

Prioridad horizontal Erasmus+: Promoción de los valores comunes de la UE, el compromiso cívico y la ciudadanía activa

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*President of Erasmus Student
Network Spain*





Who am I?

- Ángel Pérez
- University of Granada
- President of ESN Spain
- Erasmus+ Alumni
- University of Glasgow (UK), 2018-2019
- Youth work, student mobility, policy & advocacy, non-formal education and EU-funded projects



Who are we?

ESN is the key student volunteer organisation in Europe

15,000+
volunteers

1000+
HEIs

45
countries

350,000+
Students



The background is a collage of various travel-related stamps and documents. Visible stamps include 'BANGKOK - MADRID', 'ARRIVED IMMIGRATION', 'REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA', 'MEXICO', 'TORONTO', and 'LITHONIA, GA'. There are also some handwritten notes and a date stamp '20 AUG 2009'. The overall theme is international travel and immigration.

Our mission

The enrichment of society through international students

A red brushstroke graphic consisting of several horizontal, slightly wavy lines, located in the bottom right corner of the page.

How is ESN linked to Higher Education?

- In Spain, we're represented in **38 HEIs**
- We offer support not only to university students, but also VET and Arts, Music & Design students
- Mobility and full-degree students, non-mobility students
- Mostly Erasmus+ Alumni, we represent the concerns, needs, interests & expectations of the Erasmus Generation
- We aim to improve international mobility on a global scale with **more, better and more inclusive Erasmus+ grants**
- Advocacy at the local, national and international level





Support & Engagement

Actions taken on this topic

- Buddy programme
- Welcome Weeks
- Erasmus in Schools
- Cultural and social activities with local communities
- Link between the HEI and the international students





Outreach, Promotion & Reintegration

Actions taken on this topic

- Erasmus Jobs;
- Active promotion of different international mobility opportunities;
- Involvement in European University Alliances;
- Active promotion of the ESN's and other organisations' opportunities;
- **Network volunteering as continuation of internationalisation at home.**





Erasmus+

There is no better tool in the European Union than the Erasmus+ program to **raise awareness** of a European social structure and a **sense of belonging to the EU.**





Erasmus+

One of the priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027:

Participation in democratic life, common values and civic engagement





ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION 2021-2027

Guidelines

- *Implement the priorities of the Programme:*
 - *By promoting civic engagement and encouraging students and staff to get involved as active citizens before, during and after their participation in a mobility or project.*

HEIs should organise or promote activities/projects that enhance the active citizenship skills and competences of students and staff, for instance the [Erasmus Student Network's SocialErasmus Project](#). This project aims to better integrate international exchange students in the local society by organising volunteer opportunities to ensure an exchange of values takes place between the international students and the local community. Another example is the ESAA-funded project [WE AfriHug](#), which aims to promote European and international understanding through the Erasmus+ Programme.

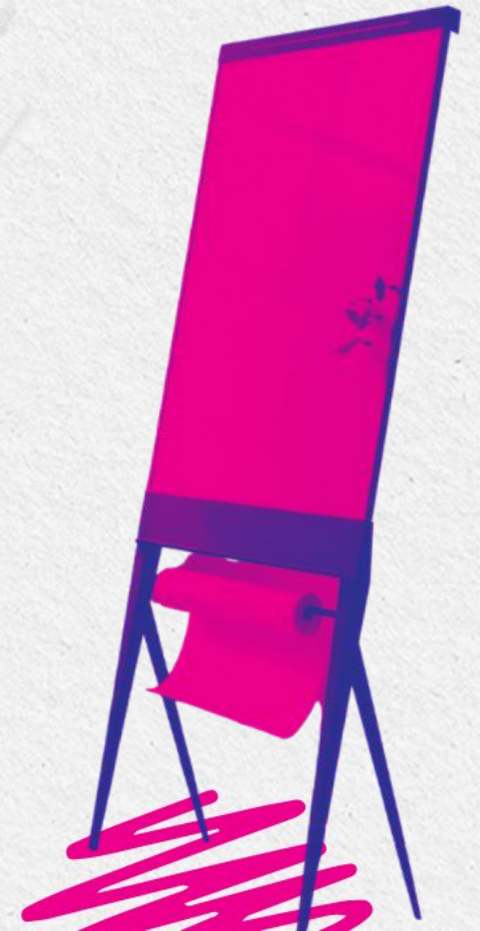
Some data & best practices
that support ESN's engagement in the
implementation and monitoring of
Erasmus+ priorities: **Participation in
democratic life, common values and
civic engagement**



Students' perception

ESN recently conducted the XV edition of the ESNsurvey, the biggest student-led research focusing on the fields of international mobility & the internationalization of education.

