

Factual summary of the public consultation on the EU long-term budget in the area of European values and mobility

Introduction

The EU's long-term budget currently runs until the end of 2020. In May and June 2018, the Commission adopted its proposals for the post-2020 long-term budget and the next generation of programmes and funds. These programmes/funds will provide support to hundreds of thousands of beneficiaries such as regions, towns, NGOs, businesses, farmers, students, scientists, and many others, as well as ensure the functioning of concrete operations in plenty of areas like border management, humanitarian aid, the single market, to name a few.

The Commission's proposals were designed to make it possible for the EU to deliver on the things that matter most, in areas where it can achieve more than Member States acting alone. This requires a careful assessment both of what has worked well in the past and what could be improved in the future. What should the priorities be for future policies and programmes/funds? And how can they be designed to best deliver results on the ground?

As an integral part of this process and following on from the [Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances](#), the Commission has conducted a series of public consultations covering major spending areas to gather views from all interested parties on how to make the very most of every euro of the EU budget. These areas are:

- Investments, research and innovation, SMEs and Single Market
- Strategic infrastructure (transport, energy, digital, space)
- Cohesion
- Migration
- Security, defence and crisis/emergency response
- European values and mobility
- Natural resources
- External policy

See more on the main programmes under each policy area on the Commission [website](#) for the EU's long-term budget.

Replies to the public consultations fed into designing comprehensive proposals for the post-2020 EU long-term budget and for the next generation of financial programmes.

This document summarises the replies to the public consultation in the area of **European values and mobility** that was carried out from 10 January 2018 to 9 March 2018. More in-depth analysis of replies (including textual inputs) supported the impact assessments prepared for individual programmes.

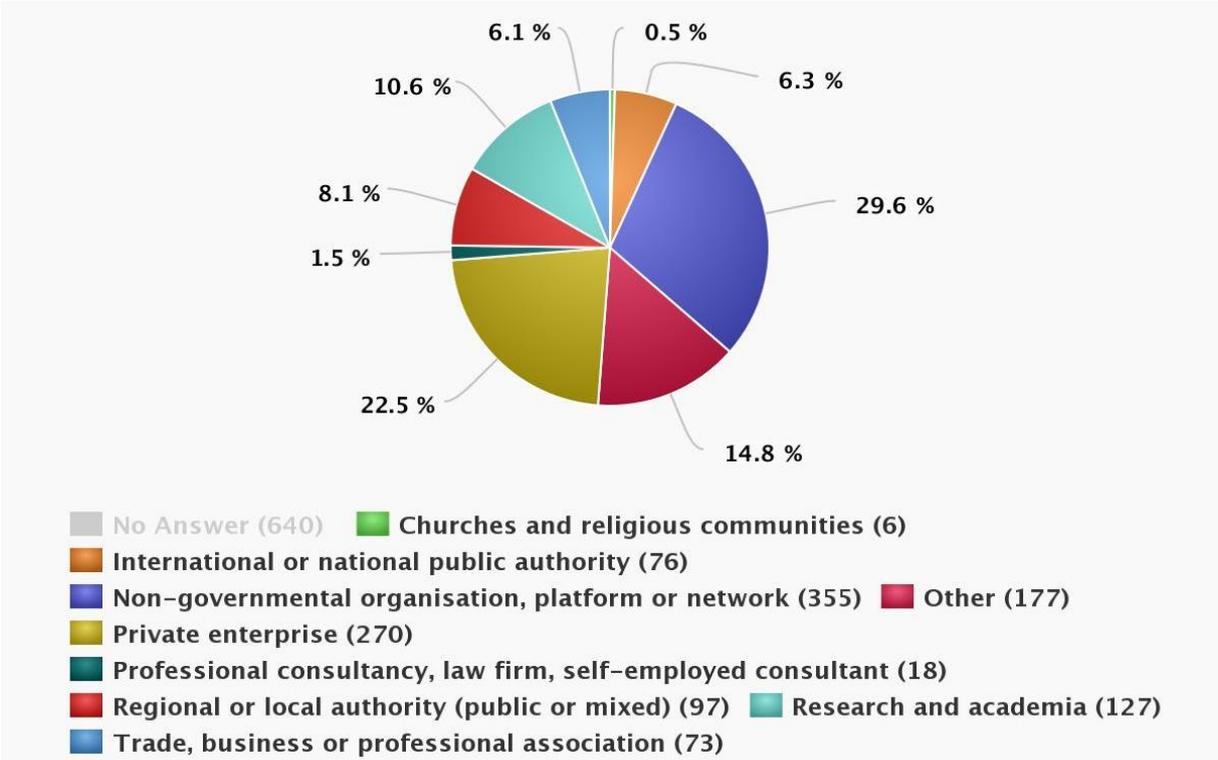
Who replied to this public consultation?

