living in urban areas. Also, young people who completed secondary education are 1.7 times more likely to believe that their current quality of life is better than young people who only completed primary education.

Table 22. Regression coefficients and probability ratios of young people’s views

Predictors	B	S.E.	Exp(B)
RS vs. FBiH	-0,927	0,480	0,396
BD vs. FBiH	0,149	0,621	1,160
21-25 vs. 15-20	-0,687	0,308	0,503
26-30 vs. 15-20	-1,054	0,310	0,348
Secondary vs. primary education	0,566	0,836	1,760
University vs. primary education	0,198	0,895	1,218
Rural vs. urban	0,583	0,235	1,792
Employed vs. unemployed	0,953	0,237	2,593
Constant	-1,465	0,856	0,231

B - beta coefficient, S.E. - standard error, Exp(B) - probability

Multidimensional association of views about the political situation with work status, entity, and respondents’ attitude to assuming responsibility

A decision tree method was applied to examine the effect of different independent variables on the respondents’ views about the overall social situation in BiH. The method was used in an effort to classify respondents into two groups: respondents who believe that the social situation has deteriorated and those who believe that the social situation has improved. The socio-demographic variables included in the set of predictor variables (independent variables in the model) are: entity, age, level of education, type of settlement, work status, gender, respondents’ attitudes about assuming responsibility as a psychological variable. However, of all the above-mentioned predictors, the decision tree algorithm retained three variables which significantly influence the branching and give a unique contribution to the classification of respondents into two groups: those who believe that the situation has deteriorated and those who believe that the situation has improved. The image of the decision tree model is shown below. Out of three variables retained in the model, “work status” of respondents has the strongest influence on the views about the social situation; thus a significant number of employed respondents believe that the situation has improved, compared to unemployed respondents. From the employed respondents’ category, the tree further branches on the basis of entity effect, and we observe that there is a significantly higher percentage of employed respondents from RS who believe that the situation has deteriorated and a significantly lower percentage who believe that the situation has improved, when

compared to the category of respondents from FBiH and BD¹. From the node “FBiH and BD” the tree further branches out based on the effect of the third variable - “the attitudes about the popularity of young people assuming responsibility”. On the basis of decision tree results, we can say that young employed people from FBiH and BD who believe that assuming responsibility is popular today are significantly more likely to believe that the social situation has improved compared to respondents who believe that assuming responsibility is old-fashioned (or neither old-fashioned or popular), in which a significantly smaller percentage of respondents believe that the social situation has improved.

Image 1. Multidimensional dependence of the opinion about the political situation with work status, entity, and the respondents’ attitudes about assuming responsibility

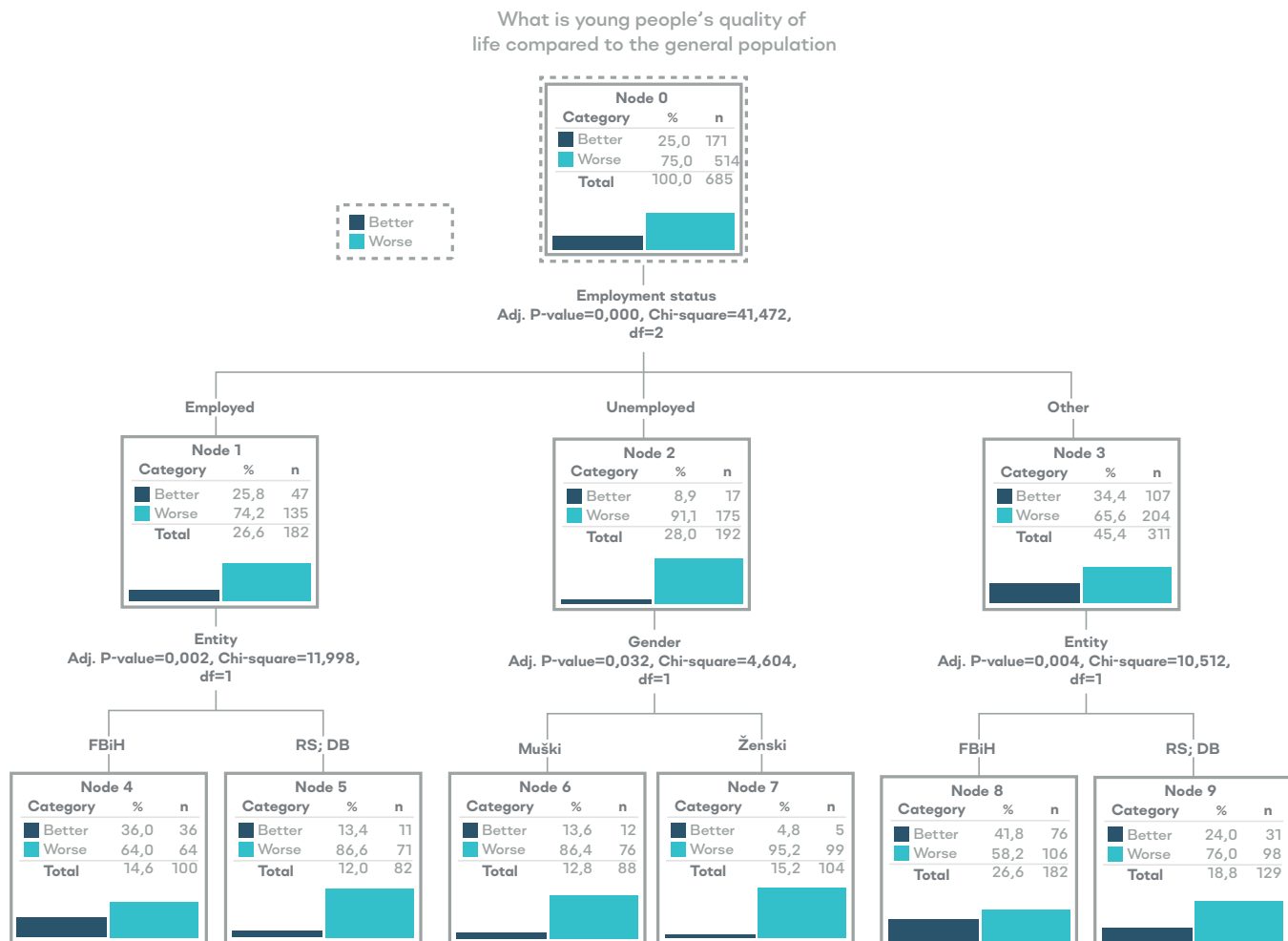


¹ FBiH and BD are in the same tree node because there was no significant difference in terms of expressing opinions about the social situation between these two categories, so the algorithm automatically grouped them into a single node.

Effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on the views about young people’s quality of life

