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POLICY BRIEF

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YOUTH AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE ANAMOROVA/POMORAVLJE REGION

About ECMI Kosovo

ECMI Kosovo is the principal non-governmental organisation engaged with minority issues in Kosovo, with the overarching aim to develop inclusive, representative, community-sensitive institutions that support a stable multi-ethnic Kosovo. ECMI Kosovo contributes to the developing, strengthening and implementation of relevant legislation, supports the institutionalisation of communities-related governmental bodies, and enhances the capacity of civil society actors and the government to engage with one another in a constructive and sustainable way.

I. INTRODUCTION

Over the course of the implementation of the project *Empowering Civil Society to Participate Effectively in Policy and Decision-Making Processes through Dialogue with Government Institutions*, funded by the European Union Office in Kosovo, ECMI Kosovo, and with its partners **Communication with Social Development (CSD)** and **Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Womens' Organisation of Kosovo (NRAEWOK)**, supported the establishment of the **Anamorava Serb Youth Community Network**. The establishment of Anamorava/Pomoravlje region Network aims to foster a link between various CSOs from the region, and better advocate for their respective local government structures.

One of the activities of the Network was to conduct a research on youth and culture activities in this region. ECMI Kosovo, therefore, aided the network in writing and researching questionnaires focused on issues surrounding youth and culture in the region. These questionnaires were published in Serbian and distributed throughout the municipalities by our local correspondents, with the aid of CSD and NRAEWOK. Please see Annex I for a copy of the questionnaire that was distributed to participants.

ECMI Kosovo and its partners received 164 completed questionnaires from all municipalities: 27 from Gjilan/Gnjilane, 26 from Kamenicë/Kamenica, 30 from Klokot/Klllokot, 29 from Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, 30 from Parteš/Partesh and 22 from Ranilug/Ranillug.

Through the research gained by these questionnaires, ECMI Kosovo presents this Policy Brief, which will briefly outline the findings of the research, as well as recommendations for future actions and conclusions that can be drawn.

II. THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

The organisation of youth and cultural activities is central to the increased integration of communities, especially amongst the younger members. Within municipalities, the organisation of these types of events works to bring together members of both the same, and different, communities, and increase their interaction with, and knowledge of, each other.

III. FINDINGS

This section will first present an overall comparison of the data collected from all municipalities, before then presenting the data from each of the municipalities.

GENERAL

Firstly, the respondents were asked to state the languages that they speak. The largest majority of respondents over all municipalities said that they only speak Serbian, with only six (6) respondents, amounting to 3 per cent, saying that they also speak Albanian. This is smaller than the 6 per cent who said that they speak English.

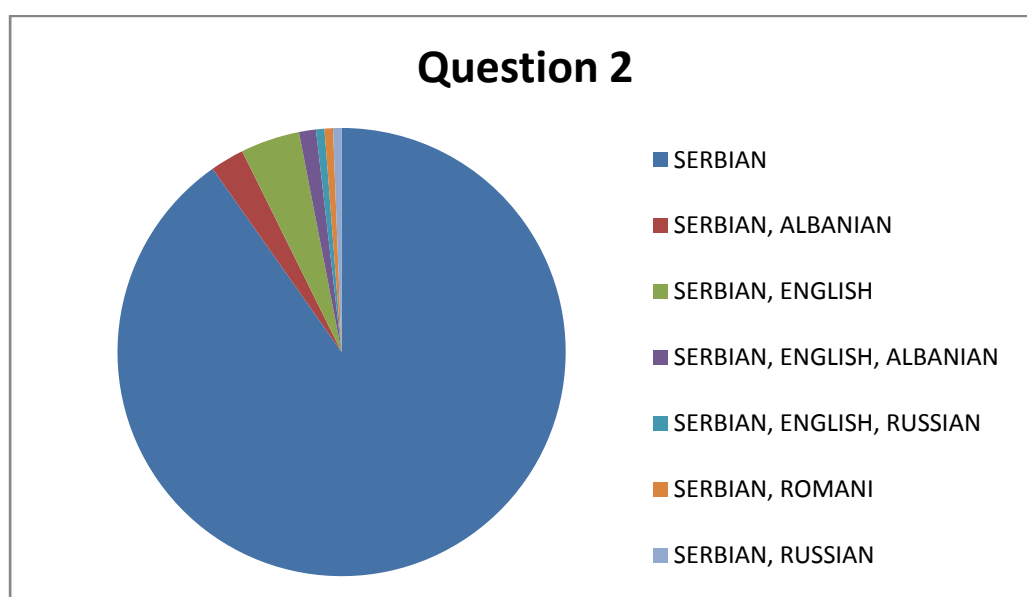


Figure 1: Languages Spoken by Respondents

In four of the six municipalities (Kamenicë/Kamenica, Klokot/Klllokot, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo and Ranilug/Ranillug), over 50% of respondents are aware of activities organised by their municipalities. However, in Gjlan/Gnjilane and Parteš/Partesh, more participants are unaware of such activities (Q.3).

The most common activities that respondents are aware of are sporting activities (most common in Gjlan/Gnjilane, Kamenicë/Kamenica, Parteš/Partesh and Ranilug/Ranillug) and youth activities (most common in Klokot/Klllokot and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo; Q.4).

