

PROJECT ERASMUS ‘LET’S TEACH EUROPE’

Survey “Let’s teach Europe” 2018

Survey results

The students taking part in this project come from 5 European Countries, from North to South, Norway, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Germany and Italy.

PERSONAL DATA

SEX - In all the above countries, more than half of the students are girls and the boys’ percentage ranges approximately from 30 % in Italy, Norway and Germany to 40% in the Netherlands and Luxembourg. The prevalence of female students could depend on the specific curricula offered by the schools they choose. For example, the Italian students attend two sections of school specialising respectively in humanistic and artistic subjects.

AGE - All the students are teenagers attending high school, most of them are 15-17 years old, while the Dutch are the youngest 71% are 12-14 years old. The Germans and Luxembourg are the oldest, more than 50% are 18-21 years old.

MIGRATION – Most of the students are citizens of the country they live in, a very low percentage of Italians, Norwegians and Dutch (12%) have a migration background, whereas a meaningful percentage of Germans (38%) and Luxembourg (32%) have a migration background, finally a low percentage of Luxembourg, Germany and Dutch are not citizens of the country they live in.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Migration Status	40%	4%	38%	14%	11%

HOUSEHOLD – As regards the number of their family members, in all the countries a significant percentage of students live in a family made up of 3 or 4 people and lower percentage in a family with 2 -5 or more than 5 people. In Germany the great majority of family members are made up of 3 (30%) or 4 (39%) people. In Italy the highest percentage live in a family of 4 people (64 %) and a lower percentage with 3 or 5 people. In The Netherlands 45% of a family are made up of 4 people, 25% percentage are made up of 5 people and 9% are made up of 6 people or more. More or less there are similar figures in

Luxembourg with 49% with 4 people, and approximately 20% with 3 or 5 people. Norway appears to be more fragmented, together with 39 percentage of families with 4 people and a lower percentage with 3 or 5 people (22%), there are very low percentages of families with a single unity, with two people, or with more than 5.

HOUSEHOLD FAMILY – As regards the economic background of their families, the Italian family results less rich than those of the other countries. In Italy only 28 % of families enjoy good economic conditions, 50 % belong to families in discrete conditions, 19% percentage rely on a modest economic background and only 2% are very poor. Whereas The Netherlands and Norway are the richest with more than 50% relying on a good income and more than 30% on adequate economic conditions; only very lower percentages can be considered as having a modest economic background or conditions of poverty. Also in Germany and Luxembourg more than 40% of families have a good income , and more than 35% rely on very good economic conditions; approximately 20 % of families are in modest conditions , and a low percentage are very poor families.

EDUCATION FATHER – EDUCATION MOTHER – Italian Students’ parents are those who possess a higher level of Education, equally divided between those who possess a high or intermediate degree, only a small percentage possess a low degree or none at all. Whereas Norwegian, Dutch and German parents show similar figures between them, more than half possess an intermediate degree and a small percentage a low level of education. Diversely a meaningful percentage – more or less 30% - of Luxembourg student’s parents reveal a low degree of education, while more than 20% a high level of education, finally 41% of male and 51 % percentage of female have an intermediate degree. The difference in all countries between fathers and mothers are not so relevant.

RELIGIOUS GROUP – The five countries show meaningful differences in the religious membership, a great majority of Dutch (72 %) and Norwegians (59%) students do not belong to any religious group, a small percentage of Dutch belong to some Christian groups, and 18% of Norwegians are Protestant. The Germans are subdivided among those who do not belong to any group or do not give any answer, or those who declare to be Catholics (25%) and Protestant (31%), a small minority (4%) are Moslems or belong to other Christian congregations. Luxembourg and Italy show some similarities, most of them are Catholics the Luxembourg (57%), the Italians (79%), the others either do not answer or declare not to belong to any group.

BELIEFS, VALUES AND ATTITUDES

RELIGION - The belief in God varies according to the country they live in , a meaningful percentage of Italians (58%) and Germans (38%) believe in God or in a supernatural force (13% Italians – 17% Germans), while 30% of Dutch, 33% of Norwegian and 34% of Luxembourg do not know what to believe in, only 12% of Dutch , 20 % of Norwegians and 24% of Luxembourg believe in God, while 13% of Dutch, 17 % of Luxembourg and 9% of Norwegians believe in a supernatural force. The remaining students of them believe in nothing or do not answer.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
No religious group (none + no answer)	30%	18%	39%	82%	69%
Faith (God + supernatural force)	55%	71%	41%	25%	29%

TRUST IN THE GOVERNEMENT, SCHOOL, THE EU, THE COURT OF JUSTICE AND IN POLITICAL PARTIES- Trust in such institutions show many similarities and few differences among the countries or schools involved in this survey. More than half of our participants show quite a degree of trust,(but not a lot), in the said institutions, but equally an average of 30% show little trust , with some distinctions. For example, the Italians generally do not trust their political parties and government, only 25% show quite a degree of trust in the latter, however they show a high degree of trust in schools. The Germans reveal more trust in their government than in the political parties. Finally the Norwegian and Dutch show more trust in school than Germans and Luxembourg.