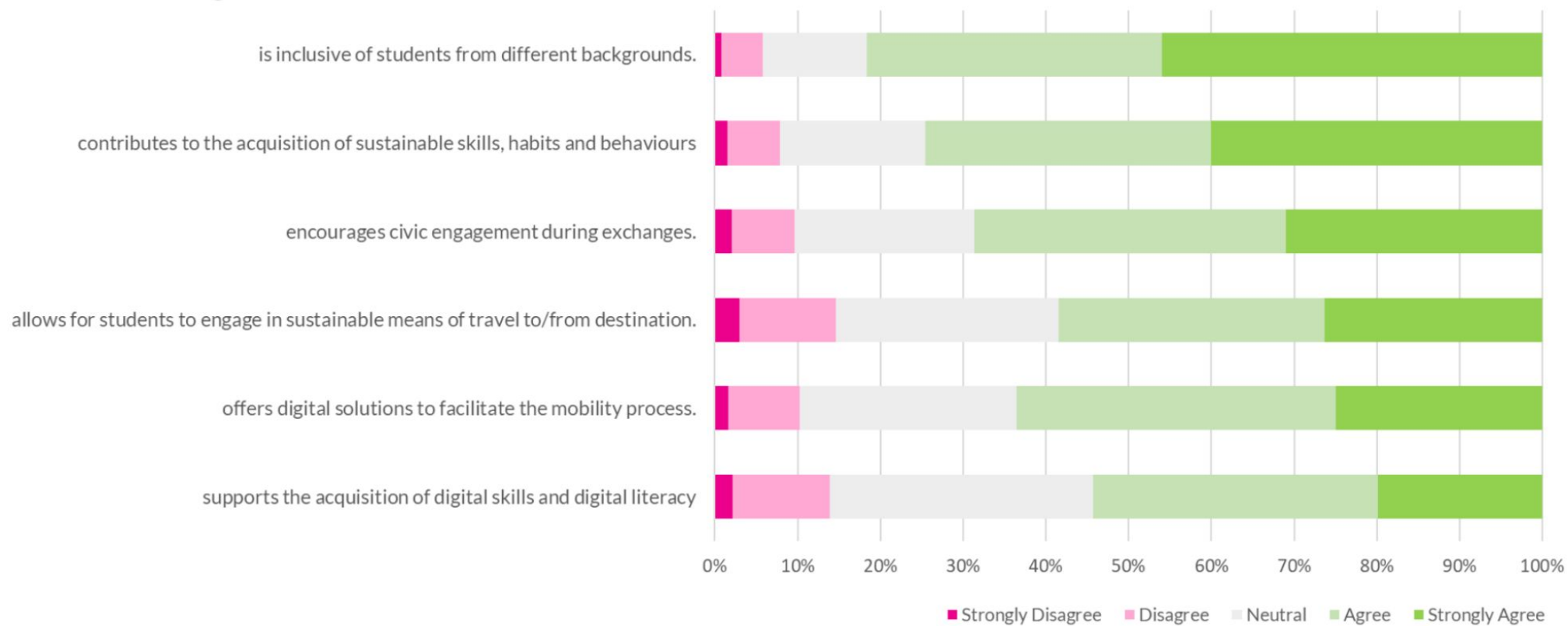
These are some of the key findings out of the more than **23,000 answers** received.



The Priorities of the Erasmus + Programme

To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the Erasmus+ programme?