Only in Ranilug/Ranillug did the majority of respondents say that such activities are organised regularly (73%). In the other five municipalities, less than half the participants stated that their Municipalities regularly organises events (Q.5).

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The majority of respondents from Parteš/Partesh, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, Kamenicë/Kamenica and Ranilug/Ranillug stated that activities are organised on average every two months. In Gjan/Gnjilane, respondents felt that events are never organised by the Municipality for the Serbian community, and in Klokot/Klllokot, respondents stated that activities are held every day (Q.6).

The most common age groups for which events are organised are 15-20 years old (Kamenicë/Kamenica, Klokot/Klllokot and Parteš/Partesh) and 20-25 years old (Gjan/Gnjilane, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo and Ranilug/Ranillug; Q.7).

However, only in Ranilug/Ranillug had a majority of participants actually attended municipality events (68%). In the remaining municipalities, less than 50% had attended such events in each case (Q.13).

The majorities from two municipalities rated their Municipalities' events poorly (Gjan/Gnjilane and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo), from three municipalities rated the events in a moderate manner (Kamenicë/Kamenica, Parteš/Partesh and Ranilug/Ranillug) and from one municipality gave their municipality a high rating (Klokot/Klllokot; Q.19).

The majority from two municipalities (Ranilug/Ranillug and Klokot/Klllokot) expressed sufficient satisfaction with their municipalities' organisation of events. The remaining majorities expressed dissatisfaction in this regard (Q.20).

In Ranilug/Ranillug, Parteš/Partesh, Klokot/Klllokot and Kamenicë/Kamenica, the majority of respondents felt that advertisements were sufficiently translated into their languages. The remaining municipalities were less satisfied in terms of translations (Q.21).

In Gjan/Gnjilane, Klokot/Klllokot and Ranilug/Ranillug, the majority of respondents felt that there is an easily accessible schedule of events for their municipality. In Kamenicë/Kamenica and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, the majority of respondents expressed the contrary, while in Parteš/Partesh no conclusions could be drawn (Q.10).

When a schedule does exist, the majority of respondents from Kamenicë/Kamenica, Klokot/Klllokot, Ranilug/Ranillug and Parteš/Partesh said that it is translated into their mother tongue. The majority of those from Gjan/Gnjilane and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo expressed the contrary sentiment (Q.11).

The majority of respondents from half of the municipalities (Kamenicë/Kamenica, Klokot/Klllokot and Ranilug/Ranillug) expressed that there are no problems with event schedules being followed. However, in Gjan/Gnjilane and Novobërdë/Novo Brdo the

respondents expressed dissatisfaction with the schedule reliability, and in Parteš/Partesh, no conclusions could be drawn (Q.12).

With regard to the venue of municipality activities, three municipalities (Ranilug/Ranillug, Kamenicë/Kamenica and Parteš/Partesh) showed that the majority of events are held in public buildings. Those from Gjan/Gnjilane expressed that most events occur in private spaces, those from Klokot/Kllokot stated public spaces, and those from Novobërdë/Novo Brdo expressed municipal buildings (Q.16).

In half of the municipalities (Kamenicë/Kamenica, Klokot/Kllokot and Ranilug/Ranillug), the majority of participants stated that multiple communities share spaces that are used for events. The majority of respondents from the other three municipalities stated the contrary (Q.17).

The majority of respondents from Ranilug/Ranillug, Parteš/Partesh, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo and Kamenicë/Kamenica gave the municipal event locations a moderate score. Those from Kamenicë/Kamenica gave a high rating, and those from Gjan/Gnjilane gave a low rating (Q.18).

In Kamenicë/Kamenica and Ranilug/Ranillug, the majority of participants stated that their municipalities do permit minority communities to celebrate their respective holidays. In the other municipality, the majority of participants stated the contrary (Q.8).

When asked to list the holidays that are permitted to be celebrated, the following were among those mentioned: Christmas, Easter, New Year's Eve, St. George's Day and the Day of the Republic (Q.9).

According to a minority of respondents (less than 13% in each case), the following municipalities coordinate projects with outside organisations such as NGOs: Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, Ranilug/Ranillug and Parteš/Partesh (Q.14). In a similar vein, the following municipalities coordinate projects with other municipalities in Kosovo: Kamenicë/Kamenica, Klokot/Kllokot, Novobërdë/Novo Brdo, Parteš/Partesh and Ranilug/Ranillug (Q.15). Thus, cooperation cannot be reliably deduced.

Only in Kamenicë/Kamenica and Klokot/Kllokot did the majority of respondents state that activities that are organised by the Municipality are open to members of multiple communities (Q.22). However, over 50% of respondents from all municipalities felt that inter-community events are important. The perceived benefits of such events

were listed to include increasing opportunities for young people to socialise, promoting integration both within and between communities, and for learning and exchange between communities (Q.23).

