DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

According to the Comparative Index and data gathered from six countries, 3 dimensions comprise the perception by young people and youth workers of the term Digital Citizenship:

1 ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
Involvement in virtual actions, social activities and e-voting

2 VIRTUAL SAFETY
Virtual protection, identity theft, e-safety, e-documents, e-visa

3 SOCIAL DIMENSION
Social networks, browsing, global knowledge, responsible behavior.

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT?
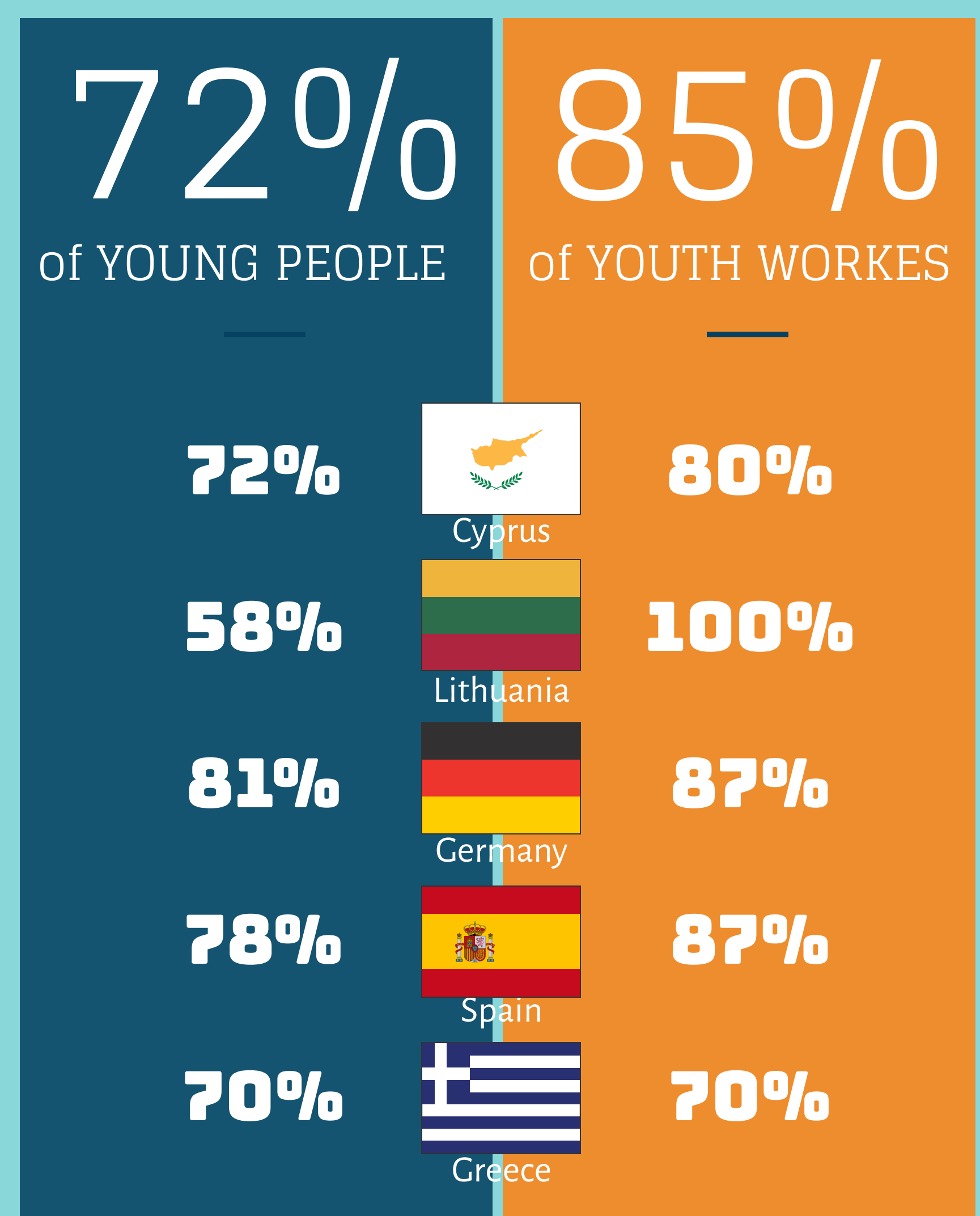
29%
of youth workers

said that integration of digital citizenship in youth work is **important**

More than **49%**
of all the responders

agreed that the importance of this digital curricula integration is way higher and assessed it as **very important**

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

Even though there are many resources and tools that are available and free for everyone, there are not enough on-site orientation training, learning courses, lectures or practical seminars about Digital Citizenship. The data, gathered through this research, shows that on average:

72% of YOUNG PEOPLE	85% of YOUTH WORKES
72%	Cyprus	80%
58%	Lithuania	100%
81%	Germany	87%
78%	Spain	87%
70%	Greece	70%

would be interested and most likely attend a course related with Digital Citizenship.

DIGITAL LITERACY

With the rapid rise of digital technology and its increasing use in business, education, and culture, it is important to ensure everyone can understand and engage with digital skills. Digital literacy is vital for economic growth, job creation, and daily life.

70%

of youth workers and young people from Lithuania, Cyprus, Germany, Greece and Spain faced **difficulties seeking ICT skills and knowledge**.

DIGITAL COMPET ENCES

Based on empirical data gathered through the research, there are a few main digital competencies that are identified by young people and youth workers as highly desired. These competences presuppose a framework that could be followed in order to strengthen digital skills and create learning programs:

Digital access

Involves the ability to connect with others or access information using technology. There is a need (based on data) for instructions on how to find valuable and safe information on the Internet, and on how to help disadvantaged communities use computers or other resources to increase their digital access.

Digital security

Indicates the need to stay safe online. Although the Internet can be an excellent resource, youth workers, students, young people need to know how to avoid viruses, scams, or strangers online. Internet safety lessons, learning materials, courses could include anything from why privacy online is important to what to do if they encounter a cyberbully or stranger.

Effective online communication

The options that young people and youth workers have for communicating online are greater than ever. Text, email, social media, and online games are all ways that might digitally interact with others. For this reason, it's important to teach how to communicate safely and effectively online