The Erasmus+ Programme





Erasmus+ priorities: Students believe in the programme and consider it lives up to its priorities

82%

Agree (36%) or strongly agree (46%) with “Erasmus+ is inclusive for students from different background”

75%

Agree (35%) or strongly agree (40%) with “Erasmus+ contributes to the acquisition of sustainable skills, habits and behaviours”

69%

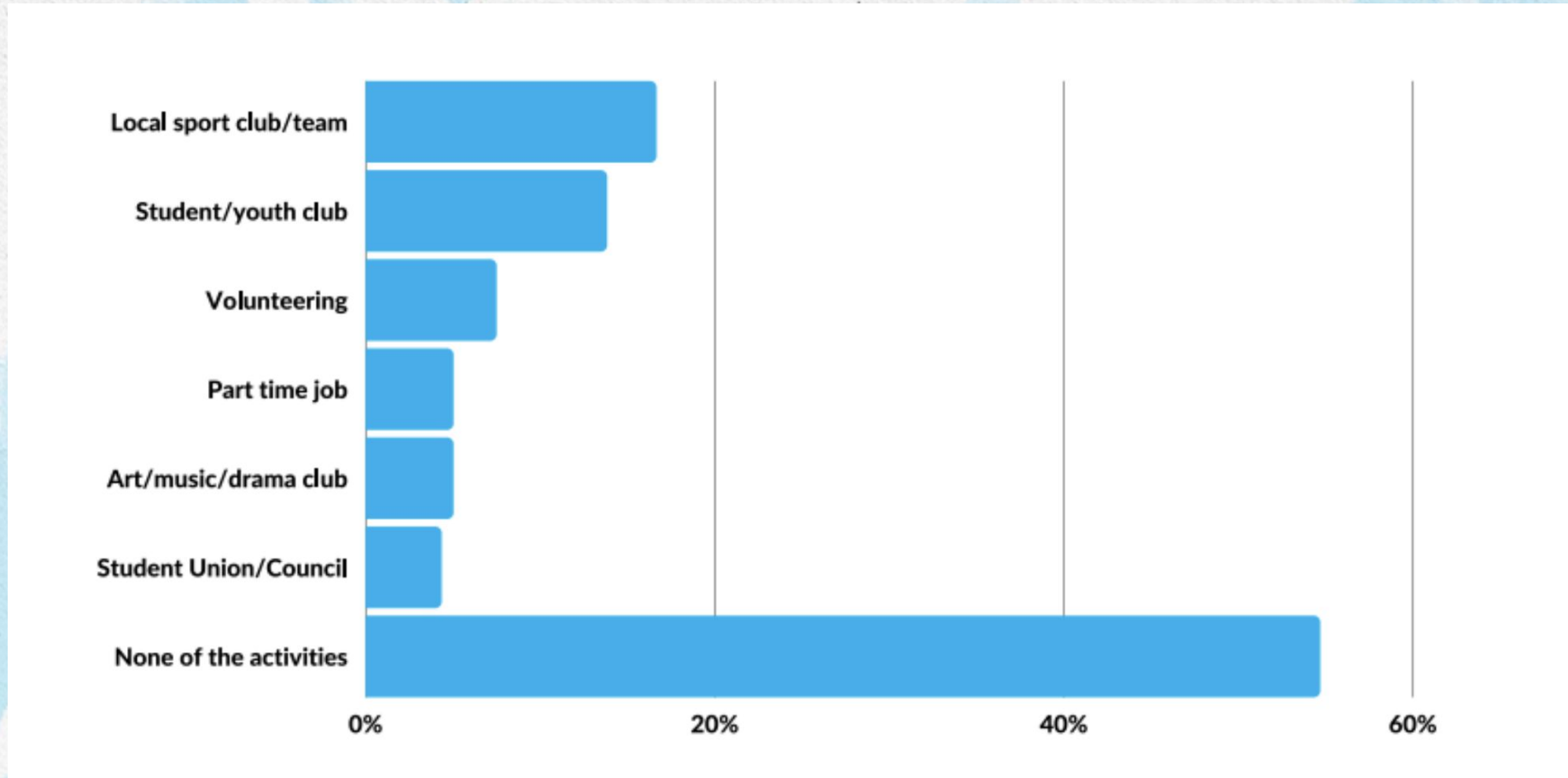
Agree (38%) or strongly agree (31%) with “Erasmus+ encourages civic engagement during exchanges”

64%

Agree (39%) or strongly agree (25%) with “Erasmus+ offers digital solutions to facilitate the mobility process”. Digital skills: 53%

ESNsurvey XIV, 2022

Level of participation in group activities on mobility





The new Erasmus+ programme has highlighted once more the **importance of civic engagement through learning mobility**, but it also pointed attention to the long-lasting challenge of facilitating the **interaction between international students and their local communities**. On average, only 10% of students engaged in volunteering activities during their exchange.