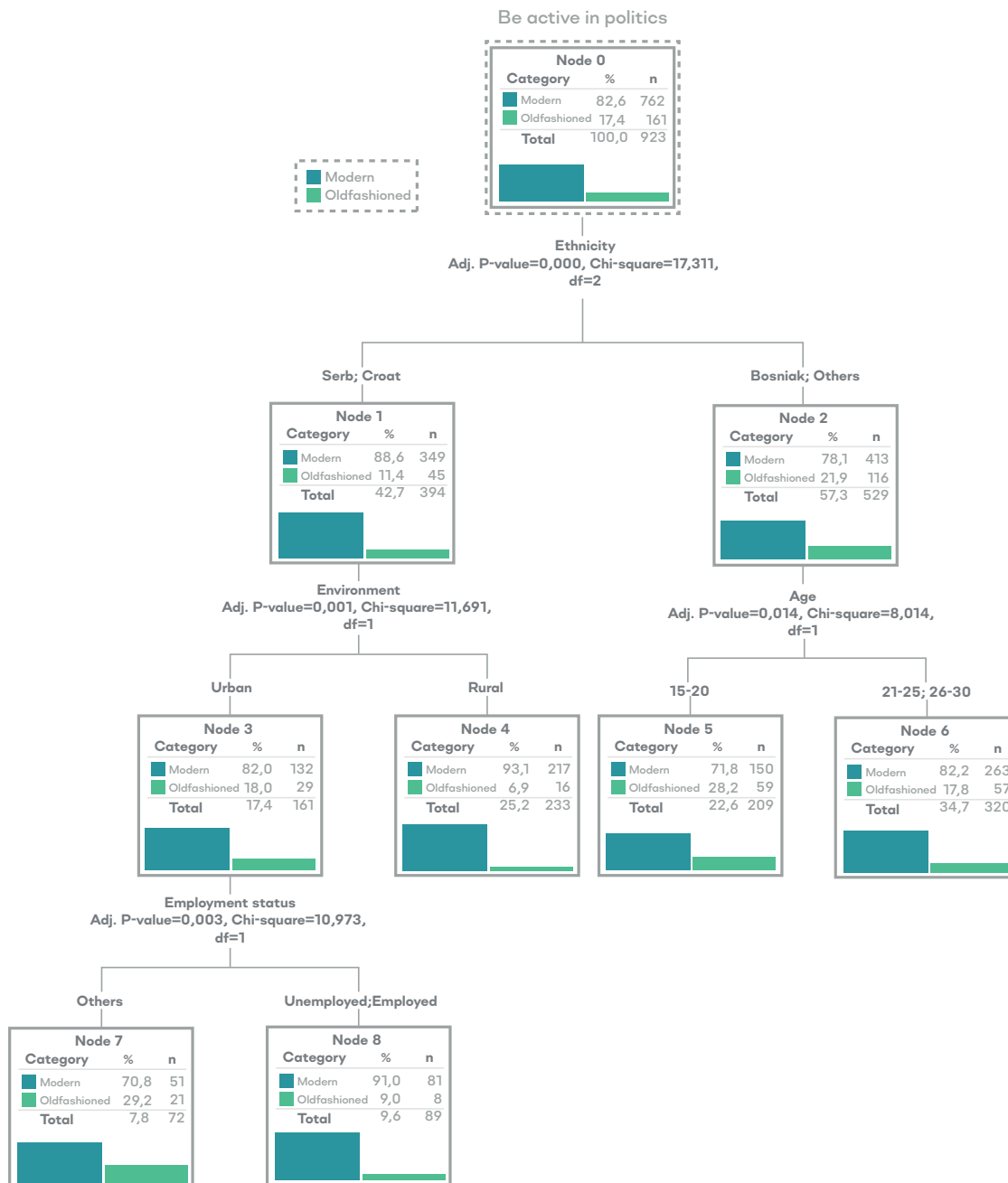
The decision tree method was used to explore the effect of different independent variables on respondents’ views about young people’s quality of life. Out of the sets of independent variables included in the model: gender, work status, entity, age, level of education, type of settlement; the model retained work status, entity, and gender as significant variables. The model results are shown in Image 2, and its branching leads to the following conclusions. Employed young people from RS or BD are significantly more likely than employed young people from FBiH to believe that the quality of life of young people has deteriorated (compared to the quality of life of the rest of the population). Similar results may be interpreted for the category of other respondents (university students, school students, interns, volunteers, etc.). If young people are unemployed and female, they will be significantly more likely than unemployed young men to believe that young people’s quality of life has deteriorated.

Image 2. The effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on young people’s views about the quality of life



Effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on the views about political activism

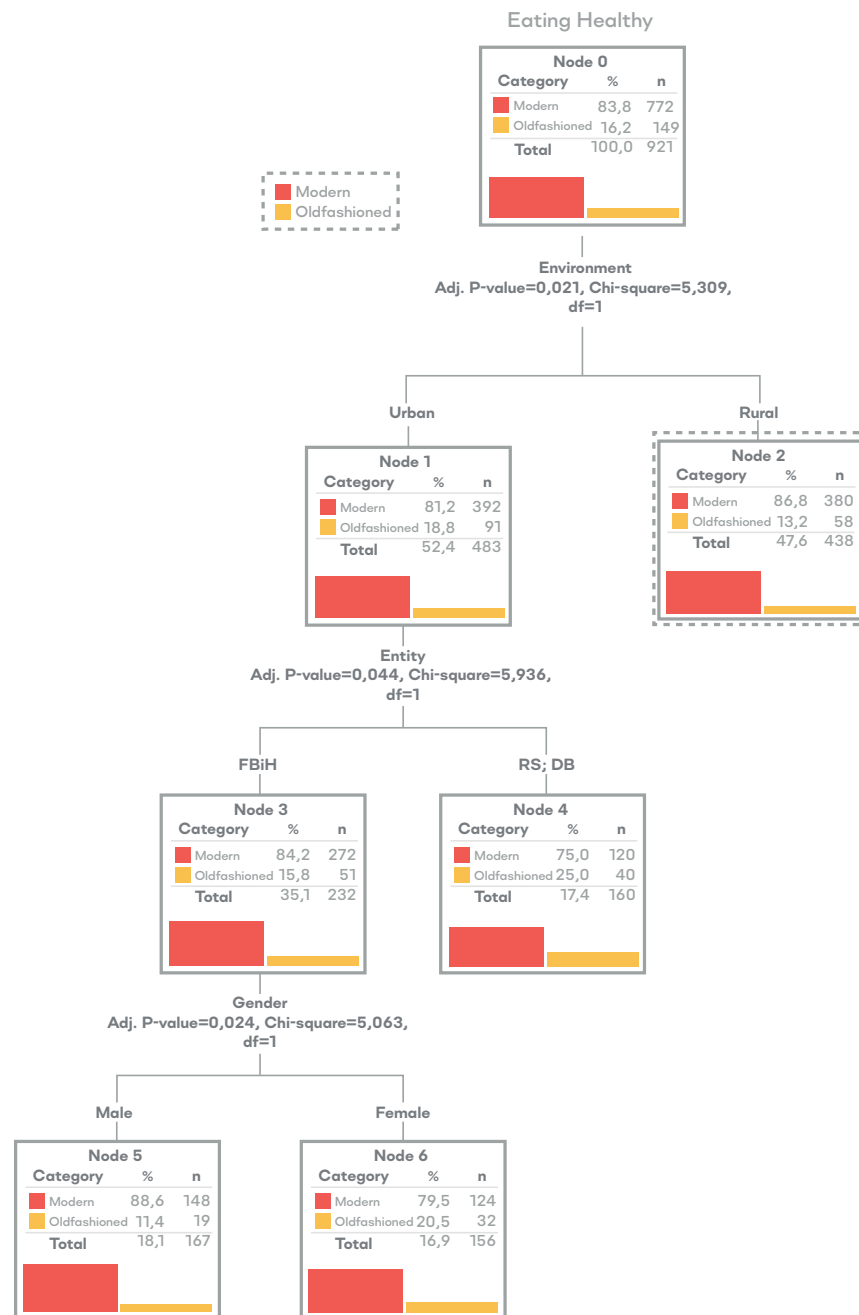
Image 3. The effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on the views about political activism



Effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics of young people on the views about eating healthy foods

The following conclusions were obtained through an examination of the effect of different socio-demographic variables on young people’s views about eating healthy foods. If a young person lives in a rural area, he/she will more often believe that eating healthy food is popular than a young person living in a city. Furthermore, if a young person lives in a city in FBiH and is male, he is more likely to claim that eating healthy foods is popular, compared to a young person of the same population sub-category who is female, in which the likelihood of such an opinion is lower. The obtained findings are presented in Image 4 below.

