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Szakszervezetek Együttműködési Fóruma •
Ifjúsági Tagozata

Youth, unions and social engagement: the relationship with social movements and politics

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General remarks on Hungarian youth

In general: low level of participation in any public activity and apathy characterizes a young person in Hungary.

Biggest problems of youth:

- ✓ willingness to migrate (72% under 30 years old)
- ✓ hard to find a job, high level of youth unemployment (about 20%)
- ✓ having no money,
- ✓ uncertainty of life and future,
- ✓ etc.)



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Social engagement of youth in Hungary

- ✓ No trust in politics (no direct connection to political parties)
Most popular party is the extreme right: Jobbik.
Politics means for 21% lies, scam, fraud .
- ✓ Low level of participation in elections
Most active group in 20-25 years old university students
- ✓ „Clicktivism”
Young people express their opinion online with a like or dislike
- ✓ Most activities are done in family or with friends
Little activity in public, only if they are personally concerned
- ✓ Other activities
Issues like Critical Mass, environmental protection are more popular
- ✓ General answer to politics is the exodus



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Problems of trade unions

✓ No trust in trade unions

Still thinking of as a residue from the past communist area

✓ Relation to parties

No direct connection, but still a stigma of being in favor of social parties

✓ Relation to extremism

Total rejection vs. Negotiations

✓ Build lobby power without fix engagement to any party

✓ Difficulties to build connections with social movements

Common goals can lead to common actions

Lack of formal bodies, responsible persons