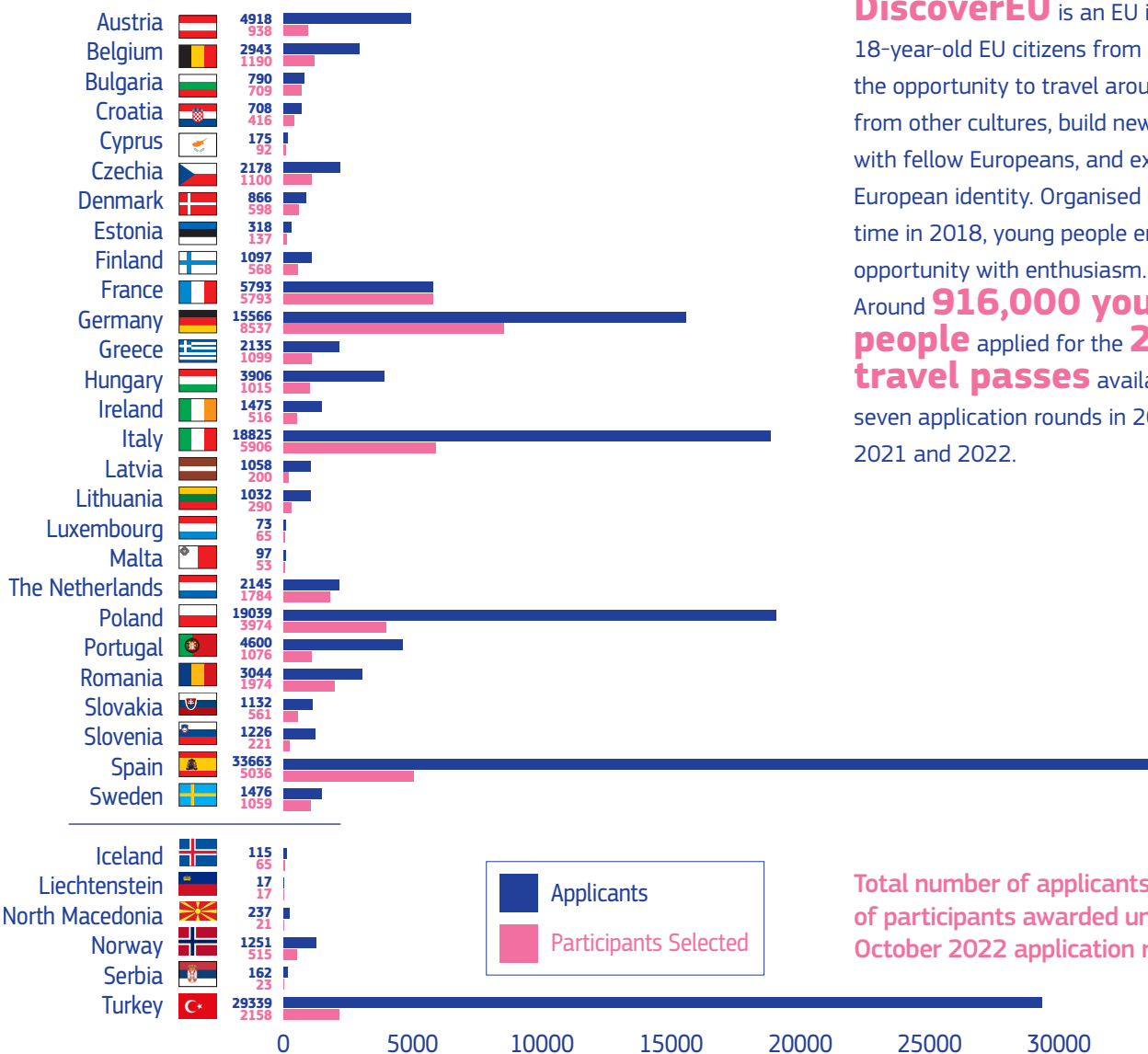




European Commission

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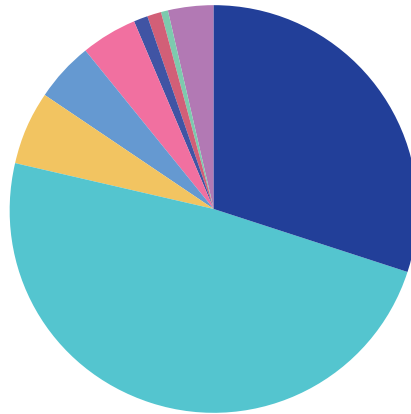


