

A close-up, high-angle photograph of a young person's face, focusing on their eyes and freckles. The person has light blue eyes and visible freckles on their nose and cheeks. The background is a soft, out-of-focus brownish-gold color.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION INDEX

MONITORING REPORT OF
POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION
OF YOUTH 2020

Why Index?



The Youth Participation Index is a unique method for measuring the level of opportunity young people have when it comes to their involvement in the decision-making processes.

1. Can summarize complex, multidimensional data
2. Easier to interpret than many separate indicators
3. Can assess progress over time

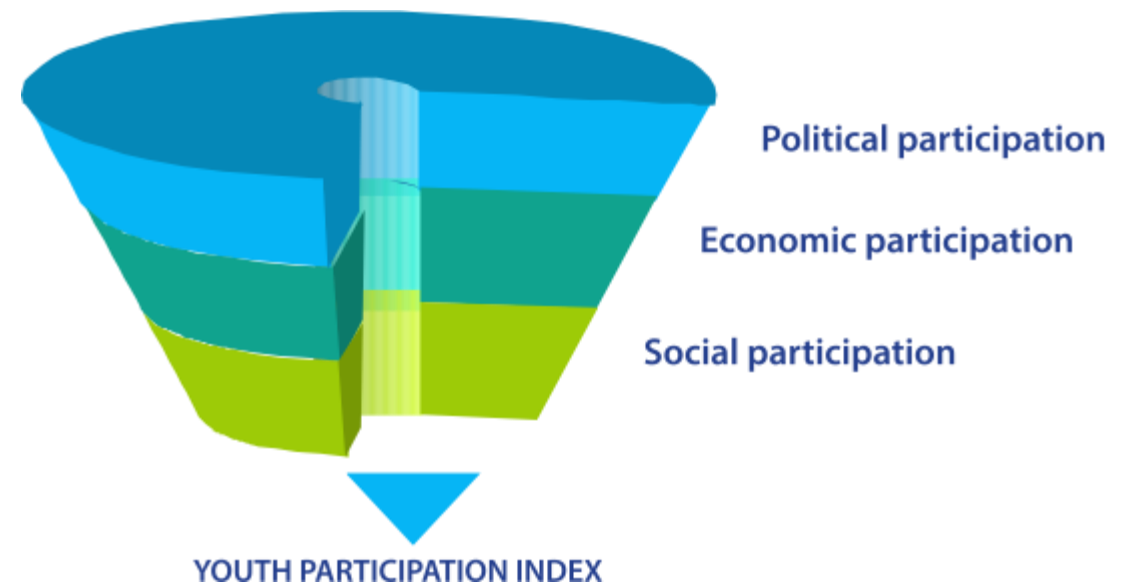
The idea was to create a concrete tool that can be used by public authorities and civil society organizations to systematically identify and address the most pressing challenges related to youth participation in Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.

Specifically, through regularly publishing, the Youth Participation Index goals have been to:

- Improve the practice of **using data as a reliable base** for any decision concerning youth;
- **Compare countries** according to key indicators of youth participation in all three dimensions: political, economic and social;

This is a sole method of following youth participation in public life, measuring three dimensions of youth participation in this region: **political, economic and social** participation.

- **Political participation** - shows the level of involvement of young people in government bodies, opportunity to gain information and appeal to government bodies, and existence of youth institutions in local and national bodies.
- **Economic participation** – refers to the degree of inclusion, or vice versa exclusion, of young people from the labour market. It captures the degree of their activity, employment, and self-employment.
- **Social participation** – shows the social demographic characteristics of young people. This dimension measures the development opportunities of youth in the specific society, their education level, the percent of young people in prisons, percentage of young people at risk of poverty etc.

