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Research challenges in rural settings regarding the UN Sustainable Development Goals



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Research challenges in rural communities can be multiple. First of all, we want to focus on UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN has 17 goals, but for this research we used the following 5:

- Gender education
- Gender equality
- Decent work and economic growth
- Reducing inequality
- Peace – Justice – Strong Institutions



Through surveys and diagrams, we will do our best to cover the topic. The best way to determine the situation in Montenegro, especially in rural communities, is through the answers of Montenegrin citizens that are different age and different social status.

We will represent you two surveys:

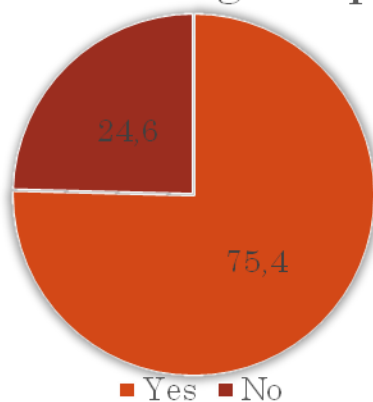
- Quality education, Decent work and Trust in institutions
- Gender equality and reduction of inequality in rural communities



Survey 1 - Quality education, Decent work and Trust in institutions

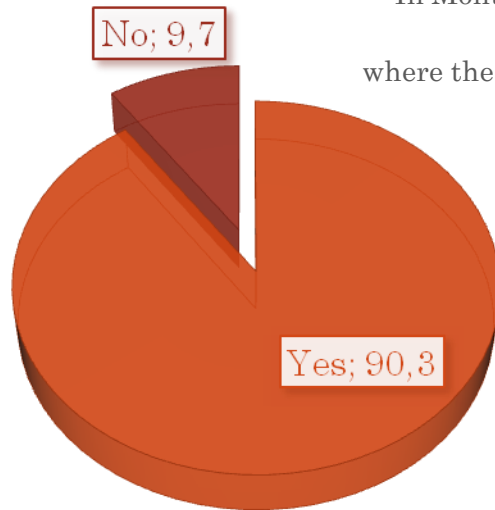
The survey was completed by 207 individuals. Most of them (148 answers) were women and only 59 answers were men. Mostly in the age group of 21-30 years old.

Do you think that quality education is available to inhabitants of Montenegro especially in rural area?

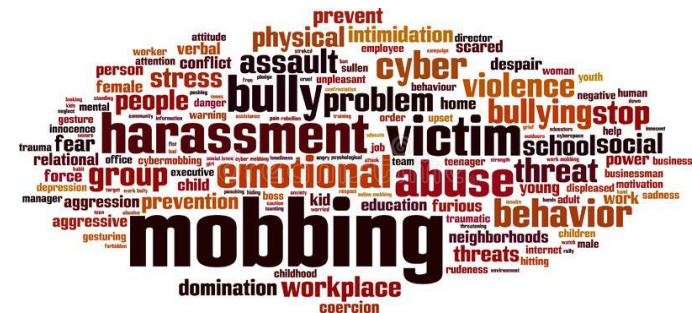


From this diagram, we can easily conclude the opinion of citizens about the quality of education in our country.

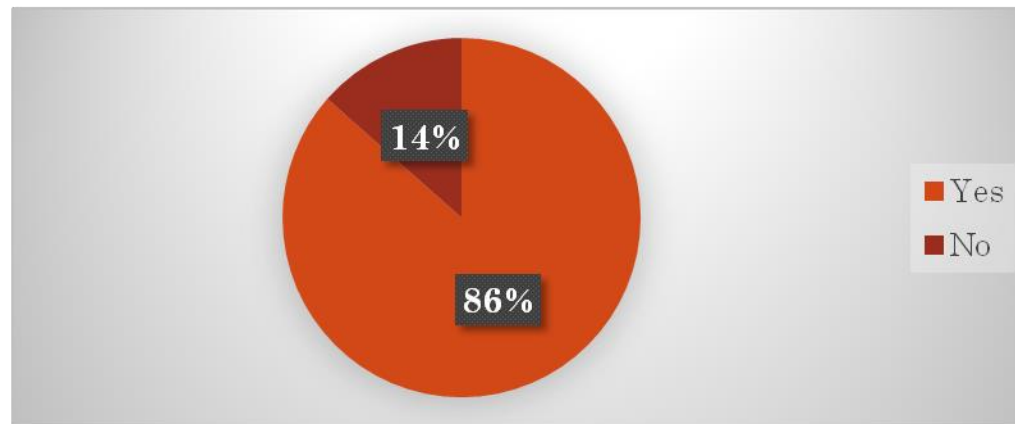
- The next diagram shows that there is discrimination in employment area in Montenegro and employees do suffer from discrimination and mobbing at work.



- In Montenegro, the government voted for the Law of Prohibition of Harassment at Work, where the Article 2. defines mobbing as active or passive behavior at work or in connection with work towards an employee or a group of employees, which is usually repeated, and which aims at or constitutes a violation of dignity, reputation, personal and professional integrity of the employee and which causes fear or creates hostile, degrading or offensive environment);
- Article 4. prohibits mobbing



- The following chart shows us the financial situation of our citizens, based on this question: "Do you think that the inhabitants of the central and southern part of Montenegro have better financial situation for education, compared to the inhabitants of the rural area?"