In total, the public consultation on European values and mobility received **1839 replies; 1199 from organisations** and **640 from individuals**. Contributions were mainly provided by organisations based

in Germany (340), Belgium (142) and France (113), while the individuals that took part in the consultation are mainly German (109), Spanish (99), French (47) and Polish (44) residents.

In terms of **type of organisations**, the majority are non-governmental organisations, platforms or networks (29.6%), followed by private enterprises (22.5%) (see figure 1 below for details on the types of organisations).

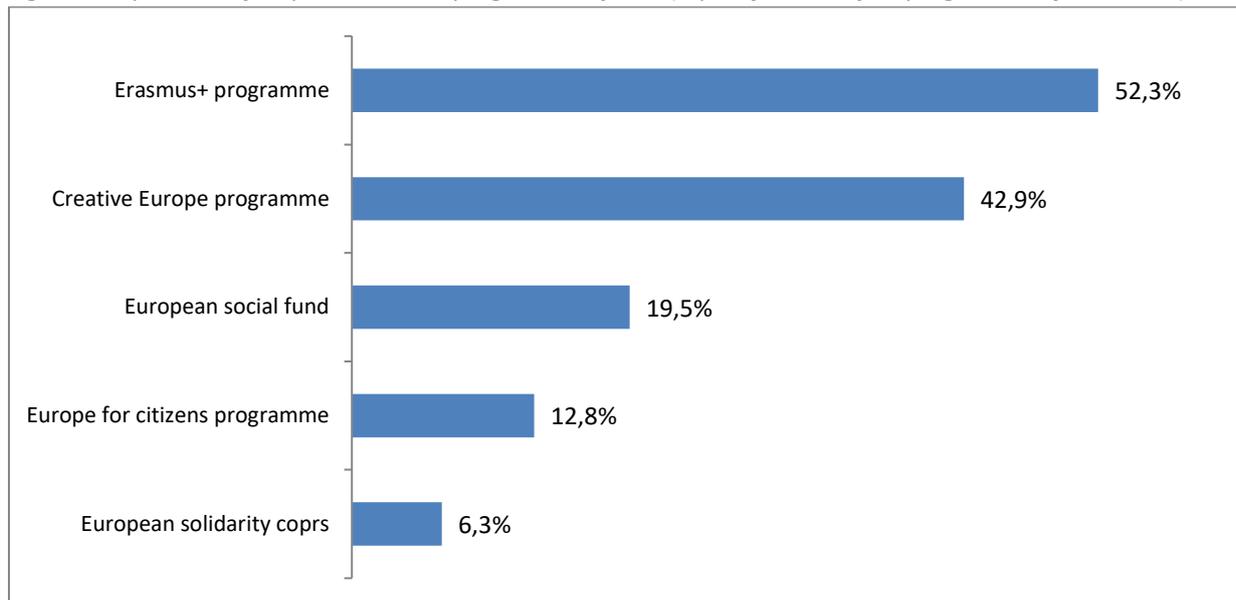
Figure 1: distribution of the type of organisations participating in the public consultation



In the figure above, the "No Answer" category is left out as it represents the respondents that are citizens and for which this question is thus not relevant.

Respondents were asked to indicate their experience with one or more funds or programmes (see figure 2 below). Respondents seem to be most familiar with the Erasmus+ programme (52.3%) and the Creative Europe programme (42.9%).

