

**Deloitte.**



## **Progressing Youth**

Technology and civics: globally and in the EU

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*All graphs supporting this analysis can be found [here](#)*



## Introduction

At Deloitte, we are inspired by the promise of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Its acceleration of technology and digitization across all aspects of life presents incredible opportunity. As this unfolds, we are preparing people, and the organizations they are part of, to be ready for the prosperity and progress it offers. Against this backdrop, globally, millions of people are being left behind; unable to fulfill their aspirations and potential. They lack the education, skills, and training needed. This is causing widening inequality, declining productivity, and rising social tensions.

A large proportion of this group are youth – the future leaders of tomorrow. Many of them face tough labor market conditions. In 2016, more than 71 million young people were unemployed globally<sup>1</sup> and many of those who are employed work in precarious conditions.<sup>2</sup> Youth unemployment rates remain higher than for other working cohorts<sup>3</sup>, and have increased in G20 emerging countries (with available data).<sup>4</sup> The increasing number of youth who are neither employed, nor in education or training (NEET), or who have

dropped out of the labor market present an even more serious challenge. In 2015, about 40 million young people in OECD countries were NEETs; equivalent to 15 percent of youth aged 15 to 29 and two-thirds of them are not looking for work.<sup>5</sup> According to an OECD study, “while up to 40 percent of all youth experience a period of inactivity or unemployment over a four year period, for half of them this period will last a year or more and may lead to discouragement and exclusion”.<sup>6</sup>

One geography that has significant youth challenges is Europe. According to Eurostat data<sup>7</sup> in 2017 there were about 54 million young people (15-24 years) in the EU. Of those, more than 3 million are unemployed and 31 million are economically inactive.<sup>7</sup>

1. International Labour Organisation (ILO), World Employment Social Outlook: Trends for Youth 2016, p. vii, [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_513739.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_513739.pdf).

2. ILO, World Employment Social Outlook: Trends for Youth 2016, p. vii.

3. ILO, World Employment Social Outlook: Trends 2018, p. 2, [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms\\_615594.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_615594.pdf).

4. ILO, World Employment Social Outlook: Trends for Youth 2016, p. 43.

5. OECD (2016), Society at a Glance 2016: OECD Social Indicators, OECD Publishing, Paris, p. 9, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264261488-en>.

6. OECD, Growing risk of social exclusion among early school leavers, 05/10/2016, <http://www.oecd.org/social/soc/growing-risk-of-social-exclusion-among-early-school-leavers.htm>

7. Eurostat, Employment and unemployment data, <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/data/database>

# Deloitte is committed to helping young people be prepared for their futures. How are we doing this?

## WorldClass

Deloitte has created [WorldClass](#) – an organizationwide initiative that aligns Deloitte’s local efforts around a global ambition. Through WorldClass, we will prepare 50 million futures for a world of opportunity by 2030. We are applying our core skills, experience, and global reach to empower more people through education, skills development, and access to opportunity. In order to reach this goal we are collaborating with others to find the most innovative solutions to the complex global challenges in these areas.

## Millennial survey

This is one of two signature thought pieces that provide insights into young people and the environment that affects them. For the last 5 years, Deloitte has undertaken a survey of millennials who are young professionals. Deloitte’s [latest survey](#) of 10,000 (professional) millennials from 36 countries looks at their world view and found that many young people today – both Millennials and Generation Z – are anxious about their future, especially those from developed economies. They are concerned about a world that presents numerous threats and question their personal prospects. However, there are strong reasons for optimism. And, as our millennials series has consistently found, the activities of businesses and the opportunities provided to their workforces represent a platform for positive change.

## Youth Progress Index measuring what matters for youth

Deloitte has joined with a handful of other organizations that share our youth-focused values and created the [Youth Progress Index \(YPI\)](#). These organizations include the European Youth Forum, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Social Progress Imperative, and the International Organization of Employers (IOE).

The YPI is Deloitte’s second signature insights piece providing one of the first ever instruments for measuring the quality of life of young people independently of economic indicators. It offers a framework to support measuring progress towards the achievement of social aims such as UN Sustainable Development Goals for the youth, e.g. access to clean water and air, access to healthcare, employment equality and the strength and relevance of democratic institutions.

## One Young World

[One Young World](#) is a non-profit organization that brings together the brightest young leaders from around the world and empowers them to create positive impact.

One Young World’s 2018 Summit is being held in The Hague, Netherlands and will be attended by approximately 1,500 young leaders aged 18-30. This annual conference has been described as the “Davos” for Millennials.

In 2018, Deloitte is sending a delegation of over forty of its professionals from around the world. The 2018 Summit is the eighth year that Deloitte has sent a delegation to One Young World. As part of its delegation, Deloitte is sponsoring four individuals from non-profits organizations that our network already partners with to support our WorldClass ambition.

Deloitte’s delegates will be part of a year-long leadership development program. The program will help delegates to continue to grow as leaders, expand internal and external networks globally, and use their skills to make a positive impact in society. The One Young World leadership development experience will include virtual training sessions, mentoring support, and opportunities to contribute to regional projects aligned to WorldClass.



Understanding the factors that impact the quality of life of young people is important if society is to know where and how to focus its resources to address the problems facing our youth. This is why Deloitte was one of 6 organizations to jointly develop the Youth Progress Index (YPI), which is a framework that is structured around 3 “dimensions” – *Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing and Opportunity* – 12 “components”, and 60 distinct indicators. YPI provides data on the relationship between factors such as access to information, housing, education, early marriage and property rights, and the social progress of young people. YPI can serve as a tool to assist strategic planning, as well as for in-depth explorations into certain societal issues and patterns affecting young people. See the Appendix for a summary of the YPI.

Deloitte has further analyzed the YPI data to better understand the relationships between technology and social developments, and the potential impact on young people, both globally and within the EU. This report summarizes the key findings. The data for this analysis was drawn from the Economist Intelligent Unit (EIU), as well as Eurostat and Eurobarometer. For more information, including geographic coverage of the EIU data, see Appendix. It is important to note that this data does not cover all of the countries included in the YPI data; however, the analytic trends identified suggest potential impacts on youth progress that warrant further investigation. Given country differences identified in the YPI, consideration should be given to doing such analysis at a regional, national or even local jurisdictional level.

Deloitte’s interest in measuring what matters for youth stems from a broader commitment around making an impact in society. Addressing complex societal challenges requires collaboration and no sector can do it alone. For the last five years, Deloitte has been working closely with Social Progress Imperative to change the way we measure what matters most to countries, regions and communities, for government, business and society. The YPI is another example of our commitment to drive an impact in society.

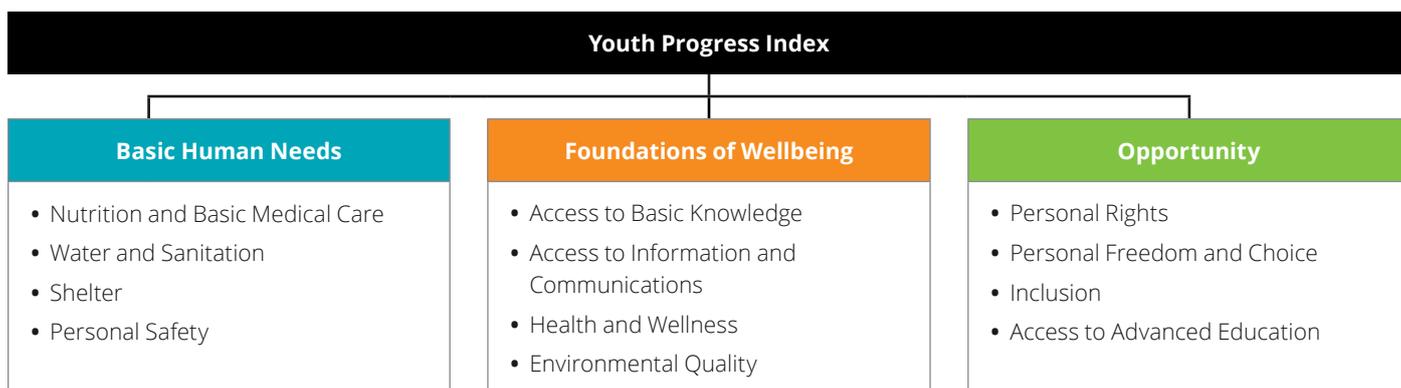
# Global analysis

## Digitalization... and youth

As the YPI demonstrates, better scores in two components - *Access to Basic Knowledge* and *Access to Information and Communication* - often correlate to higher access to *Opportunity*. However, technology and how it is used to enable people access to information may also play a role. Further analysis shows positive relationships with a number of "technology" factors and improved scores in the three YPI dimensions - *Basic Human Needs*, *Foundations of Wellbeing*, and *Opportunity*, as well as the overall YPI scores. This is the case for both the global and EU data. At a time when technology is revolutionizing everything we have and do, this is positive news.