Better structural support to student and alumni organisations on the ground, better recognition of volunteering opportunities.





Volunteering on exchange

- Visits to animal shelters
- Erasmus in Schools
- Beach clean-ups & urban gardens
- Open-Care Centres for the Elderly
- Activities with organizations & young people with disability
- Promotion of international mobility opportunities fairs & events
- Activities w hospitalised children
- Solidarity sport tournaments



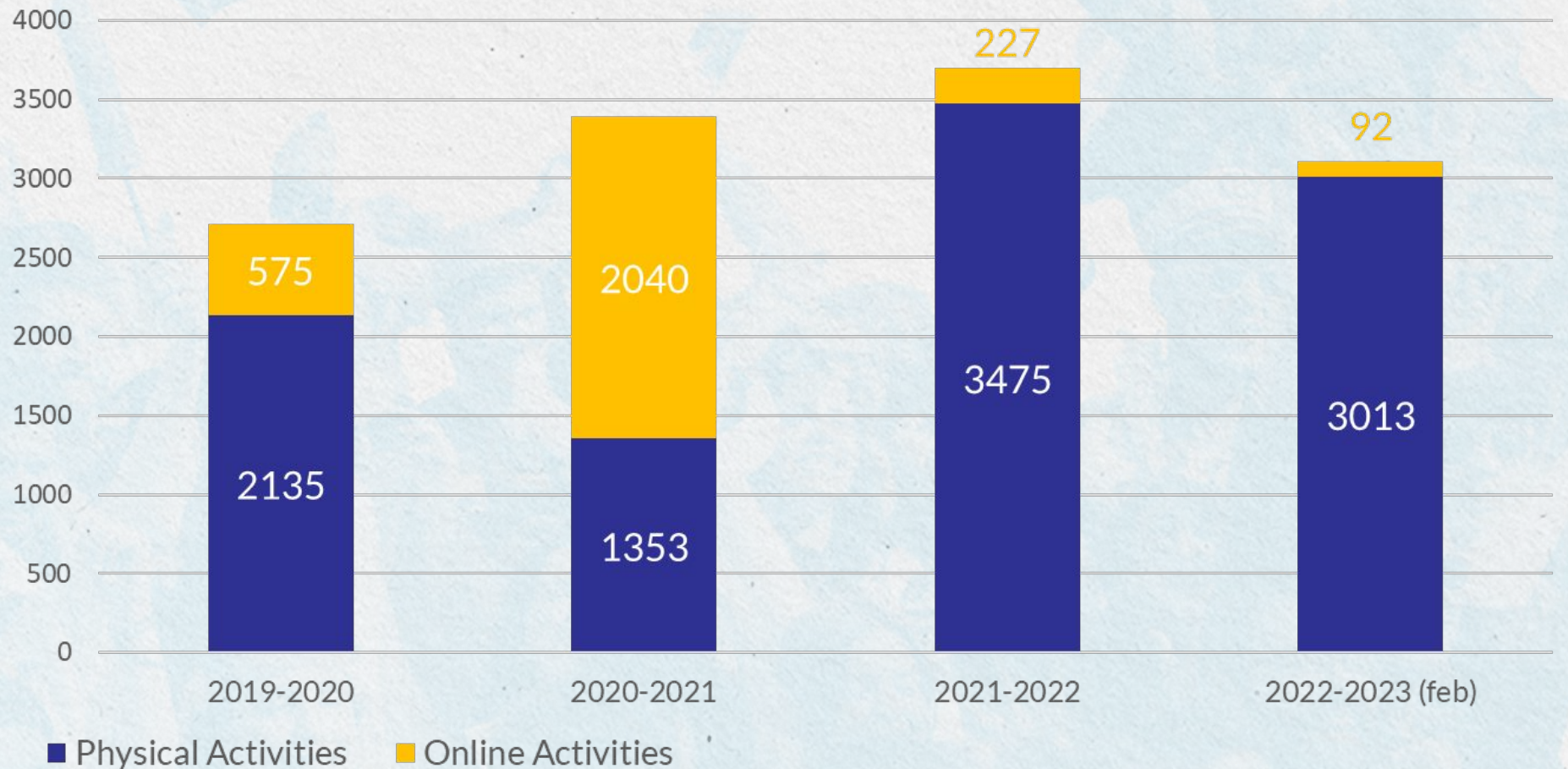


14.300

activities
organised
since **2019**

771.866

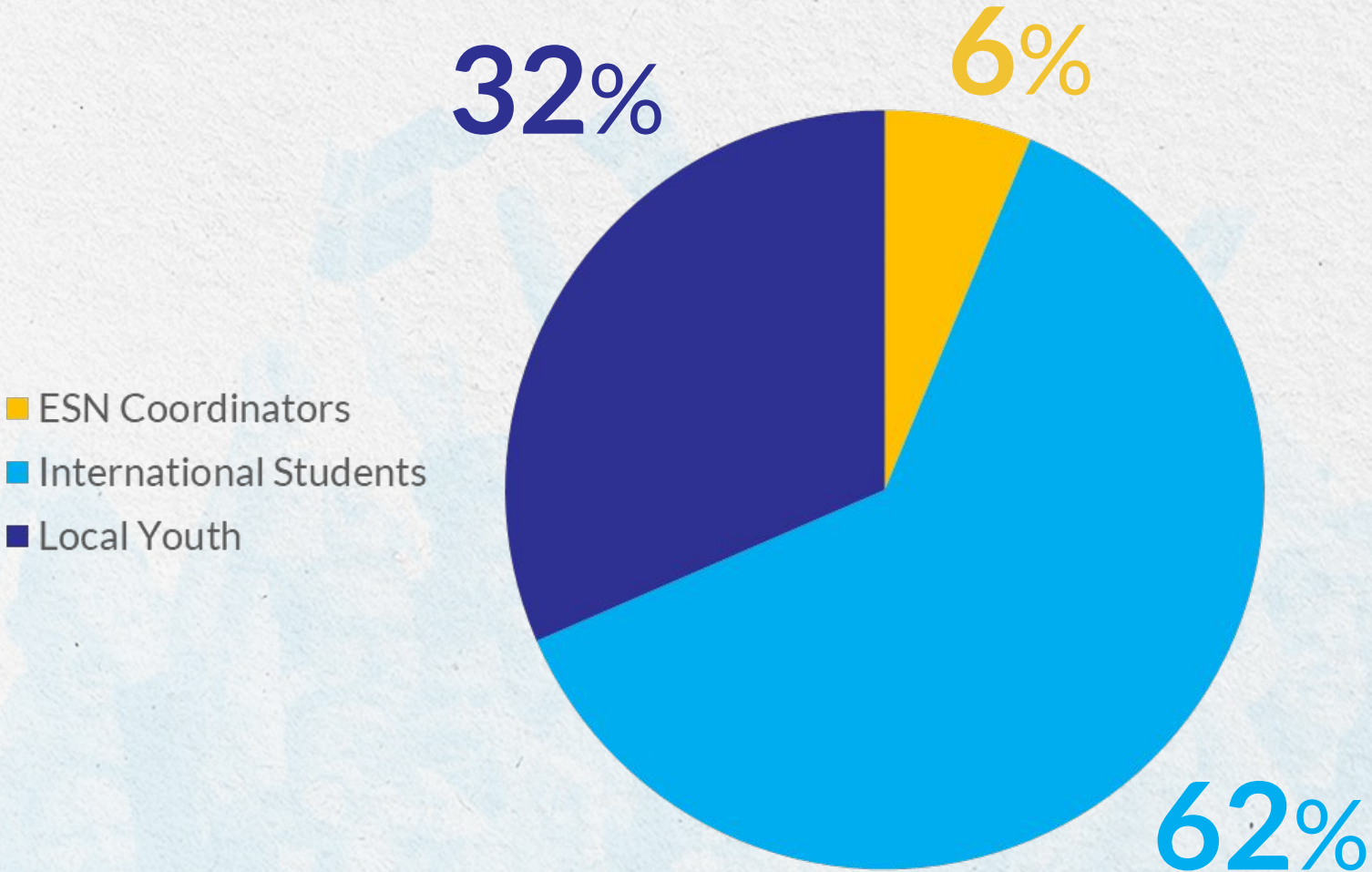
volunteers,
international
students and
local (young)
people reached
through physical
& online
activities.