This is best evidenced by the large number of students moving from rural area to southern parts, e.g. Podgorica, in order to continue their education in the capital of Montenegro.

What could be the reason for that?

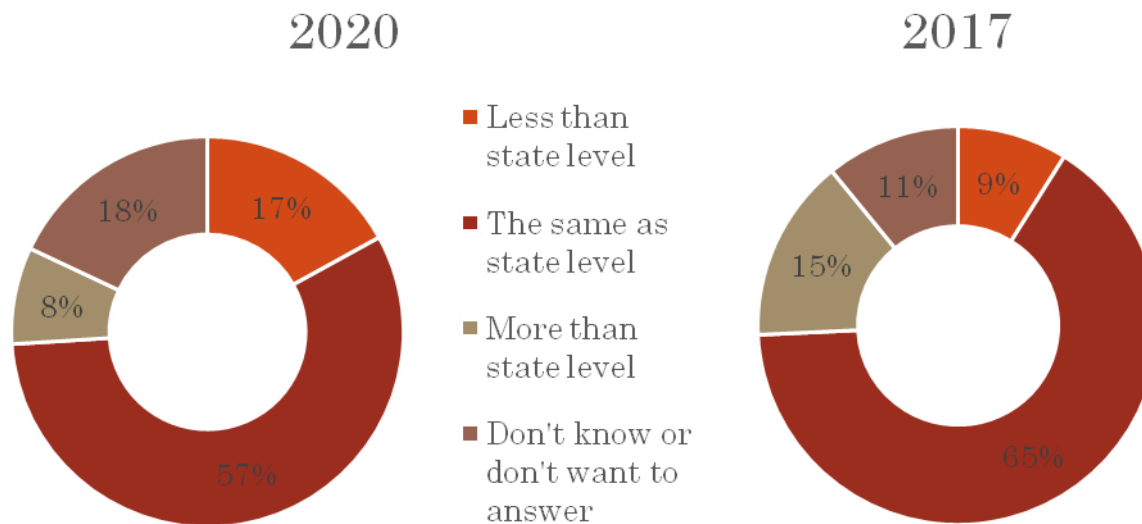
Is it related to corruption, party employment or something else?

- In order to get a valid answer, we conducted a research on this topic. The main question "Do you think that nepotism and corruption reign in our institutions?"
- Answers are devastating. Positive are 92.3% while only 7.7% are negative.
- The area that is perceived as most mentioned by corruption is employment or election to an academic title (53% of citizens believe that corruption is present in such situations). Slightly less than half of the citizens also believe that corruption exists when youth sign up for college (48%), when evaluating students (48%) and allocating places in the hometown (47%). The election for student representatives (38%) is also perceived to be somewhat less corrupt. Enrollment in secondary (26%) and primary schools (13%) is seen by citizens in a much better way. Citizens with a higher level of education are less optimistic and believe that corruption is present in all these situations.



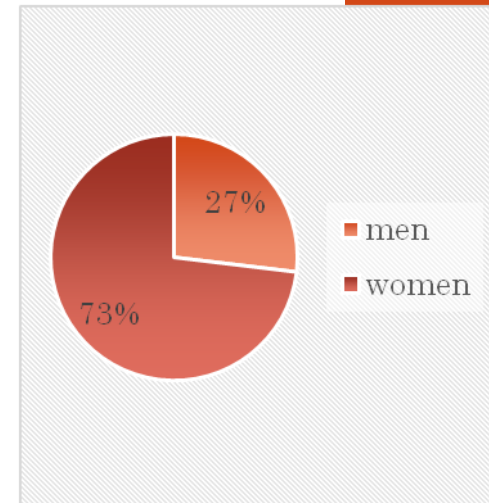
- If we compare the data from previous years, we will see that Montenegro continues to stagnate in area of corruption and nepotism.
- Citizens continue not to report crimes to the competent authorities for their prevention, such as Agency for the Prevention of Corruption.