## The Youth Progress Index Framework



Following graphs examine the correlation between external indicators and YPI scores (overall index and its dimensions). Each dot represents a country.

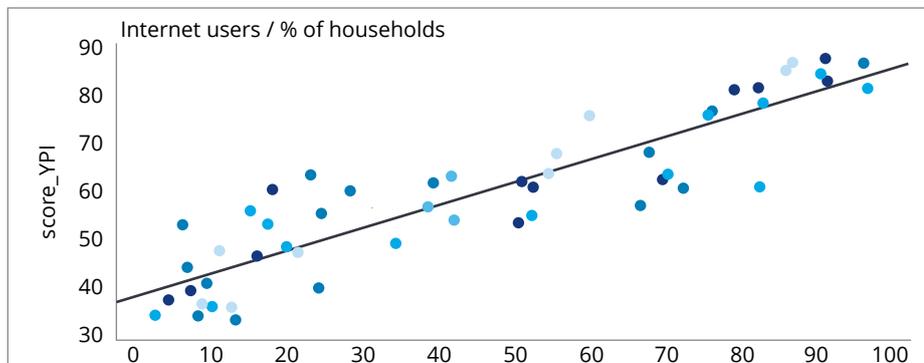


Figure 1 – Internet users / percentage of households and YPI

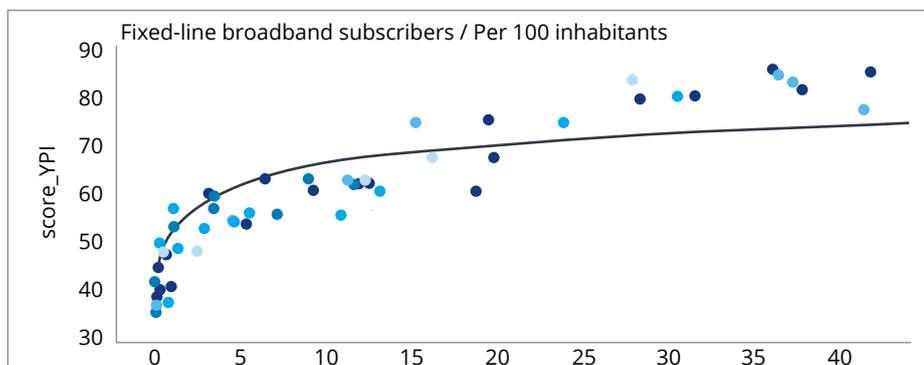


Figure 2 – Fixed-line broadband subscribers and YPI

Further analysis shows that factors such as internet availability and speed are associated with improved youth progress scores. The more individuals with access to the internet at home, the more the fixed broadband subscribers, and the more network coverage, the greater youth progress seems to be (higher the YPI scores). The outcome is similar with increased speeds of broadband, mobile, and fixed broadband latency (negative). A number of the trends also suggest that the improved youth progress (YPI scores) happens with small “technology-based” improvements amongst relatively poorer countries, compared to the more wealthy.

The Deloitte analysis also suggests technology (internet and mobile phone) has similar positive correlations against *Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing* and *Opportunity* (YPI dimensions), albeit the relationships were slightly different. This is not only reflected in the availability/access of the internet, but also in how technology is being used.

For example, small increases in the number of fixed broadband subscribers, mobile upload and download speeds and bandwidth capacity all appear to correspond to initial bigger jumps in scores for *Foundations of Wellbeing*, but the impact lessens with increased “access”. Network coverage (3G & 4G) and the number of internet users per household are associated with improvements in *Foundations of Wellbeing* (positive linear relationships). Further, mobile latency also appears to have the opposite effect, showing a negative moderate correlation (with *Foundations of Wellbeing*).

All graphs supporting this analysis can be found [here](#)

The data also shows that there are strong relationships between e-commerce content, and UN e-Government Development Index and *Foundations of Wellbeing* scores. Further, there is a moderate to strong association with the percentage of schools with the internet and *Foundations of Wellbeing*.

We see similar positive relationships regarding the availability/access to the internet, and how technology is being used and the *Basic Human Needs* of youth.

In particular, there is a strong linear relationship between the *Basic Human Needs* scores and the UN E-Government Index, e-commerce content scores and the number of internet users per household. Further small increases in fixed broadband subscribers and bandwidth capacity at lower numbers were associated with significantly greater increases in *Basic Human Needs* scores, but the relative change reduces (in *Basic Human Needs* scores) as the numbers increase, suggesting saturation impacts.

Digitalization appears to also have a positive relationship to opportunity both in terms of access to, and use of technologically driven information. For example, *Opportunity* appears to have a positive linear relationship to internet users as a percentage of households, as well as with the number of fixed broadband subscribers, 4G network and E-commerce content. Of further note, we see again the percentage of schools with internet having a moderate positive relationship with youth *Opportunity*.

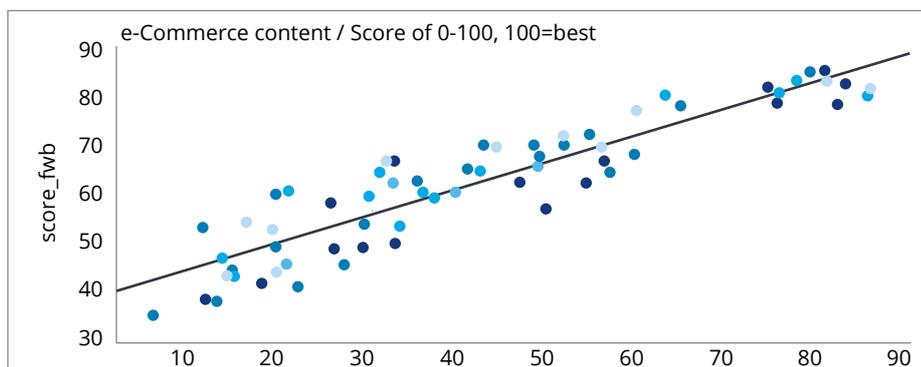


Figure 3 – e-Commerce content and Foundations of Wellbeing

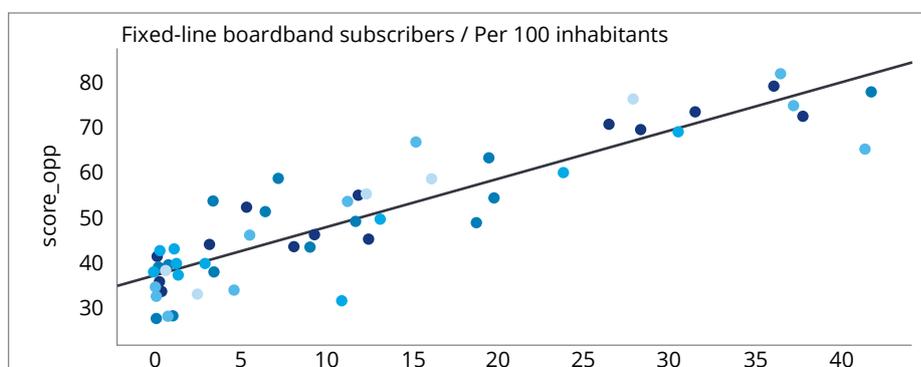


Figure 4 – Fixed-line broadband subscribers and Opportunity



### ... And women

The combination of women and the internet also seems to have some bearing on youth progress. The analysis shows a positive association between female access to the internet (as a percentage of households) and youth progress (the overall YPI score), and similarly with its *Opportunity* dimension. However, when looking at the other dimensions we see a slightly different, yet still positive picture. It seems that small increases in the number of women with access to the internet see relatively quicker improvements in the *Foundations of Wellbeing* scores for youth, below 15 percent, comprising again of mainly the less developed and less wealthy countries. When looking at *Basic Human Needs*, the relationship is looser at the lower ends of access to the internet, but becomes more apparent once 30% is reached.