TRUST IN CHURCHES, IN THE UN, THE ARMY–The European Students of our schools usually show little trust in churches, only an average of 30% show a certain degree of trust, 60% express little or no trust , only a small amount of students show high trust in churches, above all The Dutch, Luxembourg and German students. Few Norwegian (13%) and Italians (14%) highly trust in the Church. Some differences emerge in trust in the UN and Army. For example more than half of the Norwegians show a certain amount or high degree of trust in The UN and the Army, only a small percentage show little trust. Similar figures are shown for the Dutch. While the Italians show quite a degree of trust, only 30% show little or no trust. Finally Luxembourg and the German show a certain amount of trust in the UN and Army, but almost 50% show little or no trust.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Amount of trust					
Most	School (65%)	School (84%)	School (72%)	School (88%)	Army (85%)
Fewest	Political parties (27%)	Political parties (21%)	Churches (26%)	Churches (37%)	Churches (41%)

SATISFATION WITH DEMOCRACY, EVALUATION DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, BETTER THAN DEMOCRACY - Many of our students are generally satisfied with the democratic system in the country they live in, above all the Norwegians (ca. 90%), Luxembourg (ca. 85%) and the Dutch (ca. 84%), while about 65% of Germans are satisfied or fully satisfied, but 32% express their partial dissatisfaction with democracy, likewise 60% of Italians reveal dissatisfaction. The Norwegians (91%) think that the democratic system is a good form of government, an opinion shared by 76% of the Luxembourg and by 56% of the Dutch. Some of the Dutch 37% do not express their view on this issue. The Germans (82%) and the Italians (74%) support a democratic system of government. Generally more than half of the interviewees think that they don't particularly like democracy but there is no better option for now. Very few say that democracy is the best form of government and only a very tiny percentage prefer a strong leader or strong party. Generally more than 20%, (38% of Dutch) do not know.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Satisfaction with democracy	65%	37%	85%	83%	92%

PEOPLE NEXT DOOR (homosexual couple, migrants from eastern Europe, family with many children, elderly couple, refugees, native family on welfare, Muslims) – To the question if they would like or would not like to have as close neighbours, the above mentioned groups of people, the results are almost similar among our students. With some variety in percentage most of them do not care about having such people as neighbours and an inferior but a meaningful percentage would not mind if they moved next door to them. Worth noticing is a meaningful percentage of the Dutch students (35%) who wouldn't like to have as close neighbours family with many children, followed by the Germans (22%), Norwegians (15%), Italians (11%) and Luxembourg (10%). In addition a small minority of Dutch do not want as neighbours refugees (12%) and Muslims (14%). A small percentage of Italians would not like refugees (14%), but only 6% wouldn't like Muslims. Finally another small percentage of Germans would not like Refugee (13%), Native families on welfare (12%) and Muslims (12%). The Luxembourg show minor and not meaningful percentage as regards the non-acceptance of having people with different background as their neighbours.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
People next door					
Yes	Homosexual (46%)	Elderly couple (74%)	Elderly couple (45%)	Elderly couple (52%)	Elderly couple (67%)
Don't care	Native family on welfare (60%)	Native family on welfare (45%)	Native family on welfare (67%)	Native family on welfare (71%)	Native family on welfare (54%)
Wouldn't like it	Family with many children (22%)	Refugees (14%)	Family with many children (10%)	Family with many children (35%)	Family with many children (15%)

VALUES – How important are the following things to you personally?: Law and order, high living standard, power and influence, creativity, personal security, helping the disadvantaged, putting across own individual needs before others, eagerness and ambition, tolerating other opinions, political engagement, living life to the fullest, living independently, doing what the others do, sticking to traditions, a good family life, patriotism, trustworthy partner, good friends, social contacts, healthy life style, emotions when making decisions, independence from others, environmentally friendly life, belief in God