Figure 2: Experience of respondents with programmes/funds (top 5 of a total of 11 programmes/funds listed)



What are the views of respondents who replied to the public consultation?

Importance of policy challenges

The questionnaire preliminarily identified a number of policy challenges which programmes/funds under this policy area could address. Respondents were asked how important they considered these policy challenges to be.

The three **most important policy challenges** which the programmes/funds under this policy area could address are:

1. "Support innovation" (85.2% of respondents consider it at least rather important)
2. "Foster European cultural diversity and cultural heritage" (82.4% of respondents consider it at least rather important)
3. "Promote European identity and values" (89.8% of respondents consider it at least rather important)

"Reinforcing the EU area of justice strengthening judicial cooperation" is the challenge considered least important of the challenges identified by the Commission (51.5% of respondents consider it very or rather important) (see table 1 for more details).

Success of the current programmes/funds

The questionnaire asked respondents to what extent they consider the previously mentioned policy challenges to be successfully addressed by the current programmes/funds.

"Fostering European cultural diversity and cultural heritage" and "promoting European identity and common values" are the two **most successfully met challenges by the current programmes/funds**; 52.3% and 50.7% of respondents respectively consider them at least fairly well addressed. The challenge that is considered the least well addressed by the current programmes/funds (of those

identified by the Commission) is “reinforcing the EU area of justice strengthening judicial cooperation”. This is also the least important challenge according to the respondents.

Table 1 below combines the two previous questions: which challenge(s) respondents consider important and how successful the current programmes/funds are at addressing these challenges.

Table 1: Importance of policy challenges and how well current programmes/funds address them

Challenge	Respondents considering the challenge important or rather important (%)	Respondents considering the challenge fully or fairly well addressed (%)
Support innovation	85.2	48.0
Foster European cultural diversity and cultural heritage	82.4	52.3
Promote European identity and common values	81.1	50.7
Supporting lifelong skills development through learning mobility	80.9	46.6
Promote modernisation of education and training	80.9	37.7
Promote social inclusion and fairness	80.8	34.7
Support digitalization and digital transformation	80.4	38.0
Promote rights and equality	79.7	36.7
Support active citizenship, democratic participation in society, and the rule of law	78.7	33.8
Promote solidarity	77.5	33.4
Support employability through lifelong learning mobility	75.4	37.8
Promote cooperation between education and training and labour market actors	74.2	35.7
Support competitiveness of European cultural and creative sectors	69.1	39.4
Promote consumers’ interests and ensure high level of consumer protection	56.0	25.9
Reinforce the EU area of justice strengthening judicial cooperation	51.5	21.0

EU added value of the current programmes/funds

In the questionnaire, respondents were asked whether they consider the **current programmes/funds to add value** compared to what Member States could achieve at a national, regional and/or local level.