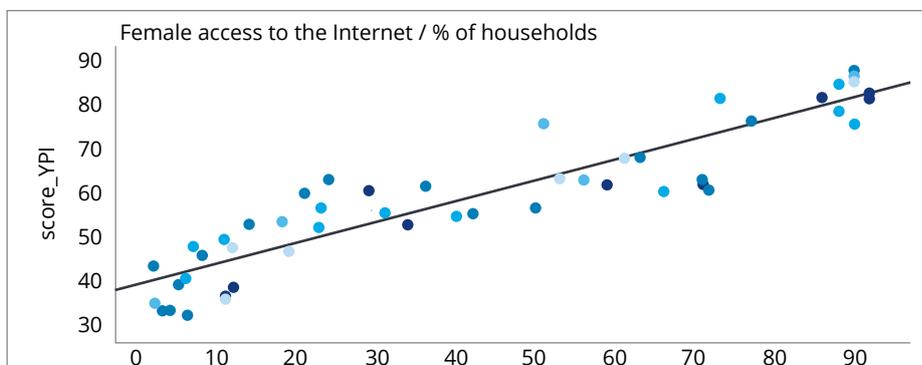


Figure 5 – Female access to the Internet and YPI

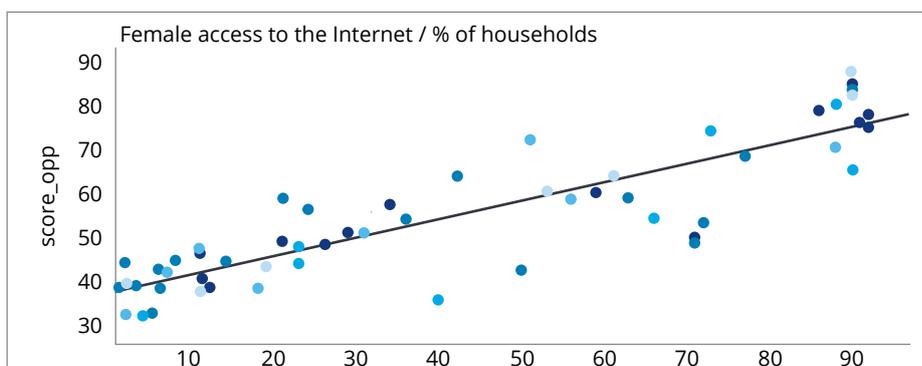


Figure 6 – Female access to the Internet and Opportunity

## Summary

The analysis suggests that access to information as provided through basic forms of digitalization can have an impact on youth progress, from positively influencing YPI scores on *Basic Human Needs* through to *Foundations of Wellbeing* and *Opportunity*, which cover factors such as *Nutrition and Shelter, Health and Wellness* and *Personal Freedom and Choice*. The stronger association is with *Foundations of Wellbeing*, which includes indicators such as literacy, healthy life expectancy at birth and air pollution attributable deaths. **This suggests that investment in bandwidth capacity, access to technology and the information it delivers should be pursued.** The data also suggests that providing schools with access to the internet can also improve the prospects for young people.

Further, when combining digitalization and women, the progress of young people seems to improve. Given the limitations on this analysis, if there was more of the right information available, detailed analysis could tell us a lot more about these relationships. Further, the analysis opens the door to consider that there must be potential for the new technologies that are available today, to make some difference to youth progress.

### Social development

A handful of social development indicators were also analyzed to determine their relationship to the progress of young people. The results show increased urbanization had a moderate to strong association with youth factors of *Foundations of Wellbeing* and *Opportunity*. It is important not to conclude that youth are better off in an urban environment, as there are likely to be many other factors that come into play, such as provisions of services, peer networks, wealth, etc. This finding suggests it is worth doing more analysis to understand the underlying factors. The business environment ranking also appears to be positive for youth, showing a moderate association with *Foundations of Wellbeing*, and an even stronger relationship to *Opportunity*. E-government development is positively related to youth progress across all factors as measured in the YPI. There is a strong positive correlation between the UN E-Government Development Index and all three youth progress dimensions.

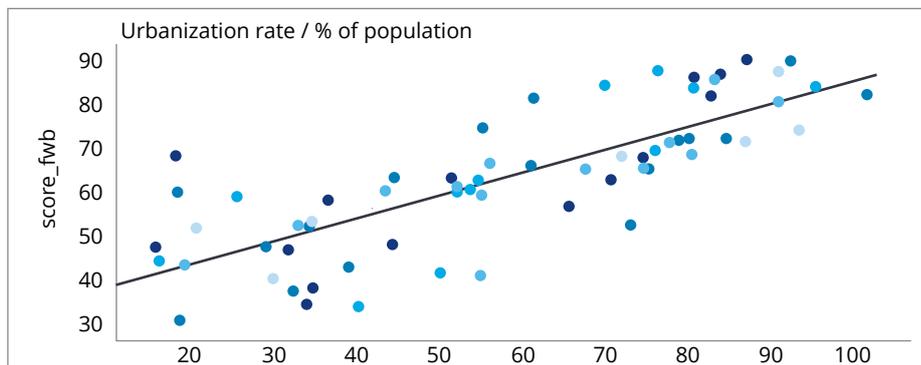


Figure 7 – Urbanization Rate and Foundations of Wellbeing

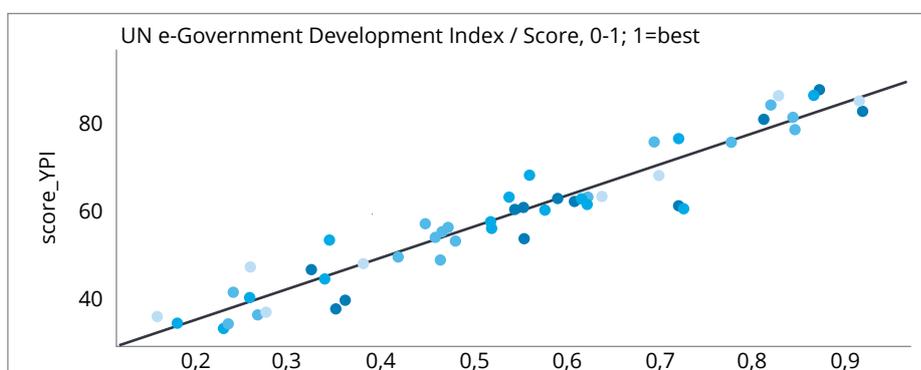


Figure 8 – E-Government Development Index and YPI



The broader social environment also appears to have a bearing on youth progress, in particular *Opportunity*. The analysis suggests that democracy and low corruption levels have moderate to strong associations with the *Opportunity* component and with YPI scores, compared to a more moderate association with the *Basic Human Needs* and *Foundations of Wellbeing* components. A closer look at the graphs provides a slightly clearer picture. At the lower levels of the Democracy Index, the relationship with the Youth Progress Index score is not as strong (as for the higher levels). When looking at the countries within this group, they are predominantly countries where not only is democracy not strong, but in the main the countries are developing, or have relatively weak economies (e.g. Mozambique, Ethiopia, Ukraine and Russia). At the other end of the spectrum, we see a much stronger positive relationship with the Youth Progress Index scores and the democracy index. The relevant cohort of countries are those that not only have strong democratic institutions, but again are considered wealthier, such as France, Canada, Sweden and Australia. A similar story unfolds when looking at the corruption index. While a lack of corruption and a more democratic environment are positively related to youth progress, there are clearly other factors that come into play, that have not been identified by this research.