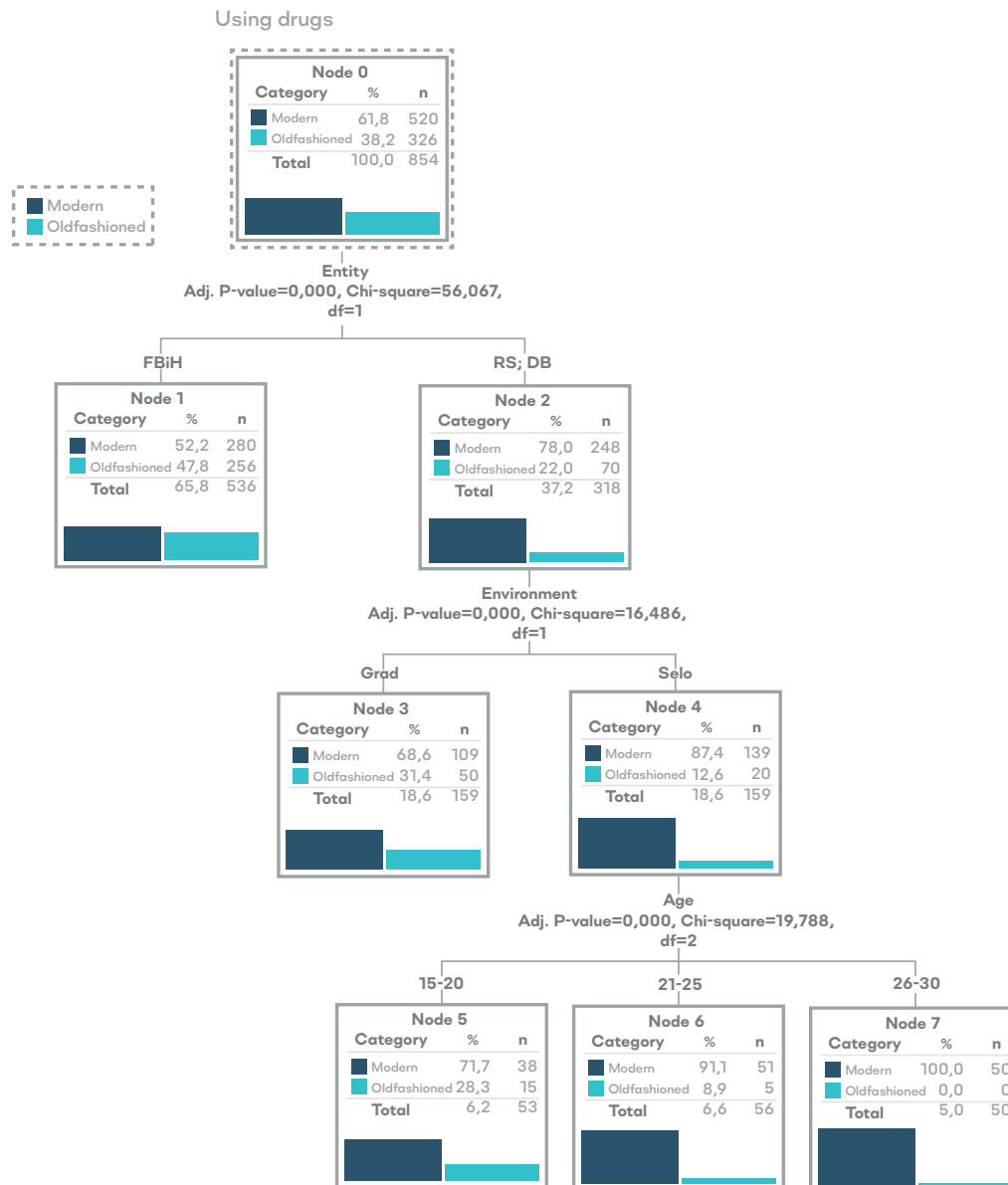
Image 4. The effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on the views about eating healthy



Effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics of young people on the views about drug use

The effect of socio-demographic attributes on young people’s views about drug use was examined using the decision tree algorithm. Out of the sets of independent variables included in the model, the decision tree algorithm retained entity, type of settlement, and gender as the variables that significantly contribute to the views about drug use. The entity of residence is the strongest predictor for expressing of young people’s diverse views regarding drug use, followed by the type of settlement and the young person’s age. On the basis of the results we obtain, we can conclude that, if a young person lives in RS or BD and in a rural area, and is 26-30, he/she is more likely than younger respondents (under 26) to claim that drug use is fashionable today. The results of tree branching based on the effects of indicated predictors are presented in Image 5 below.

Image 5. The effect of socio-demographic and economic characteristics on the views about drug use



CONCLUSION

The survey results reveal that young people are dissatisfied with the political, economic and social situation, and that they believe that the situation has remained unchanged compared to two years ago. At the same time, they believe that the quality of life of young people has deteriorated compared to the rest of the population and that the generation of their parents had a much better life when they were young, although they assess their standard of living as average. Young people believe that BiH is stagnating, that the ruling structures are not adequately dealing with a multitude of problems that BiH is facing. In addition, young people do not trust in the ability of the authorities to deal with the current problems, and they believe that citizens should be drivers of change in the society, as well as that everyone has their role, and that no one should be exempted from responsibility.

Young people consider many problems, especially those concerning employment and poverty, to be alarming. A number of young people raised problems regarding obtaining food, heating premises or inability to pay bills, however majority states that they did not encounter such problems in the past year.

Despite such perceptions about the situation in the country, only very few young people volunteer or are politically active, and they most often state that the reason for their political passivity is the lack of interest in political life. Young people who voted mostly stated that they voted for representatives of ruling parties and those who did not vote mostly stated that they were not interested in politics and that their vote could not change anything. It is evident that ruling politicians must take concrete action in order to ensure better quality education and increased employment opportunities for young people to regain their trust in the authorities, as well as in the possibility of change.

Regarding the accession of BiH to EU, young people from BiH exhibit a positive attitude towards EU and believe that the EU accession would create new opportunities for traveling and finding employment. On the other hand, some young people are worried that BiH would thereby become dependent on developed countries, and that economic exploitation of BiH would increase.

Young people are poorly informed about the Reform Agenda, and only a small number have heard of it, including – among these - a small percentage of youth who read it and understood it. Although they believe that the Reform Agenda can bring some positive changes, young people distrust ruling politicians and their ability to implement the Agenda.

The views of employed young people about their degree of satisfaction with wages are split, but the majority believe that they earn enough money to afford certain activities, such as traveling or going out, while unemployed people mostly do not look for a job because they are still in school. Although they first try to look for new business opportunities in BiH, a significant number of young people are looking for jobs abroad and they know many people who left BiH and found jobs corresponding to their qualifications abroad. Young people earn money by working for others, and few are thinking about starting private businesses because they do not believe that they can survive on the market. Given that respondents stated that their friends or relatives left BiH in the 2010 to 2016 period, there is a real possibility that an ever increasing number of young people, inspired by experiences of their predecessors' who left BiH and found jobs abroad, will decide to follow their example.

A very high percentage of 88.7% of young people state that in the last 12 months they did not

participate in any kind of activities whose goal was strengthening cooperation with young people from other countries. 4.8% of respondents state that they participated in activities and projects with young people from other European countries, 3.3% of them state that they participated in these activities with young people from the region, and only 0.3% of respondents state that they participated in such activities with young people from other continents.

A higher number of young people were in situations to witness or participate in informal procedures, with a significant percentage of young people stating that they would pay a certain sum of money or use private connections to secure a job or enrollment in a university for themselves or for their friends. Such attitudes show that young people often do not see a different way within the existing system, however majority states that they would not be willing to risk their own reputation and values for wealth.

ANNEX

RESULTS OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

ABSTRACT

The Youth Research (hereafter: YR) was conducted for the needs of UNDP in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and its institutional partners.

The goals of this survey was to research experiences, attitudes, and opinions of young people in regard to employment and work, economic, political and social situation, as well as the views of young people on BiH accession to the European Union.

Qualitative research was conducted on the sample of 40 respondents in 4 cities, two cities the Federation of BiH (Mostar and Sarajevo) and one city each in the Republic of Srpska (Banja Luka) and Brčko District. Respondents in all focus groups were selected according to previously determined criteria and clients' demands.

On the basis of the findings of this research we can conclude that in most cases young people think that the social situation in BiH is unchanged in comparison with the situation two years ago. The main cause of this assessment is the absence of job opportunities. This in turn is linked to many other issues, such as: inability to start families, inability of becoming independent, lack of quality social life (concerts, travels...).

Also, young people think that the economic situation remained unchanged relative to two years ago, with tendency of deterioration. In their comments, dominant statements include inability of finding a job, which particularly affects young people who should be start their own families and it leads them to leave BiH permanently.

Young people see the political situation as significantly worse than two years ago. Strengthening of political actors who promote radical views in their politics leads to further polarization of relations between inhabitants belonging to different ethnic groups in BiH. This is seen as the main reason for the deterioration of the political situation relative to two years ago. Also, seeing mostly the same people in power on the political scene over the years adds gloom to already bleak perceptions of young people.

Young people who were focus group participants, rarely take part in the volunteer activities. Although a majority of respondents stated that they at least once participated in certain activities related to environmental protection and ecology, these were mostly short-term activities lasting one or two days at most, or they were focused on direct assistance to the local community, such as assistance in flood relief or humanitarian drives.

Young people highlight general inactivity and the lack of will as the reason for not participating in volunteer activities, although activities are an opportunity to gain needed work experience.

