

# European NGO Coalition for the Rights of Young NEETs

Investing in Europe's Invisible Generation  
- young NEETs and the need for a coordinated approach -



# Who is a youngNEET?



🟢 A.



🟢 B.

Not in Employment  
Education or Training

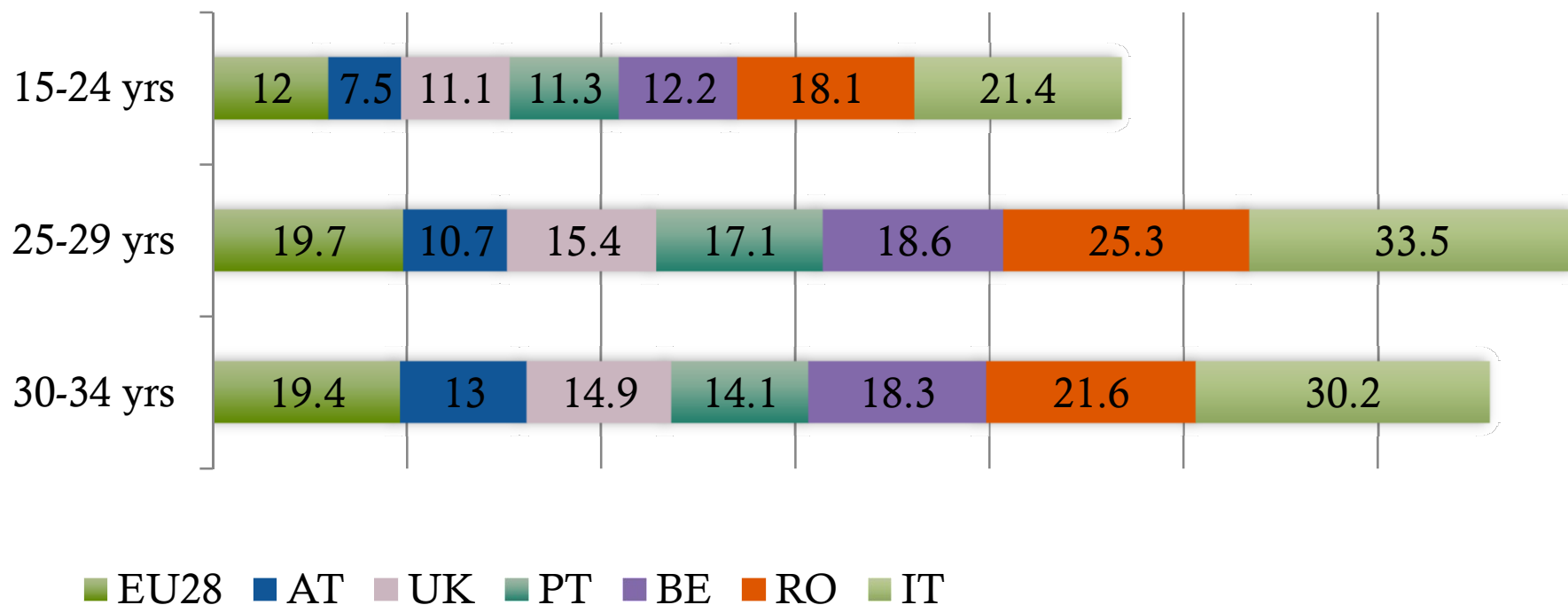
=  
NEET

- Who has been in a NEET situation – ever, regardless the age?