GJILAN/GNJILANE

ECMI Kosovo, and its partners, received 27 responses to the ‘Youth Activities’ questionnaire circulated in Gjilan/Gnjilane. Of these 27 respondents, 85 per cent stated that they only speak Serbian, with 7 per cent (2 respondents) also speaking English, 4 per cent (1 respondent) speaking Serbian, English and Russian. Only one (1) respondent, 4 per cent, said that they also speak Albanian, the other official language of the Republic of Kosovo (Q.2).

Firstly, the respondents were asked whether they are aware of any activities organised for their community by the Municipality of Gjilan/Gnjilane: 82 per cent of respondents said that they were not, with only five (5) respondents saying they were aware of this (Q.3).

Respondents were then asked what type of activities, if any, were they aware of being organised. Respondents were given the option of selecting any number of options from youth activities (including youth groups, trips); sports (including sports teams, competitions); and, cultural activities (art groups, visits, exhibitions, concerts). The results, shown in Table [x], below, had sporting events, with 15 per cent of respondents, as the type that the most respondents selected as organised. However, most respondent, 78 per cent, said that there are no activities at all organised (Q.4).

Type of Activities Organised by Gjilan/Gnjilane	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
None	21	77.78%
Sport	4	14.81%
Youth	1	3.70%
Cultural	1	3.70%

Table 1: What type of activities do your municipality organise for your community?

No respondents said that these activities, when they are organised, are done so regularly (Q.5). Moreover, respondents were then asked how often these events were organised, and only one (1) respondent said that they were organised once a month, with most respondents re-iterating that these events are never organised by the Municipality of Gjilan/Gnjilane for the Serbian community (Q.6). When asked what age

groups these activities are organised for, one (1) respondent said for children between 10 and 15 years old, one (1) for teenagers between 15 and 20, and two (2) said that these are organised for members of their community aged between 20 and 30 (Q.7).

Respondents were asked if they had ever personally attended any of the events organised by the Municipality of Gjilan/Gnjilane. Only one (1) respondent – amounting to 4 per cent – had actually attended an event, saying that he had partaken in a marathon (Q.13). Respondents were then asked to rate the activities organised by Gjilan/Gnjilane on a scale of one (1) to ten (10), with 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest (Q.19). As Figure [x] shows, the largest proportion of respondents, amounting to 44 per cent gave the municipality the lowest score possible, with only one (1) respondent giving Gjilan/Gnjilane a score of over 5.

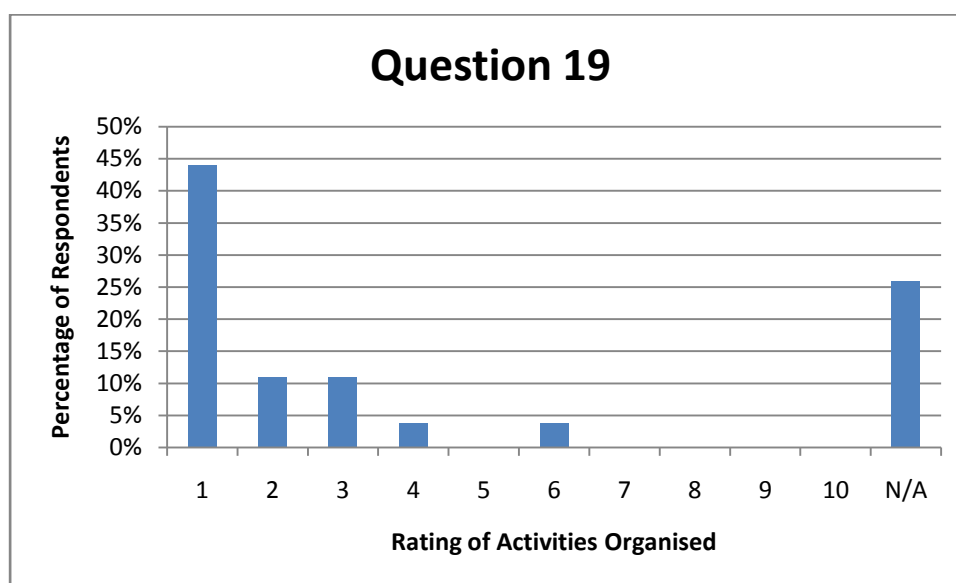


Figure 2: On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the activities organised by the municipality?

None of the respondents, when asked, said that the activities that the Municipality of Gjilan/Gnjilane organises are sufficiently promoted within their community (Q.20). Moreover, only 11 per cent (3 respondents) said that any advertisements were sufficiently translated into Serbian by the Municipality (Q.21). As well, no respondents said that there is an easily accessible schedule of events for their municipality, and that when there is a schedule published, it is not normally translated into their mother-tongue, Serbian (Q.10, 11). Moreover, when asked if there are problems with schedules of events not being followed, none of the respondents said that this is applicable, as there is no regular schedule (Q.12).

Predominately, when asked, the respondents said that any events that are organised by the Municipality occur in private spaces, such as privately-owned sports fields, or hotels (Q.16). Only three (3) respondents, amounting to 11 per cent, said that events are organised in public buildings, such as schools and sports centres, while two (2) respondents said that they are organised in public spaces such as in squares or public

sports fields. Moreover, only 19 per cent of respondents said that these spaces are used by multiple communities for events (Q.17).

