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## Living conditions and future preferences of youth in the South Baltic Region – a cross-border comparative report for Sweden, Lithuania, Russia and Poland

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## ***Cross-border report***

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## Introduction

CaSYPoT (Capacity Building for Strategic Youth Policy and Transnational Cooperation) is a project that focuses on cooperation of different Euroregion Baltic actors: local and regional authorities, universities, NGOs, etc. in the field of youth questions. The main goal of the project is to improve the cross-border capacity of these local actors through cooperation in the youth field, mainly by carrying out a survey among youngsters and based on its results creating knowledge-based strategic youth policy. The survey aims to investigate young people's life conditions in six municipalities in the South Baltic region.

This report is a cross-border analysis where the results from the six municipalities are compared. In total, 1593 respondents from 4 countries of the Baltic Sea region participated in the survey; Russia (cities of Gusev and Svetlogorsk), Poland (cities of Bartoszyce and Słupsk), Sweden (Emmaboda) and Lithuania (Klaipeda). The data was collected through a questionnaire study organized in April – May 2017 in all municipalities, except in Svetlogorsk where it was organized in June and July. The questionnaire is inspired by the Swedish LUPP-survey, but has been modified and adapted to fit with the project aim and national conditions. Consequently, a few of the posed questions differ between countries. Important differences to mention relate foremost to questions on background characteristics. Concerning the question on gender/sex of the respondent the Swedish questionnaire included the additional option “other” for respondents who do not feel comfortable with a binary gender division. In addition, questions regarding the respondent's parents' origin and educational level also differ slightly between countries. Again, the Swedish survey is different, where the sex of the parents is not mentioned in the question (parent a and parent b). Lastly, there are a few questions, for example relating to the educational system, that have been adapted to fit with national contexts.

The participating municipalities are of different sizes and potentials: Klaipeda with 157 000 inhabitants is one of the largest Baltic ports and Słupsk with 97 000 inhabitants is the largest city in inland Pomeranian Region. There are two cities with a population just above 25 000 inhabitants: Gusev and Bartoszyce. Both can be described as small industrial cities. The smallest cities are Emmaboda with 10.000 inhabitants, and Svetlogorsk with 12 000 inhabitants. Emmaboda is also a city with a history of small industries whereas Svetlogorsk is a resort town aimed mostly at tourism. Another division between the participating countries is the fact that Sweden is a high-income country while the remaining countries are moderate income countries.

There are many interesting results and insights in the material, but it is important to firmly state that the following presentation will present more questions than answers. The respective municipalities will, in some cases, be able to form action plans in relation to the results, but not in terms of policy change. We simply do not know enough about what lies behind the numbers, i.e. we do not know the causes behind the figures presented here. The relevant action for the municipalities, based on

this presentation, is therefore to find out more about the circumstances of the results rather than initiate policy change or projects aimed at change.

There are at least two reasons for this. First of all, it is difficult to draw any actual conclusions from the results. There are differences in the populations for the different surveys, for example age and level of schooling, and in the selection of respondents, for example a census survey or a sample survey. Additionally, there are a lot of country specific aspects that is not included in the survey. It is unclear if the questions have been interpreted by the respondents in the same way in the different countries. What does it mean, for instance, to be exposed to sexual abuse, or to worry about the family's financial situation? We have reason to believe that we would find differences in how these, and many more of the questions, are interpreted. These are just examples, but qualitative data would probably be necessary to understand and contextualize the results. There are cultural, political, legal and economic differences behind the data that makes it necessary to treat the results with great caution. Now the results give us interesting questions rather than answers.

Secondly, the survey is not designed to find causal relations or explanations. Some explanations of the results are necessary if they are to be used as starting points for policy change. Some causes or correlations might be possible to find in the material, but it would require an extensive contextualization of the results. This can be done with qualitative information from the municipalities, or local data not included in the survey.

We also have to add that there have been problems with the data. We have found obscurities in the material and disparities between different versions of our working material. We do not know the precise extent of this issue and we have reason to believe that it is a minor problem. However, it might affect the reliability of some conclusions in the report. This being said, the result is still useful in many ways. Problems, differences and anomalies are pointed out and there are many things in the following presentation that should give the municipalities information on different issues that need to be investigated more closely and discussed further.

The report ends with a number of observations that we believe deserve a continued discussion. These observations are selected for different reasons. Some of them indicate problems that should be investigated further in order to take relevant measures, some just make us curious and interested in more information, and yet others show differences between groups or countries that might provide useful knowledge about the municipalities. Naturally, our selection does not exhaust the list of interesting observations worthy of discussion, but it is a starting point and it might serve as inspiration for continued work.

We also want to mention that the separate chapters of this report have been written by researchers from the partner universities in the project. The chapters on Leisure time and Work, are written by Przemyslaw Kulawczuk, Andrzej Poszewiecki and Elzbieta Kolasinska from University of Gdansk, Poland. The chapter on School, is written by Giedre Straksiene and Aleksandra Batuchina from

Klaipeda University, Lithuania. The chapters on Political interest, Health and Trust and Safety, are written by Anna-Maria Sarstrand Marekovic and Per Dannefjord from Linneaus University, Sweden. The chapters on Family and Future, are written by Efim Fidrya, Elena Zimovina and Natalya Milyavskaya from Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Russia.

## 1. Family

The first section of the report includes a presentation of the respondents' answers to questions concerning background characteristics such as gender, origin and socioeconomic status.

The overwhelming majority of the surveyed school students stem from the countries they live in: Russia (Gusev – 91%, Svetlogorsk – 99%), Poland (Bartoszyce - 97%, Słupsk - 93%), Lithuania (Klaipeda – 91%), and Sweden (Emmaboda – 87%). The majority of respondents' parents were also born in the countries where the survey was conducted. However, a substantial proportion of Russian school students' parents were born in other countries. Most probably, by saying "other countries" they meant former USSR republics, from which there was a massive migration to Russia during the post-Soviet period. For example, they mentioned republics of the Central Asia, Transcaucasia, Baltic states, etc. Exceptionally significant is the share of migrants among fathers who were distributed to the region as young specialists during the Soviet period or stayed in the region after army discharge. As concerns parents of European school students: the highest share of those who were born outside Europe is observed in Sweden (Emmaboda: parent a – 10%, parent b – 10%), which is followed by Lithuania (Klaipeda: mother – 4%, father – 6%); whereas the lowest share is in Poland (Bartoszyce: mother – 0%, father – 0%; Słupsk: mother – 2%, father – 2%).

Table 1.A Where were you and your parent or parents born? (%)

### Russia

	Gusev				Svetlogorsk			
	Kaliningrad region	Other region of Russia	In another Country	I don't know	Kaliningrad region	Other region of Russia	In another Country	I don't know
Respondent	83	8	7	1	80	19	2	n/a
Mother	62	20	16	3	50	35	15	n/a
Father	49	23	23	6	43	33	24	n/a

### Poland

	Słupsk				Bartoszyce			
	Poland	Countries Neighboring Poland	Europe	Outside Europe	Poland	Countries Neighboring Poland	Europe	Outside Europe
Respondent	93	3	1	3	97	2	1	1
Mother	93	3	2	2	96	3	1	0
Father	91	5	2	2	97	1	2	0

## Lithuania

	Klaipeda			
	Lithuania	Baltic Countries (Estonia and Latvia)	Europe	Outside Europe
Respondent	91	5	1	3
mother	90	4	1	4
father	86	5	4	6

## Sweden

	Emmaboda			
	Sweden	Nordic Countries	Europe	Outside Europe
Respondent	87	2	2	9
Parent a	81	4	5	10
Parent b	81	3	6	10

A substantial share of those who were not born in the city of their current residence have lived in the surveyed countries for more than 10 years: Gusev – 57%, Bartoszyce – 50%, Klaipeda – 49%, Emmaboda – 47%, Słupsk – 36% (Table 1.B). A slightly different situation is observed in Svetlogorsk, where this indicator constitutes just 27%. It is also worth noting that there is a significant number of those who have lived in the city of their current residence for less than 3 years, i.e. those who have moved comparatively recently: Słupsk – 36%, Emmaboda – 33%, Klaipeda – 30%. The least amount of recent relocatees was recorded in Gusev– 20%, Bartoszyce – 17% and Svetlogorsk – 9%.

*Table 1.B If you were not born in Sweden/ Russia - Kaliningrad Region/ Lithuania/ Poland, how long have you lived here? (%)*

	0-3 years	4-9 years	10 years or more
<b>Gusev</b>	20	23	57
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	9	64	27
<b>Słupsk</b>	36	29	36
<b>Bartoszyce</b>	17	33	50
<b>Klaipeda</b>	30	22	49
<b>Emmaboda</b>	33	20	47

The overwhelming majority of respondents have parents or legal guardians working in the countries of residence (Table 1.C). For example, in Gusev: mother – 72%, father – 70%; in Svetlogorsk: mother – 81%, father – 68%; in Bartoszyce: mother – 79%, father – 75%; in Słupsk: mother – 78%, father – 67%; in Klaipeda: mother – 74%, father – 62%. The highest rate of

parents' employment in the country of residence was observed in Emmaboda: parent a – 86%, parent b – 80%.

There are also parents who work abroad (Table 1.C). It should be noted that only one person among Swedish school students' parents works abroad. A small number of parents of school students from Gusev (mother – 1 person, father – 7 persons), Svetlogorsk (mother – 1 person, father – 5 persons) and Bartoszyce (mother – 3 persons, father – 22 persons) work abroad. At the same time a significant number of parents of school students from Słupsk (mother – 13 persons, father – 88 persons, and legal guardian – 6 persons) and Klaipeda (mother – 16 persons, father – 72 persons and legal guardian – 6 persons) work abroad.

There are also unemployed, pensioners and mothers on maternity leave among parents.

Table 1.C What is/are the main occupation(s) of your parent(s) or other legal guardian? (%)

**Russia**

	Work in Russia	Work abroad	Study	Parental leave	Unemployed	Long-term sick leave/ disability pensioner	Old-age pensioner	Other	I don't know
<b>Gusev</b>									
Mother	72	0	0	8	12	2	2	3	1
Father	70	3	0	0	6	5	1	8	6
Legal guardian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>									
Mother	81	2	0	2	9	2	2	0	2
Father	68	9	0	0	2	2	2	6	11
Legal guardian	21	0	4	0	0	4	0	4	67

**Poland**

	Work in Poland	Work abroad	Study	Parental leave	Unemployed	Long-term sick leave/ disability pensioner	Old-age pensioner	Other	I don't know
<b>Słupsk</b>									
Mother	78	2	0	3	7	3	0	3	3
Father	67	14	0	1	3	3	1	2	8
Legal guardian	39	3	1	4	5	2	6	4	37
<b>Bartoszyce</b>									
Mother	79	2	0	1	8	4	2	3	2
Father	75	12	0	1	2	2	2	2	4
Legal guardian	38	0	2	2	2	0	11	2	42

## Lithuania

<b>Klaipeda</b>	Work in Lithuania	Work abroad	Study	Parental leave	Unemployed	Long-term sick leave/ disability pensioner	Old-age pensioner	Other	I don't know
Mother	74	4	2	4	7	3	1	2	4
Father	62	18	0	2	4	1	1	4	8
Legal guardian	23	4	3	6	8	3	3	12	39

## Sweden

<b>Emmaboda</b>	Work in Sweden	Work abroad	Study	Parental leave	Unemployed	Long-term sick leave/ disability pensioner	Old-age pensioner	Other	I don't know
Parent a	86	1	1	0	3	5	1	1	3
Parent b	80	0	1	0	3	6	2	6	3
Legal guardian	29	0	3	0	6	3	3	10	45

The parents' educational level differs – in Russia the majority has tertiary education (Gusev: mother – 69%, father – 66%; Svetlogorsk: mother – 89%, father – 74%. The other cities have lower numbers. Bartoszyce: mother – 46%, father – 35%; Słupsk: mother – 39%, father – 25%; Emmaboda: parent a – 33%, parent b – 35%; Klaipeda: mother – 49%, father - 35%; legal guardian - 10%).