Most young people who took part in any such activities state that they were well-informed about goals and ways to ensure their implementation.

Very few focus group participants state that they are familiar with the conditions that BiH needs to meet on the path towards the European integration. Respondents who state that they are familiar with these conditions mostly mention judiciary reforms and greater respect for human rights, referring to the Sejdić-Finci court ruling, while hardly any one of the focus group participants mentioned the implementation of the Reform Agenda.

Young people did hear of the term Reform Agenda. But despite the fact that they heard about the Agenda through the media, they are ignorant of its meaning and of its areas of focus.

A most common perception of the Reform Agenda is as a set of tasks/conditions that must be completed, such as reforming the existing judiciary, education, economy, etc.

As the key advantages for BiH from the EU membership, young people see freedom of movement, expanded job market, utilization of available funds and better education opportunities.

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As the key advantages for BiH from the EU membership, young people see freedom of movement, expanded job market, utilization of available funds and better education opportunities.

Most young people who completed formal education and who are unemployed are registered with the

employment bureaus because of health insurance. Young people who state that they are not registered with the employment bureau do not see any purpose in registering and constant reporting.

None of focus groups participants were offered a job through employment bureaus and only a few have ever heard that someone was offered a job through this channel.

Regarding the sector in which they would want to work, young people mention private and public sector equally. Although all agree that workers' rights are better respected in the public sector, young people think that the prospects of advancement and professional training are considerably greater in the private sector.

Three main advantages of working in the public sector, in comparison to the private sector, are respect for workers' rights, regular payments of benefits, and possibility of taking sick leave. The advantages of working in private companies, in comparison to the public sector, are: better advancement and training prospects and a possibility of higher income commensurate to the effort invested.

Focus groups participants very rarely state that they know young people who started their own successful businesses. These businesses are mostly in the service providing IT sector (servicing, sales, etc.), catering and agricultural sector.

Young people mostly know fewer than 5 people who are around their age and who successfully manage their own businesses.

Problems that young people face while starting or managing a business are mostly problems caused by complicated procedures for starting a business, as well as the lack of initial capital, then high business and salary taxes, etc.

Young people mention the market and competition as most frequent risks encountered in any business. Other obstacles include unfavorable laws, high taxes and contributions levied on labor.

The main values that young people think should be promoted in BiH society are honesty, respect, respect for others, integrity and trust. Weakening of these values has a definite adverse effect on the development of BiH in all segments.

For young people, any statements permissive of illegal and unethical conduct are unacceptable. Despite that, young people who encountered such behavior accepted illegal and unethical conduct in order to gain certain benefits or speed up some procedure (e.g. in the health care system).

As a greatest success of BiH after the dissolution of former Yugoslavia, young people primarily identify successes in sports. However, sustaining peace, tolerance, and communication is for them also a success.

All focus groups participants agree that the role of young people in building a better BiH is of crucial importance. They are not sufficiently represented in politics and they should be provided with opportunities to show their skills, abilities, and knowledge. In addition, young people must show greater activism in all areas and should create circumstances for the change of the overall situation in BiH on their own.

INTRODUCTION

Prism Research, the agency for marketing, media and social research, conducted qualitative research between September 21 and September 24, 2016. This qualitative research was conducted in 4 cities in BiH: Brčko, Mostar, Banja Luka and Sarajevo. One focus group was held in each city.

The goals of this qualitative research were to study experiences, attitudes, and opinions of young people in regard to employment and work, economic, social, and political situation, other forms of civil participation, and other issues.

This report presents the main findings of this part of the overall research. The guide for the discussion was structured in such a way as to reflect the key questions from the survey, so that the findings from the focus groups can help in interpreting the results of the quantitative/survey.

1. METHODOLOGY

The qualitative research method was used to conduct consultations. The qualitative method used in this research is the focus group method. Four focus groups were held within the scope of this research.

Drafting

Drafting of focus group participants was based on the following basic criteria:

1. Geographic distribution – secure the representation of participants from the Federation of BiH, Republic of Srpska and Brčko District. To meet this criterion, two focus groups were held in the Federation BiH, and one each in the Republic of Srpska and Brčko District.
2. Age – this research required consultations with persons representative of the population of young people, aged between 15 and 35.
3. Gender - an effort was made to ensure that there is an equal number of persons of male and female gender among the participants in each focus group.
4. Employment status – while forming discussion groups, it was taken into account that participants need to be of different employment status, to the extent possible.
5. Education – focus groups participants from Sarajevo were students from the School of Economics, School of Philosophy and School of Political Science, while focus groups participants from Brčko, Banja Luka, and Mostar were young people holding university degrees.
6. Type of settlement - it was taken into account that participants in focus groups should be both from urban as well as from rural areas.
7. Ethnicity – participants were members of different ethnic groups in BiH

Guide for group discussions

The Guide for conducting focus groups was developed in cooperation between the Prism Research and the client. The Guide was adjusted so that it covers topics of particular interest. The guide for the focus groups is attached as an appendix to this report.

Focus groups

Within the scope of this research, a total of four focus groups were held. The focus groups were held from September 21 to September 24, 2016.

As mentioned above mentioned, two group discussions were held in the Federation BiH, in Mostar and Sarajevo. One focus group each was held Brčko and Banja Luka.

Focus groups were facilitated by a moderator from the Prism Research agency. The groups were organized on locations that were easily accessible places for participants. Their participation was voluntary, but they received token amounts by way of remuneration. During the focus groups there were no problems. Participants gave their permission to record the conversation by on a dictaphone. Audio materials were forwarded to professional typists who prepared transcripts which were, together with the moderator's observations and impressions, used as the basis for compiling this report.

Regarding the processing of the data from the focus groups, a qualitative analysis of the content of the answers is recommended and it consists of several phases. First, the answers to every question or group of questions are read very carefully to determine which were the participants' dominant views. Then the categorization of answers is carried out on the basis of similarities and differences in the participants' answers. Next, the main and most dominant views and themes in which the participants differ are presented in the report. The focus of the analysis was on the comparison of answers between groups and locations, particularly where differences in answers occurred. The rule is that, in describing results, the participants' conclusions are illustrated with their quotes. Please note that statistical analysis is not recommended in this kind of research since there were relatively few participants.

2. MAIN FINDINGS

The results of research are presented in the standard research form of the focus group analysis. For each question or a set of questions analyzed, the participants' answers were compared and the main conclusions were reached for the given question on the basis of the highest degree of agreement. If a difference or disagreement emerged in participants' answers, it is also highlighted in the analysis. Every conclusion that has been reached for any single question is in accordance with research practice. The findings that can be reached based on the conducted research are presented below, with a special overview of those questions where differences in opinion occurred between participants in focus groups, as well as differences in opinion between focus groups.

2.1. Current situation and young people's activism

According to young people's statements, the social situation in BiH is unchanged, with a tendency to deteriorate, in comparison to two years ago. Unemployment remains the main problem, which directly affects social trends, particularly the very decision to stay or to leave BiH. Focus group participants state that young people are less and less active and that they take less and less action to change the status quo, particularly by getting involved in political life, where their voice is rarely heard, although young people believe that there are opportunities even there, but they are not taken. Despite the rising number of communication channels and better opportunities for communication, young people find that communication among this population is superficial and indirect. Also, young people state that the trend

of young people leaving to look for jobs and find ways to support themselves is gaining strength and that this fact has a pronounced impact on the social circumstances in the country.

“I think that we have been stagnating for 20 years, we are stuck. It is all the same, the state of total lethargy is pervasive in the society, with no one caring about anything, starting with the social, and political to economic situation.”(Man, Sarajevo, urban)

“So many young, educated professionals started to leave. Why? Because our social system is such that if you are not in power... you just cannot expect anything better.” (Woman, Banja Luka, rural)

“There is no will to research the opportunities what can young people do, and then middle-aged and older people (...) there are many opportunities to work and if the government will not give you an opportunity you can go into private business. I would not rely on the authorities and wait for something to fall from the sky. There are opportunities, but people are not unable to get around it because they lack skills and do not do their research.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

Regarding the economic situation, young people claim that it remained unchanged relative to two years ago, with a tendency to deteriorate. A shortage of jobs, overly strong foreign competition, failure to reach agreement in BiH on anything and a lack of activity on the part of young people with regard to starting their own businesses lead young people to see the economic situation as the same as two years ago. In addition, young people are aware that BiH is getting increasingly indebted and that we will have problems repaying loans that we are currently taking, as well as that BiH lacks developed strategic plans and economic development policies. Aging population, the unfavorable ratio of employed and unemployed (retired etc.) people, negative trade balance of BiH with other countries are all factors that directly impact the economic situation.