Respondents were then asked to rate the quality of the locations available for the activities organised by the Municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being very bad, and 10 being excellent. As shown in the Figure below, only one (1) respondent gave the facilities a score of over 5, with the highest proportion giving the locations the lowest score possible (Q.18).

No respondents, when asked, said that they were aware of their municipality coordinating any projects with outside organisations, such as Non-Governmental Organisations, donors, or central level institutions, or with any other municipalities across Kosovo (Q.14, 15).

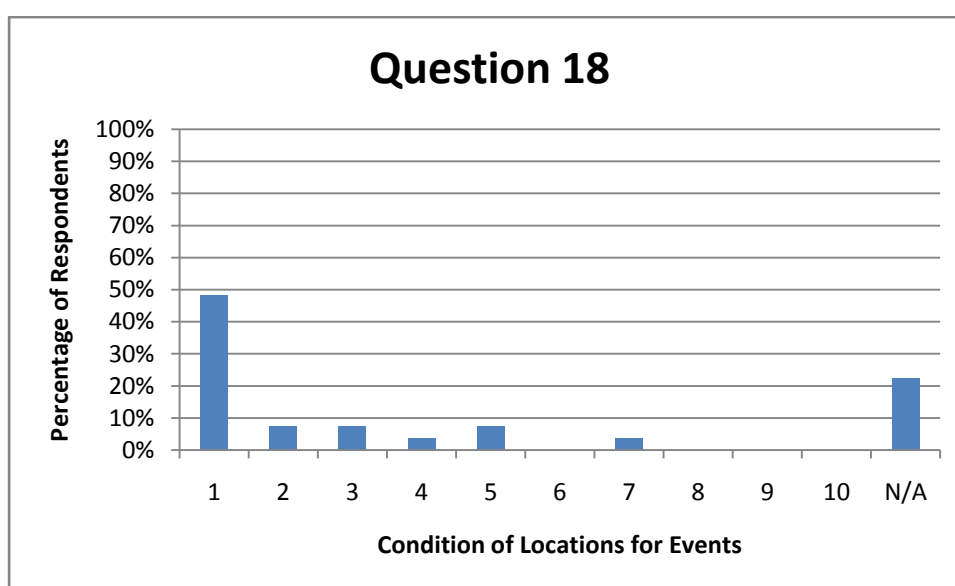


Figure 3: How would you rate the conditions of the places available for events?

Respondents were also asked whether their Municipality allows their communities to celebrate their holy days: 41 per cent of respondents said that this was the case (Q.8). Respondents said that they were allowed to celebrate Saints' Days, but none of them said that they were offered financial support from the Municipality to do this (Q.9).

It is important that the Municipality offer inter-community activities, however, again, only 11 per cent of respondents said that Gjilan/Gnjilane organises these (Q.22). Respondents were, finally, asked if they feel that it is important that the Municipality organises these types of activities, both within communities and between them: 81 per cent of respondents said that they feel that it is important (Q.23). There were only two (2) respondents who said that they did not feel it was important (with the others providing no answers). However, one of these qualified their statement, saying that they feel it is actually important, but that the Municipality of Gjilan/Gnjilane has many other issues and problems that need to be dealt with, such as unemployment, before they can begin to tackle cultural issues. Many of those who said yes, said they felt that

it is important for these kind of events to be organised at it is important for the youngsters of the communities to socialise, not only within their community, but also outside of it, in order to increase the integration within the community.**KAMENICË/KAMENICA**

ECMI Kosovo, and its partners, received 26 responses from the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica. All but two (2) of these respondents said that they only speak Serbian, and no other languages, with one (1) saying they speak Romani, while one (1) speaks English. None of the respondents said that they also speak Albanian, the other official language of Kosovo (Q.2).

When respondents were asked, 85 per cent of them said that they are aware of activities organised by the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica for their community (Q.3). When asked what type of activities they are aware of their municipality organising, half (50 per cent) of respondents said that they were aware of sporting activities, while 27 per cent were aware of youth activities, and 23 per cent aware of cultural activities (Q.4). No respondents said that they were not aware of any organised activities.

Respondents were then asked if these activities are organised regularly, to which 62 per cent said that they were not, while 38 per cent said that they were organised regularly (Q.5). Figure [x], below, shows the breakdown of how often the respondents said that these activities are organised. Respondents were asked to choose from a selection of six (6) options: every day, every week, every two (2) weeks, every month, every two (2) months, and other (Q.6). The highest proportion of respondents who provided an answer, amounting to 26 per cent, chose the option 'every two months', while two (2) respondents selected, under 'other', every four (4) months.