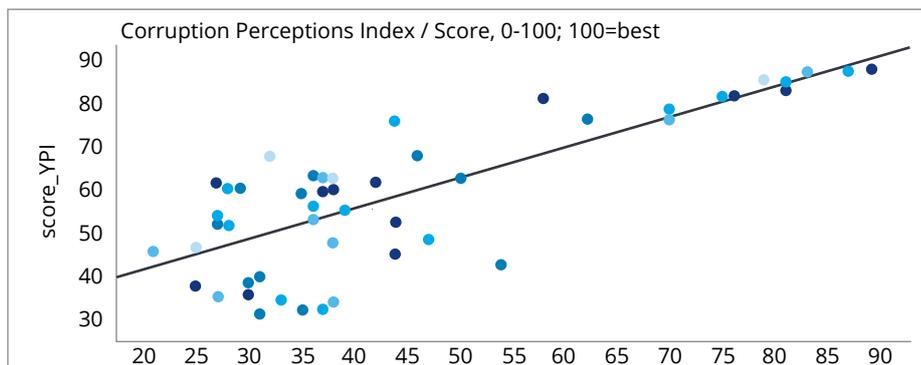


Figure 9 – Corruption Perception Index and YPI

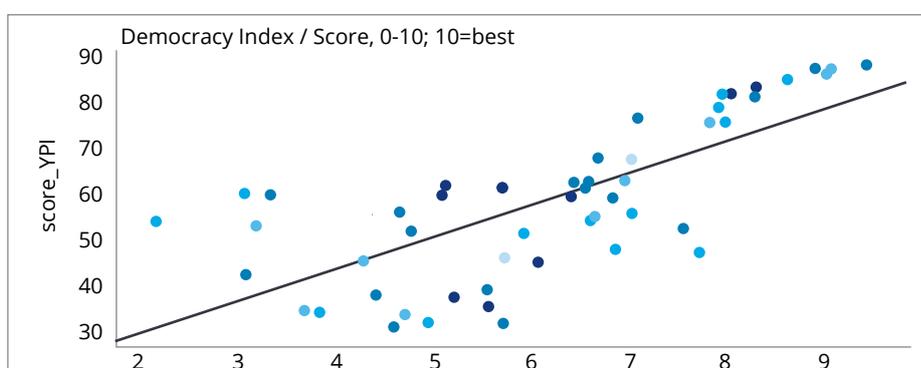
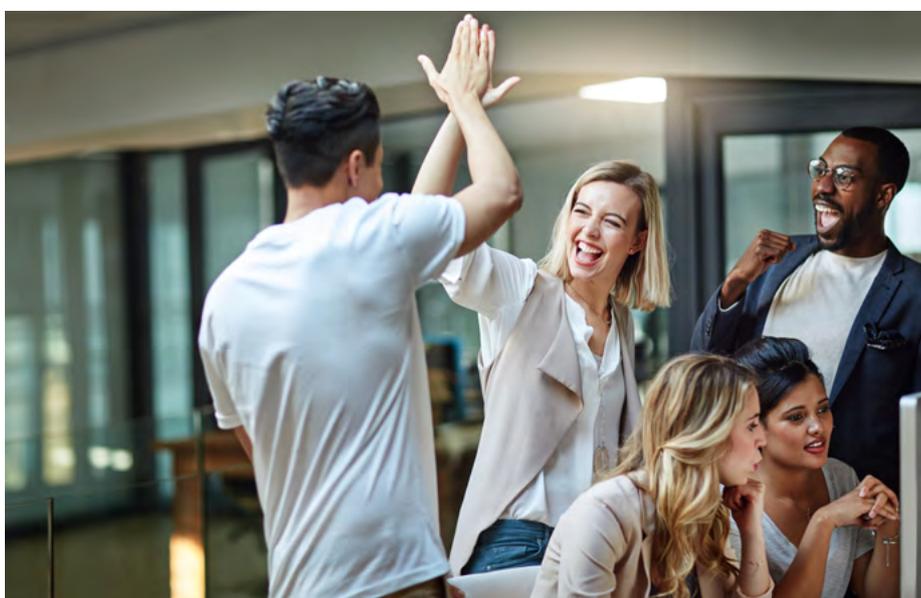


Figure 10 – Democracy Index and YPI



### Economic development

Economic factors also appear to have a positive relationship to youth progress, which adds weight to the GDP per capita analysis provided by the YPI report. Youth in wealthier countries are comparatively better off when it comes to opportunity and wellbeing, but there is a point at which the relative improvement reduces as other factors have a bearing. The data showed that Gross National Income (GNI) is positively correlated with YPI scores and with its dimensions *Opportunity* and *Foundations of Wellbeing*. All show more significant relative change with GNI increases at lower levels of GNI. This relative change reduces with GNI increases, suggesting beyond a certain point other factors may be having a stronger impact.

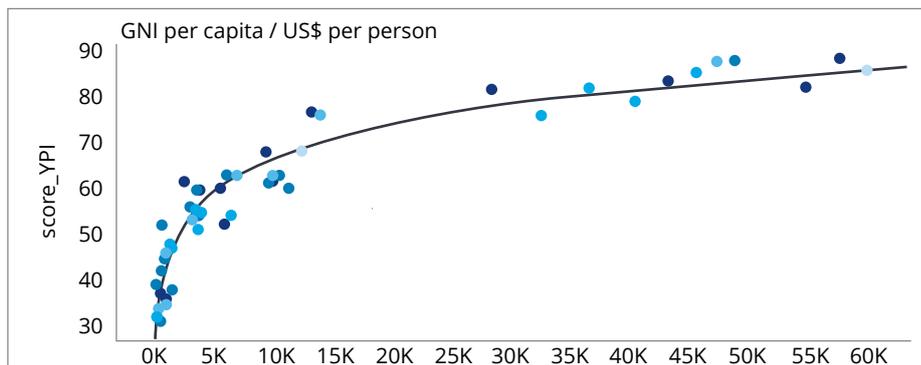


Figure 11 – GNI per capita and YPI



### Summary

For poorer countries, increases in economic performance can be a quick win for youth progress, however as countries become wealthier, this does not hold true. This suggests that more than financial wealth is needed to foster social progress of young people. The business and political environment appear to play a role, and this data suggests that it is important to promote e-government, and create the conditions for a good business environment to support opportunities for young people. Further, societal leaders – government, business and community – need to create an environment that enables a fair electoral process, civil liberties, a functioning government, political participation, and political culture, which can improve the lives of young people. In this case, the analysis considered the “Democracy Index” as a measure. This analysis did not extend to include other forms of government. In addition, we see that activities that benefit some at the expense of others and create unfair playing fields, such as corruption, hurt the progress of young people. As a society, we need to do more to root out these unfair practices and promote an environment where youth can participate.



## EU focus

The Youth Progress Index fully measures and ranks 26 out of the 28 EU Member States (MS). The two EU countries only partially covered by the Index (Luxembourg and Malta) will not be further analyzed, as they cannot be ranked and compared with other MS because of insufficient data.

The European Union is well represented in the upper part of the global YPI ranking, with 5 countries making it to top ten and seven in the subsequent ten positions. Overall, EU members represent 70 percent of the top 30 ranked countries across all the three dimensions of the Index, as per the table on the right.

Considering the Member States as a whole, the European Union significantly outperforms in all of the 3 dimensions of the overall YPI scores, compared to both global and European average results (i.e., also including non-EU Countries).

2017 Youth Progress Index					
Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score
2	Finland	88.59	22	Estonia	80.55
3	Denmark	88.54	23	France	78.50
5	Sweden	87.32	25	Slovakia	76.99
7	Netherlands	86.53	26	Latvia	76.43
9	Ireland	85.16	27	Poland	76.26
11	Austria	84.98	28	Cyprus	76.24
13	Germany	84.41	29	Croatia	76.05
14	Belgium	83.34	30	Italy	75.71
15	United Kingdom	82.62	34	Greece	74.26
16	Slovenia	81.99	35	Lithuania	73.76
19	Czech Republic	80.87	37	Hungary	73.20
20	Spain	80.85	38	Bulgaria	69.38
21	Portugal	80.55	41	Romania	68.19

Table 1 - 2017 Youth Progress Index: ranking and scores for EU countries

Furthermore, EU countries perform more uniformly compared to the rest of the world. This is particularly true for the *Nutrition and Basic Medical Care* component, where the difference between the best and the worst EU performer is only 2.5 points. *Personal Freedom and Choice* records the highest absolute difference (45 points).

On the other hand, the EU-26 (EU-28 without Luxembourg and Malta) scores largely reflect global trends on the 3 dimensions, with best results being on *Basic Human Needs* and *Foundations of Wellbeing*, while *Opportunity* is lagging behind, as also shown in the histogram on the right.

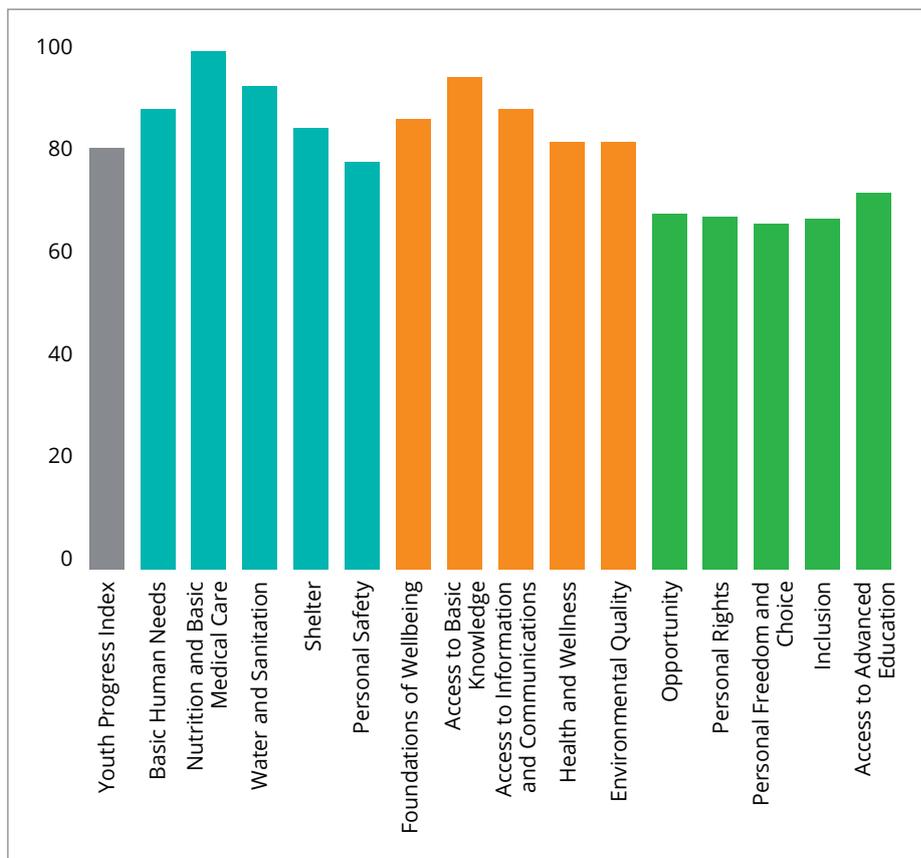


Figure 12 – If the EU were a country: YPI performances

The map on the right shows the aggregated YPI performance of the EU-26 Countries according to a red-to-green color scale.