Table 1.D What is your parents' highest level of education? (%)

## Russia

	less than 9 years of schooling	9 years of schooling	Upper secondary school	Tertiary education	I don't know
<b>Gusev</b>					
mother	7	11	13	69	n/a
father	7	11	16	66	n/a
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>					
mother	0	6	4	89	2
father	4	4	2	74	17

## Poland

	Not completed primary school/ no education	Primary school	Upper secondary school	Tertiary education	I don't know
<b>Slupsk</b>					
mother	3	4	46	39	8
father	2	5	56	25	11
<b>Bartoszyce</b>					
mother	1	3	41	46	9
father	1	2	52	35	10

## Lithuania

<b>Klaipeda</b>	less than 9 years of schooling	9 years of schooling	Upper secondary school	Tertiary education	I don't know
mother	8	11	22	49	10
father	6	11	31	35	17
legal guardian	7	16	10	10	57

## Sweden

<b>Emmaboda</b>	less than 9 years of schooling	9 years of schooling	Upper secondary school	Tertiary education	I don't know
parent a	2	10	38	33	18
parent b	2	9	37	35	18

The respondents expressed different levels of concern about the financial status of their parents (Table 1.E). For example, about one third of respondents from Gusev (30%) and a quarter of those from Klaipeda (26%) indicated that they are very anxious about the financial status of their parents (legal guardians). On the contrary, the majority of the surveyed school students from Emmaboda (44%), Bartoszyce (43%) and Slupsk (35%) answered that they do not worry about this issue.

Table 1.E To what extent are you worried about your parents' (or legal guardian's) finances? (%)

	Very worried	Rather worried	not too worried	not at all worried
<b>Gusev</b>	30	34	24	12
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	9	28	37	26
<b>Slupsk</b>	7	22	35	35
<b>Bartoszyce</b>	6	20	30	43
<b>Klaipeda</b>	26	42	20	12
<b>Emmaboda</b>	8	11	38	44

The overwhelming majority of the surveyed school students from Emmaboda (72%) and Bartoszyce (70%) indicated that they have not experienced any financial problems and their families can afford to satisfy the respondents' needs (Table 1.F). More than half of respondents from Slupsk (59%) and Klaipeda (51%) gave the same answer. However, only 48% of school students from Svetlogorsk and 41% of school students from Gusev noted that their families have no financial problems and can meet all the needs. Nevertheless, in all the countries some of the respondents looked more realistically on the financial status of their families and admitted that their parents cannot always seamlessly allocate funds for extra needs of the respondents. (Table 1.F).

*Table 1.F Over the past six months, has it happened that you could not do something or buy something that many others of your age are doing or buying because your family could not afford it? (%)*

	yes, several times	yes, once	no	I don't want to answer
<b>Gusev</b>	25	20	41	15
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	13	22	48	17
<b>Slupsk</b>	14	18	59	9
<b>Bartoszyce</b>	9	18	70	3
<b>Klaipeda</b>	18	19	51	12
<b>Emmaboda</b>	10	13	72	5

### *Disabilities*

The majority of the respondents do not have any serious illnesses or disabilities which could hinder either their studies or communication with peers. Nevertheless, there are some respondents who admitted that they have serious illnesses. The lowest number of disabled students are Emmaboda 8 percent. Svetlogorsk and Klaipeda both report 11 percent. Bartoszyce 12 percent and Gusev and Slupsk 14 percent respectively.

## 2. School

The survey also includes questions concerning the students' experiences of school and the school environment. There are themes in the survey concerning the students' well-being, social relations and recognition in school, as well as school attendance and atmosphere of the schools.

*Table 2.A School orientation*

	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
<b>What orientation does your secondary school programme have? (%)</b>						
Upper secondary school	64	71	23	37		
Vocational	33	19	13	1	22	34
Preparation for higher education					75	60
Technical school			55	15		
Other orientation	2	3			3	6
Lower secondary school			0	34		
Profiled upper secondary school			8	13		
University	2	7				

In the results about school orientation we can see great differences between the cities. It is worth to mention that there are differences between school types in the participating countries. Both in Klaipeda and Emmaboda the participants came from vocational schools; preparation for higher education or in other orientation. In both of these cities a vast majority were in preparation for higher education (in Klaipeda 75 % and 60 % in Emmaboda) and only few (in Klaipeda 3 % and 6 % in Emmaboda) in other orientations. In the other countries, some school types were added due to peculiarities in the local educational systems. In Russia (Gusev and Svetlogorsk) the following educational levels were included: upper secondary school; vocational; university and others. where the majority belonged to upper secondary school (in Gusev – 64 %, in Svetlogorsk 71 %); a smaller part to vocational (in Gusev – 33 %, in Svetlogorsk 19 %); just few to university (in Gusev – 2 %; in Svetlogorsk 7 %) and the same in the other orientation (in Gusev – 2 %, in Svetlogorsk 2 %). In Poland: Upper secondary school (Slupsk 23 % and Bartoszyce 37 %); Vocational (Slupsk 13 % and Bartoszyce 1 %); Technical school (Slupsk 15 % and Bartoszyce 55 %); Lower secondary school (Slupsk 0 % and Bartoszyce 34 %); Profiled upper secondary school (Slupsk 8 % and Bartoszyce 13 %). As we see from the Polish numbers the distribution of participants from this country was uneven.

Table 2.B Gender distribution at schools

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda		
a) What orientation does your secondary school programme have? (%)													
b) Gender													
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	other
Upper secondary school	44	56	38	62	42	58	38	62					
Vocational	43	57	33	67	91	9	100	0	50	50	42	55	3
Preparation for higher education									52	48	42	52	6
Technical school					43	57	85	15					
Other orientation	0	100	0	100					81	19	20	30	30
Lower secondary school					100	0	51	50					
Profiled upper secondary school					29	71	28	72					
University	100	0	33	67									
Total, %	45	55	33	67	51	49	49	51	53	47	41	53	6

Remark. 1. The percentage show the representation of boys and girls at chosen school (among respondents in that school);  
 2. The results are presented omitting the missing (blank) and answers don't know.

Differences in gender shows us an interesting distribution. First of all, in all the cities, we can see more or less equal parts of girls and boys among respondents. Svetlogorsk stands out, with a clear majority of girls (33 % boys and 67% girls). However, this difference is insignificant. Moreover, in Sweden a few respondents identified themselves as a third gender, and even though this percentage is not high it cannot be omitted<sup>1</sup>. The analysis of the different countries and school orientations show that the representation of boys and girls is uneven, for instance among the Klaipeda respondents, where 81 % in the "other orientation" were boys, while in Gusev and Svetlogorsk 100 % in this orientation were girls. But such disproportions cannot be analysed, due to the fact that these groups are not homogeneous. To analyse the differences we also need to know what is behind the word "other".

<sup>1</sup> This answer option was present only in the Swedish survey version.

Table 2.C School orientation and illnesses or disabilities

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
<b>a) What orientation does your secondary school programme have? Health</b>												
<b>b) Do you have any illness or disability which is not temporary and which means that you have difficulty participating in various activities, such as at school, with friends or during your leisure time? (Yes/ No)</b>												
<i>Numbers</i>	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Upper secondary school	16	112	4	33	28	97	7	59				
Vocational	12	49	2	6	8	63	0	0	18	63	5	31
Preparation for higher education									26	237	4	65
Technical school					37	282	5	22				
Other orientation	1	1	0	1					0	7	1	3
Lower secondary school					0	2	7	52				
Profiled upper secondary school					11	30	3	19				
University	0	1	0	3								
<b>Total (%)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>83</b>

Remark 1. The results are presented omitting the missing (blank) and answers don't know.

2. Answers are presented in even numbers.

The comparison of students in terms of illnesses or disabilities show that the vast majority had not had any illness or disability which was not temporary. As we can see in the results from Klaipeda there were 76 % without illness or disability, and only 11 % with (In the other cities the results are similar. The interesting statistical data can be seen in Gusev, where 39 % of respondents did not want to answer the question about illness or disability, which makes it hard to analyse the result.

Table 2.D Statements about school

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
<b>Here are some statements about school. How well do you think they apply to your school? (%)</b>												
	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true
I enjoy the atmosphere in my school	58	37	55	40	75	22	67	31	55	28	85	11
Bullying occurs in my school	14	68	18	73	12	72	21	67	44	43	10	57
Racism occurs in my school	7	74	8	72	73	10	12	67	33	49	14	56
Sexual harassment occurs in my school	5	76	1	82	9	71	3	77	13	66	6	55
My school takes action if a student bullies another student	53	37	67	28	55	25	60	24	59	25	47	20
Students and teachers treat each other with respect in my school	57	34	41	55	69	26	63	32	65	28	82	9
My school takes action if a teacher mistreats a student	43	36	43	26	39	22	37	15	44	34	54	12
Violence occurs in my school	10	68	10	71	59	13	13	63	53	22	9	70
My teachers treat boys and girls equally	56	32	53	41	63	25	70	24	60	28	69	21
I've been informed about what students should be able to influence in school	52	32	49	36	56	28	63	26	35	31	60	22

Table 2.D continues on page 18.

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true	Completely true and largely true	Not true at all Somewhat true
The school staff listen to what the student council says and takes them seriously	38	35	45	32	51	20	50	21	49	24	62	14
The school educational culture is based on strong competition between students	37	33	26	40	26	35	20	53	35	30	25	24
The school educational culture facilitate behaviour that students help each other	47	34	43	43	50	33	55	34	57	24	49	15

Question *Here are some statements about school. How well do you think they apply to your school?* represents the general atmosphere in school and how students experience it. The question consists of 13 statements. For the analyses, the answer “I do not know” was not taken into account, while others were combined together: not true at all and somewhat true; largely true and completely true.

The first statement “I enjoy the atmosphere in my school” show more or less the same results in all the cities. However, in Klaipeda and Svetlogorsk 55 % of respondents enjoy the atmosphere in school completely or say it is largely true. In Svetlogorsk 40 % stated it is not true at all or only somewhat true. While in Emmaboda the biggest majority (85 %) completely or largely enjoy the atmosphere in school.

The Second statement “Bullying occurs in my school” gives different results. From the Table 2.D we can see that the highest percent of students who say that bullying does not occur in their school were from Svetlogorsk (73%) and in Slupsk (72 %). A little bit lower were the results in Gusev (68%) and in Bartoszyce (67%). However, the situation is different in Sweden (57 % of the respondents marked “not true” or “somewhat true”), even though a very small part (10%) marked “completely true and largely true”. From the statistical data we see a threatening situation in Klaipeda, where 44% of

students marked completely true and largely true and only 43% marked “not true” or “somewhat true” about bullying in school. This raises some questions about the bullying situation among the participants in the Klaipeda’s schools. Very similar results can be seen among the answers for the statement about racism, where we again can see Klaipeda as more problematic than the others (33% marked “completely true and largely true” and only 49% marked “not true” or “somewhat true”).