DiscoverEU is an EU initiative giving 18-year-old EU citizens from all backgrounds the opportunity to travel around Europe, learn from other cultures, build new friendships with fellow Europeans, and explore their European identity. Organised for the first time in 2018, young people embraced the opportunity with enthusiasm. Around **916,000 young people** applied for the **212,700 travel passes** available over seven application rounds in 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022.

Total number of applicants and number of participants awarded under the October 2022 application round

APPLICATIONS

- 48.8% School
- 30.0% Higher education bachelor degree (3 to 4 years of study)
- 5.9% On a gap year
- 4.7% Vocational training
- 4.4% Higher education – short study cycle degree (1 to 2 years of study)
- 1.1% Volunteering
- 1.1% Employed
- 0.7% Unemployed
- 3.4% Other



TOTAL:
161,399 applications
47,706 participants selected

DiscoverEU is now part of the Erasmus+ family. In the context of the European Year of Youth 2022, 82,700 tickets were awarded to young lucky winners who have the opportunity to explore Europe by rail. DiscoverEU aims to be greener, digital and more inclusive. The learning dimension of DiscoverEU is enhanced thanks to Erasmus+ National Agencies, which hold pre-departure information meetings and Meet-ups for all participants across Europe. Additionally, the DiscoverEU Inclusion Action aims to reach young people with fewer opportunities by working with specialised organisations in the field. DiscoverEU winners also now benefit from a Discount card, which give them access to more than 40,000 discount opportunities related to culture, transport, accommodation, food and many more. The next round of DiscoverEU applications will open in March 2023!



“What I loved the most about my journey was all the people I met along. Sharing stories with other travellers in the common room of a hostel in Budapest, chatting till 3am with Erasmus+ students from the Canary Islands in a dorm in Vienna, and having local DiscoverEU travellers show us around Munich are truly some of my favourite memories ever.”

*Ana from Bulgaria
travelled to Austria, Germany, The Netherlands and Hungary*

“I was very surprised by the beauty of the trains and the care with which they are taken of, as well as of course the architecture and landscapes of all the cities visited. A pleasant surprise was the city of Antwerp, which I didn’t know at all and which turned out to be very charming. I learned that it is very important to speak foreign languages, especially English, to communicate with people around Europe and the world. I hope that this experience can be lived also by other new eighteen-year-olds because it is really fantastic!”

*Francesco from Italy
travelled to Belgium, France, Germany and The Netherlands*





“From the start, I was eager to participate in the DiscoverEU initiative, and I was extremely happy to be among the selected ones. The European Commission showed an open attitude and was determined to find solutions for my situation. The experience has been very enriching for me and also for society. On the one hand, society was surprised to see me, a boy with great disability helped by a team of assistants to enjoy life abroad. On the other hand, my severe limitations created very positive feelings of empathy and help among people, and ultimately integration.”

*Javier from Spain
travelled to The Netherlands*

“DiscoverEU gives the opportunity to get to know locals and their way of life. We wanted to experience places as locals, so we bought food at local grocery shops, tried typical cuisine and attempted to learn at least some foreign words. I was positively surprised how kind everybody was. People gladly stopped and spared some of their time to help or talk to us. I think people don't know how easy it is to travel around Europe. The European Union is doing an amazing job on trying to connect young people from different countries, by allowing them to travel with small expenses. We are the next generation that's going to lead our governments and countries and we must step together and work towards similar aims. We can do that if we know where we come from, and where other come from and this project is allowing us to do so.”

*Maja from Slovenia
travelled to Austria, the Czech Republic and Poland*



Following its success during the pilot phase as a European Parliamentary Preparatory Action, DiscoverEU has been integrated into the Erasmus+ Programme, as of 2021. This will allow more young people to benefit from travelling with DiscoverEU during the six years of the programme. The European Commission will organise two rounds of applications in 2023. The expected budget for 2023 is €33 million.



**EXPAND
YOUR
COMFORT
ZONE**

#DiscoverEU