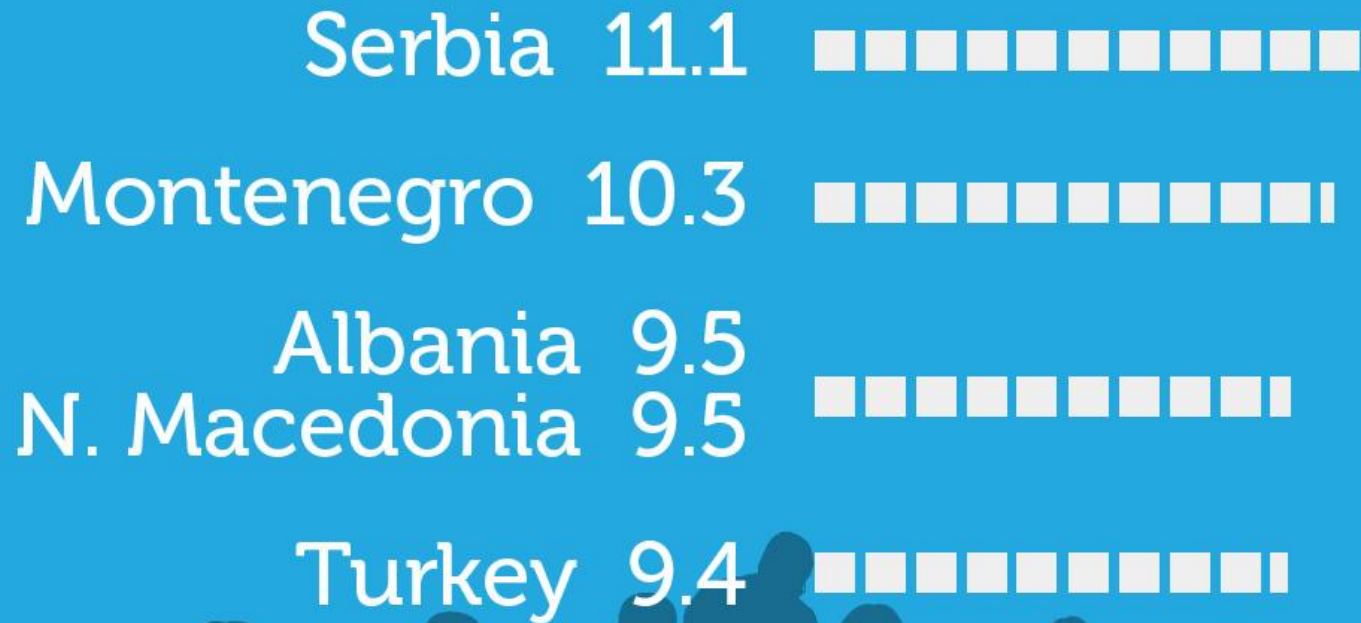


Youth Participation Index



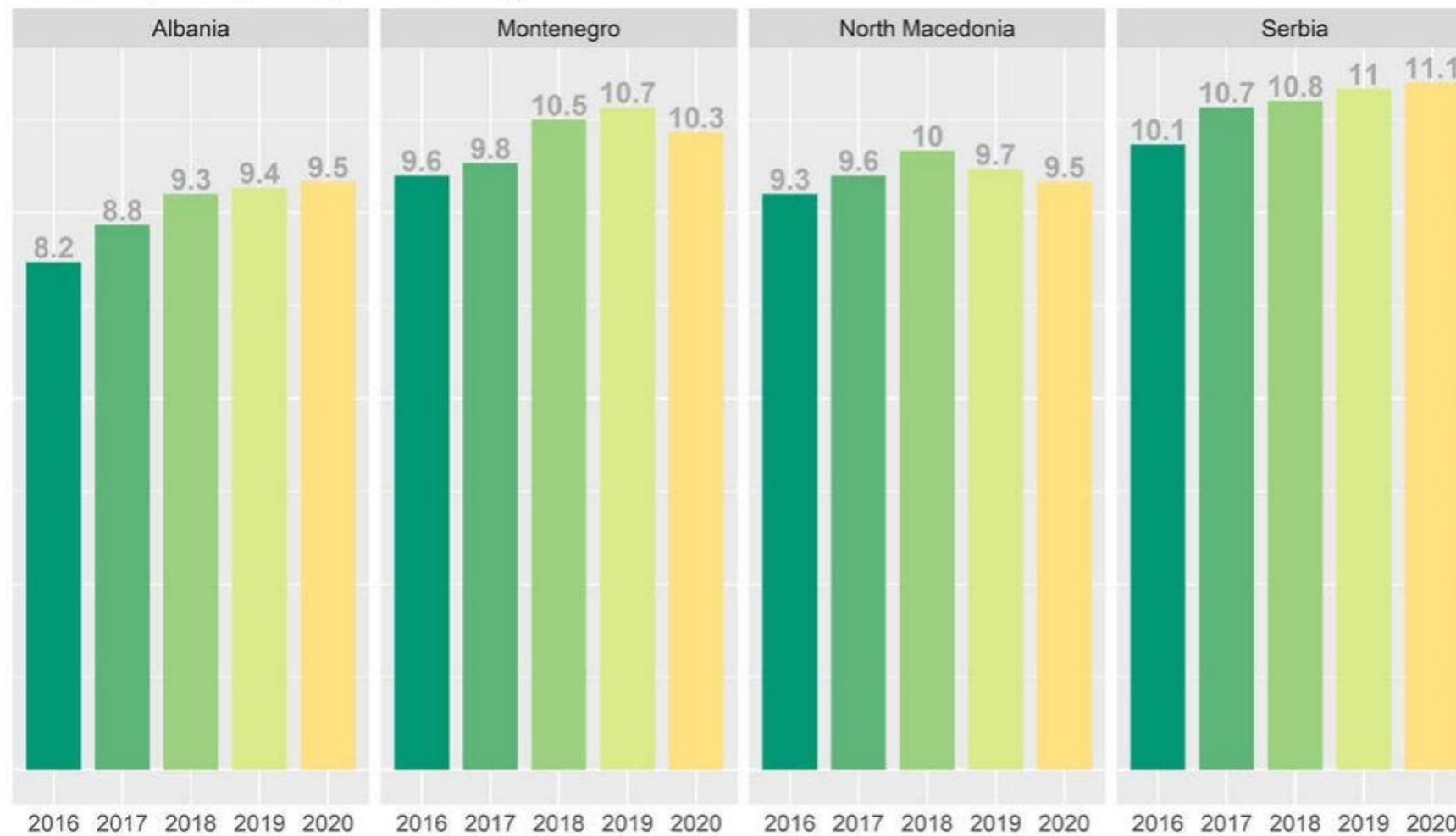
Indicators of political participation	Indicators of economic participation	Indicators of social participation
Young government ministers	NEET rate	Young people at risk of poverty
Young government deputy ministers	Youth unemployment rate	Young people part of social welfare system
Young MPs	Long-term youth unemployment rate	Young people in prisons
Young mayors	Youth labor force participation rate	Dropout from secondary education
Use of online tools by government and parliament	Youth employment rate	Young people enrolled in tertiary education
Use of online tools by municipalities	Young people who started business supported by state	Young people graduated from tertiary education
Existence of youth structure at the national level	Self-employed young people	Participation in non-formal education and training
Existence of youth structure at the local level		

YOUTH PARTICIPATION INDEX



The Youth Participation Index is prepared only by taking the indicators of **political and economic participation into account, as the data for social participation is mostly unavailable.*

Index of youth participation over years...