“It must have deteriorated if they are taking new loans.”(Man, Brčko, rural)

“We don’t have any manufacturing, any economy goes through three stages and it must develop a stage at a time. There is the primary, secondary and tertiary stage. We developed the tertiary stage - service, however, you cannot live off selling and we have to turn to manufacturing. Taxes are no solution. Salary taxes are already high, and now even the subsidized hot meals are taxed. But in general, neither excises nor IMF loans are the solution (...) we will put our next 5 or 6 generations into debt.”(Man, Sarajevo, rural)

“The economic situation deteriorates daily and that is a fact (...) The responsibility lies primarily on the political organization of country and on irresponsible political authorities focused on the economy. Because BiH is the only country which currently does not have clearly developed and adopted economic goals, economic policies to achieve those goals...” (Man, Mostar, urban)

“Well, we no longer have factories as we did before. Factories keep closing or, if they are not closed then, they face bankruptcy, with millions in debt. The only sector that

functions in this country bureaucracy.” (Woman, Banja Luka, rural)

The political situation in BiH is deteriorating with every passing day and young people find the political situation to be very unstable. Young people, focus groups participants from Mostar, point to their city as an example of a particularly hard political situation. The political situation in Mostar has been literary the same for years now and nothing is changing. Some people are running the city as they had done it two years ago. However, the same holds true for the political situation on the level of BiH and young people that it is very bad in the regards that governing structures always managed to reach an agreement that the status quo remains in place because it fits their interests. The do not tend to introduce any constructive changes or improvements. The same people have been trading places of power on the political scene for years now and the elections, in general, bring about almost the same results. Young people in Banja Luka think that the important step forward was made through activism in Tuzla several years ago and that there are some signs of increased activism of young people, but most participants see the situation as the same, vicious circle.

“In Mostar, the situation is always the same. They don’t call us ‘a (special) case city’ for nothing. It’s like that, we have no rights, and two parties lead the politics since the end of war till today...” (Man, Mostar, urban)

“People want change, but they simply do not do anything about that and changing something.” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

“Worse, far worse than it ever was.” (Woman, Brčko, urban)

“I think that people are pretty much burdened and mad because of the politics. Young people who are finishing college education they are fighting to become a member of some party because they think that that will get them a job.” (Woman, Brčko, rural)

“It cannot be worse or better because the people are the same...and they go in a circle. And nothing is changed.” (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

Young people, focus groups participants, state that they have participated in volunteering activities. Those activities were mostly short-term, one or two days and they were mostly focused on collecting humanitarian assistance. Next come the activities related to environmental protection or providing direct assistance to local communities through activities such as flood relief in 2014. Many young people believe that volunteering offers opportunities to gain experience that is required for getting a job, particularly as work experience is more and more required even for entry-level jobs. Young people took part in the sectors that deal with climate change and environment, as well as humanitarian assistance.

“I worked in charity drives to collect assistance for people with developmental difficulties...” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

“I ran magazines, volunteered in theater bur I have never participated in these social, charity and environmental protection organizations. That is because the solution is not to go somewhere and clean something, the solution is in education. When someone would work on education, rising people’s awareness, that would be better, and I think

that that is very short lived..." (Man, Mostar, urban)

"I'm in Let's Do It, let's clean our planet in one day." (Man, Brčko, urban)

"I think that a lot of young people does not understand the significance of volunteering and that it offers an opportunity to gain experience that companies look for, and that we can get through volunteering." (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

Focus groups participants who participated as volunteers in such activities state that they had complete and clear information about those activities. They knew who organized given activities, what their goals were, how those goals would be achieved, etc. When they thought they were not sufficiently informed, young people actively looked for information and managed to get the information they required.

"I did, I always had enough information. I know who was in charge, who ran things and what the goal of the activities was." (Woman, Brčko, rural)

"We would ask a lot of questions and we got feedback information on who the organizer and sponsor were and about everything else." (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

"Sometimes even more than required, but it doesn't matter because information is gold. If they didn't want to give information I would ask." (Woman, Mostar, urban)

2.2. Membership of BiH in the European Union

Young people admit that they are not fully familiar with the key conditions that BiH must fulfill on its path towards the European Union. Participants' primary answers to questions on specific conditions were negative, however, most of them later mentioned respect for human rights with a special focus on the implementation of the court ruling in the Sejdić-Finci case. Besides, as conditions for EU membership, BiH should implement judiciary reform, education system reform, and privatization of public enterprises. Some participants state ecology standards that BiH must implement and which have to be harmonized with the standards in the European Union.

"Protection of human rights, reducing the bureaucracy, solving legal and political framework, simplifying the judiciary system and solving cases. Political equality for all people." (Man, Mostar, urban)

"As far as I know, the Sejdić-Finci case and without solving that case we should never become a candidate for the EU." (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

"There is some talk here and there, but mostly that corruption and the budget are being mentioned most frequently." (Woman, Brčko, urban)

"Enfranchising minorities, especially Jews and Romani people. Building infrastructure - highways and I seem to recall that there is something in agriculture. Because EU

has delivered a plan for us to export food to them and of course, there is that political instability that we would never get rid of.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

To the question whether they heard about the Reform Agenda, young people responded that they did not, or they heard about it in the media but they did not know what that Agenda was and what sectors it is focused on. Most young people who are at least somewhat familiar with the Reform Agenda describe it as a set of rules about the ways adapt and regulate certain sectors in BiH, either because of the connection with the EU integration or with IMF arrangements. The primary areas that young people mention that Reform Agenda could address are the economy, establishing a mechanism that will serve to combat corruption, improvement of administrative services, particularly for investors, etc.

*“Reform in the judiciary, economy and other sectors. I think that is it...”
(Man, Banja Luka, urban)*

*“Stabilization of the functionality of state bodies and of the system itself.”
(Man, Brčko, urban)*

“Agenda is also a set of tasks that should be completed to secure the assistance from EU and IMF.” (Man, Mostar, rural)

“The sentence that everybody plays with, while nobody knows what it means, but it sounds nice.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

As the main advantages of BiH becoming a member of EU, young people listed: a wider job market, greater freedom of movement of people, better education, better flow of goods and services and access to the EU funds. The wider job market will make it possible for young people to find jobs abroad easier if they cannot not find a job in BiH. When talking about the improved flow of goods and services, young people state that the EU membership will increase the possibility of BiH to export its goods to the large markets of EU.

“Freedom of exporting goods to other countries.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

“The right to work in EU.” (Man, Sarajevo, rural)

“Easier movement of people, goods, and capital. Reducing the telecommunication services, ending the roaming charges. Better investments in BiH, greater security of investments.” (Man, Mostar, rural)

“A wider labor market, so it means better employment opportunities.” (Woman, Brčko, rural)

Young people see: the loss of the country’s monetary policies, overpowering competition from developed EU countries, exploitation of natural resources and the loss of sovereignty as main shortcomings of the EU membership. After it joins EU, BiH would have to move in the direction of exchanging our currency for euro. If the currency is replaced, BiH would lose the option to set its monetary policy. When it becomes an EU member, BiH will have the duty to permit the flow of the goods and services from the

entire EU, which will put local manufacturers in a highly uncomfortable position. BiH manufacturers currently cannot compete with their counterparts from EU and that will, according to young people, have a very negative effect on the state of the local economy.

When it joins EU, BiH will surrender some of its sovereignty and of the freedom to make its own decision. Since BiH is politically and economically underdeveloped country, the dependence on the policies dictated by EU would be very pronounced.

“The first key disadvantage is the loss of monetary policy of our country. The second key disadvantage is competition. We all fool ourselves that EU will bring good stuff to us. We will let EU enter our market and EU has developed factories and our factories cannot compete with them at all. And, thirdly, the loss of sovereignty of the country; we lose the borders and many other things...” (Man, Mostar, urban)

Most focus groups’ participants are indecisive on the question of BiH becoming a member of EU and many think that BiH is currently not ready to be a member of the Union and that it should focus more on addressing its own internal issues and problems. In addition, focus groups participants who are categorically opposed to the membership of BiH in EU tend to be much louder. The current refugee crisis, disunity among EU members on the way to solve the refugee crisis, the referendum in the United Kingdom, in which its citizens confirmed their desire to leave EU, and other issues influence the formation of attitudes and opinions about whether BiH should join EU or not. As the arguments for joining EU, young people mention economic prosperity, rule of law and the possibility of finding a job in a much larger job market.