As regards the personal, interior, emotional, social and political spheres our students express variegated and differentiated answers. Most of them agree on the great importance of close relationships such as **family, friends and trustworthy partners**, with slight preferences. For example Norwegians, Germans and Dutch put at the top of this list good friends followed by trustworthy partner and family. Whereas Luxembourg give priority to trustworthy friends and family is the less important of the three. Finally the Italians give priority to family, followed by good friends and trustworthy partner. More than half of Norwegians and Dutch think that is not important **to believe in God**, only a small percentage of them express different views. Less than half of the Germans and Luxembourg show similar figures, belief in God is not important, even though a small percentage declare different views, above all the Germans, 27% of them think that the belief in God is important or extremely important. Finally the Italians express various opinions almost equally subdivided, for almost 40% of them the belief in God is important or extremely important, the others express different opinions, 17% think that it is not important at all.

To our students from all 5 countries '**power and influence**' are moderately important with varied percentages of differences, even **political engagement** is not so important or moderately important for a few of them.

Most students are keen on **tolerating other opinions**, and more than half of them express positively their **eagerness and ambition**, in fact almost 30% in each country are very ambitious and 30% of them are quite ambitious. All the students reveal a certain amount of ambition, a little or great ambition, only for a very small percentage of Italians, 10%, ambition is not important at all or not important, and for a very insignificant percentage, 2%, of Norwegians.

Law and order is considered important or extremely important for a great majority of Norwegian students and Italians (78%) and for an inferior percentage of Dutch (60%) and Germans (51%), the Luxembourg are the least interested in law and order, only 40% of them think it is very important and 34% of them think that it is moderately important. As regards **personal security**, with some variations, all of them agree on the importance given to such an issue (56% of Italians think that it is extremely important, these figures decrease to 34% - 40% in the other nations). Almost all of them want to **live their life to the fullest and independently**. Luxembourg and the Germans shows great interest on this issue but with percentage a little inferior in respect to the other countries, with the Norwegians showing the greatest interest.

Most of them agree that having a high **living standard** is important or extremely important, the most convinced are the Norwegians (71%) and the least are the Italians (52%), only a small percentage declare the opposite. As regards **helping the disadvantaged** more than 60% percentage of Norwegians and Italians think that it is important or extremely important. 54% of Luxembourg with the Dutch and 40% of the Germans agree with them. To the others helping the disadvantaged is less important. Percentages are different as regards **putting across own individual needs before others**, almost all nations concur on this issue, only for a few it is important or extremely important (20% to 30%); for the others it is quite important (more or less 30%) or little or not important.

Social contacts are quite important (generally 30%) but in various degrees and not for everyone, the most interest in social contacts appear to be the Dutch (54% important or very important) followed by the Italians (49% important or very important).

Love for **traditions** appear variegated, it seems it is not so important for most of the students involved in this survey, generally more than 35% of Italians and Dutch with 41% of Germans think that traditions are important or extremely important. Norwegians, Dutch, Luxembourg and Italians seem to show a certain amount of **patriotism**, the most polarized in this issue are the Germans.

Most of our students think that it is not important **doing what the others do**, on the contrary most of them, generally 70% in each country, believe that it is important or extremely important **to live independently**, generally only 20% believe that it is less important (12 % of Italians and 14% of Norwegians).

Coherently all countries are generally interested in **Healthy –life style**, for most of them, an average of 70%, it is important or extremely important, but for an average of more or less 20 % it is quite important. Our teenagers are also interested, in various percentages, in an **Environmentally Friendly life**, it is extremely important or important for 79% of Italians, 68% of Luxembourg, 67% of Norwegians, 59% of Dutch, 57% of Germans.

As regards the mental and emotional sphere, **Creativity** is also important for most of our students, at the top respectively 60% of Italians think that creativity is extremely important and 19% very important, followed respectively by 43% and 35% of Norwegians, 35% and 34% of Germans, 42% and 29% of Luxembourg, 39% and 32% of Dutch. **Emotions when making decisions** are also quite important or important for more or less 65% in all countries. It seems that it is generally extremely important only for an average of 20% for all countries except for the Germans (12%).