Political connections at local and state level



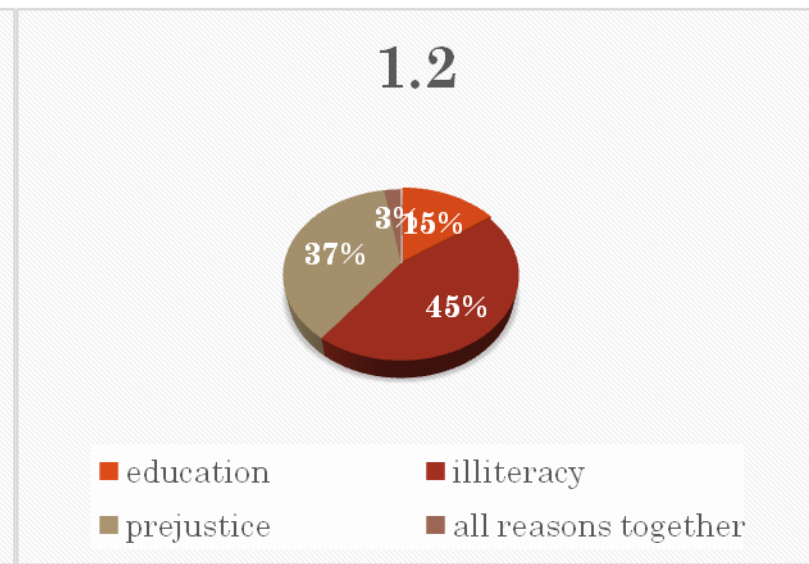
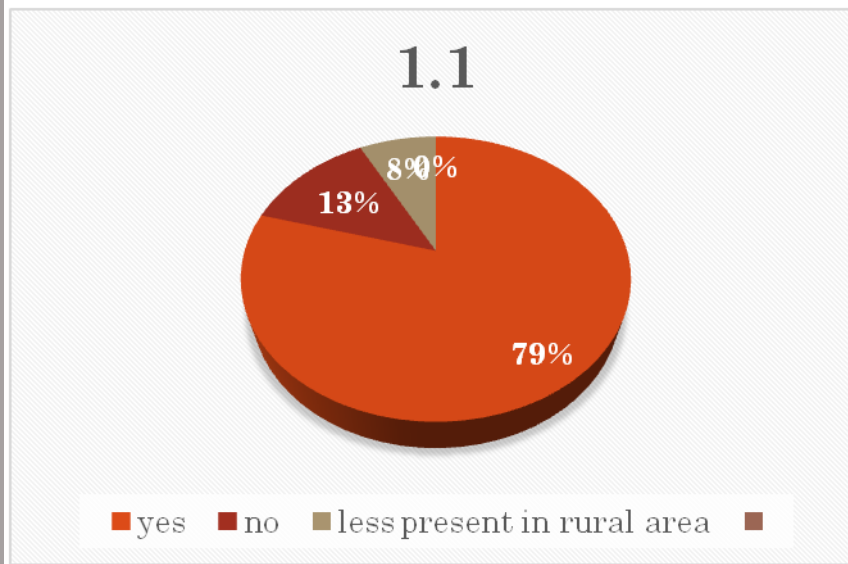
Survey 2 – Gender equality

- The survey was completed by 271 individuals. 26.9% (73 answers) were men, 73.1% (198 answers) were women. Mostly in the age group of 21-30 years old (196 answers).
- 215 respondents (79.3%) believe that gender inequality is present in our society.



Most citizens (78%) think that gender inequality is more present in rural area of the country than it is considered as a normal behaviour, while other (15%) think different. (1.1)

Offered causes of gender inequality were: education (7%), illiteracy (20.7%), prejudice (17%) and all reasons together (chosen by 55.4% of respondents). (1.2)



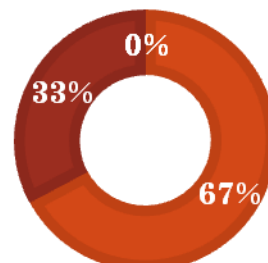
People who used to be victims of gender discrimination or that they know someone who was a victim was answered by devastating 67.2% of respondents. (2.1)

Based on this, it's easy to conclude that there is a big problem in our society despite the fact it's a 21st century and a modern age.

A large number of respondents think that about this problem is not discussed at all, in a proper way (83.4%).

2.1

■ yes ■ no





When it comes to the trust in institutions that should solve gender inequality problem, respondents do not trust them (72.7%).

Most respondents (58.3%) believe that Montenegrin society is stagnant in solving this problem.

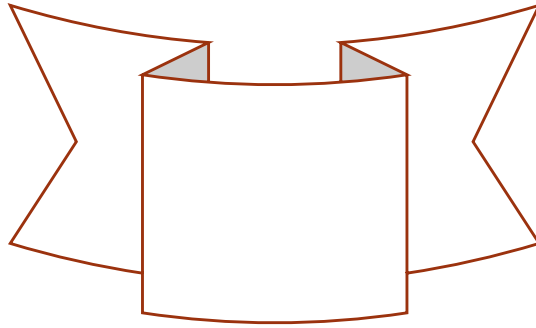
The conclusion of our research shows that Montenegrin society is surrounded by the problem of gender and social inequality, and that there is a big distrust in institutions.

Gender Equality Index in Montenegro (2019)

- The Gender Equality Index is "an instrument for measuring progress in achieving gender equality in the EU2". As a comprehensive instrument, however, it can be used to assess and compare the situation in the field of gender equality in any European country, a candidate country for EU membership, including Montenegro, or outside Europe. The instrument was designed by the European Institute for Gender Equality EIGE, an independent body of the European Union, and was first used in 2013.
- The Gender Equality Index for Montenegro was first calculated in 2019 and amounts 55. However, this value does not mean much without comparison. Unfortunately, it was not possible to compare the data from Montenegro. It is because this is the first time that this index has been calculated in this country. However, to get a clear picture, the value of the index obtained in Montenegro can be compared with the Gender Equality Index for 2019 in the 28 EU Member States, which was 67.4.



- Source: Monstat Survey 2019.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!**