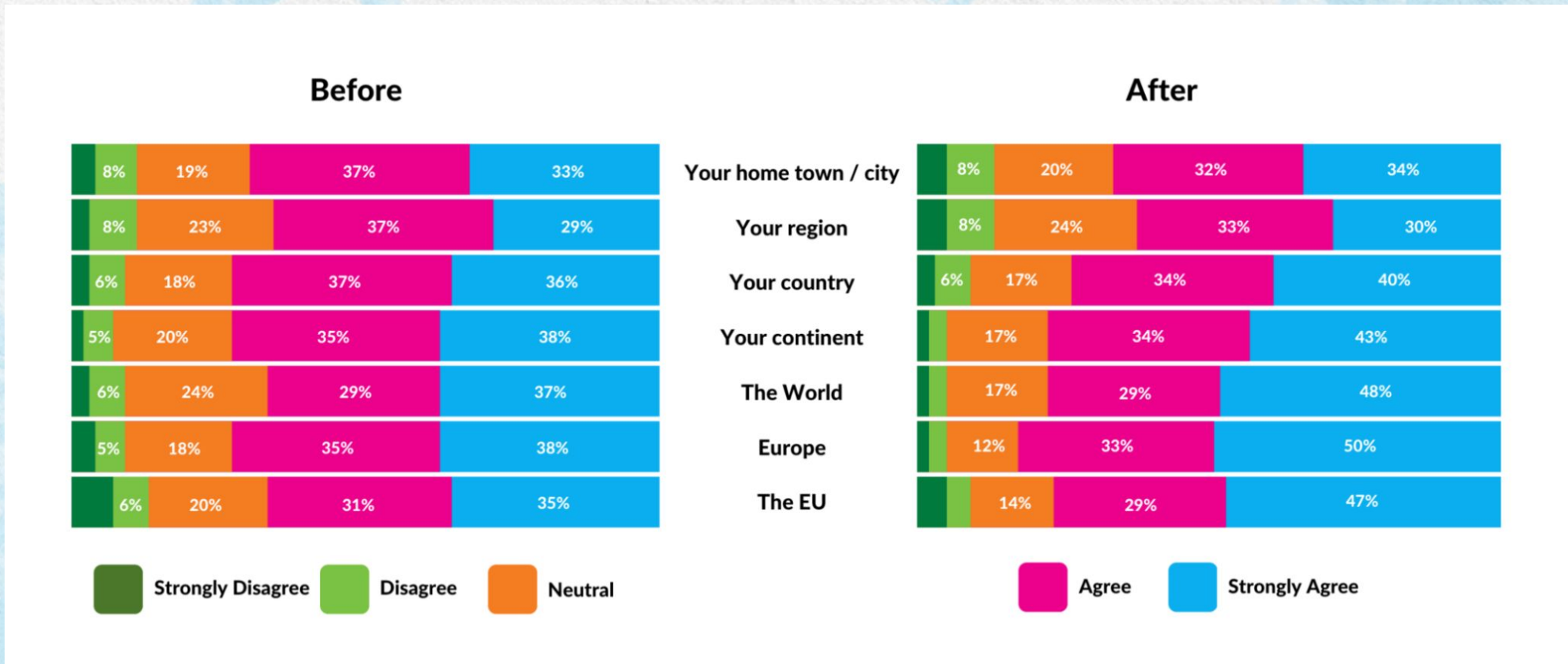
Our Participants

A small number of ESN volunteers make a key difference. 62% of our audience are international students, and 32% are local youth through outreach activities.