Regarding the statement about sexual harassment at school, we can notice that almost all results are on the same level. However, in Emmaboda only 55% of students marked “not true” or “somewhat true” about this statement. It is worth to mention, that in the Emmaboda results we can see a bigger percentage of students who marked the “I don’t know” answer, as a result other percentages are shown differently compared to the other cities. But again, Klaipeda have the highest percentage (13%) of students who report that sexual harassment occur in their school, which raises some questions about general atmospheres at the Klaipeda schools.

In the next statement the aim was to find out whether the schools take action if a student bully another student. We can see not very promising results, especially, in Gusev, where students (37%) marked “not true” or “somewhat true”. This means that one third of the students think that the school does not take action if a student bully another student. At the same time, in the other cities we cannot see very high level of security among students.

Talking about respectful treatment among students and teachers we see very promising result in Emmaboda, where 82 % of the students marked “true and completely true”. This gives a positive perspective on the situation in Sweden. On the other hand, in Svetlogorsk the situation is the opposite. A majority of the respondents (55%) marked “not true” or “somewhat true”, which means that they think that students and teachers do not treat each other with respect in their school. In Gusev the situation is different, which shows that it is not the true for Russia, but only for Svetlogorsk. Other cities are more or less holding the same level, however these results are also not very promising for neither students nor teachers.

Another statement “My school takes action if a teacher mistreats a student” goes together with the previous assumption. Only in Emmaboda (54%) students stated that the school takes action if a teacher mistreats a student, where in the other cities this percentage is rather low (from 44% in Klaipeda to 37% in Bartoszyce).

The statement about violence (Violence occurs in my school) does not show a good picture of Klaipeda (only 22% of students marked not true and 53% true about the violence at school). While Emmaboda again presents the highest results (70% marked that violence does not occur at school).

Talking about gender equality we can see some small differences at Russian schools, where a slightly higher percentage of the students stated some inequalities at school. In Bartoszyce (70%) and in Emmaboda (69%) of students gives a positive feedback about gender equality at their schools.

The statement about information (I have been informed about what students should be able to influence in school) gives an overview of how students are informed, what information about their “power” they have at school. Apparently, students in Klaipeda have less information (35 %) than students in the other cities. The situation in Russia and Poland are more or less the same, while in Sweden we again see higher results, which gives a positive picture of school situation for students in Emmaboda. The following statement (The school staff listen to what the student council says and takes them seriously) goes as a proof to this. In Emmaboda 62 % agree that the school staff listen to what the student council says and takes them seriously. The situation in Poland is also promising, while in Russia and Lithuania students think that school staff does not really react to students’ needs.

The last two statements “The school educational culture is based on strong competition between students” and “The school educational culture facilitate behaviour that students help each other” show that students in Klaipeda, Slupsk and Emmaboda think that they study in a helpful atmosphere. While in Gusev students (37%) experiences a strong competition between each other.

The results show very interesting perspectives on school atmosphere in the cities. We can see from the results that students in Emmaboda feel as a strong part, having their own opinion at school. At the same time, they feel comfortable, since reports on bullying, sexual harassment, and gender inequality is low in this city. The situation in Russian schools show differences between the two cities, where Svetlogorsk students enjoy the atmosphere at school more than students in Gusev. In Poland, the situation is pretty much the same as in Russia, only in Bartoszyce students give a positive feedback about gender equality at their schools. In Klaipeda, we can see problems with bullying, sexual harassment and racism. Of course, such assumptions should be checked with other schools in other cities.

Two questions “how much do you want to be part of and decide about the following?” and “how much do you feel you as a student are allowed to be a part of and decide when it comes to the following?” shows what the students want to influence. The question consists of 10 statements:

1. What I will be learning
2. How we will work
3. The homework
4. The exams
5. The schedule
6. The food
7. The school’s rules
8. The school’s environment (inside)
9. The school’s environment (outside)
10. The school’s offer of free time activities

The answers were combined into two scale results (Very little/rather little and largely true/ very much).

For a more interesting analysis it is useful to look at both of these tables at the same time. At first glance, we can see the highest results are for the statements “what I will be learning”, “the exams” and “the schedule”. In almost all the cities we can see results (largely true/ very much) higher than 60%. The highest results were in Svetlogorsk (92% largely true/ very much) for “what I will be learning “. While in the second table “are allowed” Svetlogorsk’s students marked the highest 49% of largely true/ very much true. This gives us an assumption that in this city students are allowed less influence than they want to. In general, we can see that students would like to be part of the decision-making process about their learning. At the same time, we can see Svetlogorsk students again wanting to decide how to work (84%) more than students in the other cities, but the analysis of what “are allowed” (71%) gives us an idea that they are also allowed more than in other cities. While in Poland students “are allowed” less (61% in Bartoszyce and 55% in Slupsk marked very little and rather little about the ability to decide how to work).

Table 2.E How much do you want to be part of and decide about the following?

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
How much do you want to be part of and decide about the following?												
	Very little/ rather little	largely true/ very much										
What I will be learning	25	76	8	92	17	83	11	89	29	71	25	75
How we will work, for example group work/project work	30	71	16	84	28	72	22	78	26	74	21	79
The homework	39	60	29	71	31	69	28	72	48	52	21	79
The exams	29	70	15	85	34	66	35	65	36	64	21	79
The schedule	23	67	18	82	21	79	24	76	40	60	29	71
The food	27	73	25	75	45	55	50	50	47	53	32	68
The school's "rules"	36	63	37	63	42	58	47	53	52	48	48	52
The school environment (inside)	44	56	27	73	44	56	53	47	50	50	55	45
The school environment (outside)	54	46	50	50	41	59	47	53	55	45	55	45
The school's offer of free time activities	47	53	38	62	36	64	32	68	51	49	52	48
Average	35.4	63.5	26.3	73.7	33.9	66.1	34.9	65.1	43.4	56.6	35.9	64.1

In the responses about the ability to decide about the homework and exams, students in Svetlogorsk (71% and 85%) and in Emmaboda (79% and 79%) would like to influence more than the other cities. While in Klaipeda these two options are less important (52% and 64%) than in the other cities. Talking about the schedule and the ability to be a part of the decision-making process, the results are higher again in Svetlogorsk (82%), Slupsk (79%) and Bartoszyce (76%). The results also show that students

are less interested in school environment (both inside and outside) and school activities (except for Svetlogorsk, where school environment inside is rather important, 73% marked largely true/ very much). The lowest interest among all the answers is in the outside environment and this is true for all the cities.

In the question “How much do you feel you as a student are allowed to be a part of and decide when it comes to the following?” The results (very little /rather little) are higher for Bartoszyce then for the others. While in Svetlogorsk the results are much more promising, varying from 41% (largely true/very much true that students are allowed to be part of and decide about schedule) and 75% (largely true/very much true that students are allowed to be part of and decide about the school’s offer of free time activities). However, we cannot find any tendencies among countries, since cities of the same country do not have similar results and are different in single answers.

Table 2.F How much do you feel you as a student are allowed to be a part of and decide when it comes to the following?

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
	Very little/ rather little	largely true/ very much										
<b>How much do you feel you as a student are allowed to be a part of and decide when it comes to the following?</b>												
What I will be learning	60	40	51	49	64	36	65	35	52	48	54	46
How we will work, for example group work/project work	40	60	29	71	55	45	61	39	53	47	43	57
The homework	60	40	49	51	38	62	77	23	52	48	58	42
The exams	55	45	40	60	72	28	77	23	47	53	56	44
The schedule	60	40	59	41	70	30	82	18	53	47	68	32
The food	54	46	44	56	70	30	85	15	58	42	77	23
The school’s “rules”	60	40	47	53	72	28	84	16	55	45	75	25
The school environment (inside)	53	47	31	69	62	38	81	19	55	45	65	35
The school environment (outside)	53	47	31	69	61	39	80	20	60	40	72	28
The school’s offer of free time activities	48	52	25	75	63	37	87	13	59	41	72	28
Average	54.3	45.7	40.6	59.4	62.7	37.3	77.9	22.1	54.4	45.6	64	36

All in all, described tendencies show some confusing situations. Moreover, it is impossible to draw a parallel among cities of the same country, and as a result the tendencies are unitary of each city, but not the country in general. In general, Emmaboda shows much more promising results about the situation at school, but at the same time we can see that the average percentage of students' attitude about being part of decision making in school is not very high. The situation in Klaipeda is more frightening, on the one hand we can see that the schools educational culture encourage that students help each other, but on the same time students mark that bullying, racism and sexual harassment occur at school.

### 3. Leisure time

Questions on leisure time activities and practices covers perceptions of leisure time and the range of activities offered in the municipality. By “leisure time” we mean time outside of schoolwork or work. The research team wanted to know how much spare time youth feel that they have, what they are doing during their leisure time and what they want to get out of it.

#### Attitudes towards spending leisure time

The first survey question explored the problems the young people have with their leisure time. In table 3.A, we list the results which gained “partly and completely true” answers.

*Table 3.A Attitudes towards leisure time spending of youth in 4 countries based on CaSYPoT survey 2017 in % (partly and completely true answers)*

<i>How well do these statements describe you?</i>	<b>Gusev</b>	<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	<b>Ślupsk</b>	<b>Bartoszyce</b>	<b>Klaipeda</b>	<b>Emmaboda</b>
There are things to do but nothing that interests me	52	60	45	41	71	69
There are things to do but my family tells me I cannot participate	26	16	20	14	24	8
There are things to do but I cannot get there	46	57	50	40	62	38
There are things to do but it costs too much	51	67	56	49	73	38

A significant percentage of youth in all municipalities indicated that the offered leisure time activities could not attract their interests. The highest percentages of such attitudes were expressed by youth in Klaipeda and Emmaboda, the lowest in Polish cities and Russian towns being in the middle. It is difficult to see any pattern other than cultural differences. Furthermore, the majority of parents (minimum 74%) allowed their kids to decide themselves on which activities to engage in. Least restricted by the parents are youth in Emmaboda, Bartoszyce and Svetlogorsk. The highest percentages of students being restricted by parents existed in Gusev and Klaipeda. The biggest concerns in accessing attractive free time activities were expressed by youth in Klaipeda and Svetlogorsk, and the lowest in Emmaboda. Another barrier for engaging in leisure time activities which was investigated in the survey was lack of financial means. 73 percent of the youth in Klaipeda agreed that there are things to do but it costs too much. This is rather high, compared to 38 percent of Emmaboda youth. Finally, the cost barrier for participating in leisure time activities was the lowest in Emmaboda.

#### Youth activities in leisure time

The respondents were asked about their engagement in a set of specific activities. They were proposed sixteen different types of leisure time activities (including “the other”) and were asked to indicate the frequency of participating in the given activities. Those activities relate to activities outside school or work. We have divided leisure time activities into three groups:

*Electronic and life entertainment*

*Electronic entertainment* – using virtual electronic to communicate with others, to explore resources of the Internet and play video or computer games. This entertainment is a computer or e-media related activity.

*Life entertainment* – personal interaction with peers or engaging in cultural activity in real life, for example, attending parties, concerts, youth centres, take photos or make films, draw/paint, write, sew or similar hobbies.