“I wouldn’t want for BiH to join EU, because we would not know what was happening. I would first of all want a resolution of the situation in BiH.” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

“I am against it because joining EU as a non-functional (“messy”) country would be very hard. Instead, I wish that our political representatives reach an agreement among themselves and create a plan and program of strengthening our economy and certain specific sectors and only when there is a different atmosphere in BiH we can reopen the issue of joining EU. They are now developing plans and applications, while chaos rules in the country. Don’t talk to me about EU when people are starving, digging through dumpsters, and young people are leaving the country.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

The first reaction of most young people to the notion of “Living abroad” is a better standard of living.

“Somehow when I hear that, I think about a better life...” (Woman, Banja Luka, rural)

The first reaction of young people to the statement “BiH as a member of EU”, is an abstraction

“Like something floating in the air, like something impossible.” (Woman, Brčko, urban)

While the first reaction to the statement “BiH as a member of NATO” is a thought of security.

“Definitely security.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

2.3. Experiences related to looking for a job

Focus group participants mainly declare that the lack of work experience and not knowing the people who will help them find their employment are most frequent obstacles that they face while looking for a job. When they talk about work experience, young people think that it is very hard for a young person to get an opportunity to gain the experience immediately after he or she finishes his or her education. Lack of connections, political party backgrounds and a shortage of money to pay for the desired position are mentioned by young people as possible reasons for not getting jobs they wanted, while noting that knowledge and skills are most often not appreciated or not taken into account. Also, participants mention that the education system is not harmonized enough with the needs of the job market. Political connections on all levels of government often enable or disable finding a job, whether it is a public enterprise or a private company.

“We students never get a chance. You fulfill all required conditions handsomely, but they ask for someone with 5 years experience and I say to them for example that I am not able to gain such experience when nobody will give me a chance to do that, and they say that it is not their fault. The problem is that we do not get enough practical experience as university students, we only have books and study theories, and when we are faced with practical issues, that is something completely different.” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

„A lack of experience. Wherever you go they ask for previous experience, and there is no place to gain this initial experience.“ (Man, Mostar, rural)

“Everybody requires work experience and nobody is providing us with the opportunity to gain such experience. Wherever there is a job ad, they are asking for work experience and we could never obtain that initial experience anywhere. And I think that the biggest problem is, even though it is stupid to say, but connections are most important...” (Woman, Banja Luka, urban)

“I have the internship and I passed the state exam and I don’t know...I attended various courses. If a political party is not behind you can only dig canals or I don’t know what.” (Woman, Brčko, urban)

Young unemployed people state that they are actively looking for a job and that they are constantly following the ads and that they apply for positions that they think are adequate for their qualifications, although some claim that they are gradually giving up.

“All of us, we are constantly looking actively for a job.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

“Well, I look for a job, and even I went to a training for that...but mostly I get rejections.” (Woman, Brčko, urban)

A small number of focus groups participants state that they are looking for work outside BiH. They say that they are still trying to find a job in BiH and only when they conclude that they cannot find a job in BiH, they will look for other options abroad. Those participants who already had the opportunity to work in various EU countries reported different experiences depending on different countries where they were, pointing at Germany and Austria as best prospects. Those few participants who stated that they were looking for work outside BiH abroad declare that they are looking for work in Germany or in the Scandinavian countries.

“Primarily, I want to make it here.” (Man, Banja Luka, rural)

“I resisted that idea for a long time. And no matter how dysfunctional our country is I still love living here and I think that I would rather manage to live here on a smaller salary than to live abroad alone without my family. But there is a time when you just can’t stand it anymore, even here...” (Woman, Brčko, rural)

“I think that life is better here, however stupid it may sound. Lifestyles are totally different and it is not easy when you were born here and you are used to living here. Of course, if you can’t find something, that is always an option, but as far as there are chances here I will keep looking.” (Man, Mostar, urban)

“Well, I’m planning to go. My husband, my baby and I plan to run away from here and to look for a job in Norway, Ireland, Austria...” (Woman, Banja Luka, urban)

“I have the opportunity but I don’t want to.” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

Young people who are registered with the employment bureaus explain that they register primarily to get health insurance or obtain an employment record. Those who are not registered with the employment bureau believe that they have no use for the employment bureau.

*“Well no, but everyone registers to get health insurance, even if they are not looking, so that’s it, because mandatory health insurance in our country is obtained through the bureau.”
(Woman, Brčko, urban)*

“I am registered with the employment bureau, but that is not so important.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

“I know there is no purpose to it...what can I do...” (Man, Brčko, rural)

“There is no use. I prefer to look at job websites and search for myself and maybe find some job ad as I did a few times. I think that I am capable enough to find it for myself and that I don’t need anyone to look for me.” (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

The experiences of young people with the employment bureau are identical in all cities where focus groups were held. Focus group participants often claim that nobody contacted them from the bureau about employment or offered them a job.

*“My experience, none, trust me, I had nothing of it. It is only so you need to report there from time to time and so they can verify it. Trust me, they never called me so far.”
(Man, Sarajevo, urban)*

“The system is simply like that. In Germany, they will call you because their country pays your insurance and why would they let you be a burden to the state. That’s why they are calling you regularly and offer you jobs. In our country, there is no welfare and that mean nothing to them.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

“One automatic mechanism, so, the employment bureau is just like any other institution. People sit there just to receive salaries and they are simply not required to do anything, they do not feel responsible. It is not even talked about.” (Man, Banja Luka, rural)

When asked in which sector they would prefer to work, young people’s responses are equally split between the private and the public sector. According to young people, the private sector is much more dynamic, it offers the prospect of advancement and requires constant professional training. On the other hand, the public sector is much safer and offers better working conditions, as well as higher protection of human and the rights of workers.

*“I see myself as independent, private accountant, hence a private business.”
(Man, Sarajevo, urban)*

*“As I said, the public sector is attractive because workers rights are respected. That is, if you are pregnant you will get the benefits prescribed by what the law says and if you are sick you have the right to take a sick leave if necessary. I don’t have anything against the private sector if the company is serious. Private sector has its advantages, you can advance, for instance I see that as an advantage, while in the public sector you are where you are unless you are politically active.”
(Woman, Brčko, urban)*

The advantages of working in the private sector in comparison to the public sector are: a better opportunity to earn a higher income, constant education and training, and the prospects of advancement. The disadvantages of working in the private sector include: insufficient worker protection and abuse of workers’ rights. According to young people, the advantages of working in the public sector are security, respect for the rights of workers and human rights. The disadvantages of working in the public sector, according to focus groups participants include: the inability to advance in your profession, lack of opportunities for professional education and training, etc.

“Advantage of working in a private company include: greater efficiency, because private companies are much more efficient than public ones. That means that they can more quickly and much better react and produce. They can develop intellectually. Perhaps the working hours too, in a private company, you might find work with shorter work hours, while in a public company working hours are regulated by law. (Man, Mostar, urban)

“Greater security, a more regular salary. Workers rights are better respected in public

companies because of the law.” (Man, Mostar, rural)

“I have this notion that more money is found in the private sector, especially when you reach a certain position.” (Man, Sarajevo, rural)

“I would like to say that private sectors are drivers of everything in this country. That is the biggest advantage in comparison to the public sector.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

2.4. Young people and Business

Only a few participants from all focus groups state that they know a young person who successfully started a business. When asked whether they know fewer or more than five young people who started their own businesses, all participants state that they know fewer than five such people. Businesses started by young people are businesses that do not require large investments and purchasing expensive equipment. Most of these businesses are service providing businesses, skilled handiwork, and primary production. They are first and foremost in the IT sector, which includes web-design, then in the field of servicing electronic devices, computers, mobile phones etc. After these service providing business focus group participants declared that they know young businessmen who successfully manage businesses in agriculture and mostly in primary areas: growing strawberries, etc.