### GDP comparison

Looking at individual EU country scores, data shows that some of the wealthiest countries such as Finland, Sweden, and the Netherlands occupy the highest positions, though some of the smaller Eastern European Countries score well ahead of their economic peers. For example, Slovenia and Czech Republic ranked in the top 20. These countries come ahead of more established EU members such as Spain (20), France (23) and Italy (30). This analysis shows the relative weight of GDP when it comes to EU Countries social and environmental performances, as well as a positive story about EU membership and social progress, particularly for the latest accession Countries (Eastern European Countries).

Moreover, YPI confirms, on balance, that the EU Member States are doing better in terms of Youth Progress ranking compared to “non-member States” sharing the same level of GDP per capita.



The graph on the right examines the correlation between EU Countries’ GDP and YPI scores showing that there is no straightforward dependence amongst them.

Overall, regarding the three Dimensions of the YPI, *Opportunity* has the strongest correlation with GDP, followed by *Foundations of Wellbeing* and *Basic Human Needs*.

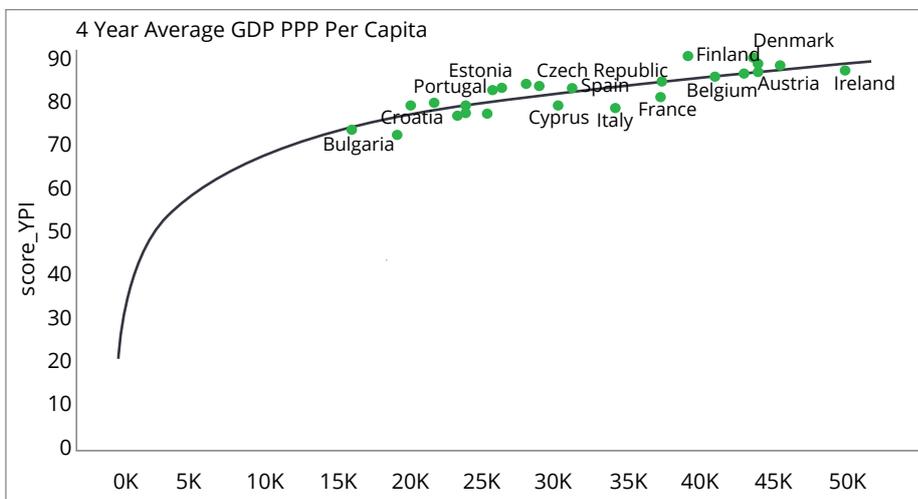


Figure 14 – 4 Year Average GDP PPP Per Capita and YPI  
Please note that some countries are mentioned on this graph just as a matter of example

YPI dimensions



**Basic Human Need**

EU Countries are performing extremely well on the *Basic Human Needs* dimension, with the components *Nutrition and Basic Medical Care* and *Water and Sanitation* scoring very highly. Only Romania lags behind. The results of the other two components are less uniform across the Union:

- on the *Shelter* component - Nordic, Central and Mediterranean Countries are doing on balance better than several Eastern Countries (notably, Romania, Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, Latvia);
- on the *Personal Safety* component the divide is even more evident - with Nordic and Central European Countries performing much better than several Mediterranean and Eastern Countries (notably, Italy, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Greece, and Romania).



**Foundation of Wellbeing**

In all EU Countries, *Access to basic knowledge* and *Access to Information and Communication* score quite highly.

In this respect, it is also worth noting that, while data shows that the EU membership is generally associated with a stronger education outcome, Eastern-European countries often have lower GDP per capita, but higher performing schooling systems than their economic peers, potentially suggesting long-term benefits of investment in this area; as also shown by the graph below.

The other two components of this dimension are less consistent across the Union:

- on the *Health and Wellness* component - Nordic, Central and Mediterranean Countries are doing on balance better than several Eastern Countries (notably, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania and Bulgaria);
- on the *Environment Quality* component, quite a few Eastern Countries (Romania and Bulgaria in particular) are lagging behind.



**Opportunity**

Also in the EU – as is the case at a Global level – this is by far the lowest scoring of the three YPI dimensions, possibly suggesting that policy-making in the EU should be focusing on improving the various components of this dimension.

In the EU, *Access to advanced education* is the highest measure amongst the four components, where most EU Countries are performing well (with the exception of some Mediterranean – Portugal and Italy – and Eastern – Romania and Slovakia – Countries).

The *Inclusion* component scores quite low in most Eastern Countries and in Greece, as well as in France. *Personal rights* and *Personal freedom and choice* also see poor scores in most Eastern and Southern European Countries. These findings are possibly suggesting the relevance of implementing specific policies on these three critical areas.

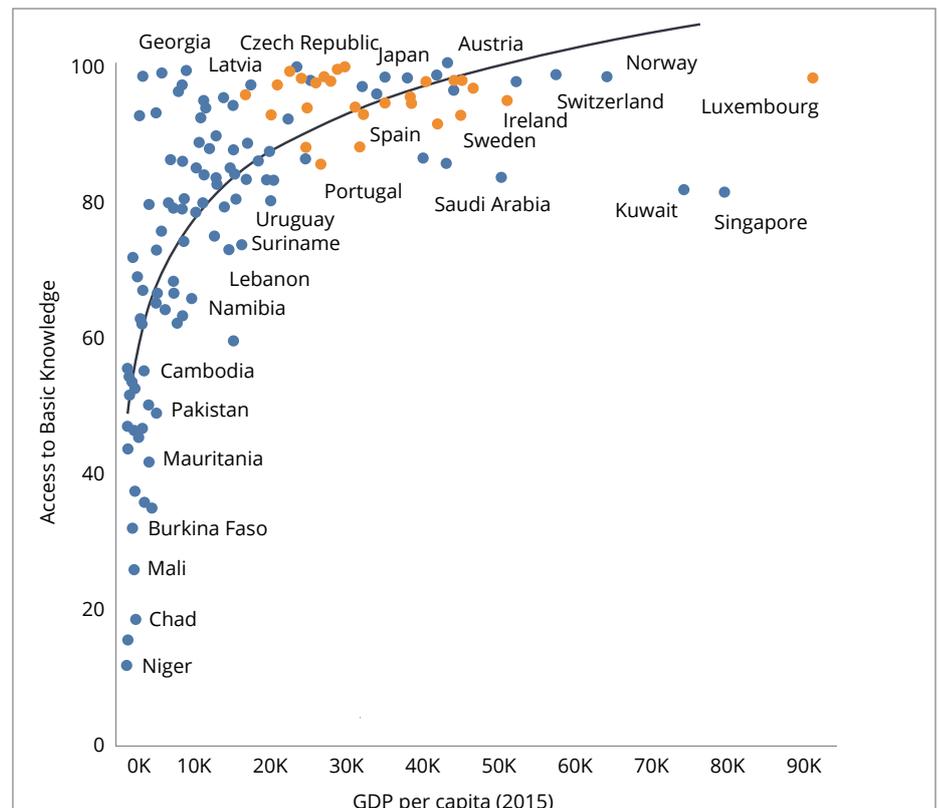


Figure 15 – GDP per capita (2015) and Access to Basic Knowledge  
Please note that some countries are mentioned on this graph just as a matter of example

### Digitalization, education, citizenship... and youth

The YPI results for EU-26 countries have been further analyzed by correlating them with external indicators, in order to better understand the relationships between technological development, educational attainment and active citizenship, and social progress in the EU. External data used for this analysis have been drawn from Eurostat and Eurobarometer, selecting those indicators that presented a disaggregation by age.