*Healthy life activities* – exposure to physical activities and nature. Such activities included: sports and exercising, going out to the nature and going to see games or other sporting events.

*Personal culture formation* – activities in the fields of art, literature, theatre, history, cultural heritage and spirituality. This category also contained the element “other”, which typically indicated different activities not mentioned in the listing but they were related mostly to the “broad culture”.

*Table 3.B Electronic and life entertainment leisure time activities of the youth in selected municipalities of Poland, Lithuania, Russia and Sweden 2017, in % (once per week or more often)*

Type of activity	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Słupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
<i>Electronic entertainment</i>	Frequent users in %					
Use social media	91	96	77	89	86	94
Play video games, online games or computer games	57	51	59	68	55	44
<i>Life entertainment</i>	Frequent users in %					
Party	21	15	38	32	18	21
Take photos or make films, draw/paint, write, sew or similar	41	49	29	33	40	20
Go to concerts	10	4	7	5	8	1
Go to a youth centre, leisure centre or similar	25	27	17	14	16	4

We listed electronic and life entertainment activities in one table on purpose. We supposed that electronic entertainment activities substitute the real personal contacts, but such a hypothesis could be proved only in relation to Słupsk which had the highest “partying” rate and the lowest social media frequent users rate. The highest use of social media is observed in the small cities. The students in small cities might substitute a scarcity of personal contacts by electronic contacts, but this is only speculation. Video and computer games were the most popular in Polish municipalities, with Bartoszyce students being the most active in this area. In Emmaboda electronic games are slightly less popular than in the remaining municipalities.

The analysis of life entertainment activities indicates that there is a significant difference between Polish students and students from the remaining municipalities in attending parties. Parties in Poland are called “impieza” and are meetings for fun, not always including alcohol. Numerous parents support the youth by providing night car rides back home if it is necessary. Individual hobbies were classified by us to life entertainment because they create the valuable platforms for communication among young people (based on interests) and are part of their self-realization. Individual hobbies were most popular among Russian and Lithuanian students, with popularity among Polish students on the middle level and the lowest level in Emmaboda.

How often the youth go to concerts or other culture events is, of course, related to the supply of such events. The frequency of cultural events is probably higher in larger cities and the attendance frequency should then correlate with this. This might be a probable explanation of the results except for Gusev where the youth go to concerts, theatre and the library more frequently than in the other municipalities.

Going to a youth centre, leisure centre or similar is probably dependent on the availability of such centres. The highest proportions of youth who regularly visit such centres was found in the Russian cities. Lithuanian and Polish proportions of frequent participants were on the medium level and Emmaboda with very low attendance, only 4% attending the youth centres.

Summing up: in Russian cities life entertainment activities are framed more in the organized forms (e.g. youth centres); in Polish cities the youth entertainment activities seemed to be more balanced with the high role of personal contacts among people (e.g. parties organized by the young people). The pattern in Lithuania resembles Russian cities and the stress on individual hobbies development is visible. In Emmaboda all life entertainment activities had the lowest percentages compared to the other municipalities.

Another aspect of leisure time activities is related to sport.

*Table 3.C Healthy life leisure time activities of the youth in selected municipalities of Poland, Lithuania, Russia and Sweden 2017, in % (once per week or more often)*

Type of activity	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Słupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Exercise/do sports	69	75	84	81	78	60
Go out into nature	82	91	71	33	68	59
Go to see games or other sporting events	34	29	24	14	14	16

This type of activity included three types of activities (exercise/do sports, go out into nature, go to see games or other sporting events). In all cities most students declare that they do sport a minimum of once a week or more often. The highest percentage was recorded in Słupsk (84%) and Bartoszyce

(81%). Klaipeda (78%) and Svetlogorsk (75%) were not much below. The lowest number of youth who exercise or do sports are in Gusev (69%) and Emmaboda (60%).

Major differences were discovered in relation to the 'Go out into nature' category. This type of activity is mentioned most often by students in Russia (Svetlogorsk, 91%). Emmaboda youth report a much lower percentage of respondents who have frequent contacts with nature, 59 %. Additionally, there are big differences between answers in Poland. In Słupsk 71% of the respondents declared such activities, while only 33% in Bartoszyce (a town much smaller than Słupsk).

The least popular sport-related activity is watching live sport events. Such activities were most common in Russian municipalities (Gusev – 34%, Svetlogorsk – 29%). In Poland, there are considerable differences between the two cities again. In Słupsk ¼ of students attended matches at last once a week, while the same was true for only 14% of the respondents in Bartoszyce. Responses similar to that from Bartoszyce came from young people from Klaipeda and Emmaboda.

Activities related to the broadly understood culture are a comparatively diversified area of activity for young people, although numerous similarities are noticeable.

*Table 3.D Personal culture formation activities of the youth in selected municipalities of Poland, Lithuania, Russia and Sweden 2017, in % (once per week or more often)*

Type of activity	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Słupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Read books, newspapers, articles, blogs or similar	60	85	59	66	57	49
Visit the library	23	7	15	13	13	4
Act, play music or dance	25	49	30	28	34	18
Go to theatres, musicals or dance performances	9	1	3	3	7	1
Go to museums or exhibitions	7	5	4	2	5	2
Go to church or other religious organisation	14	8	41	38	12	4
Other	42	48	53	58	43	44

In all countries, the most popular activity is 'read books, newspapers, articles, blogs, or similar'. Swedish youth, however, showed indications slightly below 50% (declarations of doing this activity less than once a week). The highest percentage at 85% was recorded in Svetlogorsk. Other cities had very similar levels of responses (between 59% and 66%).

In most of the analysed countries, the second most popular activity in this category is 'act, play music, or dance'. Again, this type of activity is undertaken most often by young people from Svetlogorsk (49%). Responses from students from Poland, Lithuania, and Russian Gusev were quite similar (between 25% and 34%). Relatively infrequent declarations of 'acting, playing music or dancing'

come from youth in Emmaboda (18%). Nevertheless, this activity ranks second in the cultural category in that city.

With respect to both Polish cities, youth declare that they go to church at least once a week, more often than 'act, play music, or dance'. This is related to the fact that about 40% of Polish youth attend a church service once a week. Other countries feature much lower frequency in church-going: Gusev – 14%. Klaipeda – 12%, Svetlogorsk – 8%. Almost 10 times fewer young people than in Poland go to church once a week in Emmaboda (4%). Attending the Sunday mass at church is the only phenomenon that so significantly distinguish Polish youth from youth of Russia, Lithuania and Sweden. The difference in party attendance in favour of Polish youth (observed above) was not as high as the difference in going to church. Despite that difference, a majority of the Polish youth attend church less than once a week or do not attend at all, which seems to be an indication of certain level of secularization.

In almost every activity it turns out that young Swedes were least frequent participants. The youth in Emmaboda might have less free time than youth in the other cities. This concerned, among other things, visits to the library. In this category, libraries were most popular among students from Gusev (23%). The declarations of the young people from Svetlogorsk were quite different (7%). In the Polish cities responses were similar (Słupsk – 15%, Bartoszyce – 13%). The same percentage of young people as in Bartoszyce use libraries in Klaipeda. In Swedish Emmaboda only 4% of the respondents used libraries at least once a week.

Very few young people go to theatres, musicals or dance performances. In this category again, the young people in Gusev is most active (9%). A slightly lower percentage was recorded among students in Klaipeda (7%). In Poland, regardless of the size of the city, the percentage of responses was the same (3%). Only 1% of young people from Svetlogorsk and Emmaboda declare going to theatres, musicals or dance performances at least once a week. A similarly low proportion is going to museums and exhibitions (from 2% in Emmaboda to 7% in Gusev).

The next analysed issue concerned places of meeting up with friends (See Table 3.E).

The responses to this set of questions were quite similar cross-nationally. Other than in Svetlogorsk, in each of the other places young people usually meet at each other's homes. This response was given most often by students from Sweden (81%). In Poland, the same answer was given by 74% (Bartoszyce) and 72% (Słupsk) of the respondents. In Klaipeda, 54% students chose this answer. In Gusev 52% of the young people selected homes as the place of meeting their friends, and in Svetlogorsk – 59%. In the latter place, young people meet more often outside (65%). Even higher percentage of such responses was given by young people from Bartoszyce (74%). Regarding "meeting outdoors", Klaipeda stands out with only 14% of young people giving this answer. In this Lithuanian city young people meet most often in stores and shopping malls in the city centre (this response may refer also to meeting outside), in sport facilities, and in cafés.

Table 3.E Places where the youth meets friends

Place where the most free time is spent – selection of 3 options only (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Słupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
At each other's homes	52	59	72	74	54	81
Outside	50	65	64	74	14	38
On social media on the Internet	38	21	29	28	25	45
In a mall or shopping centre	9	17	22	6	23	6
In the city centre/downtown	40	64	18	22	52	17
At a sports hall or other location connected with sports	22	13	17	18	23	21
At a restaurant, pub, bar or similar	5	7	15	24	16	14
Club or disco	7	11	11	5	5	2
Somewhere else	12	0	8	11	16	16
At a coffee shop	23	21	10	3	42	14
At a local association club	6	3	3	2	2	1
Church	1	3	3	1	3	1
At a youth centre, leisure centre or similar	6	0	2	2	4	6

Cafés are the most common meeting place for young people in Lithuania (42%). They enjoy quite high popularity also in Russia (Gusev 23%, Svetlogorsk 21%). In Emmaboda 14% students meet their friends in cafes. Such places are least popular in Poland (Słupsk 10%, Bartoszyce 3%). On the other hand, restaurants and pubs were most popular among Polish young people (Bartoszyce 24%, Słupsk 15%). A similar level of responses for such locations was recorded in Klaipeda and Emmaboda. Relatively few Russian students meet their friends in restaurants and pubs.

In all the analysed cities churches have low popularity as sites of meetings (1-3%). This may come as a surprise in Poland, where many young people go to church at least once a week. This is probably related to the fact that going to church does not take place in a group of friends but rather forms a family ritual. Another unpopular place for meeting is classified as the categories 'youth centre, leisure centre or similar' and 'local association club'.

To indicate which places are most popular as the space for meeting, the following table was prepared, which indicates 3 most common locations in each of the cities.

Table 3.F Most popular places for spending free time

Place where the most free time is spent – 3 most popular options (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Ślupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
1.	At each other's homes	Outside	At each other's homes	At each other's homes	At each other's homes	At each other's homes
2.	Outside	In the city centre/downtown	Outside	Outside	In the city centre/downtown	On social media on the Internet
3.	On social media on the Internet	At each other's homes	On social media on the Internet	On social media on the Internet	At a coffee shop	Outside

As mentioned above, major differences in responses can be seen. Svetlogorsk detectable by the fact that meetings at home are on the third place only. In Klaipeda the high level of responses was attributed to cafés. In Emmaboda social media on the Internet (45%) were indicated as the second most common meeting place.

### Subjective opinion on the shortage of recreational opportunities in the surveyed municipalities

The surveyed youth were asked to indicate whether they feel a shortage of recreational activities in their cities. The survey results are presented in the table below.

Table 3.G Subjective feeling of the shortage of recreational opportunities in the living places of the youth in 4 countries

Answer (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Ślupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Yes	45	55	58	59	47	37
No	29	25	28	20	33	27
I do not know	25	20	14	21	20	36

The results of subjective opinions on the shortage of recreational opportunities is presented in table 3.G. It may look surprising but the highest shortage rate is observed in the two Polish cities and Svetlogorsk.