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Values Extremely important	Good friends (83%) Trustworthy partner (76%) Good family life (69%)	Good family life (74%) Good friends (71%) Trustworthy partner (69%)	Trustworthy partner (73%) Good friends (70%) Good family life (54%)	Good friends (80%) Trustworthy partner (79%) Good family life (64%)	Good friends (83%) Trustworthy partner (77%) Good family life (67%)
Values Not important at all	Doing what the others do (39%) Belief in God (33%) Patriotism (20%)	Doing what the others do (44%) Political engagement (17%) Belief in God (17%)	Belief in God (40%) Doing what the others do (36%) Political engagement (8%)	Belief in God (60%) Doing what the others do (17%) Political engagement (14%)	Belief in God (49%) Doing what the others do (18%) Sticking to traditions (9%)

STATEMENTS I – To what extent do you agree with the following statements? - **Knowing that you want to be successful**, **No risk, no glory**, **Unsure future**, **No room for dreams**, **Taking care of others pays off**, **Society only functions with moral standards**, **Cannot afford to feel sympathy and empathy for**, **Need for trustworthy people in life**, **Enough to expect a couple of friends and to do**, **Training and career most important**, **Retreat to own little world because of difficult life**, **Being interested in society**, **Need for action against wrongs in society and work**, **No Chance to win over the powerful**, **Swimming with the current**.

As regards' **Knowing what you want to be successful**' the opinions are fragmented in percentage and among the students of the 5 countries involved in this survey, some think that success depends on our determination and knowledge of our goals, the more convinced are the Italians, followed by the Germans and Luxembourg, the less convinced appear to be the Dutch and Norwegians. Also fragmented are the answers to '**No risk no glory**', it is a very polarized issue for the Norwegians, while the students of the other countries tend to opt for the need to risk if you want to reach some sort of glory; the less convinced are Luxembourg and the Germans, quite important for the Dutch, and more important for the Italians. Opinions about our future and the fulfilment of dreams also diverge and vary. Generally our students don't agree on the issue of **an unsure future** and of **no room for dreams**. As regards the issue of **taking care of others** 67% percentage of Norwegians agree or totally agree that this **pays off efforts**, followed by 63% of Dutch and 51% of Luxembourg, 46 % of Italians and 43 % of Germans; more or less similar percentages agree on the issue that **our society only functions with moral standards**.

Generally more than 50% of Norwegians, Italians, Germans and Luxembourg followed by 42% of Dutch don't agree at all or don't agree that we **cannot afford to feel sympathy and empathy for other people's in today's world**, instead most of them agree on the **Need for trustworthy people in life**, but they diverge and give fragmented opinions on the issue that **'All you can expect in life is a couple of friends and to do what you like. That should be enough'**. In all countries **'training and career'** are not considered so important, only a small percentages totally agree or agree on its importance or on **retreating to own little world because of difficult life**. Most of them with diverse percentages and various degrees think the other way. Even the **interest in our society and need to act against the wrongs** in it seems to be variegated, and generally the interest in society prevails on the need to take actions to deal with the **wrongs in society and work** and there is a certain amount of trust in the possibility of winning over the powerful, but a little percentage of Luxembourg 23%, Norwegians 21%, Dutch 14%, Germans 15%, Italy 12 % agree or totally agree that there is **no chance to win over the powerful**. As regards **swimming with the current** opinions differ and are fragmented within students of the same country, 58% of Italians don't agree at all or don't agree on swimming with the current as well as 53% of Germans and 40% of Norwegians, 36% Luxembourg and 32% of Dutch.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Statements I I totally agree	Need for trustworthy people in life (64%) Society only functions with moral standards (20%) Taking care for others pays off (17%)	Need for trustworthy people in life (56%) Being interested in society (29%) Society only functions with moral standards (29%)	Need for trustworthy people in life (57%) Taking care for others pays off (24%) Knowing what you want to be successful (22%)	Need for trustworthy people in life (69%) Taking care for others pays off (31%) Society only functions with moral standards (22%)	Need for trustworthy people in life (58%) Taking care for others pays off (31%) Society only functions with moral standards (22%)
Statements I I don't agree at all	No room for dreams (37%) Swimming with the current (33%) Cannot afford to feel sympathy and empathy for (32%)	No chance to win over the powerful (40%) Swimming with the current (40%) Retreat to own little world because of difficult life (38%)	Cannot afford to feel sympathy and empathy for (31%) No room for dreams (25%) Swimming with the current (20%)	No room for dreams (31%) Cannot afford to feel sympathy and empathy for (25%) Swimming with the current (25%)	Cannot afford to feel sympathy and empathy for (31%) No room for dreams (29%) Swimming with the current (18%)

STATEMENTS II - To what extent do you agree with the following statements: Traditional family, Allowing homosexuals to raise children, Woman=mother and wife, Men are able to raise children and take care of, “gay” no insult, Transgender okay, Friends=real family, Right to fall in love, No sex without marriage.