# European statistics

## Young NEET (%)

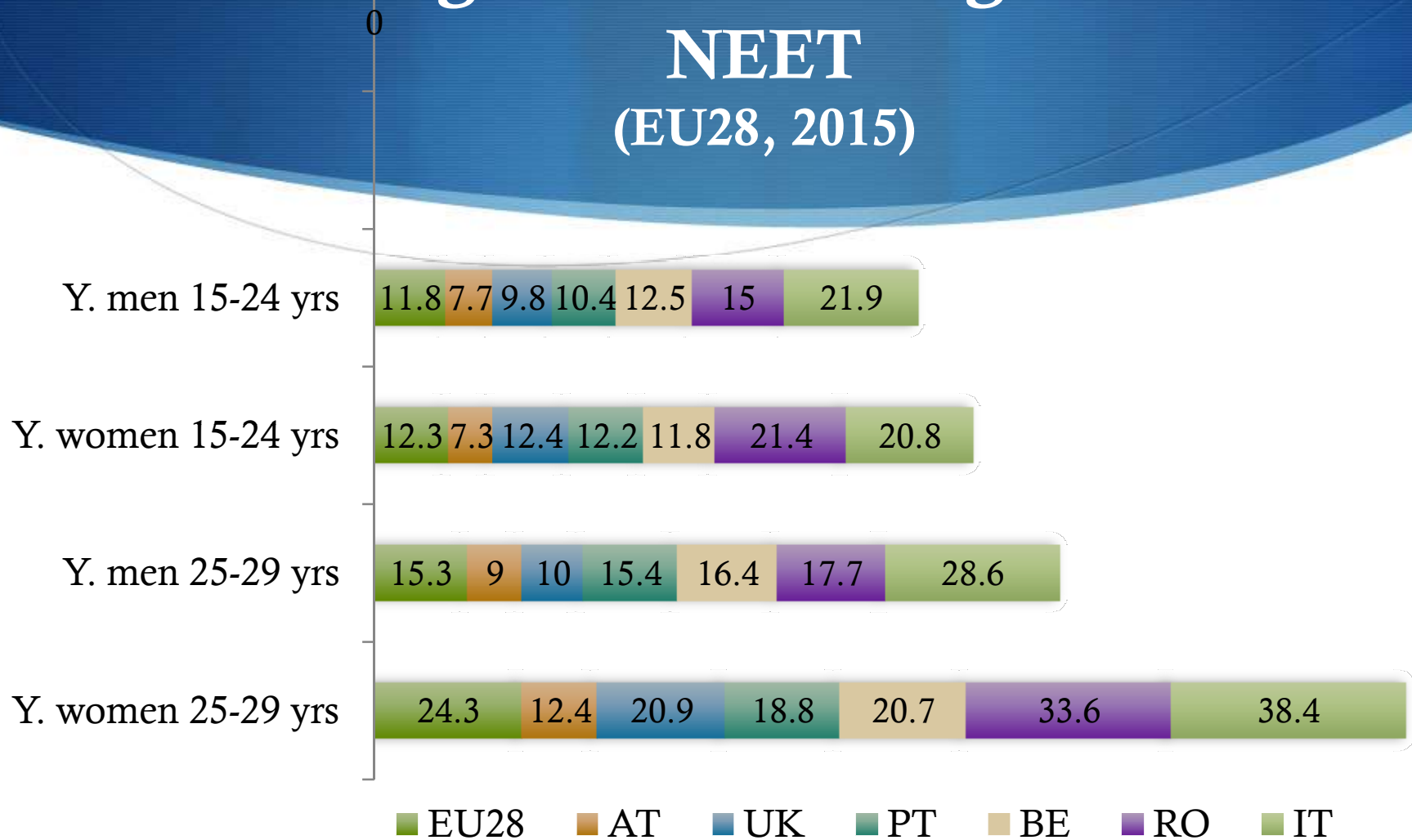
### 2015





# **Young Men vs. Young Women any differences?**

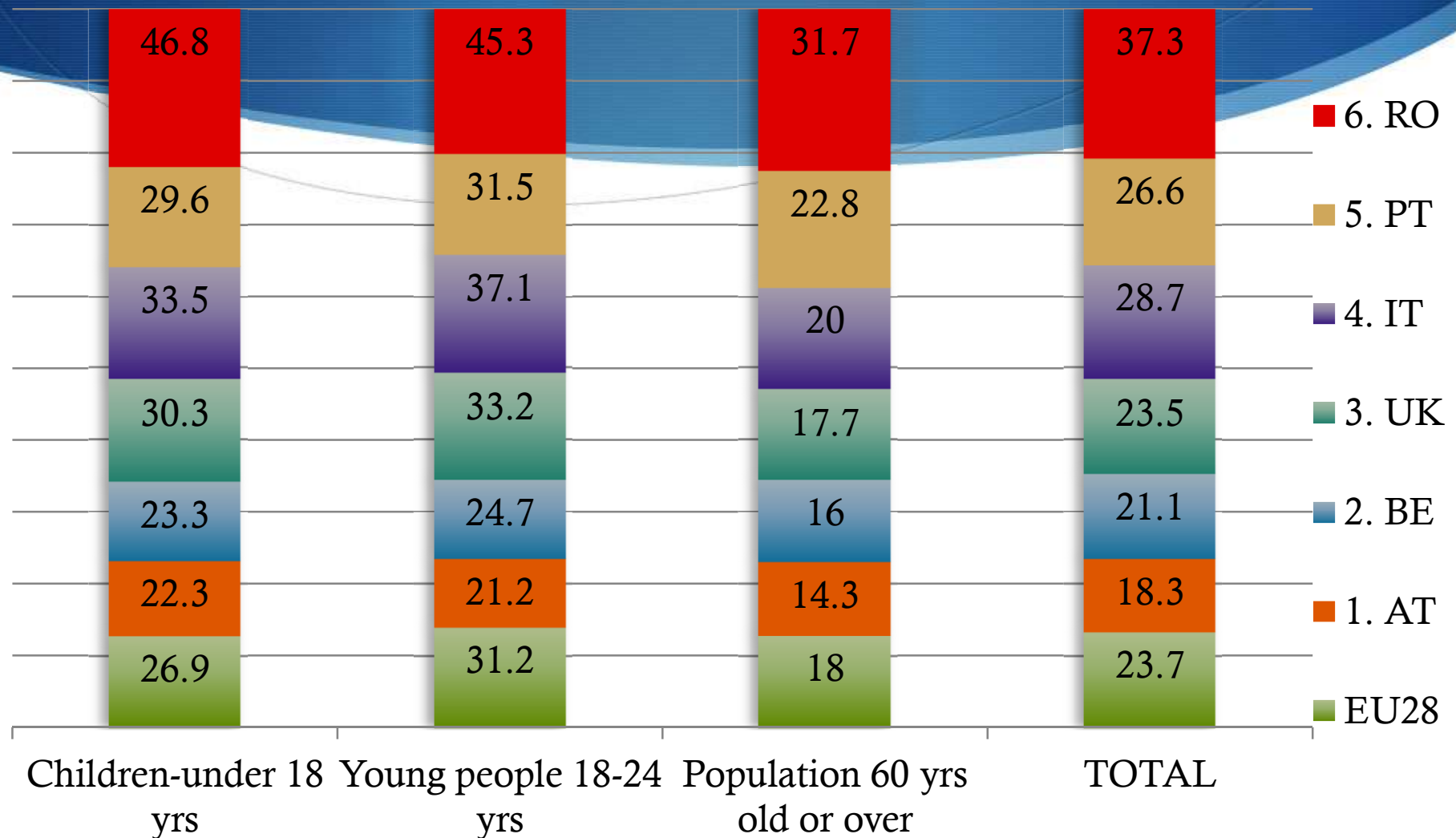
# Young men vs. Young women NEET (EU28, 2015)





# Causes for NEET situations?

# Risk of poverty or social exclusion (2015)





## Risk Factors



### Education

Young people with a low level of education are 3 times more likely to become NEET compared to others. \*



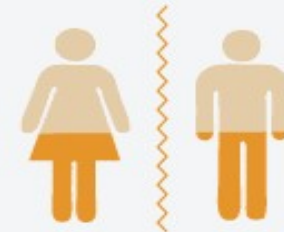
### Immigration

Young people with immigration background are 70% more likely to become NEET compared to nationals.



### Disability

Those declaring of suffering some kind of disability are 40% more likely of becoming NEET compared to others.



### Divorce

Young people who suffered the divorce of their parents are 30% more likely to become NEET.



### Unemployment

Having parents who experienced unemployment increases the probability of being NEET by 17%.



### Household Income

Young people with a low household income are more likely to become NEET than others.