The experienced lack of activities in the Polish cities might be an explanation to their high frequency of "partying". They organize activities themselves since they do not find organized ones. The youth in Svetlogorsk do not party as much, but they also engage in activities that don't need organizational initiatives (e.g. act, play music or dance, Take photos or make films, draw/paint, write, sew or similar, read, and spend time in the nature).

Klaipeda and Gusev represent similar pattern with the middle level of the scarcity feeling. Emmaboda response pattern is absolutely different from the two discussed before. Emmaboda response pattern shows the lowest scarcity level and the highest uncertainty level (I do not know).

### Association of the youth in organizations

The young people were also asked whether they belong to any type of associations or non-governmental organizations (NGO). NGO are perceived in the democratic society as the gateway to societal functions which require more responsibility.

Table 3.H Declarations on membership of the youth in associations

Answer (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Słupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Yes	37	47	37	38	28	46
No	63	53	63	62	72	54

A majority of the respondents in all countries are not members of any organization. 63% of respondents in Słupsk and 62% of respondents in Bartoszyce gave the answer “No”. The same result as in Słupsk, 63%, was obtained in Gusev. Lower results were obtained in Svetlogorsk where 53% of the respondents stated that they were not members of any organization. 54% of respondents in Emmaboda also gave the same answer. In turn, a higher result was obtained in Klaipėda where 72% of the respondents declared that they do not belong to any organization. Such answers show that young people work in organizations to a small extent. 47% of respondents in Svetlogorsk and 46% in Emmaboda declare that they are members of an organization. A significantly lower percentage of respondents gave the answer “Yes” in Bartoszyce, 38%. In turn, 37% of the respondents in Gusev and Słupsk responded “Yes”. The lowest result was obtained in Klaipėda where 28% of respondents declared so.

## 4. Political interest

The survey also covered issues of civic participation. Political and social engagement and participation have been studied in relation to how *interested* the respondents are in questions concerning politics. The questions covered general interests (politics and social issues in general) as well as more specific interests (local issues and what is happening in other countries). The respondents also answered questions about concrete *actions* in relation to political issues. These questions covered general activities (demonstrations/discussions) and specific activities (contacted politicians or written petitions).

The political interest is quite similar cross-nationally, although there seems to be two categories when it comes to political interest. The two Russian cities, Gusev and Svetlogorsk, and Emmaboda shows more political interest than the others. Emmaboda stands out when it comes to interest in “what is going on in other countries”. When it comes to political activity both Klaipeda and Emmaboda stand out. Klaipeda has more political activity than the others and Emmaboda is conspicuously low. The willingness to participate is on the other hand higher in Emmaboda than the other municipalities, except for Svetlogorsk, where both interest and activity are high<sup>2</sup>.

There are differences, but they are not consistent and hard to analyse. The Russian cities are interested as well as active. The Polish cities are less interested than the Russian and not very active. Klaipeda is also less interested than the Russian cities but more active, for instance in contacting politicians, than all the others. The youth in Emmaboda is interested and willing to participate but the activity does not correspond with this at all.

Table 4.A Political interest

Rather interested/very interested in...	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Politics	41	41	28	33	33	36
Social matters in general	54	66	45	50	51	49
What is going on in other countries	24	34	16	19	23	53
Local issues	57	63	50	47	45	42

<sup>2</sup> The latter can be explained by the fact that the respondents were active in a youth organisation related to politics.

Table 4.B Political activities

Yes/No, but I could imagine myself doing it (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Contacted a politician	29	40	33	26	50	18
Written a proposal to the municipality's politicians	35	21	23	19	34	10
Taken part in a demonstration	35	36	30	21	33	10
Discussed social matters/politics on forums or blogs on the internet	36	41	40	33	47	10
Liked/shared posts on social matters/politics on the internet	45	57	42	40	38	24

Table 4.C Decision making

Do you want to be a part of and make decisions on questions that concerns your municipality (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
No	54	23	64	53	53	43
Yes	46	77	36	48	47	57

## Discussion

We could assume that a political interest would correlate with a willingness to participate in social change and a political activity, but this does not seem true at all. The opposite is, however, not true either. The Polish cities are, for instance, not very active in terms of politics but, the Russian cities apart, they are not less interested. The youth in Emmaboda is very interested, but shows a low grade of political activity. A high interest combined with a low activity could be explained by relatively extensive problems and low trust in officials (see the chapter on Trust). There are many things that should be done, but no real meaning since the officials can't be trusted. This could be the case in Poland, even if the political interest is not specifically high. It might also explain Klaipeda, where the crime rate is higher than the others and trust in the officials and thus the political activity is higher as well. It does not however explain Emmaboda at all.

To illustrate the difficulty of interpreting the results it's worth comparing the Polish cities, Bartoszyce and Slupsk. The overall interest is slightly higher in Bartoszyce than in Slupsk, but this seems to contradict the numbers on activity where Slupsk is clearly more active. One could think that activity is reflected in the willingness to participate, but this is clearly not the case since the Slupsk youth is the least willing at all. What this tells us about the youth's relation to politics is really hard to say. To understand the results, we would probably have to look closer at the local contexts. Contacting a

politician could, hypothetically, be an assignment in school, which would bring the numbers up without affecting the actual interest. There are also traditional aspects of this. Taking part in a demonstration could be embedded in the local culture, but this is just an example and should not even be seen as speculation. Furthermore, *interest* is really hard to measure. What "very interesting" means might not be the same in the different contexts.

## 5. Work

Work experience and work habits have been covered in the survey through questions about work, how much they work and what kind of work they do.

### Holding jobs by youth

The first question was whether respondents had a job at the time of the survey.

Table 5.A Work of youth

Do you have a job at the moment?	Percentages of respondents (%)	
	Yes	No
<b>Gusev</b>	12	88
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	50	50
<b>Słupsk</b>	25	75
<b>Bartoszyce</b>	8	92
<b>Klaipėda</b>	16	84
<b>Emmaboda</b>	50	50

A majority of youth in the study did not have any work. This result was particularly apparent in Bartoszyce (92%), and in Gusev (88%). In turn, 84% of respondents in Klaipėda and 75% of respondents in Słupsk did not have work. On the other hand, according to the empirical data, 50% of respondents from Emmaboda and 50% of respondents from Svetlogorsk had work. In our opinion data for Emmaboda and for Svetlogorsk can be explained by different reasons. In Emmaboda 50% may mean 50% of the young people having constant job (regardless of season). In Svetlogorsk where the survey was carried out in June and July there was a high tourist season and those 50% of youth declaring having the job at the moment reflected most probably the seasonal jobs during vacation time. This was indirectly confirmed by the results from Gusev (whose youth was surveyed in earlier months) where the job occupancy rate was only 12%. So the high job occupancy rate for youth in Svetlogorsk might be unique for the Kaliningrad region and not characteristic for the region. The lowest number of respondents had work in Bartoszyce, 8% of respondents, and in Gusev, 12% of respondents, whereas 16% of respondents in Klaipėda responded “Yes”. In turn, 25% of the respondents from Słupsk declared that they had work. This indicates that young people focus mainly on school work, with possible exceptions in Emmaboda.

### Causes of not having of extra jobs by youth

The next question was about the reasons why young people did not have any additional work (question: *Why do you not have an extra job?*). The question was asked only to those students who declared they had no job.

Table 5.B Reasons for not having extra jobs

Why do you not have an extra job?	Percentages of respondents				
		I do not want to	I do not have time for a job	I haven't been able to find a job/no job offers	Other
	<b>Gusev</b>	15	28	35	15
	<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	19	22	48	11
	<b>Słupsk</b>	17	38	26	14
	<b>Bartoszyce</b>	20	34	29	15
	<b>Klaipėda</b>	14	40	28	14
	<b>Emmaboda</b>	23	43	23	10

Young people who participated in the study declared that they did not have extra work because they did not have time for it. 43% of respondents from Emmaboda and 40% of respondents from Klaipėda responded so. Lower results were obtained in Słupsk (38% of respondents) and in Bartoszyce (34% of respondents). In turn, even lower numbers were obtained in Gusev (28% of respondents) and in Svetlogorsk (22% of respondents). According to the respondents, another reason for the lack of extra work was that they did not find work or did not receive an interesting offer. The majority of respondents who gave this reason included respondents in Svetlogorsk, 48% of respondents, and in Gusev, 35% of respondents. Fewer respondents chose this option in Bartoszyce, 29%, in Klaipėda, 28%, in Słupsk, 26%, and in Emmaboda, 23% of respondents. According to the survey, some respondents do not want extra work. 23% of respondents from Emmaboda, 20% of respondents from Bartoszyce and 19% of respondents from Svetlogorsk responded so. Lower results were obtained in Słupsk (17% of respondents), Gusev (15% of respondents) and Klaipėda (14% of respondents).

We also looked at descriptive reasons for not having a job. The most moving were responses from Gusev: *'I am only 14, how can you imagine that a small boy should work?' or 'I am only a teenager I must learn at school not work'*. It seems that most of those students felt themselves as responsible children not young adults building the career. It also indicates that children want to have their childhood with typical leisure time activities and not to hold a job. This voice from Russia was also present in descriptive answers in the other countries but not so often.

### Running one's own business in the future

Students who responded to the questionnaire were also asked if they imagined running their own business in the future (*Could you imagine starting your own business in the future?*). Their responses are presented in the following table.

Table 5.C The vision of running one's own business

Could you imagine starting your own business in the future?	Percentages of respondents (%)				Do not know
	I have already started a company	Yes	No		
	<b>Gusev</b>	4	47	21	28
	<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	2	67	16	15
	<b>Slupsk</b>	3	65	9	23
	<b>Bartoszyce</b>	0	65	12	23
	<b>Klaipeda</b>	5	66	12	17
	<b>Emmaboda</b>	3	48	18	31

Young people in the selected countries declared that they can imagine to start up their own business although this answer was less frequent in Gusev and Emmaboda. Up to 5 % declared that they already have their own company, however, in Bartoszyce none of the respondents do. The answer "I do not know" was most often given by respondents in Emmaboda (31% of respondents) and in Gusev (28% of the respondents).

## 6. Health

The questions in the survey about health and well-being concern self-reported (subjective) somatic and psychosomatic health, health-related behaviour such as physical exercise and use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

### Self-reported health

The first question posed in the health section of the survey asks about the respondents' assessment of their general health and well-being over the last six months. The results from all municipalities indicate consistently relatively high levels of self-reported health where a majority of the youth report "rather good" or "very good" health. There is however some small variation between the municipalities. In Gusev and Klaipeda 57 percent of the respondents report good or very good health, which are the lowest in the study. To compare with the Emmaboda youth who report the highest assessments of general health (70 percent). There is also larger cross-national variation in the percentage of respondents who assess their health to be "rather poor", from only 2 percent in Svetlogorsk to 11 percent in Emmaboda. However, there are similar responses cross-nationally where very a small share of the respondents reports very poor health. Ranging from only 3 percent in Emmaboda to 5 percent in Klaipeda and Bartoszyce.