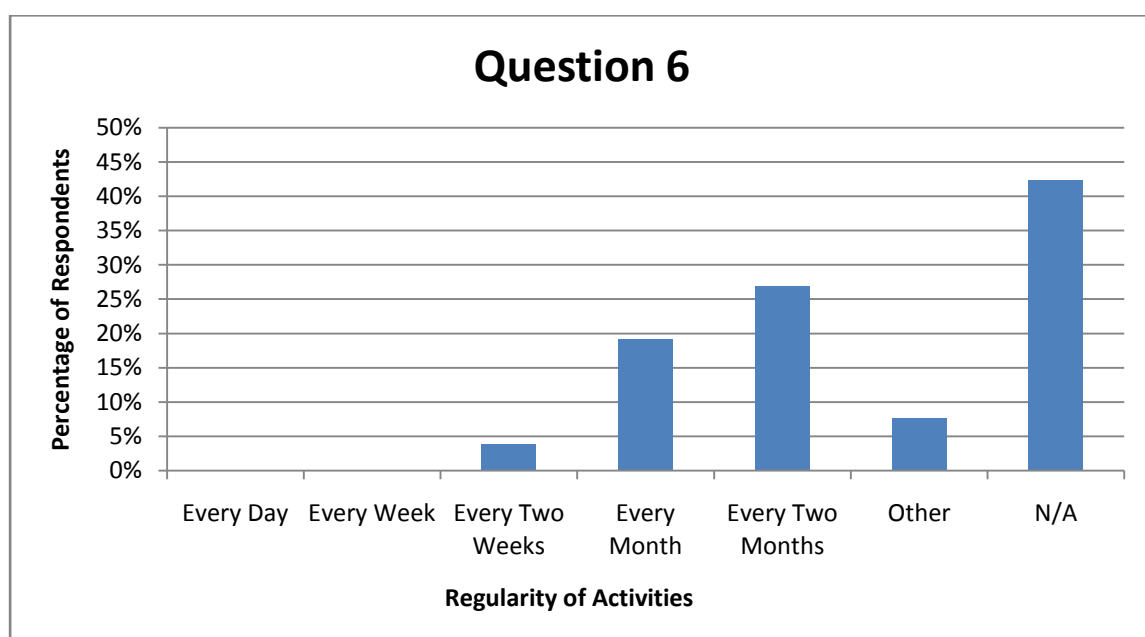


Figure 4: How often are events organised?

The questionnaire then asked respondents what age groups they thought the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica organises the most activities for, with the option to choose between: under 10 years old, 10-15 years, 15-20 years, 20-25 years, 25-30 years and other (Q.7). Table [x], below, shows the responses; which highlights that the highest proportion of respondents, amounting to 38 per cent, selected 15-20 years old while the next highest proportion, amounting to 27 per cent of respondents, selected 10-15 years old.

Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Under 10 years	0	0%
10-15 years	7	27%
15-20 years	10	38%
20-25 years	4	15%
25-30 years	5	19%
Other	0	0%

Table 2: What age groups do the municipality organise the most activities for?

When asked, 73 per cent of respondents said that they had not attended any of the activities organised by the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica, while only 27 per cent said that they had (Q.13). Of those who had, three (3) of these respondents said they had attended 'folklore' activities, while one (1) selected sporting events.

Respondents were then asked to rate the activities that the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica organises (Q.19). As shown by Figure [x] below, most respondents gave their municipality a middling score for the activities that are organised.

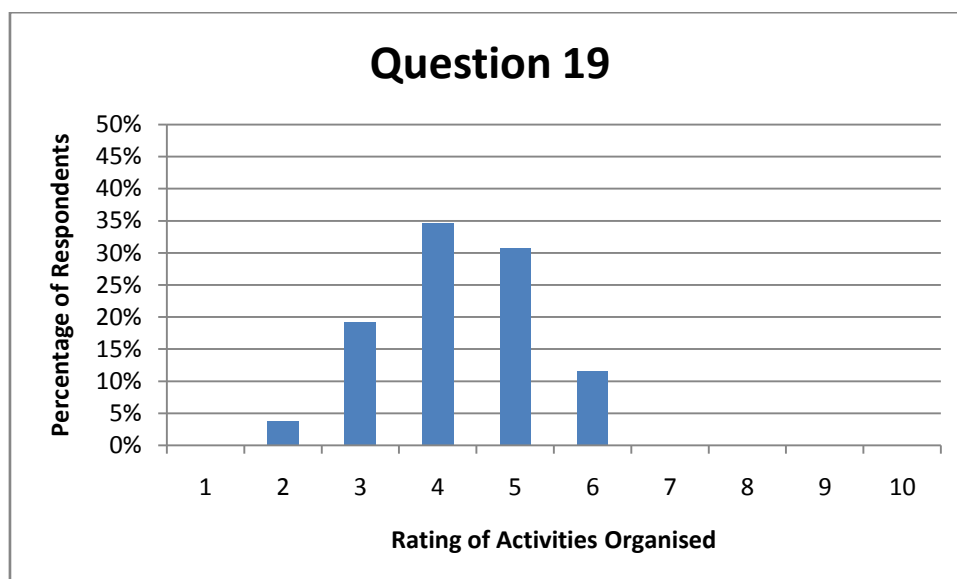


Figure 5: On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the activities organised by the municipality?

When asked if they feel that the activities organised by the Municipality are sufficiently promoted within their community, 62 per cent answered that they were not (Q.20). However, around half of respondents, 54 per cent, said that there is sufficient translation of adverts into other languages by the Municipality (Q.21). Respondents were also asked whether there is an easily available schedule for the events organised by the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica: 62 per cent of respondents said that there is not, while only 38 per cent said that there is (Q.10). However, half of respondents said that the schedule was available in Serbian, while 15 per cent said that it was not, and 23 per cent answered that they did not know (Q.11). It is positive that, when asked if there are regular problems with the activities being cancelled, only one (1) respondent said that this is the case, with 25 saying that it was not (Q.12).