“I know a guy who got a degree in agromediterranean studies and he is now producing gherkin cucumbers. He signed a contract with a German company, they provide him with inputs and then he exports his products to them.” (Man, Mostar, rural)

“Computer services and one IT company dealing with programming and offering computer education...” (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

“A friend of mine from school is a psychologist. She opened a day-care center for kids going to school and I know that it is working very well.” (Woman, Brčko, rural)

Difficulties that young businessmen face most frequently involve the lack of initial capital for starting their businesses, lack of institutional support for entrepreneurs, excessive labor taxes, overwhelming number of fees and charges burdening businesses. Only a few participants in all focus groups mention that they have ideas for starting their own business, while a majority of focus group participants state that they currently see neither the possibility nor opportunity to start their own business.

“Well, they only need to find the money...” (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

“The lack of funds.” (Man, Brčko, rural)

“When they find the money then they run into administrative fuss. I call it that way. Why? Because in our country, unlike every other country where in 15 days you can get all the required papers, it will take about 5 months to do it here. When you get all the required papers, then you have to pay bills, pay this, pay that, basically you pay everything up front. The levies are too high for someone who is just starting their own

business. If that business was already running, even if the levies were so high, that might somehow function. Thus, it should simply be done here, at least by law, to cut those initial taxes .” (Woman, Banja Luka, urban)

Besides the fact that they do not plan to start their own businesses, young people think and state that the key initial capital necessary for starting the business is money. Elaborating it further, they also add the knowledge for running the given business, as well as knowing the right people who might help them while run and expand their business.

“Just money is not enough, but it is the initial capital that you should earn.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

“Yes, money first, in order to buy the basic equipment and working capital required for the given business, then knowledge and good employees.” (Woman, Banja Luka, urban)

“I would focus on manufacturing, I have some ideas, we have some rare type of pine tree that is used for making violins because it creates good sound. We export logs and we cannot start a production on our own. I think that forestry is a very promising field, as well as fruit-growing and livestock breeding.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

The main risks that young people mention mostly relate to the difficulties that every business owner faces. Excessive taxes, lack of initial capital and, only in the end, young people admit that competition is one of the factors that might affect their businesses.

2.5. Values cherished by Young people Cherish

The basic values that should be cherished in BiH society, in the views of young people include: honesty, respect, respect for others, moral, tolerance, trust, humanity.

“Honesty, but on the diplomatic level. You cannot be a friend with everybody.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

“Be honest, fair and persistent...” (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

“Morals, because there is less and less of it...” (Woman, Brčko, rural)

“Ethics and morals.” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

Young people state that the absence of these values holds back the development of the entire BiH society, especially because people who exhibit evident deficit of these values often get a lot of media time. Values persist and are cherished by individuals or in the communities, but a loud minority helps generate an impression of value deficiency across the entire society.

“The problem is that smart people are afraid, while superficial people are not afraid of anything. They will start, initiate everything and that is why they rule everything.”

(Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

“There are more good people, I’m sure of it, just... the leaders are as they are.”

(Man, Banja Luka, rural)

“I agree that one takes a lot from home, including manners, but if you cannot survive with such manners in the society you have to adapt. That’s how it is. The street also shapes us, regardless of what we have at home.” (Man, Mostar, rural)

When talking about whether or not the following statements are acceptable in which:

- A person does something illegal to secure a better life for him/herself or their family
- A public official does something illegal but that does not secure a better life for your family.
- A public official informally asks of you to make an additional payment for him to perform a service or an administrative procedure that is part of his job
- A person pays a doctor an additional amount of money for carrying out a procedure that is part of his or her job
- Parents or students pay an additional amount of money to the teacher in order to secure better grades.

All focus groups participants state that the above mentioned scenarios are unacceptable and that they completely disagree with those statements. However, they admit that they encountered some of the above-mentioned scenarios, such as paying an additional amount of money or speeding up certain administrative tasks in other ways. They especially emphasize situations (from their own experience or which they learnt about first-hand) when money was directly exchanged for some medical service or when they witnessed bribing of doctors to obtain a necessary medical treatment for them or someone in their family. In addition, young people are also comfortable with offering small presents in order to speed up an administrative procedure.

“Yes, for everything that they claimed to be unacceptable they did the opposite.” (Man, Mostar, urban)

“It is an unwritten rule here that a woman, when she gives birth, gives her gynecologist as much as she is able”. (Woman, Brčko, rural)

“There is now a tariff, it’s a public secret. There are tariffs, for natural birth and for C-section.” (Woman, Brčko, urban)

“I had to give money to the doctor for my grandmother’s surgery. Simply, there are prices that are a public secret. You have to give him, or they say that there are no free beds in the hospital, but when she paid the money she was taken into a room with a lot of empty beds. (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

“Well, he did not want to operate on me until he was paid. All was regulated, but he still needed more money.” (Woman, Banja Luka, urban)

Among the greatest successes of BiH after the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia, young people most frequently cite sports successes: young national basketball team, BiH national football team appearance at the World Cup in Brazil back in 2014 and the successes of our paralympic athletes.

“I think that the greatest success is greater ethnic and religious tolerance among the people, especially among young people.” (Man, Sarajevo, urban)

„That we have – least in part -rebuilt our relations, and that we are more normal and that we communicate with one another, that our community interactions have improved at least a little, that is most important. I think that the rest will follow if we continue to cooperate with each other and not look at the differences, to be all equals.“ (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

“In regard to success, those are mostly sporting achievements. The Under-19 national basketball team won European gold medal for BiH. Apart from them, there are paralympic athletes, world champions in sitting volleyball.” (Man, Brčko, rural)

“People from this area, their optimism and their will, those are the greatest achievements for you.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

Young people should be the drivers of positive changes in society. They must get the opportunity to use the potential that they have, but which does not often get enough room to assert itself. Focus group participants believe that young people are the only force that can improve the situation in the BiH society. However, they should work together more and resist established political practices. Due to the lack of opportunities, young people become indifferent and lose will to try to change anything because they think that political engagement is the only way to change something. Political structures are selfishly defending the positions which they had gained and they do not allow young people to come to the fore in any way. Discussion participants think that there are opportunities and that young people must find ways to use them.

“They can and they should exert influence, and they have the most chances to change something.” (Woman, Mostar, urban)

“Young people should play the most prominent part, but they are neglected and that is the central problem. We are their main problem but also the best solution, but nobody wants to see that.” (Man, Sarajevo, rural)

“I think that young people should join and form their own political party, to have their own representatives in the authorities; that is the way.”(Man, Brčko, urban)

“Wrong people on the political stage speak on our behalf. If that could somehow be changed, that is, if one could go into politics and avoid falling under the influence of major politicians, then something might change.“ (Man, Banja Luka, rural)

“They should simply be allowed to participate actively in everything. And politics should not be the politics of today, bur rather some kind of cooperation, participation in

economy, construction, innovations, establishing linkages. I think that we could have many more twinned cities if we would allow young people to take charge because young people use a different, freer language, and they have both a higher level of tolerance and of communication and in every aspect they are more advanced than the older generation.” (Man, Banja Luka, urban)

“We should start from small things, like participating in elections. You cannot change anything, but you can get out and cast a vote, that is the only thing to do. You cannot only talk and criticize without doing anything. We should be proactive in everything.” (Woman, Sarajevo, urban)

“Giving us an opportunity to be part of the authorities, to get there and with that to persist further.” (Woman, Brčko, rural)

3. CONCLUSIONS

The social and economic situation is seen as unchanged in comparison to two years ago.

The political situation is assessed as the same or worse than two years ago. When evaluating the political situation, young people were under a strong influence of the pre-election campaigns for the local elections, as well as of the harsh rhetoric that followed the referendum on January 9th as the RS Day.

Young people most frequently participate in activities that focus on collection of humanitarian aid and in the activities related to environmental protection, most often on the level of their local communities. Such activities are of very limited duration, a couple of days at most. Despite taking part in these activities, young people do not see that current problems can be solved in that way. Consequently, they feel that such activities have very limited impact.

Focus group participants who took part in some of these activities state that they were adequately informed about the goals, who was in charge and in what way the goal will be accomplished.

Very few focus group participants claim that they are familiar with the conditions that BiH needs to meet on its EU integration path. Only a few young people state that they heard about the Reform Agenda, but they do not know what the Reform Agenda actually is.

As key advantages of BiH becoming a member of EU, young people list the prospect of accessing a wider job market, freedom of movement and living in the EU countries, freedom of movement of goods and services and access to better quality education.