*Table 6.A How do you assess your health over the last six months?*

How do you assess your health over the last six months? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Very poor	4	4	4	5	5	3
Rather poor	9	2	10	7	10	11
Neither good nor poor	31	28	18	19	28	17
Rather good	31	39	41	32	35	47
Very good	26	28	27	36	22	23

All in all, a majority of the youth in the surveys report good general health, which is a positive result. The two Municipalities that stand out in this regard are Gusev and Klaipeda, where a much lower percentage (10-13 percentage points lower than the other municipalities) of the youth report rather good or very good health. The possible causes and consequences of this should be discussed and analysed in respective municipality.

The youth participating in the survey were also asked to answer questions on nine self-reported somatic and psychosomatic problems. Somatic problems include headache, stomach ache, back ache and dizziness. Psychosomatic problems include feeling down, feeling irritated or annoyed, feeling nervous and having trouble sleeping. Presented in the table below are the percentage of youth who report experiencing these problems frequently, i.e. once a week or more often.

The most common problems experienced by the youth in the different municipalities varies. In Slupsk, Bartoszyce and Klaipeda “feeling nervous” is the most common problem (58 percent, 56 percent and 60 percent respectively). In Gusev and Svetlogorsk “feeling down” is the most common problem reported by the youth (69 percent and 75 percent). In Emmaboda and Klaipeda the most common problem is “feeling irritated and annoyed” (52 percent and 60 percent). Klaipeda is also the municipality where the youth consistently (with the exception of “feeling down”) report experiences of all problems more frequently. Emmaboda is the municipality where the youth, with a couple of exceptions, report less health-related problems.

Table 6.B Health-related problems

Once per week or more often? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Headache	39	22	35	33	40	28
Stomach ache	27	21	22	19	29	28
Back ache	28	28	32	26	32	18
Felt down	<b>69</b>	<b>75</b>	36	31	38	34
Difficulty falling asleep	33	49	36	37	42	37
Sleeping badly	-	29	29	27	40	32
Felt dizzy	27	18	26	22	34	21
Felt irritated or annoyed	47	50	43	46	<b>60</b>	<b>52</b>
Felt nervous	49	51	<b>58</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>60</b>	31

### Gender differences in self-reported health

In many reports and studies on youth there is a gender difference in the experienced frequency of different somatic and psychosomatic problems. This is an aspect which needs to be investigated also in relation to the CaSYPoT-survey results. In the table below the results are divided not only into different municipalities but also according to gender (girl/boy – the option “other” in the Swedish survey is not included in the presentation).

The gender difference in relation to self-reported health problems is also noteworthy in the CaSYPoT-surveys – in all municipalities. The general pattern is that girls report more frequent problems than boys when it comes to somatic as well as psychosomatic problems. And the gap between girls and boys is often quite big. Headaches are, for example twice as common among girls compared to boys in Gusev (54 and 22 percent), Slupsk (50 and 20 percent) and Bartoszyce (48 and 17 percent). Stomach aches are twice as common for girls in Svetlogorsk (33 and 0 percent), Slupsk (33 and 12 percent), Bartoszyce (30 and 8 percent), Klaipeda (40 and 21 percent) and Emmaboda (38 and 14 percent). And in Gusev, Svetlogorsk, Slupsk and Bartoszyce girls are twice as likely to experience dizziness.

There is also some notable variation between countries, where youth seem to report different problems to different extent. In Gusev and Svetlogorsk the youth reported “feeling down” frequently. When this result is analysed from a gender dimension some interesting results are highlighted. In Gusev the gender gap is present, and quite large. 81 percent of the girls report “feeling down” and 56 percent of the boys. In Svetlogorsk, however, the gender gap is absent. 72 percent of boys and girls report feeling down. This pattern is repeated in the Svetlogorsk survey when it comes to “feeling irritated or annoyed” where 50 percent of girls and boys give this response.

Table 6.C Gender differences in self-reported health

Once per week or more often? (%)	Gusev		Svetlogorsk		Slupsk		Bartoszyce		Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
Headache	54	22	36	22	50	20	48	17	52	31	33	20
Stomach ache	35	28	33	0	33	12	30	8	40	21	38	14
Back ache	30	30	33	22	40	23	35	20	34	30	24	12
Felt down	81	56	72	72	48	24	42	19	45	31	40	26
Difficulty falling asleep	36	28	53	44	43	29	45	29	55	31	37	37
Sleeping badly	-	-	30	22	38	21	34	21	48	31	36	29
Dizzy	39	15	22	11	37	15	33	12	43	24	36	29
Irritated/ annoyed	55	39	50	50	56	31	57	33	71	50	57	43
Nervous	56	39	56	39	69	47	67	45	74	46	28	22

The most important conclusion from this analysis is that girls, in all municipalities, report more health-related problems compared to boys. This means that there is a consistent gender difference in self-reported health among the youth which needs to be addressed. However, looking at the results comparatively, from a cross-national perspective, the conclusions are much more varied and uncertain. It is not possible to point to one or two problems that need to be addressed in all municipalities. Rather, the analysis of the results and the possible causes and consequences must continue on the local level in the municipalities.

### Health-related behaviour

The second set of questions is related to health-related behaviour such as physical exercise and the use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. The one question about what can be interpreted as “health-promoting behaviour” in the survey is: How often do you exercise hard enough to cause heavy breathing or perspiration? (inside and outside of school). The cross-national analysis of this question yields some interesting findings. There seems to be two broad groups in the study. The first group is countries where the youth report *not* engaging in physical exercise to a large extent. This group consists of Gusev, Svetlogorsk and Klaipeda. In Gusev and Svetlogorsk only about one third of the youth exercise at least once a week. In Klaipeda the number is 45 percent. The second group is

Slupsk, Bartoszyce and Emmaboda where a vast majority of the respondents say they exercise at least once a week. In Slupsk the number is 77 percent, which is the highest. In Bartoszyce 73 percent of the youth exercise at least once a week and in Emmaboda the number is 74 percent. Half of the respondents in Gusev and Svetlogorsk report that they “seldom or never” exercise. In Klaipeda, the corresponding number is 37 percent. In comparison, these numbers are rather high as the percentage for the remaining municipalities fall between 9-12 percent. It is not clear how these differences should be interpreted. One idea is perhaps related to the educational system and compulsory subjects, which is indicated in the Polish report (p. 8). In Poland as well as in Sweden physical education is part of the compulsory syllabus in upper secondary school. What is the status of physical education in Russia and Lithuania?

Table 6.D Physical exercise

Physical exercise? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Seldom or never	50	49	9	11	37	12
Once or a few times per month	14	19	14	16	18	13
Once per week	16	9	26	18	18	24
Several times per week	9	18	41	45	17	39
Almost every day	11	5	10	10	10	11

The final questions in the health-section of the survey concerns the use of different substances such as tobacco, alcohol and drugs. The option “do not want to answer” is not presented in the tables below, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100 percent.

There is some variation between different national contexts that are worth presenting but also some general trends. The use of tobacco; smoking cigarettes, e-cigarettes and using snuff (only in the Swedish survey) is not widespread among a majority of the youth in any of the municipalities. Between 64 (Klaipeda) and 81 (Svetlogorsk) percent of the youth seldom or never smoke. The percentage of youth who smoke on a day-to-day basis range between 8 (in Emmaboda) and 15 percent (in Klaipeda), and the use of e-cigarettes and snuff is even lower.

Table 6.E How often do you smoke cigarettes?

How often do you smoke cigarettes? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Seldom or never	71	81	67	72	64	70
Once or a few times a month	4	2	9	5	9	11
Once per week	3	2	4	1	3	4
Several times per week	2	3	4	3	3	3
Every day	12	10	11	12	15	8

The analysis of the questions on use of alcohol on the other hand yields some divergent trends. The general tendency seems to be that Emmaboda municipality deviates from the other cases concerning consumption of alcohol. A larger percentage of Emmaboda youth consumes beer/cider/alcopops/wine once or a few times a month or more. The figure for Emmaboda is 42 percent and for the other municipalities the rate ranges between 9 and 26 percent. The results concerning consumption of spirits is even more striking. On this question 37 percent of the Emmaboda youth say that they drink spirits once or a few times a month, which is more than twice as high percentage as the results for any of the other municipalities.

Table 6.F How often do you drink beer or cider/alcopops or wine?

How often do you drink beer or cider/alcopops or wine? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Seldom or never	74/70	86/68	40/51	52/67	57/63	36*
Once or a few times a month	15/18	9/23	26/25	25/22	24/18	42*
Once per week	2/1	-	14/10	13/5	5/7	14*
Several times per week	2/2	1/3	8/4	3/2	4/2	3*
Every day	1/1	-	5/4	1/1	5/4	2*

\*In the Swedish survey the use of different forms of alcohol (strong beer, cider, alcopops and wine) was asked as one question therefor only one figure is presented here.

Table 6.G How often do you drink spirits?

How often do you drink spirits? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Seldom or never	79	86	63	73	67	47
Once or a few times a month	10	10	15	15	15	37
Once per week	3	-	7	4	3	9
Several times per week	0	2	3	2	3	2
Every day	1	-	4	1	5	2

A follow-up question to the consumption of different types of alcoholic beverages asked how often the youth drink enough alcohol to feel drunk. Emmaboda is again showing very different results compared to the other municipalities. Just 1 percent of the youth report that they do not drink alcohol at all. In Gusev and Svetlogorsk a much higher percentage of youth say that they do not drink alcohol, 24 and 19 percent. However, one aspect that may be important for not over exaggerating the results, at least in the case of Emmaboda, is the age of the respondents. Half of the respondents to the Swedish survey are born in 1999 which makes them 18 years old in 2017. In Sweden, the legal drinking age is 18, which may at least partly explain the high numbers.

Table 6.H How often do you drink enough alcohol to feel drunk?

How often do you drink enough alcohol to feel drunk? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
I do not drink alcohol	24	19	8	10	9	1
Seldom or never	39	56	42	52	39	36
Once or a few times a month	27	25	30	27	28	51
Once per week	4	0	10	12	11	10
Several times per week	6	0	9	0	13	1

Finally, the survey asked about the use of illegal substances. One interesting result of the analysis is that Emmaboda has the second lowest percentage of youth who have tried drugs or use them more regularly, 8 percent. Only Svetlogorsk is lower (2 percent). Klaipeda and Slupsk are at the other end of the spectrum with 23 percent respectively of youth who have tried drugs or use them more regularly. There is also large variation between municipalities in the same country. In Slupsk 23 percent have used drugs compared to 14 percent in Bartoszyce. And the difference between Gusev (10 percent) and Svetlogorsk (2 percent) is also notable.

Table 6.I Have you ever used drugs?

Have you ever used drugs? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Yes*	10	2	23	14	23	8
No	84	96	68	80	71	85

The values "yes, often", "yes, sometimes" and "yes, once" are merged into one category.

## 7. Trust and Safety

The theme in the survey on trust and safety addresses questions about the young persons' trust in adults close to them, such as parents, relatives and teachers, and "general" adults, such as neighbours, police, priests and politicians. Furthermore, questions on experiences of being exposed to crime, and feelings of safety in different contexts are also part of this theme.

There is an interesting variation between the municipalities in terms of the trust youth have in adults. Presented in the table below are the percentage of youth who report "rather a lot of trust" and "a lot of trust". The only categories without interesting differences are "Parents" and "Adult relatives", where youth in all municipalities express very high levels of trust. Svetlogorsk youth clearly express more trust in the latter category than the other municipalities. Trust in adult neighbours, teachers and police is highest in Emmaboda and lowest in the Polish cities. For example, 78 percent of Emmaboda youth express trust in teachers but only 45 percent of the youth in Slupsk and Bartoszyce. But also in Klaipeda (51 percent), Gusev (53 percent) and Svetlogorsk (61 percent) is the trust in teachers rather low. The Polish distrust in politicians is also worth mentioning, as it is much lower than in the other municipalities. Only 4 percent in Bartoszyce and 6 percent in Slupsk express trust in politicians.