When asked if the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica offers the ability for minority communities to celebrate any specific holiday days in their culture, it is positive that 88 per cent of respondents said that they do (Q.8). Respondents were then asked to give examples of the days which they were aware of being able to celebrate. Most (38 per cent of respondents) just said Christmas and Easter, while several also mentioned other days, such as St. Sava's Day, 1st May, and New Year's Eve. One respondent mentioned that the Roma community are allowed to celebrate St. George's Day with music in public premises (Q.9). Only one (1) respondent mentioned that there is any funding available from the Municipality, however, this individual said that even then there is not much money.

Location	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Municipal Buildings	0	0%
Public Buildings	13	50%
Public Spaces	9	35%
Private Spaces	3	12%

Table 3: Where are the activities you are aware of organised?

Respondents were then asked where the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica organises activities (Q.16). The responses are shown in the table above, which illustrates that most respondents said that they were organised in public buildings such as schools and municipal sports centres. When asked if multiple communities use the same spaces for events, 54 per cent of respondents said that they do, while 46 per cent said that they did not (Q.17). Respondents were then asked to rate the premises available for activities within their Municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10 (Q.18). As Figure [x] shows below, all respondents apart from one (1) gave the premises between 2 and 6 on the scale, with most giving them middling scores of 5.

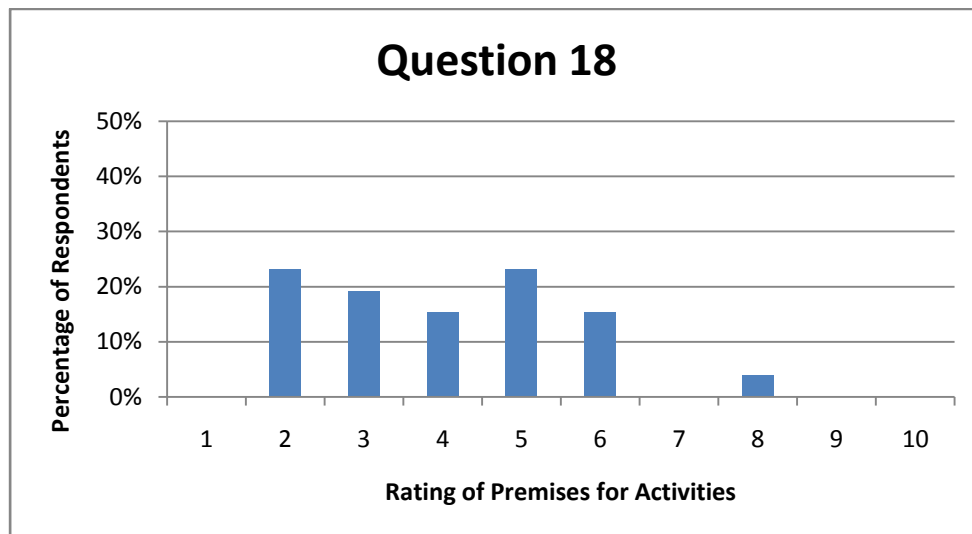


Table 4: How would you rate the conditions of the places available for events?

No respondents, when asked if their municipality coordinates any projects with outside organisations, such as NGOS, or central level institutions, answered that they were aware of this happening (Q.14). Meanwhile, only 8 per cent (two (2) respondents) were aware of the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica coordinating activities with other communities (Q.15).

Finally, respondents were asked if they are aware of inter-community activities organised by the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica. Just over half of respondents, amounting to 54 per cent, said that they are aware of inter-communitiy activities (Q.22). Moreover, 96 per cent of respondents answered that they feel it is important for the Municipality of Kamenicë/Kamenica to hold both intra- and inter-community activities (Q.23).

KLOKOT/KLLOKOT

ECMI Kosovo, and its partners, received 30 responses from the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot for the 'Youth Activities' questionnaire. Of these respondents, 90 per cent said that they only spoke Serbian, with only two (2) respondents saying that they also speak Albanian, and one (1) saying they speak Russian, and one (1) English (Q.2).

When asked whether they were aware of activities organised for their community by the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot, 60 per cent of respondents were (Q.3). Respondents were then asked what type of activities they are aware of being organised: 40 per cent said youth activities, 18 per cent of cultural activities, 10 per cent of sporting activities, while a third did not list any they were aware of (Q.4). Only 54 per cent of respondents said that these activities are organised regularly, with 62 per cent saying that they are not (Q.5).

The responses, when asked how often these events are organised, varied widely, as is shown in the Figure below. Most respondents, amounting to 26 per cent, said that these activities are organised by the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot every day, while between three (3) and six (6) per cent of respondents chose the other options provided (Q.6).