INDEX OF YOUTH
POLITICAL
PARTICIPATION

 43.5



The youth are still vastly underrepresented in political life in all countries

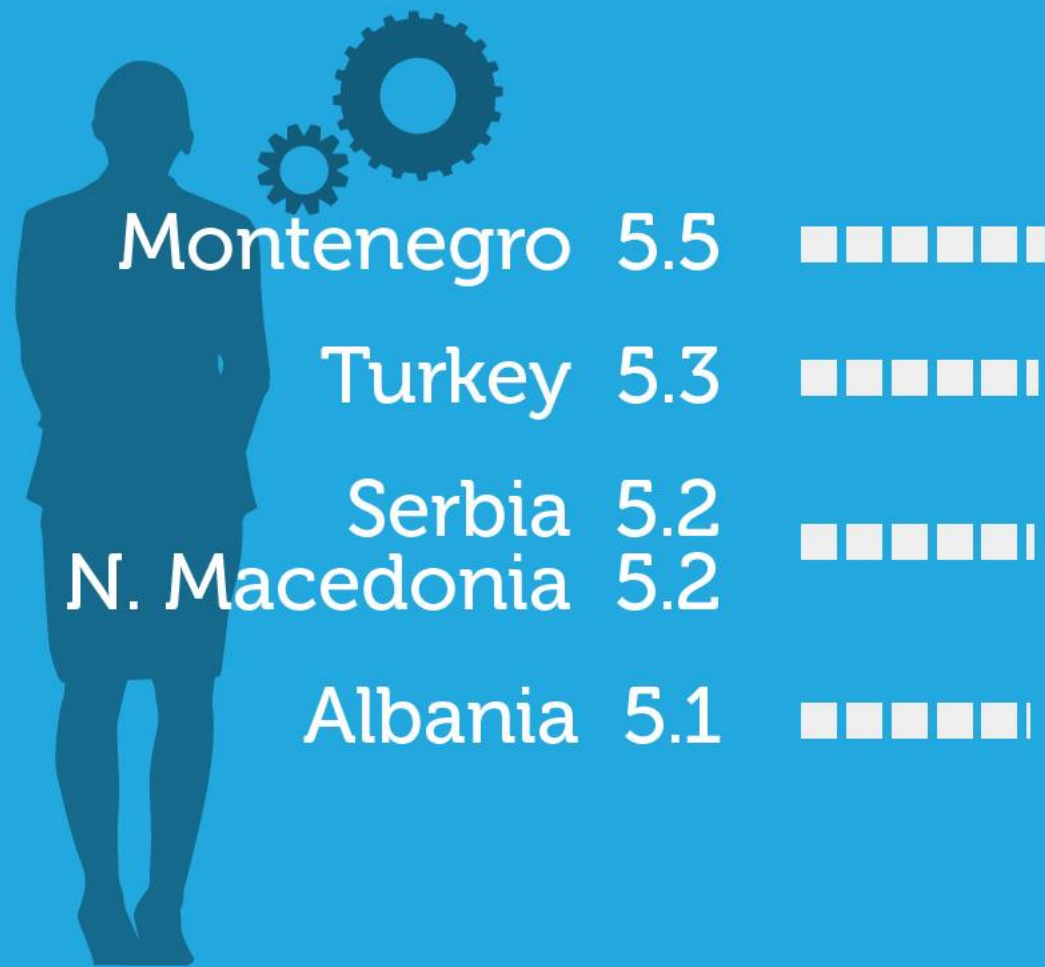
THE NUMBER OF
YOUNG MINISTERS
IN GOVERNMENTS OF
ALBANIA
MONTENEGRO
NORTH MACEDONIA
SERBIA
TURKEY

Indicators	Albania	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Turkey
% of young ministers in Government	0	0	0	0	0
% of young deputy ministers	3	0	0	1	0
% of young MPs	4	4.9	1.6	7.6	0.8
% of young mayors	0	0	0	1.8	0

Social Participation Index 2020		Young people at risk of poverty	Young people in prisons (out of all prisoners)	Young people part of the social welfare system	Dropout form secondary education	Young people enrolled in tertiary education	Young people graduated from tertiary education	Participation rate in non-formal education
Albania	DATE		30%		1,8%	91,6%	25%	
	YEAR		2020		2020	2020	2020	
North Macedonia	DATE	26,2%	27,8%	29,7%	0,6%	13,4%	11,9%	1,9%
	YEAR	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Montenegro	DATE	26,6%	23,2%		2,3%	32,3%	45,43%	
	YEAR	2020	2020		2020	2020	2020	
Serbia	DATE	23,9%	25,9%	24%	0,8%	54,7%	17,6%	1,3%
	YEAR	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Turkey	DATE	24%	65,14%		26,7%	43,4%		4,4%
	YEAR	2020	2020		2020	2020		2020