Table 7.A How much or little trust do you have for the following adults?

How much or little trust do you have for the following adults? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Adult neighbours	27	39	32	29	36	57
Adult relatives	73	94	72	78	73	80
Teachers	53	61	45	45	51	78
Parents	89	94	86	91	87	94
Police	46	56	38	36	58	76
Priests	35	39	27	22	32	27
Politicians	23	17	6	4	14	22

Percentage, "rather a lot of trust" or "a lot of trust".

We also asked the youth if they have been exposed to crime. In the table below the percentage of youth who have answered "yes" to these questions are presented. Differences in exposure to crime divides the municipalities in two groups. The overall exposure to different forms of crime is higher in Slupsk, Bartoszyce and Klaipeda compared to Gusev, Svetlogorsk and Emmaboda, but there is no specific pattern in the different categories of abuse. Exposure to "threat" is highest in Klaipeda (23 percent), "theft" in Bartoszyce (19 percent), "violence" in Slupsk (18 percent) and "sexual violence" in Klaipeda (7 percent).

Table 7.B Exposure to crime

Yes (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
Threat	19	12	15	18	23	18
Theft	10	16	17	19	17	12
Violence	8	11	18	15	14	5
Sexual abuse	5	2	6	3	7	5

A following set of questions asked about experienced safety; where the youth feel safe or unsafe. Presented in the table below is the percentage of youth who answer feeling safe "most of the time" and "always". The analysis of these questions also yields differences which divide the municipalities in two groups. The overall feeling of safety is in this case higher in Slupsk, Bartoszyce and Emmaboda than the others. This is especially clear in contexts such as school, on buses or trains and on the way to and from school. These results are comprehensible in relation to the exposure to crime in Klaipeda (high) and Emmaboda (low), but somewhat surprising in relation to Poland and Russia.

Table 7.C How often do you feel safe in the following places?

How often do you feel safe in the following places? (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Slupsk	Bartoszyce	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
At home	94	98	92	97	87	97
In school	68	69	82	84	72	88
City	54	61	73	75	65	74
Bus, Train	34	44	67	74	56	83
Internet	44	51	64	72	66	88
To, from School	54	60	80	85	72	88
Residential area	62	72	82	85	81	89
Recreational activity	50	60	73	70	72	75
Youth centre	37	44	62	59	50	32
Church	31	44	58	58	52	19

Percentage, feel safe "most of the time" or "always"

### Discussion

These results are somewhat confusing and not easy to explain. First, Emmaboda is an outlier in almost every aspect. Higher on trust, high on self-assessed safety (except in church – but that is probably due to the high number of youth in Emmaboda who say "not relevant" to that question) and low on exposure to crime, especially violence. However, the differences in exposure to crime compared to the other municipalities are small.

The Polish cities, Slupsk and Bartoszyce express lower trust than the others. This difference is especially clear if we look closer at how they trust the police and politicians. In terms of trust in the

police the Polish cities have very low trust compared to the other municipalities. Emmaboda youth, on the other hand, express the highest trust in the police. The Polish case could be explained by the kind of abuses or crimes the youth actually are exposed to. The youth report more theft and violence in the Polish cities than the others. This explanation is, however, insufficient since it is not applicable to the results in the other municipalities. Klaipeda, for example has the highest level of abuse, but also a high trust in the police, and not low trust overall. Gusev and Svetlogorsk have lower trust in the police than Emmaboda and Klaipeda, but at the same time a low exposure to crime.

It seems like the exposure to crime correlates better with trust in politicians. Slupsk, Bartoszyce and Klaipeda have higher exposure to crime and lower trust in politicians than the other three. It is, however, hard to draw any conclusions from this. These numbers are not necessarily related to each other and even if they are we do not know what causes what. Poland differs the most in terms of trust when it comes to officials of different kinds, police, teachers, politicians. Their trust in parents, relatives or neighbours is not very different from the other cities. This is not explained by the experienced safety. Slupsk and Bartoszyce have high grades of experienced safety in all the contexts in the survey. In terms of safety the Russian cities, Gusev and Svetlogorsk have the lowest figures, and at the same time reasonably high trust and low exposure to crime. The lack of correlation between experienced safety and exposure to crime can also be seen in the difference between girls and boys. The boys are slightly more exposed to threats and physical violence while the girls in most cases feel less safe. It is, however, interesting to notice that in the cities with lowest overall trust the girls feel safer in school than the boys. With the exception of Svetlogorsk the differences are small, but there might be something there worth investigating further.

Table 7.D Percentage of youth who feel safe "most of the time" or "always" with gender division

Place	Gender (%)	Gusev	Svetlogorsk	Poland	Klaipeda	Emmaboda
City centre	Girls	51	58	68	61	67
	Boys	58	72	75	70	83
School	Girls	71	75	81	73	89
	Boys	67	56	84	70	90
Bus, Train	Girls	37	42	62	53	79
	Boys	33	55	75	60	90
Residential area	Girls	64	39	81	81	92
	Boys	60	67	82	80	92

It is hard to draw any conclusions from this since there are no clear patterns and it is difficult to interpret the cultural differences that might affect how the questions were interpreted by the youth. Nevertheless, there does not seem to be any correlation between trust, experienced safety and exposure to crime. This might seem strange, but it corresponds with international research on the topic (See for instance the Swedish Crime Survey 2016). The need to not confuse the subjective feeling of safety with an actual risk of being exposed to crime seems clear in our results from the

CaSYPoT-survey as well. This means that when the municipalities want to increase people's safety it has to be clarified if this safety is supposed to be the experienced safety or the actual risk of being exposed to crime. Changes in policy might affect one of these without any relation to the other. This aside, there are interesting differences between countries and cities in relation to this topic, but the material does not allow us to explain these differences.

## 8. Future

In the questionnaire, a whole section of questions was devoted to future plans. Among them there were both “open-ended” and “closed-ended” questions. The theme concerns perceptions of possibilities in terms of education and work, and ideas about where the young persons will settle down in the future.

First of all, we asked a question about future plans after finishing school. Most school students in all countries would like to continue their studies (Table 8.A). For example, in Russian cities Gusev and Svetlogorsk, 59% and 78% of the respondents, respectively, are aimed at continuing education both in their country and abroad; in Polish cities Bartoszyce and Slupsk - 64% and 47%, respectively; in the Lithuanian city Klaipeda - 58%; in the Swedish city Emmaboda - 29%. At the same time, the surveyed Swedish school students (6%) are least likely to receive education abroad. Russian and Polish students would like to continue their studies abroad in approximately the same ratio: Gusev - 9%, Svetlogorsk - 9%, Bartoszyce - 10%, Slupsk - 11%. A greater interest in receiving education abroad is shown by Lithuanian school students - almost a quarter of the respondents (23%) would like to study abroad. Nevertheless, most of the school students surveyed in all countries would like to continue studying in their countries. Moreover, in Kaliningrad, most of the students intend to continue their education in their own region. An interesting difference in the countries in this regard is that among Russian students, the share of those wishing to continue their education is significantly lower than of those who are sure that it will be so: Gusev - 59% and 73%, Svetlogorsk - 78% and 87%, respectively. Among Polish, Lithuanian and Swedish students, on the contrary, there are more of those who wish to continue their education rather than those who are confident that they will be able to do that: Bartoszyce - 64% and 60%, Slupsk - 47% and 41%, Emmaboda - 29% and 28% Klaipeda - 58% and 49%. Although here we can also see that the difference between those who wish and those who are confident in Bartoszyce, Slupsk and Emmaboda is small, while in Lithuania's Klaipeda it is significant. Among the main reasons for this situation one can be the cost of training, level of family welfare, degree of confidence in their own knowledge, etc.

Several questions were devoted to the prospects not to study, but to go to work after graduation. The smallest number of the respondents who would like to start working after graduation was recorded in Svetlogorsk (2%); still, none of them noted that this is a realistic plan (0%). In the Russian city Gusev and the Polish city Bartoszyce, a significant number of school students showed a desire to start working after school (16% and 11%, respectively) as well as confidence that they will start working (14% and 12%, respectively). The highest level of desire and confidence that they will start working right after school was demonstrated by the students living in Slupsk (25% and 24%, respectively), Emmaboda (26% and 30%) and Klaipeda (21% and 22%). Moreover, the Russian students are less likely to work abroad, compared to their Polish, Swedish and Lithuanian peers.

A small number of the surveyed students in all countries would like to continue family business. Quite few of the interviewed are also planning to start their own business.

Table 8.A Plans for life after school (%)

	Gusev		Svetlogorsk	
	What would you most <u>enjoy</u> doing straight after upper secondary school?	What do you <u>believe</u> you will be doing straight after secondary school?	What would you most <u>enjoy</u> doing straight after upper secondary school?	What do you <u>believe</u> you will be doing straight after secondary school?
Studying at university in Kaliningrad region	31	50	38	53
Studying at university in other region of Russia	19	20	31	25
Studying abroad	9	3	9	9
Working in this municipality	6	5	2	0
Working in another city or municipality	7	5	0	0
Working in other region of Russia	2	1	0	0
Working abroad	1	3	0	0
Working at my family's business	1	1	2	2
Start my own business	6	5	4	0
Travelling	7	4	5	0
Other	3	3	2	5

	Slupsk		Bartoszyce	
	What would you most <u>enjoy</u> doing straight after upper secondary school?	What do you <u>believe</u> you will be doing straight after secondary school?	What would you most <u>enjoy</u> doing straight after upper secondary school?	What do you <u>believe</u> you will be doing straight after secondary school?
Studying at a university college or university in Poland	36	31	54	55
Studying abroad	11	10	10	5
Working in this municipality or nearby	8	8	2	3
Working somewhere else in the country	5	6	5	3
Working abroad	12	10	4	6
Working at my family's business	1	2	1	1
Combine study and work	7	10	8	8
Start my own business	3	4	3	4
Travelling	6	4	6	4
Other	2	3	2	3
I don't know	5	8	5	8

	Klaipeda		Emmaboda	
	What would you most <u>enjoy</u> doing straight after upper secondary school?	What do you <u>believe</u> you will be doing straight after secondary school?	What would you most <u>enjoy</u> doing straight after upper secondary school?	What do you <u>believe</u> you will be doing straight after secondary school?
Studying at a university college or university in my country	35	28	23	25
Studying abroad	23	21	6	3
Working in this municipality or nearby	10	9	10	18
Working somewhere else in the country	3	3	8	6
Working abroad	8	10	8	6
Working at my family's business	1	1	1	0
Combine study and work	5	8	4	6
Start my own business	3	2	4	3
Travelling	5	2	18	14
Other	2	3	1	1
I don't know	4	12	8	11

The greatest desire to travel and the possibility of its fulfilment were demonstrated by the respondents from Sweden: 18% and 14%, respectively. The Russian, Polish and Lithuanian school students reacted to this issue differently: Gusev - 7% and 4%, Svetlogorsk - 5% and 0%, Bartoszyce - 6% and 4%, Slupsk - 8% and 6%, Klaipeda - 5% and 2 %, respectively.