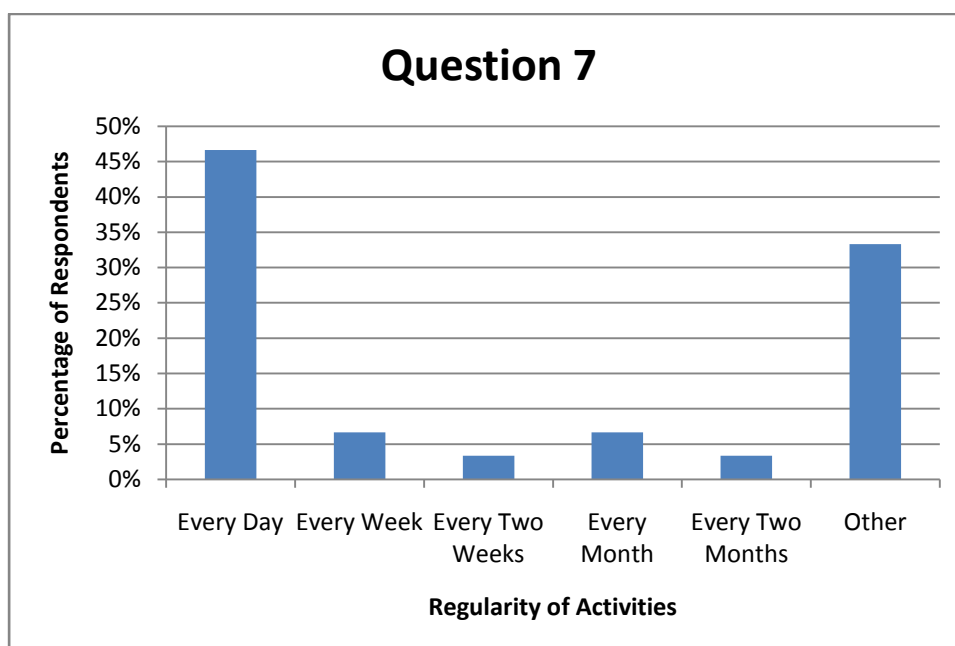


Figure 6: How often are these activities organised?

Moreover, the vast majority of respondents selected that these events are organised for members of their community aged between 15 and 20 years old, with 73 per cent of respondents stating this (Q.7). Only 23 per cent of respondents said that these are organised for people aged between 10 and 15 years old, while 3 per cent said they

were organised for members of the community aged between 20 and 25. No respondents said there were activities organised for those under 10 years old, or over 25.

However, when asked, only 27 per cent of respondents had ever personally attended any activities organised by the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot (Q.13). Of those who had attended activities, only sports and folklore events were listed as activities.

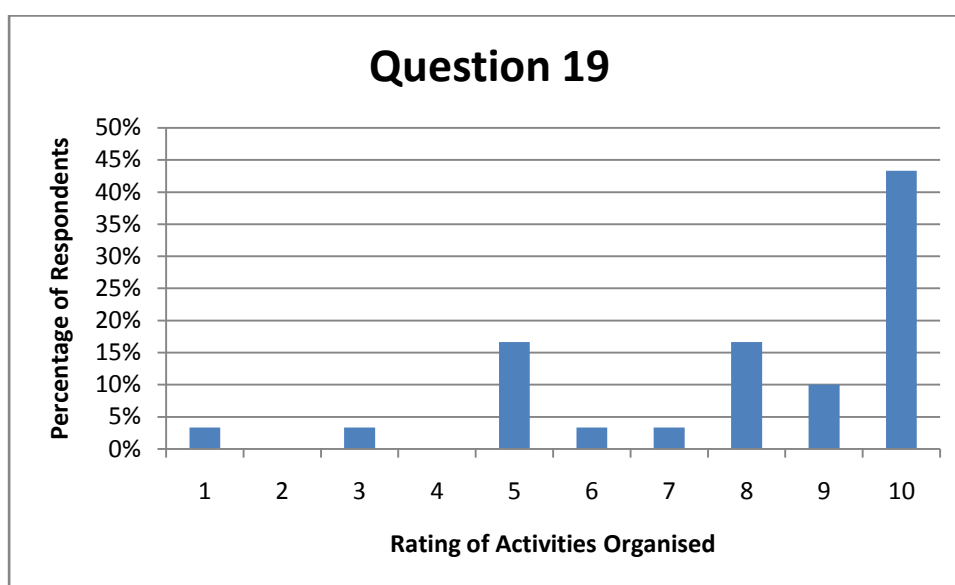


Figure 7: On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the activities organised by the municipality

Respondents were then asked to rate the activities organised by the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being very bad and 10 being excellent. As Figure [x] shows, there was a spread of results across the scale, but it is positive that over 40 per cent of respondents gave the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot the highest possible rating, while only six (6) per cent gave them a score below 5 on the scale (Q.19).

When asked if their Municipality advertises the activities are sufficiently advertised within their community, 73 per cent of respondents said that this was the case, while only 27 per cent said that there were not regular adverts in Serbian (Q.20). However, only 57 per cent of respondents said that these adverts were sufficiently translated into Serbian, with 43 per cent saying that they are not (Q.21).