As key disadvantages of BiH becoming a member of EU, young people mention the loss of sovereignty (political and monetary), competition for BiH companies from developed European economies and exploitation of the natural resources of BiH.

Most focus group participants state that they would love for BiH to become a member of EU because

of all the advantages that the membership would bring. However, many among them believe that BiH is at present not ready for the EU membership. Those participants feel that the internal situation in BiH should be addressed first (politics, economy, education) and only then should the EU accession process start.

As the main obstacle while looking for work, young people most frequently mention the lack of work experience, followed by the lack of connections (political or family) that would help secure a job. All employers look for employees with work experience and young people do not have opportunities to gain appropriate work experience, which disqualifies them when they apply for jobs. Young unemployed people claim that they are actively searching for work and that they regularly scan job ads and send in their applications.

Most focus group participants who are not employed are registered with the employment bureau. The main reason is the health insurance benefit that people obtain with the registration at the employment bureau. Young people who are not registered with the employment bureau declare that they see no purpose in reporting to the bureau every months or two. None of focus group participants was offered a job through the employment bureau while only a few claimed that they received a call from the bureau. Only a couple of focus group participants state that they know someone who was offered a job through the employment bureau.

According to the claims of the focus group participants, their preferences are evenly split between working in the private and in the public sector. As the advantages of working in the private sector, young people mention better advancement prospects, higher salaries, and opportunities for further professional education. On the other hand, the advantages of working in public enterprises, in the opinion of young people, are job security, respect for workers' rights and regular payment of salaries.

The disadvantages of working in the private sector, in the opinion of focus group participants, are that the private sector is insufficiently regulated, which is most often reflected in the disregard for workers' rights, irregular payment of salaries, and inability to take sick or maternity leave. The disadvantages of working in public enterprises include the lack of advancement prospects, the lack of continuing professional education and salaries lower than those that might be earned in private companies.

Focus group participants very rarely claim that they know young people who successfully started their own businesses. On average they know fewer than 5 people with successful businesses. Service providing activities and primary production are the main types of business activities that young people run. The problems that young people who own businesses face are related to excessively high taxes and other levies imposed by responsible public authorities. The lack of inexpensive capital or affordable credit lines also constitutes a problem for young people running their own businesses.

Only a few focus group participants state that they have a plan to start their own business. According to participants' claims, those ideas mostly revolve around service providing industry or manufacturing. As the basic initial capital for starting their own business, all participants list funds in the first place. The risks that might impair the success of a business include competition, high labor taxes, and unavailability of affordable loans for procurement of fixed assets and raw materials.

The fundamental values to be cherished in the BiH society are: honesty, respect, respect for others,

morals, tolerance, trust, and humanity – in the opinion of focus group participants. Currently, there is an obvious deficiency of these values in the BiH society, particularly on the political scene, where it is most noticeable. Young people believe that deficiency in these values adversely affects every aspect of the development of BiH.

Young people view as unacceptable any statements about illegal actions taken to gain material or non-material benefits. However, focus group participants who found themselves in situations when they were asked to make illegal payments or provide some other favor in order to obtain certain benefits state that they went along with such requests.

Nearly all focus group participants believe that the greatest successes of BiH since it gained its independence from the former Yugoslavia are achievements in the domain of sports. In addition to sports achievements, young people think that maintaining the peace since 1995 to this day is also a success for everybody living in BiH.

Focus group participants believe that young people are the only force that can bring about a true improvement in the BiH society. However, they need to get more space and find more appropriate opportunities to demonstrate that. Young people should work together more and attempt to change the state through political activism, but this should occur outside of the currently established political options in power. At present, young people do not get adequate opportunities to pursue this course of action.

4. APPENDICES

4.1. Group Discussion Guide

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Good afternoon/good evening and welcome. I am _____ and I work for the Prism Research Agency as moderator. We are a private research company and we invited you today for a group discussion on a topic that matters to you. Thank you very much for coming today.

We will be talking about the topics that matter to young people like yourselves and I hope that you will find the discussion interesting. There are no wrong answers, this is not an exam and nobody will be evaluated. I am interested in your attitudes and your views. Every answer is a correct answer. All you need to do is relax and talk.

Let us first dispose of some formalities. This group discussion will be recorded for the purposes of generating a report that I need to prepare. I cannot remember everything that we will talk about. All information and data that we get from you will be used exclusively for the purposes of this research and will not be accessible to the public. Please let me know if you agree that our conversation be recorded by dictaphone in order to prepare transcripts which will be the basis for us to generate our reports?

This discussion will last around 80 minutes and I would appreciate if you could confirm that you will be able to stay with me during that time.

Also, I will ask you to turn your mobile phones off so that we do not get disturbed during our conversation. Thank you.

OK, let's start with introducing ourselves. I will start. My name is _____. I work for the Prism Research Agency as moderator and in my free time I...

Can you tell me something about yourself, name or a nickname that you would want me to use during our conversation?

CURRENT SITUATION AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVISM 15 minutes

1. What is your opinion about the social situation in BiH when compared to the situation two years ago? Is the situation better, the same or has it deteriorated? In your opinion, what caused this situation? What are the main reasons?
2. What is your view of the economic situation in BiH when compared to the situation two years ago? Is the situation better, the same or has it deteriorated? In your opinion, what caused this situation? What are the main reasons?
3. What is your opinion about the political situation in BiH when compared to the situation two years ago? Is the situation better, the same or has it deteriorated? In your opinion, what caused this situation? What are the main reasons?
4. Have you actively participated in any activities in the following areas?
5. If the answer is YES for any area, ask in what activity specifically and for a description of that activity. If the answer is NO ask why that was the case?
6. Do you think that you are sufficiently informed about the activities in which you take part?

BiH MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN UNION 5 minutes

7. Are you familiar with the key conditions that BiH must meet to advance in the European integration process? If yes, what are those conditions?
8. Have you ever heard about the Reform Agenda? Do you know what it includes/what areas does it cover?
9. What is your first thought when someone mentions the Agenda?
10. What are three key advantages of BiH becoming a member of EU?
11. What are three key disadvantages of BiH becoming a member of EU?
12. Do you want BiH to become a member of EU?
Yes, why yes?
No, why not?
13. Gives us in a single word your first thought when you hear:
Living outside BiH or abroad
BiH as a member of EU
BiH as a member of NATO

EXPERIENCES WITH LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT 20 minutes

14. What are the main difficulties that you encountered while looking/finding a job?
15. Are you actively looking for a job abroad?
If yes, where?
If no, why not?
16. Are you registered with the employment bureau?
17. If the answer is “I’m not registered with the employment bureau”, ask why aren’t they registered?
18. Ask the young people who had experience with the employment bureau about their opinion/experience with the employment bureau.
19. In which sector would you prefer to work and why?
20. List three main advantages and three disadvantages of working in the private as opposed to the public sector?

YOUNG PEOPLE AND BUSINESS 15 minutes

21. Do you know any young person who successfully started their own business/ company?
22. If the answer is YES, ask how many persons?
23. If the answer is YES, ask what kind of business it is?
24. In your opinion, what kinds of problems these young people most frequently face?
25. Do you have any idea for starting private business or company of your own?
26. If the answer is YES, ask what kind of initial capital you need for your idea to be implemented?
27. What do you think the main risks are when managing a business/ company? What are the elements that could lead to success?

VALUES THAT YOUNG PEOPLE CHERISH 20 minutes

28. From your standpoint, what are the basic values that should be cherished/maintained in our society?
29. Would you say that a deficiency of fundamental values (such as honesty, integrity, and ethics) is a major problem for the development of BiH? Please explain in detail.
30. Do you find the following statements are acceptable or unacceptable:
A person does something illegal to secure a better life for him/herself or their family
A public official does something illegal but that does not secure a better life for your family.
A public official informally asks of you to make an additional payment for him to perform a service or an administrative procedure which is part of his job
A person pays a doctor an additional amount of money for carrying out a procedure that is part of his or her job
- Parents or students pay an additional amount of money to the teacher in order to secure better grades.
31. Have you ever found yourself in a similar situation?
32. What would you say is the biggest success of BiH since its independence from the former Yugoslavia? (e.g. an event, a success of individual person, such as in sports, etc...)
33. Lastly, do you actually see and what could be the role of young people in building of a better BiH?