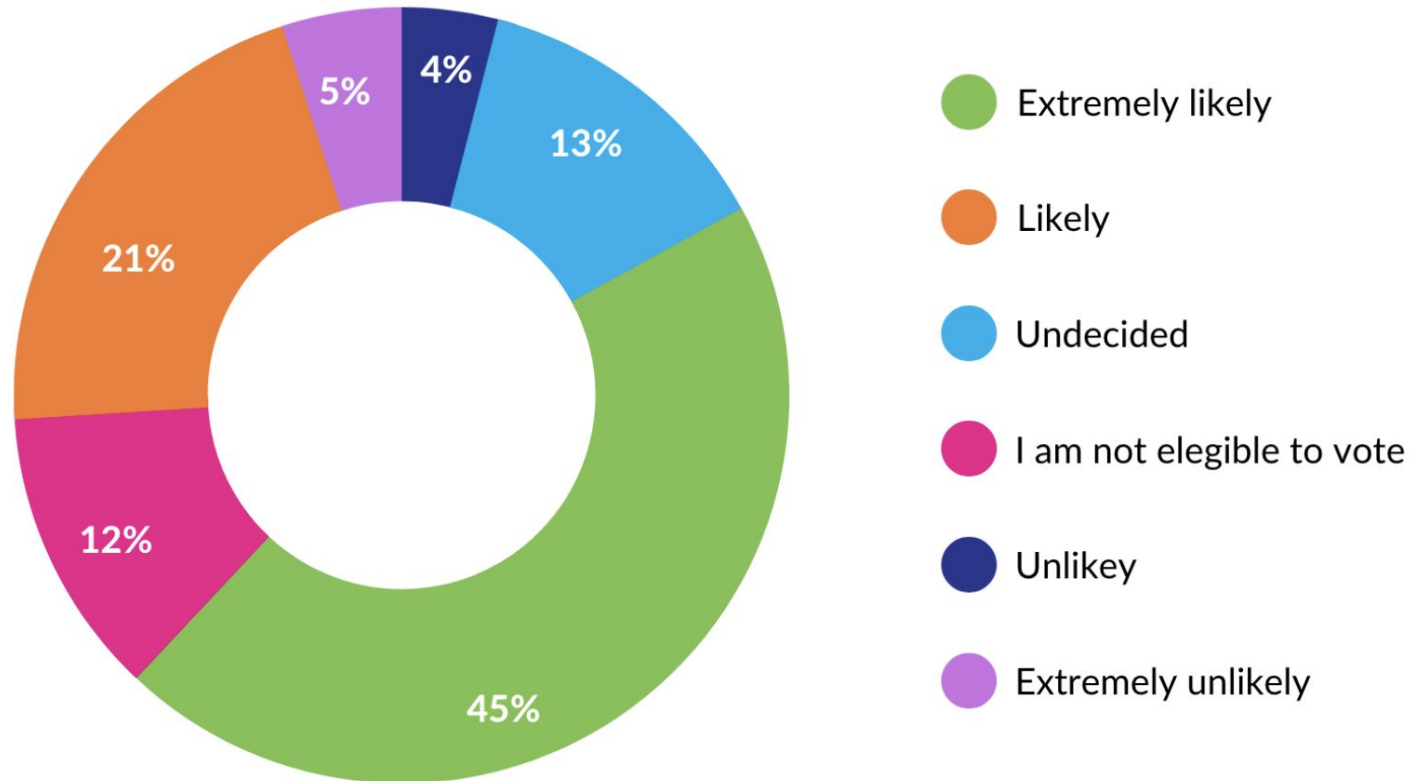
Before and After Mobility - Identity of Erasmus+ Students' Citizenship

BEFORE/AFTER your exchange: to what extent do you agree that you identify as a citizen of...?



European Parliament Elections 2024

How likely is it that you would vote in the European Parliament elections in June 2024?





As the European Parliament Elections approach, our exchange students were surveyed on their motivations to vote in the near-term European Parliament elections. After analysing the results, **66% are motivated to do so**, with 45% being extremely likely and 21% likely to vote.





HOW TO VOTE FROM ABROAD?

Introducing our latest resource, designed to guide you through the process of voting while abroad, including for the European Parliament's elections of 2024. Below, you'll find the list of countries with an overview of the modes of voting. For more detailed instructions, simply click on the corresponding country below. **Empower yourself to exercise your right to vote, regardless of your location**, with our user-friendly guide.

COUNTRY	BY PROXY	ELECTRONICALLY	BY POST	FROM EMBASSY
Austria	X	X	☑	X
Belgium	☑	X	☑	☑
Bulgaria	X	X	X	☑
Croatia	X	X	X	☑
Cyprus	X	X	X	☑

European elections 2024

6-9 June 2024

How to vote

Choose your country of voting and your preferred language to find out how to vote. As an EU citizen, you can vote in your country of origin, from abroad or in the EU country you live in. Please note that registration might be required in order to vote.

Choose a country of voting

Country



Choose a language

Language



OK

Takeaways of the session

1

ESN volunteers are **key players** in the accomplishment of commitments in the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education

2

Better **promotion & recognition** of volunteering opportunities abroad, better **structural support** to student and alumni organisations, **reintegration**

3

HEIs play a key role in **facilitating information on electoral processes**, in light of the EP elections in June 2024





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