The idea of **Traditional family**, made up of a husband and a wife with children, seems to be changing in almost all the countries with significant percentages, though with some differences: 69% of Norwegians don’t agree at all or do not agree with the traditional concept of family, followed by 53% of Dutch, 37% of Italians and Luxembourg, 35% of Germans. On the contrary, as 37 % of Italians, 36% of Luxembourg, 32 % of Germans agree or totally agree with the traditional family model, only 10% of Dutch, 19% of Norwegians are stuck on traditional family. To the question if **friends** equal to real **family**, the answers are various and fragmented in different percentages from country to country. ****The majority of Dutch don’t agree at all or do not agree (85%), **on allowing homosexuals to raise children**, followed by 80 % of Norwegians, 73% of Germans, 60% of Italians, 59% of Luxembourg****. Even though not an overwhelming majority, a lot of our students do not agree at all or do not agree that the role of women should be restricted only to that of mother and wife, the most convinced are the Norwegians (64%), followed by the Germans (56%), the Dutch (51%), whereas only 46% of Italians and 41% of Luxembourg think that for women to be wife and mother is not the most satisfying role. Coherently to the previous issue, a great majority of our students think that **men are able to raise children and take care of the household**, the most convinced are the Norwegians (85% agree or totally agree), followed by the Germans (69%), the Dutch (65%), Luxembourg (57%) and the Italians (56%). As regards sexual orientation, most of the teenagers totally agree or agree that **“gay” is not an insult**, 71% of Italians, 65% of Dutch, 64% of Norwegians, 60% of Luxembourg and 61% of the Germans. For most of them **it’s okay to be transgender**, an overwhelming majority agree or totally agree on that issue, only the Italians are more divided, and only 49 % share the opinions of the Europeans beyond the Alps. An overwhelming majority of our students agree on the issue that each of us should **have the right to fall in love with whoever** he/she wants and also do not agree at all or do not agree that people **should be married to have sexual intercourse with their partner**, and finally that each of us decide **what to do with his/her body**.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Statements II	My body, my decision (75%)	Right to fall in love (70%)	My body, my decision (78%)	Right to fall in love (78%)	My body, my decision (77%)
I totally agree	Right to fall in love (73%)	My body, my decision (64%)	Right to fall in love (75%)	Transgender OK (74%)	Right to fall in love (76%)
	Transgender OK (47%)	“Gay” is no insult (55%)	Transgender OK (52%)	My body, my decision (71%)	Transgender OK (68%)

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Statements II I don't agree at all	No sex without marriage (63%) Allowing homosexuals to raise children (61%) Woman = mother and wife (37%)	No sex without marriage (45%) Allowing homosexuals to raise children (44%) Woman = mother and wife (32%)	No sex without marriage (55%) Allowing homosexuals to raise children (48%) Woman = mother and wife (29%)	Allowing homosexuals to raise children (76%) No sex without marriage (55%) Traditional family (49%)	Allowing homosexuals to raise children (73%) No sex without marriage (55%) Traditional family (53%)

WOULD YOU RAISE YOUR CHILDREN IN THE SAME WAY YOUR PARENTS RAISED YOU?

Finally the last question reveals similarities among the nations, the Italian teenagers say that they **would raise their children exactly in the same way their parents raised them** (33%) and **more or less in the same way** (57%), the Luxembourg show similar percentages, respectively 19% and 64%, the Norwegians 12% and 69%, the Germans 17% and 64% and the Dutch 7% and 78%. Only a small percentage of our teenagers would raise their children differently from the parents.

Question	Germany	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Norway
Raising children like parents	Yes, more or less the same way (64%)	Yes, more or less the same way (57%)	Yes, more or less the same way (64%)	Yes, more or less the same way (68%)	Yes, more or less the same way (69%)

This is the end of my description of the survey submitted to the teenagers involved in the project Erasmus 'Let's teach Europe', I think that despite some differences, our teenagers are aware of being Europeans and Worldly citizens, plunged in this historical period with its values and influences, their answers show their awareness of being part of something that it is bigger than our individual stories and that all of us share this segment of History in the third millennium, with all its contradictions and potentialities.

**** Regarding page 5 Values III "Allowing homosexual to raise children" judging by the results I suspect that the students might have misinterpreted the question and understood the contrary of what was asked.