Following graphs examine the correlation between external indicators and YPI scores (overall index and its dimensions). Each dot represents an EU country.

#### i. Digitalization

##### Broadband connectivity

Whilst a variety of indicators of the digital revolution show a strong positive correlation with the overall YPI, the development of a widespread, high-speed network for internet access appears of particular relevance for the European youth in terms of the *Opportunity* dimension, in particular when it comes to the *Personal Freedom and Choice* component.

These findings suggest that the degree of digitalization of European societies and the penetration of internet play an active role in fostering social progress of young people.

##### Internet users

At the same time, connectivity seems to have a major influence on the civil liberties of youth in Europe (such as political rights, freedom of expression and assembly, etc.). In this respect, the analysis shows a strong degree of correlation between the Eurostat indicator 'Daily Internet Users' and *Personal Rights* component, in particular for young European women.

All graphs supporting this analysis can be found [here](#)

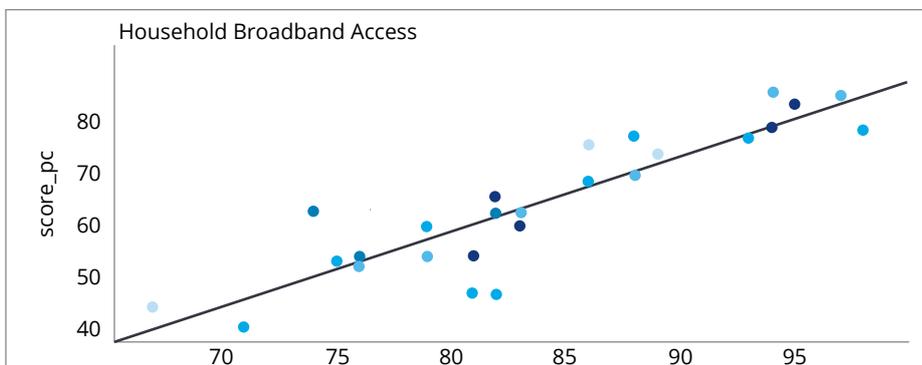


Figure 16 – Households with broadband connectivity and Personal Freedom and Choice

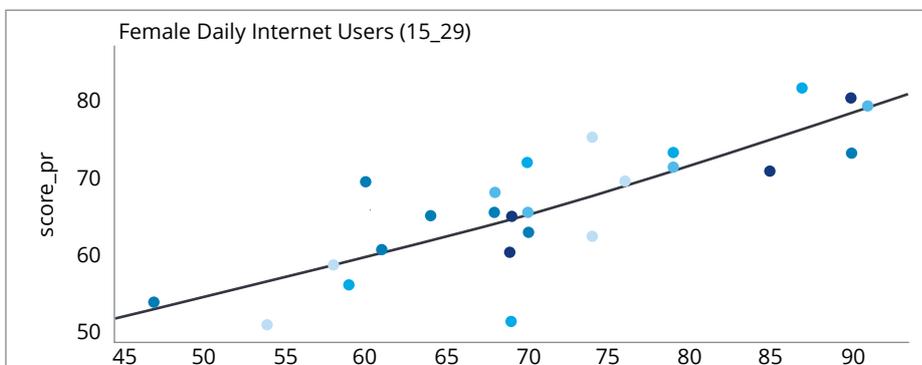


Figure 17 – Female daily internet users and Personal Rights

**ii. Education & Unemployment**

Unsurprisingly, the *Access to Basic Knowledge* component - comprising both youth literacy and secondary school enrollment - is normally associated with a lower unemployment rate across the Member States.

Finally, the robust inverse relation between EU countries' NEET rate and a variety of YPI components encompassing all of the three dimensions - including *Personal Safety (Basic Human Needs)*, *Access to Information and Communications (Foundation of Wellbeing)* and *Personal Freedom and Choice (Opportunity)* - suggests that a policy focus in these area could achieve strong results for youth social progress across the Union.

**iii. Democratic participation and active citizenship**

**Civic engagement**

For EU countries - where Eurobarometer data is available on young people's participation in various youth organizations - there is a negative relationship between young people's lack of involvement in activities of civil society organizations and YPI performances. This suggests it is of fundamental importance to promote active youth citizenship.

**Democratic participation**

On the other hand, no significant correlation could be identified between the turnout in the 2014 EU elections (as measured by Eurostat) and the YPI score, possibly suggesting that young people more and more find different ways to express their participation in society, rather than casting their votes.

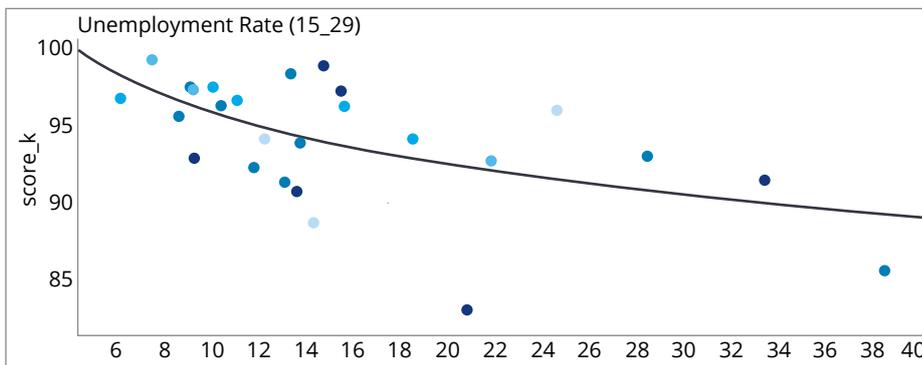


Figure 18 – Youth unemployment rate and Access to Basic Knowledge

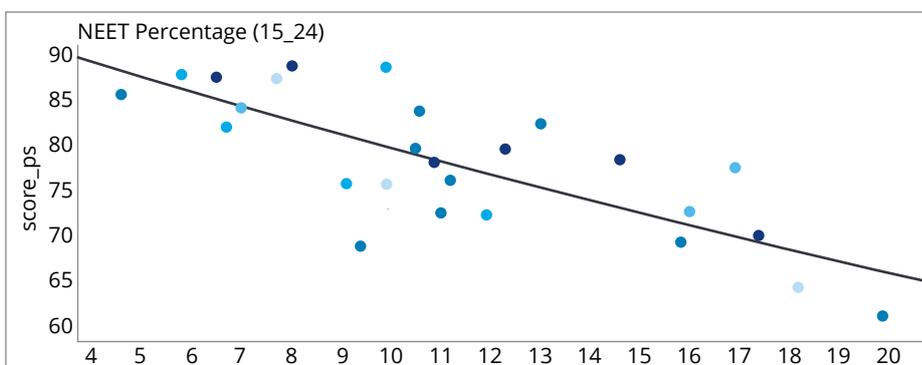


Figure 19 – Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) rate and Personal Safety

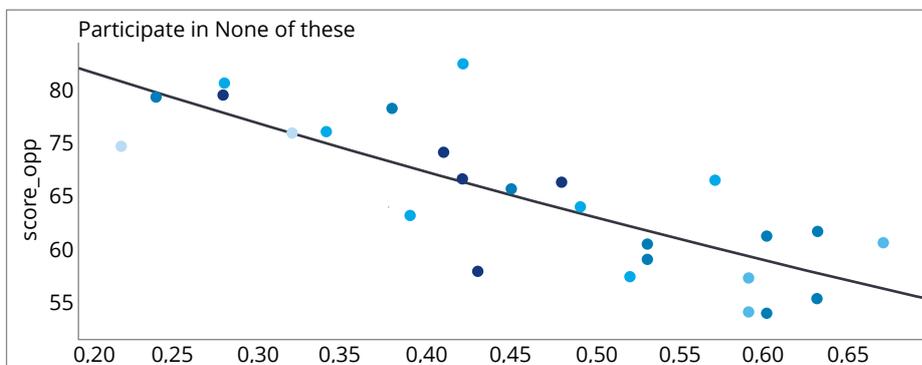


Figure 20 – Young people who do not participate in any kind of youth organizations and Opportunity

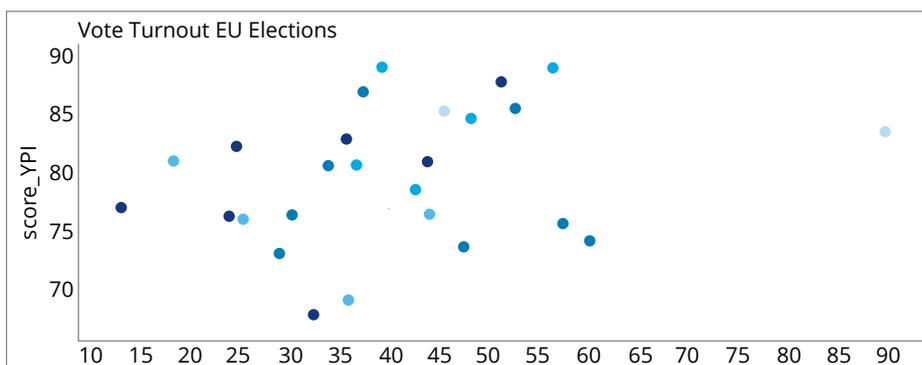


Figure 21 – Turnout in 2014 EU elections and YPI



## What does this mean?

We are living during the most technologically driven era ever. The Fourth Industrial Revolution is changing what we do, how we do it and our needs and wants. Further, while creating enormous opportunities for people everywhere, it poses societal challenges. At a time when more than 71 million young people are unemployed globally<sup>9</sup>, with more than 3 million in the EU<sup>10</sup>, this is even more true for youth today.