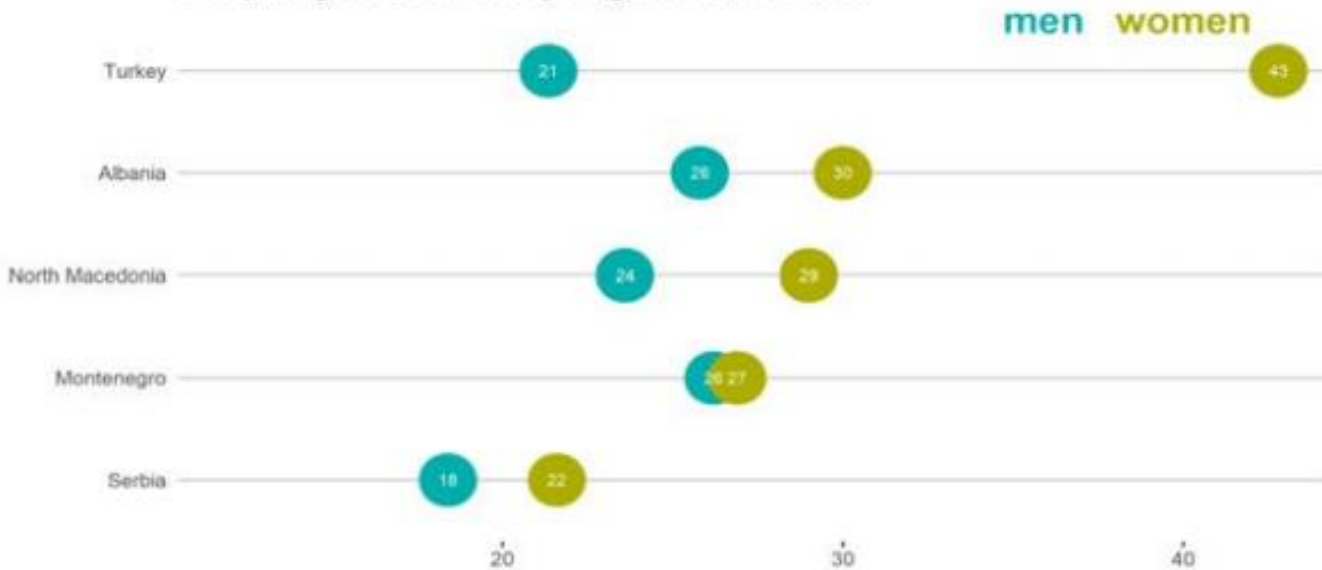
INDEX OF YOUTH
ECONOMIC
PARTICIPATION

 43.5



Youth Participation Week 8 – 15 December 2021
#YPW

Comparing NEET rates of young men and women



THERE ARE
MORE
NEET WOMEN
THAN MEN
IN ALL COUNTRIES

* NEET-young people neither
in employment nor in
education and training

Two main issues



Lack of youth sensitive data

Low level of youth participation

Lack of youth sensitive data



1. The institutions are to start collecting youth-sensitive data in the field of economic, social, and political participation for the category of youth as it is legally defined:

- young people in the **social welfare system** should be monitored and regularly reported
- Data on young people who started their **own business** with the financial support of the state should be regularly reported
- Data on young people at **risk of poverty** needs to be carefully monitored
- Data related to **the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic** on young people and especially on the most vulnerable youth groups should be regularly collected

Lack of youth sensitive data



2. Data concerning the youth should be easily accessible:

- Public statistical offices should dedicate a **section** to collect statistics concerning **young people** on their websites
- The release of datasets obtained via publicly supported **research studies** involving youth in an open format, as **open data**
- Data on young people holding **political positions** should be easily available
- Data on monitoring **the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic** on young people needs to be easily accessible

Low level of youth participation



- 1. The transparency of information and the establishment of better communication between state institutions and young people at the national and local levels must be improved.**
- 2. Youth institutional structure (councils/parliaments/unions) which ensures the participation of youth in the decision-making process at national and local levels needs to be established in all countries.**
- 3. Youth access to political positions needs to be improved, and in particular, the number of MPs under thirty needs to increase.**
- 4. Participation of young people, especially young men, in secondary and tertiary formal education should be encouraged, as should participation in non-formal education and training.**

Low level of youth participation



- 5. Urgent measures for reducing youth unemployment and the number of young people not in employment nor education need to be implemented in all countries.**
- 6. Young people's entrepreneurship, especially one by young women, should be stimulated and promoted, by providing adequate and continuing (administrative, legal, technical, mentorship) assistance and (financial) support.**
- 7. New support measures for specific vulnerable groups should be developed, taking into account gender differences.**

**YOUNG
PEOPLE IN
WESTERN
BALKANS
AND TURKEY**

**WE NEED
MORE**



THANK YOU