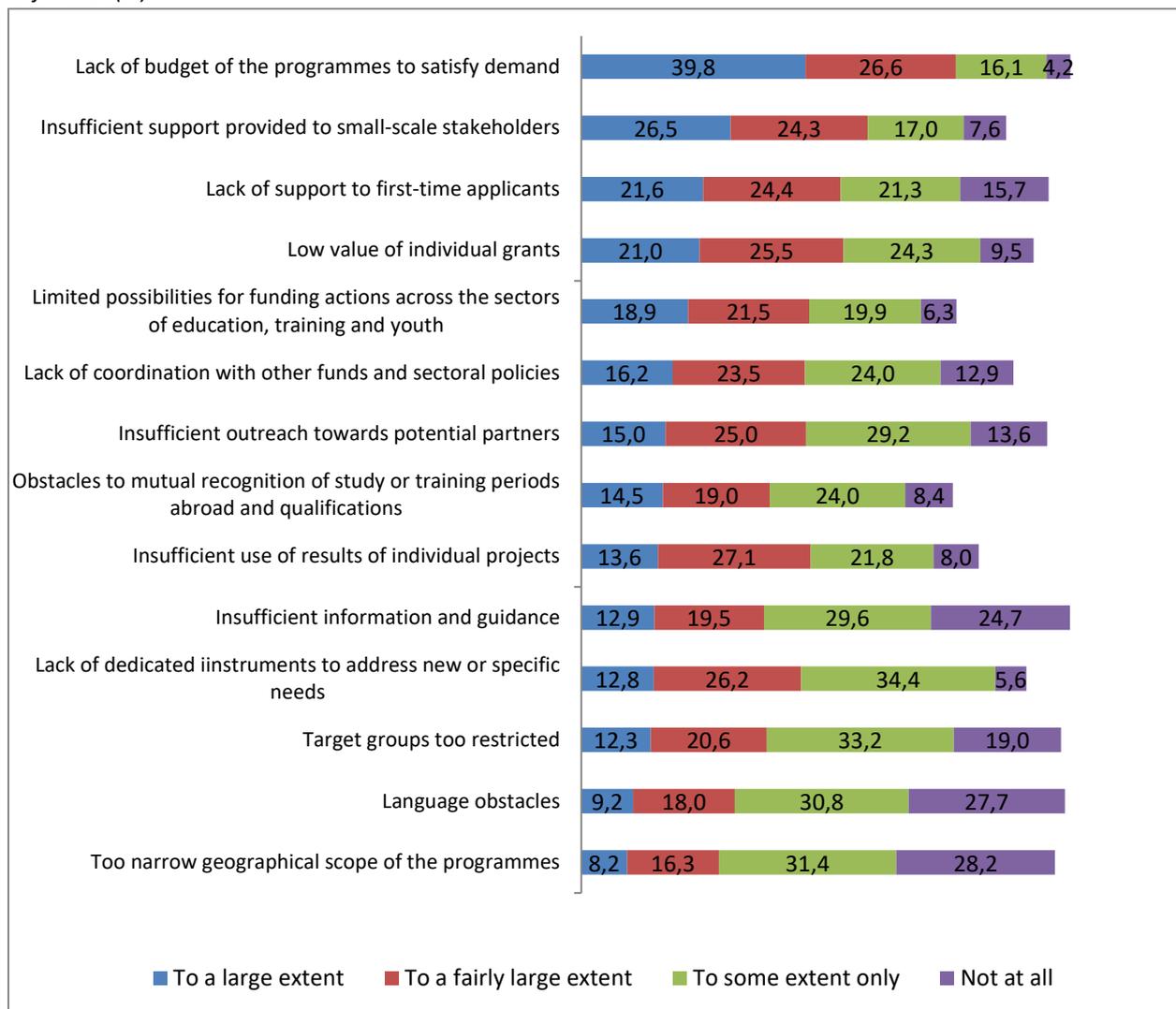
77.4% of respondents believe that the programmes/funds do add value to a large or fairly large extent compared to what Member States could achieve on their own. Indeed, 826 respondents (44.9%) consider that current programmes/funds add value to a large extent and 597 respondents (32.5%) consider that they do so to a fairly large extent. 318 respondents (17.3%) consider that current programmes/funds add value to some extent only and 19 respondents (1.0%) consider them not to do so at all.

Obstacles preventing the current programmes/funds from being successful

The Commission preliminarily identified certain obstacles to the current programmes/funds. Respondents were asked to identify those that represent the biggest obstacles.

“Lack of budget of the programmes to satisfy demand” is the most important **obstacle preventing current programmes/funds from successfully achieving their objectives** with 66.4% of respondents considering this to be challenges to a large or fairly large extent (see details in figure 3 below).

Figure 3: Extent to which the following obstacles prevent the current programmes/funds from meeting their objectives (%)



Simplifying and reducing administrative burdens

In the questionnaire, the Commission preliminarily identified certain steps that could help further simplify and reduce administrative burdens for beneficiaries under the current programmes/funds.

According to stakeholders, the **steps most likely to help further simplify and reduce administrative burdens** under current programmes/funds is the “use of more simplified application forms, reports and grant selection process” (80.2% of respondents considering this at least to a fairly large extent) (see figure 4 below for details).

Figure 4: Extent to which the following steps would help further simplify or reduce administrative burdens for beneficiaries under the current programmes/funds (%)