As societal leaders, we have a responsibility to help our young people – our future – be prepared to navigate and build their future, and that of others. Young people need to be active participants within society – and to be leaders. They also need to be innovative, and able to produce the income and idealism which will support not only current generations, but also the future of our global society. Without investing in their wellbeing and creating opportunities, they will be unable to help build our economies and find solutions to the complex challenges our communities face.

The world is letting many youth down – failing to provide them with the opportunities they need – and they know it. Deloitte's 2018 Millennial Survey found only a third of young people believe that their countries' overall social and political situation will improve, with another third predicting things to worsen. This pessimism has held steady over past surveys – and further, the 2018 results represent a decline from the previous year.

If we are to secure the future of young people, we must first work to better understand their needs and current standards of living. This requires new measures of progress, beyond financial data such as GDP, which masks inequalities and intergenerational disparities. Instead, we must discover and track what really matters to young people. The YPI is a crucial step in this regard.

The YPI identified that access to basic knowledge and information is associated with improved wellbeing and opportunity for young people. Couple this with the analysis of this report, and we can see that technology – access and use - can potentially improve the lives of young people not only in the EU but globally.

9. ILO, World Employment Social Outlook: Trends for Youth 2016, p. 8  
10. Eurostat, Unemployment statistics, June 2018

How this happens, where, and to what degree, will vary across geographies, taking into account market differences. There are however, general areas that should be the focus of government, business and society. These suggested areas of focus are relevant to the EU and elsewhere around the world, and include:

- Ongoing investment in providing access to information through information infrastructure. This has to be a priority for poorer countries but should not be ignored by others
- Availability of affordable technology devices to tap in to the knowledge, including accessing education
- More women being empowered with technology, as there appears to be strong flow on effects to young people's wellbeing and opportunity
- Educational facilities utilizing technology more. Education development and delivery can be overhauled with technology to be more inclusive of all types of students, as well as giving them the skills for their futures
- Enhancing cooperation between business and vocational institutions, as well as colleges, universities and high schools in the development of curricula and education system frameworks that can better align skills development with labor market needs
- Technological innovation being fostered and enabled amongst young people
- Promoting active youth citizenship through direct involvement in activities various community groups and activities

It is also important to develop a sustainable environment for businesses to thrive and create more jobs, while also providing ease of access and support for young entrepreneurs to start and run their businesses. In many markets this could entail streamlining and updating existing legislation particularly in areas such as company registration, and laws and regulations to access markets. It could also involve providing "one-stop shops" for entrepreneurs and youth (providing access to job listings, 'state jobs bank', training schemes, networks, information on matters such as trade and fiscal policy and job fairs, mentoring and valuable advisory services).

Enabling the social progress of young people must extend beyond technology, and has to also include civic engagement, political openness and a strong business environment. This means identifying and breaking down barriers to enable youth to be engaged. It also means taking steps to rebuild trust in the institutions that serve people, and having strong capital markets where commerce flourishes and people are protected. Of note, the recently proposed [EU Youth Strategy](#) focuses on three areas of action: encouraging young people to participate to civic and democratic life, connecting young people across the EU (e.g. volunteering) and empowering youth people through quality, innovation and recognition of youth work.

However, what gets measured gets done, and policy-makers are already increasingly recognizing the importance of measurement frameworks that look beyond financial metrics and YPI is one such tool. Governments from around the world, from the EU, to India, to Paraguay are using the Social Progress Index (a framework that measures the progress of people independent of economic factors – see Appendix for summary) to identify gaps and find joint solutions to obstacles to human wellbeing. The time has come to focus on young people in particular, and to measure the impacts technologically driven developments can have on youth progress.

Deloitte is committed to helping build a future for young people. Deloitte believes that business, alongside government, has the power and the imperative to address the challenges society faces. More analytics can support all organizations navigate their contribution to the social progress of young people, identifying where to invest to best break down the barriers to access and opportunity, and to better measure outcomes.

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# Appendix

## Youth Progress Index Basic methodology and overview

The below is an excerpt from the Youth Index report. To access the full report go to [Deloitte.com](https://www.deloitte.com).

The main objective of the Youth Progress Index is to provide countries with a comprehensive assessment of their performance in terms of young people's social progress. To do so, the Youth Progress Index follows the framework and methodology of the Social Progress Index.

### A. What is the Social Progress index?

The Index represents the first comprehensive framework for measuring social progress that is independent of economic performance. As a complement to traditional measures of economic performance, such as income, the Social Progress Index provides a better understanding of the bi-directional relationship between economic gain and social progress. Its unique framework offers a systematic, empirical foundation for governments, businesses, civil society and communities to prioritize social and environmental issues, and benchmark performance against other countries, regions, cities and communities to inform and drive public policies, investments, and business and community decisions.

The Social Progress Index is a proven tool that helps change agents and social innovators of all sectors drive positive change. The Index presents a granular, actionable picture of what matters most to people regardless of their wealth. It creates a common understanding of how well a community performs on the things that matter to all societies, rich or poor. By measuring social progress directly and independently of economic indicators, the Social Progress Index helps unpack the relationship between the two.

The Social Progress Index was developed in collaboration with a team of scholars led by Professor Michael E. Porter of Harvard Business School. National and city leaders across Latin America and the European Commission's DG Regional and Urban Policy are using the index for agenda setting, policymaking, and prioritizing how to mobilize resources and measure impact.

### Methodology

Guided by a group of academic and policy experts, the Social Progress Index follows a conceptual framework that defines social progress as well as its key elements. It defines 'social progress' as the capacity of a society to meet the basic human needs of its citizens, establish the building blocks that allow citizens and communities to enhance and sustain the quality of their lives, and create the conditions for all individuals to reach their full potential. It alludes to three broad elements of social progress, which are referred to as "dimensions": Basic Human Needs, Foundations of Wellbeing, and Opportunity.

Each of these dimensions is further broken down into four underlying "components" (see Figure 1 below).

### Social Progress Index



Figure 22: Social Progress Index Framework

Source: Stern S., Wares A., and Epner T. (2017)

Together, this interrelated set of factors represents the primary elements that combine to produce a given level of Social Progress Index. The methodology allows measurement of each component and each dimension, and yields an overall score and ranking.

The Social Progress Index is explicitly focused on non-economic aspects of performance. Unlike most other measurement efforts, it treats social progress as distinct, though associated with traditional economic measures such as income per capita. In contrast, other indices such as the Human Development Index or the OECD Better Life Index combine economic and social indicators. The Index's objective is to utilize a clear yet rigorous methodology that isolates the non-economic dimensions of societal performance.

The Social Progress Index applies a set of unique design principles that allow an exclusive analysis of social progress and help the Index stand out from other indices:

- **Social and environmental indicators only:** Measuring social progress exclusively and directly, rather than using economic proxies or combining economic and social variables;
- **Outcomes, not inputs:** Measuring the outcomes, or lived experience, of people, regardless of effort and resources spent, or the capacity to impart change;
- **Holistic and relevant to all communities:** A multidimensional measure of social progress that encompasses the many inter-related aspects of thriving societies everywhere;
- **Actionable:** A practical tool that helps leaders and decision-makers in government, as well as business to implement policies and programs that will drive faster progress and civil society to better focus and justify their advocacy.

## B. The Youth Progress Index framework

The Youth Progress Index's framework is structured around 12 components and 60 distinct indicators (see Figure 2). While limited by data availability, the framework should be seen as an initial effort contributing to measuring the quality of life of youth. As such, the framework can be a significant contribution to the policy debate, including for advocacy as well as scholarly research, on measuring performance of societies related to youth matters, and defining progress beyond economic achievements. Furthermore, the framework can be used as a mapping dashboard of public expenditures, civil society engagement and private sector investment. It can also be used as a tool to better organize and structure strategic planning, as well as for monitoring progress and evaluating success of policy investment.