The analysis of the “open-ended” answers of the students reveals that many of them have not yet made up their mind. But what is clear is that they want to continue their studies in order to have a well-paid job in the future. Most professions are connected with creation, creativity, eagerness to do something by themselves.

The questions about the future were related not only to the place of studies, but also to the place of living. The majority of the respondents think about moving out of their municipalities in the future. Moreover, the highest proportion of those wishing to move away from their city is registered in Bartoszyce (90%) and Emmaboda (85%), the lowest in Svetlogorsk (65%).

*Table 8.B Do you think you will move away from the municipality in which you live? (%)*

Do you think you will move away from the municipality in which you live?	yes	no
<b>Gusev</b>	75	25
<b>Svetlogorsk</b>	65	35
<b>Slupsk</b>	79	21
<b>Bartoszyce</b>	90	10
<b>Klaipeda</b>	71	29
<b>Emmaboda</b>	85	15

The sound reasons that influenced the decision to move were work, studies, family and family ties, personal interests, and relationships with a girl or boy (Table 8.C). One of the answers to this question was “Here I cannot be who I am”. The importance of this response was indicated by 59% of the respondents in Svetlogorsk, 43% in Gusev, 35% in Bartoszyce, 35% in Emmaboda, 34% in Klaipeda, and 32% in Slupsk (Table 8.C).

Table 8.C How important are each of the following aspects for your decision to move away from the municipality you live in? (%)

**Russia**

	Gusev					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	20	11	16	26	22	6
Continued studies	16	11	15	19	33	6
My recreational interests	18	15	17	20	24	7
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	22	16	18	19	16	8
Family and relatives	16	15	18	19	29	4
The housing situation in the municipality	31	14	19	15	14	7
Want to be closer to nature	36	23	23	8	4	7
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	33	21	18	13	11	4
Better environment for children to grow up in	29	16	24	16	9	6
Here I cannot be who I am	28	10	15	18	25	5

	Svetlogorsk					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	17	8	14	22	25	14
Continued studies	11	6	8	22	50	3
My recreational interests	17	25	19	22	14	3
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	25	19	14	11	22	8
Family and relatives	22	6	14	19	33	6
The housing situation in the municipality	39	11	22	17	8	3
Want to be closer to nature	42	19	17	6	6	11
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	17	25	17	14	22	6
Better environment for children to grow up in	33	3	25	22	8	8
Here I cannot be who I am	14	0	17	17	42	11

## Poland

	Slupsk					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	9	5	8	21	50	6
Continued studies	16	9	10	15	43	8
My recreational interests	11	10	19	26	27	7
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	13	10	11	25	34	7
Family and relatives	13	11	17	22	29	8
The housing situation in the municipality	15	14	20	20	22	9
Want to be closer to nature	28	22	18	12	11	9
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	20	18	18	21	15	8
Better environment for children to grow up in	21	12	19	21	18	9
Here I cannot be who I am	29	11	10	15	17	18

	Bartoszyce					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	4	3	5	20	66	3
Continued studies	5	2	6	20	63	4
My recreational interests	6	8	23	28	32	3
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	15	8	17	21	32	6
Family and relatives	12	12	17	30	26	3
The housing situation in the municipality	17	9	17	29	24	3
Want to be closer to nature	37	22	17	11	9	5
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	19	10	19	26	23	3
Better environment for children to grow up in	20	11	16	26	21	5
Here I cannot be who I am	28	8	13	13	22	16

## Lithuania

	Klaipeda					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	16	9	12	23	36	6
Continued studies	15	9	11	22	38	6
My recreational interests	15	15	20	23	23	5
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	15	15	15	23	25	6
Family and relatives	14	14	14	20	31	6
The housing situation in the municipality	15	11	18	20	28	8
Want to be closer to nature	21	16	19	22	16	7
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	18	14	20	23	18	6
Better environment for children to grow up in	18	10	18	18	30	7
Here I cannot be who I am	27	12	11	14	20	16

## Sweden

	Emmaboda					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	8	1	9	26	48	8
Continued studies	14	3	8	26	40	8
My recreational interests	13	7	16	29	24	11
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	8	8	18	25	30	11
Family and relatives	15	5	23	27	20	10
The housing situation in the municipality	13	5	18	24	24	17
Want to be closer to nature	26	11	26	13	14	10
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	13	3	24	26	26	9
Better environment for children to grow up in	20	7	17	25	22	9
Here I cannot be who I am	23	5	15	17	18	23

Among the factors that can affect the decision to stay in the municipality or not, the most important ones are family-related ties, relationships with a boy or girl, work and housing situation (Table 8.D). One of the answers to this question was “Here I can be who I am”. The importance of this response was underlined by 43% of the respondents in Svetlogorsk, 38% in Emmaboda, 32% in Klaipeda, 29% in Bartoszyce, 28% in Slupsk, and 17% in Gusev (Table 8.D).

Table 8.D How important are each of the following aspects for your decision to stay in the municipality you live in? (%)

**Russia**

	<b>Gusev</b>					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	34	6	21	15	19	6
Continued studies	26	13	21	17	17	6
My recreational interests	30	13	21	23	6	8
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	17	9	19	17	26	11
Family and relatives	11	11	6	23	45	4
The housing situation in the municipality	23	6	15	23	25	9
Want to be closer to nature	26	15	25	15	17	2
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	36	13	19	21	4	8
Better environment for children to grow up in	26	11	26	13	19	4
Here I cannot be who I am	38	13	23	8	9	9

	<b>Svetlogorsk</b>					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	22	15	13	16	22	13
Continued studies	18	4	13	29	31	5
My recreational interests	22	15	13	31	15	5
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	13	11	15	33	24	5
Family and relatives	9	9	5	33	40	4
The housing situation in the municipality	25	16	20	13	15	11
Want to be closer to nature	29	13	18	15	13	13
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	33	15	22	9	11	11
Better environment for children to grow up in	25	11	15	24	18	7
Here I cannot be who I am	20	9	16	25	18	11

## Poland

	Slupsk					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	20	8	8	18	37	10
Continued studies	24	12	10	14	31	9
My recreational interests	15	12	16	21	26	9
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	15	7	13	21	34	10
Family and relatives	14	7	14	23	33	10
The housing situation in the municipality	20	12	18	19	19	12
Want to be closer to nature	25	18	17	15	14	12
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	25	16	17	16	14	12
Better environment for children to grow up in	24	13	15	17	19	12
Here I cannot be who I am	29	11	13	13	15	19

	Bartoszyce					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	23	10	5	15	38	9
Continued studies	26	10	9	12	31	11
My recreational interests	20	12	20	15	24	9
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	17	9	10	17	36	10
Family and relatives	11	9	11	24	37	8
The housing situation in the municipality	26	15	18	19	14	9
Want to be closer to nature	31	22	12	14	12	9
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	27	15	16	17	14	10
Better environment for children to grow up in	28	13	13	16	19	11
Here I cannot be who I am	27	15	11	15	14	18

## Lithuania

	Klaipeda					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	21	10	13	20	25	11
Continued studies	20	12	13	20	24	11
My recreational interests	17	14	16	22	21	10
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	15	10	15	23	27	9
Family and relatives	15	9	12	22	33	9
The housing situation in the municipality	17	9	14	21	28	11
Want to be closer to nature	21	16	14	19	18	11
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	22	16	17	19	14	11
Better environment for children to grow up in	22	11	14	19	23	11
Here I cannot be who I am	26	12	13	14	18	17

## Sweden

	Emmaboda					
	Not important	Slightly important	Of average importance	Important	Very important	I don't know
Work	16	1	7	25	35	16
Continued studies	18	4	12	22	26	18
My recreational interests	16	5	14	28	21	16
Friends or girlfriend/ boyfriend/partner	13	3	13	26	32	14
Family and relatives	11	3	13	27	35	11
The housing situation in the municipality	13	2	15	28	23	19
Want to be closer to nature	17	8	24	15	20	16
Want to be closer to a larger municipality or city	17	7	19	25	15	17
Better environment for children to grow up in	13	6	18	24	21	18
Here I cannot be who I am	18	1	18	14	24	24

The conducted sociological survey revealed both similarities and differences in many aspects of school students' life in the four countries. It showed both similar and diametrically opposite attitudes to particular issues. For example, the students gave priority to an almost identical number of factors that could affect both their decision to leave their settlement and stay. Most of the interviewed children in all countries expressed a desire to continue their studies. However, some differences were also exposed. The students are to a different extent aiming at studying and working abroad. There is a different degree of confidence in the possibility to receive education. The students varied as well in giving the priority to such pastime as travel.

## Points for further discussion

### Family

- Results from Klaipeda and Gusev display large internal distribution in terms of the parents' educational level. They have a rather high number of parents with tertiary education, but also a relatively high number of parents with low education. How does this affect the youth in these municipalities in terms of inequalities and social segregation, for example related to different students' possibilities to influence decisions about their school or their experiences of respect between teachers and students?

### School

- Results from Klaipeda indicate that the schools have more bullying and racism than the others. This seems to be contradicted by the fact that the respondents think that the school facilitates cooperation among the students. Furthermore, the respondents from Klaipeda do not stand out in *not* enjoying the atmosphere in school and they feel involved in deciding the school rules. What does this mean? Can it be that the majority of the students cooperate and enjoy their school, while a rather substantial minority is exposed to harassment? Vulnerable individuals seem to be buried in the statistics, not only in Klaipeda. How can the municipalities go about investigating more about this minority group of students?

### Leisure Time

- The absence of obstacles in relation to leisure time activities does not correlate with the level of activity in the municipalities. This can be the result of youth finding ways to activate themselves, but it may also reflect an inequality where there are differences in terms of access to activities between groups in the survey. Which are those groups? How can they be reached by the municipalities? A connected issue to discuss is: What is preferred – a selection of leisure time activities provided by the municipality or a possibility and encouragement for youth to be responsible for their leisure time activities themselves?

### Political interest

- Political interest does not correlate with political activity. Which aspect (interest or activity) is more important for the municipalities and the youth respectively? How can the municipalities influence an increase in interest or activity?

### Work

- What does "work" mean in the different contexts? Why are the youth taking up (or not taking up) work in the different countries, i.e. what motivates the youth to take up work? Who is working in the different countries – the privileged or the under privileged?

### Health

- One significant result is that girls, in all municipalities, report more health-related problems compared to boys (somatic as well as psycho-somatic). This means that there is a consistent gender gap in self-reported health among the youth which needs to be addressed. How should these differences be interpreted? And which measures should be taken to address this?
- Youth in Sweden report much more frequent use of alcohol compared to youth in the other municipalities. How should this be interpreted?

### Trust and Safety

- Experienced safety, trust and exposure to crime does not correlate in any of the municipalities. How should these inconsistencies be interpreted? What is a relevant action plan for the municipalities with that in mind? Which is a more important issue for the municipalities to work with?

### Future

- A majority of the young people want to move away from the municipalities they now live in. What conclusions should be drawn from that? Is it a good thing that young people want new experiences, or is it a problem that they want to go live somewhere else? How should the municipalities react?
- Some answers indicate that young people want to leave their municipality because "Here I cannot be who I am". Is it possible that some of these answers are related to gender or sexuality, issues which have been left out of the survey?

### Concluding question

- How much, and on what issues, should young people be involved in decision making?



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