### Location

Living in remote areas increases probability of becoming a NEET up to 1.5 times

*Education is no safety either: In the EU, 10% of young people with a tertiary education have become NEET. In Austria, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK, it drops to less than 6% of those with a tertiary education. In Estonia and Italy, however, 20% of those with a tertiary education end up as NEET – twice the EU average.*

# Costs of young NEETs? Eurofound (2011)

- ◆ 14m NEETs, 15.4% of the young population 15-24 yrs old
- ◆ **€153 billion** estimated, in EU27
- ◆ Social welfare payments and lost contributions to gross national product (GNP) costs society **€14,000 per young NEET**:
  - ◆ €11,000 unpaid contributions
  - ◆ €3,000 benefits payments



# Why a “NEET Coalition”?

# We hit the Target but we miss the Point



# One size doesn't fit all!

- ◆ Offers of - Education, employment, training (or entrepreneurship!) are not **Guaranteeing** solutions.
- ◆ **NEET is not an issue of the education and labour market**, exclusively.
- ◆ **“Quality” offers are still relative** – no clear standards have been developed.
- ◆ Different categories of Young NEETs need **different measures and sometimes integrated measures**.
- ◆ **Funding needs to be more flexible** (fit to support integrated measures).
- ◆ There is a need for a **different approach for the most vulnerable categories** of young NEETs.
- ◆ There is a need for **more quality research** on the specific situations young NEETs are living in (at community/local level).

# (continued)

- ◆ **Most of the National Governments didn't put in place Monitoring processes** – for the implementation & impact of programmes designed for young NEETs.
- ◆ There are **no clear systems to identify young NEETs** and Member States still work with estimations instead of real data.
- ◆ **PES offices** still lack the capacity to directly reach young NEETs.
- ◆ **Prevention measures are forgotten** – while intervention ones are preferred for immediate (but not sustainable) results.
- ◆ **Youth Work needs to be recognized** as one of the best prevention measures & outreach to young NEETs.
- ◆ **European programmes need to be complemented by permanent national policies** for young NEETs and young people at risk.

# What we want to do?

- ◆ Giving voice to the needs of young NEETs at policy level.
- ◆ Engaging professional NGOs and youth workers in processes of Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) on implementation of Youth Guarantee and other existing public policies & funding.
- ◆ Emphasizing the added value of youth work in building life skills and learning competences for young people, and not being 'limited' to the narrative of 'having them employed' as a purpose in itself.
- ◆ Working towards a cross-sectorial cooperation, at all levels, by contributing to the dialogue between decision makers and structures active at grass roots level.

# The pilot initiative

## Outcomes (1)

- ◆ Funded by Erasmus+ - Romanian National Agency – KA3, structured dialogue
- ◆ Supported multi-stakeholder dialogues in 6 countries: Austria, Belgium, Italy, Portugal, Romania, UK
- ◆ Directly involved young NEETs in consultation processes
- ◆ Promoted cross-sectorial cooperation at national level – aiming to create national platforms that can be permanently engaged in M&E policies, focusing on young NEETs
- ◆ Gathered quality data about the situation of young NEETs and the role of youth work in preventing and addressing the specific challenges – a set of policy recommendations will be presented in March 2017
- ◆ Supported 2 coordination meetings within the partnership & 1 Conference in the European Parliament



# Outcomes (2)

- ◆ Starts the process of a pan-European platform working for the rights of young NEETs - gathering various stakeholders:
  - ◆ NGOs & specialists working with young NEETs
  - ◆ Public Authorities (regional & national)
  - ◆ Social Partners
  - ◆ Educational Institutions
  - ◆ Members of the European Parliament