The Youth Progress Index piloted a new approach to the selection of indicators:

- when possible indicators were disaggregated by age,
- specific indicators relevant for youth were added,
- remaining indicators relevant for all age groups were based on the Global Social Progress Index.

Following this approach, the Youth Progress Index framework succeeded to include nearly half of youth specific indicators (see Figure 2).

For the purposes of the Youth Progress Index, "youth" is considered to be individuals in the transition period between childhood and adulthood. The specific age bracket might be longer or shorter depending on the specific social context<sup>11</sup>. It should also be stressed that "youth" are not a coherent group, and that many subgroups of young people, such as young women, young LGBTQI, or young people with disabilities, may face even bigger challenges. This transition phase between the dependency of childhood and the responsibility of adult life is a crucial and challenging phase for an individual in many ways. From issues related to housing, personal and family relationships, a young person is likely to face challenges in finding a good quality job and/or in accessing education and healthcare, and is at risk of different forms of discrimination due to their age.

Following the Social Progress index methodology, the Youth Progress Index scores and ranks 102 countries, and 52 countries partially (for which it was possible to calculate at least 1 dimension).

There were data limitations to the YPI report. These are outlines in the YPI report.

11. No universal definition of "youth" exists in the international community, and various institutions/organizations/youth practitioners define "youth" with varying parameters, such as: Under 24; 12 – 24; 10 – 29; anything under 30 or 35. Interestingly, Nepal's national youth policy defines youth as "persons between 16-40 years old." Despite the lack of a cohesive definition, it is generally acknowledged the transitional period extends until well after an individual has achieved legal "adult" status; meaning that a society's obligation to educate and engage its young people does not end when they turn 18



Figure 23: Youth Progress Index Framework<sup>12</sup>

12. While the Youth Progress Index precisely follows the Social Progress Index framework, there is a slight difference in the name of Tolerance and Inclusion component. The Youth Progress Index only uses the term Inclusion. However, the conceptual basis of the component, i.e. the underlying question, whether “no one is excluded from the opportunity to be a contributing member of society?” remains the same.

### Data sources and correlations

- Eurostat
- Eurobarometer
- Economist Intelligent Unit

### EIU Data coverage

The associated table below lists the 102 countries fully covered by the Youth Progress Index data and of those countries where the Economist Intelligent Unit data is also available.

Overall, out of the 102 countries fully analyzed by the Youth Progress Index:

- for 52 countries the Economist data are also available;
- the aggregated population of these 52 countries represents 93% of the total population in the 102 countries fully covered by YPI.

Countries fully covered by YPI data		Countries covered by both YPI and Economist data	
A	Population B	C	Population D
Albania	2.930.187	-	-
Argentina	44.271.041	Argentina	44.271.041
Armenia	2.930.450	-	-
Australia	24.450.561	Australia	24.450.561
Austria	8.735.453	-	-
Bangladesh	164.669.751	Bangladesh	164.669.751
Belarus	9.468.338	-	-
Belgium	11.429.336	-	-
Benin	11.175.692	-	-
Bolivia	11.051.600	-	-
Botswana	2.291.661	-	-
Brazil	209.288.278	Brazil	209.288.278
Bulgaria	7.084.571	-	-
Burkina Faso	19.193.382	Burkina Faso	19.193.382
Cambodia	16.005.373	Cambodia	16.005.373
Cameroon	24.053.727	Cameroon	24.053.727
Canada	36.624.199	Canada	36.624.199
Chile	18.054.726	Chile	18.054.726
Colombia	49.065.615	Colombia	49.065.615
Costa Rica	4.905.769	-	-
Croatia	4.189.353	-	-
Cyprus	1.179.551	-	-
Czech Republic	10.618.303	-	-
Denmark	5.733.551	-	-
Dominican Republic	10.766.998	-	-
Ecuador	16.624.858	-	-
Egypt	97.553.151	Egypt	97.553.151
El Salvador	6.377.853	El Salvador	6.377.853
Estonia	1.309.632	-	-
Ethiopia	104.957.438	Ethiopia	104.957.438
Finland	5.523.231	-	-
France	64.979.548	France	64.979.548
Georgia	3.912.061	-	-
Germany	82.114.224	Germany	82.114.224
Ghana	28.833.629	Ghana	28.833.629
Greece	11.159.773	-	-
Guatemala	16.913.503	Guatemala	16.913.503
Honduras	9.265.067	-	-
Hungary	9.721.559	-	-
Iceland	335.025	-	-
India	1.339.180.127	India	1.339.180.127
Indonesia	263.991.379	Indonesia	263.991.379
Iran	81.162.788	Iran	81.162.788
Ireland	4.761.657	-	-
Israel	8.321.570	-	-
Italy	59.359.900	Italy	59.359.900
Jamaica	2.890.299	-	-

<b>Countries fully covered by YPI data</b>		<b>Countries covered by both YPI and Economist data</b>	
	<b>Population</b>		<b>Population</b>
Japan	127.484.450	Japan	127.484.450
Kazakhstan	18.204.499	Kazakhstan	18.204.499
Korea, Republic of	50.982.212	-	-
Kyrgyzstan	6.045.117	-	-
Latvia	1.949.670	-	-
Lebanon	6.082.357	-	-
Lesotho	2.233.339	-	-
Liberia	4.731.906	Liberia	4.731.906
Lithuania	2.890.297	-	-
Macedonia	2.083.160	-	-
Malawi	18.622.104	Malawi	18.622.104
Malaysia	31.624.264	Malaysia	31.624.264
Mali	18.541.980	Mali	18.541.980
Mauritius	1.265.138	-	-
Mexico	129.163.276	Mexico	129.163.276
Moldova	4.051.212	-	-
Mongolia	3.075.647	Mongolia	3.075.647
Montenegro	62.896	-	-
Morocco	35.739.580	Morocco	35.739.580
Mozambique	29.668.834	Mozambique	29.668.834
Namibia	2.533.794	-	-
Nepal	29.304.998	Nepal	29.304.998
Netherlands	17.035.938	Netherlands	17.035.938
New Zealand	4.705.818	-	-
Nicaragua	6.217.581	-	-
Norway	5.305.383	-	-
Pakistan	207.774.520	Pakistan	207.774.520
Panama	4.098.587	-	-
Paraguay	6.811.297	-	-
Peru	32.165.485	Peru	32.165.485
Philippines	104.918.090	Philippines	104.918.090
Poland	38.170.712	Poland	38.170.712
Portugal	10.329.506	-	-
Romania	19.679.306	Romania	19.679.306
Russia	143.989.754	Russia	143.989.754
Rwanda	12.208.407	Rwanda	12.208.407
Senegal	15.850.567	Senegal	15.850.567
Serbia	8.790.574	-	-
Slovakia	5.447.662	-	-
Slovenia	2.079.976	-	-
South Africa	56.717.156	South Africa	56.717.156
Spain	46.354.321	Spain	46.354.321
Sri Lanka	20.876.917	Sri Lanka	20.876.917
Sweden	9.910.701	Sweden	9.910.701
Switzerland	8.476.005	-	-
Tanzania	57.310.019	Tanzania	57.310.019
Thailand	69.037.513	Thailand	69.037.513
Tunisia	11.532.127	-	-

Countries fully covered by YPI data		Countries covered by both YPI and Economist data	
	Population		Population
Turkey	80.745.020	Turkey	80.745.020
Uganda	42.862.958	Uganda	42.862.958
Ukraine	44.222.947	Ukraine	44.222.947
United Kingdom	66.181.585	United Kingdom	66.181.585
United States	324.459.463	United States	324.459.463
Uruguay	3.456.750	-	-
Zimbabwe	16.529.904	-	-
Countries fully covered by YPI data	4.960.009.017	Countries covered by both YPI and Economist data	4.607.733.110
			93%

This report uses the following generally accepted correlation relationships:

<b>Exactly -1</b>	A perfect downhill (negative) linear relationship
<b>-0.70</b>	A strong downhill (negative) linear relationship
<b>-0.50</b>	A moderate downhill (negative) relationship
<b>-0.30</b>	A weak downhill (negative) linear relationship
<b>0</b>	No linear relationship
<b>+0.30</b>	A weak uphill (positive) linear relationship
<b>+0.50</b>	A moderate uphill (positive) relationship
<b>+0.70</b>	A strong uphill (positive) linear relationship
<b>Exactly +1</b>	A perfect uphill (positive) linear relationship

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