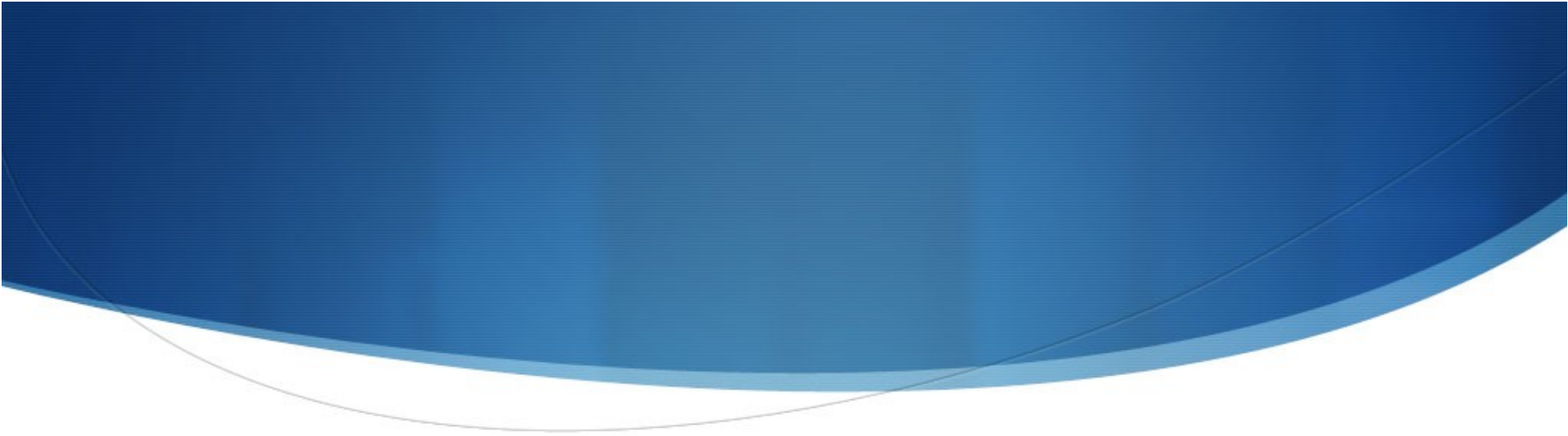
# Next steps (1)

- ◆ **Working on ensuring access to young NEETs' rights (or at risk of becoming NEETs)**
- ◆ **Ensuring there is a constant voice of young NEETs** – either directly or with the support of the specialists working with them
- ◆ **Advocating for better public policies & legislation** affecting Young NEETs (at national and European level)
- ◆ Working with other European countries to create a “**raising awareness movement**” on what concept of “young NEETs” actually means and support the establishment of national Coalitions/Networks
- ◆ **Cooperating** with public institutions directly responsible for policies with impact on youth (at national and European level)
- ◆ Promoting **prevention policies** and identifying “trends” that contribute to the NEET phenomenon – e.g. young immigrants or young refugees

# Next steps

## (2)

- ◆ Developing **research** projects and providing data on the situations of Young NEETs, and examples of good practice
- ◆ **Advocating for fair funding methodologies** - addressed to Young NEETs (while ensuring equal access to NGOs and social partners).
- ◆ **Engaging in processes of Monitoring & Evaluation**
- ◆ **Creating synergies** between the national and European level – by supporting public institutions (at national level) to use the European opportunities, as well as to feed in the European process.
- ◆ **Invest in the recognition of youth work and support the capacity building of youth workers** as actors of change – in the communities where the young NEETs live.
- ◆ Understanding our limitations – knowing there is no ONE solution, but actively working to ensure real opportunities and that there will be no OTHER invisible generations!



**Last but not least,  
why do we need to strengthen the Youth  
sector & why do we want to work for a  
“NEET coalition”...**

Throughout 2012, the Parliamentary Assembly of the  
**Council of Europe (PACE)** debated a paper on **The  
Young Generation Sacrificed:**

“The persisting economic instability across Europe has exposed young people to unprecedented hardship.

Unemployment, underemployment, socio-economic inequalities, poverty and exclusion disproportionately affect the young generation, whose autonomy, dignity, well-being and access to rights are rapidly eroding.

As a result, Europe risks not only producing a ‘lost generation’ of disillusioned young people, but also undermining its political stability and social cohesion, justice and peace, as well as its long-term competitiveness and development prospects in the global context.”

(PACE, 2012RIDcit0037)

„Învăță și dă mai departe“  
Erasmus 20:30, 3/10/2017

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urilor pentru Drepturile Tinerilor NEET

# Thank you for your attention!



**Let's keep in touch!**

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