According to the respondents, there is a commonly available schedule of events, with 87 per cent of respondents saying this is the case (Q.10). Moreover, 93 per cent of respondents said that this schedule is available, either in original or translation, in their mother tongue; with only one (1) respondent saying that this is not the case (Q.11). It is also positive that 80 per cent of respondents said that there is not a problem with these schedules not being followed, or activities being cancelled within the Municipality of Klokot/Klllokot (Q.12).

Respondents were asked about the venues for activities available in the Municipality. As Table [x], below, shows, no respondents said that municipal buildings were available, while the largest proportion did say that these events are held in public spaces, such as sports centres and cultural centres (Q.16).

Location	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Municipal Buildings	0	0%
Public Buildings	18	60%
Public Spaces	3	10%
Private Spaces	7	23%

Table 5: Where the activities you are aware of organised?

It is also positive that, when asked, 60 per cent of respondents said that multiple communities did use these facilities for events, even though 17 per cent said that they are not used by different communities (Q.17). It is also positive that, when asked to rate the premises available for activities, the largest proportion of respondents (amounting to 44 per cent) gave them the top rating possible, as Figure [x] below, shows (Q.18).

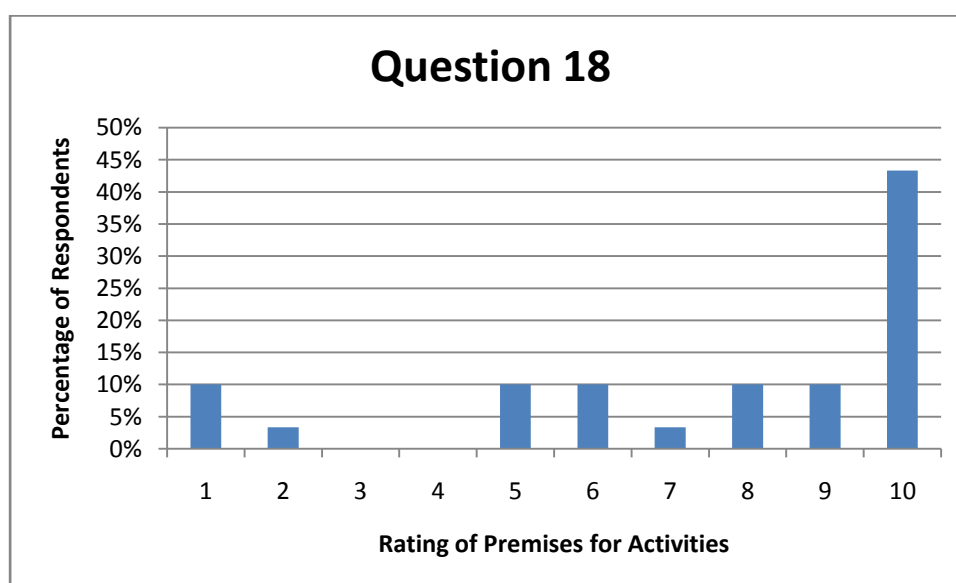


Figure 8: How would you rate the conditions of the places available for events?

When asked if the Municipality gives the ability for minority communities to celebrate any specific holiday days in their culture, 83 per cent of respondents said that they do not, with only 18 per cent saying that this is an option (Q.8). Moreover, no respondents provided examples of any holidays that the Municipality allows minority communities to celebrate, or any assistance that they give the communities (Q.9).

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No respondents, when asked if their municipality coordinates any projects with outside organisations, such as NGOS, or central level institutions, answered that they were aware of this happening (Q.14). Meanwhile, only 7 per cent (two (2) respondents) were aware of the Municipality of Klokot/Kllokot coordinating activities with other municipalities, saying that the Municipality was willing to cooperate with any others in Kosovo (Q.15).

Inter-community events are important for inclusiveness within the municipality; therefore, it is positive that 73 per cent of respondents said that there are inter-community events organised by the Municipality (Q.22). When asked, 53 per cent of respondents said that it is important for the Municipality to organise both inter- and intra-community events. Many of those who said yes, said they felt that it is important for these kinds of events to be organised as it is important for the youngsters of the communities to socialise, not only within their community, but also outside of it, in order to increase the integration within the community.

NOVOBËRDË/NOVO BRDO

ECMI Kosovo, and its partners, received 29 responses to the questionnaire on ‘Youth Activities’ from the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo. Of these respondents, 93 per cent only speak Serbian, with one (1) respondent speaking Albanian as well as Serbian, and one (1) who knows English as well as Serbian (Q.2).

When asked only 59 per cent of respondents said that they were aware of any activities organised for their community by the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo (Q.3). Of the 29 respondents, 14 said that they knew of youth activities being organised, while 6 knew of sporting activities and 9 knew of cultural activities (Q.4). However, only 34 per cent of respondents said that these events occur regularly, with 57 per cent saying that they did not occur with any regularity (Q.5)

Moreover, when asked how often these activities are organised, the largest proportion of respondents who knew – 36 per cent – stated that they were only ever around every two months (Q.6). Only 11 per cent of respondents said that they were organised on average more often than once every two weeks. Those who selected the ‘other’ option generally said that the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo organises events ‘irregularly’.

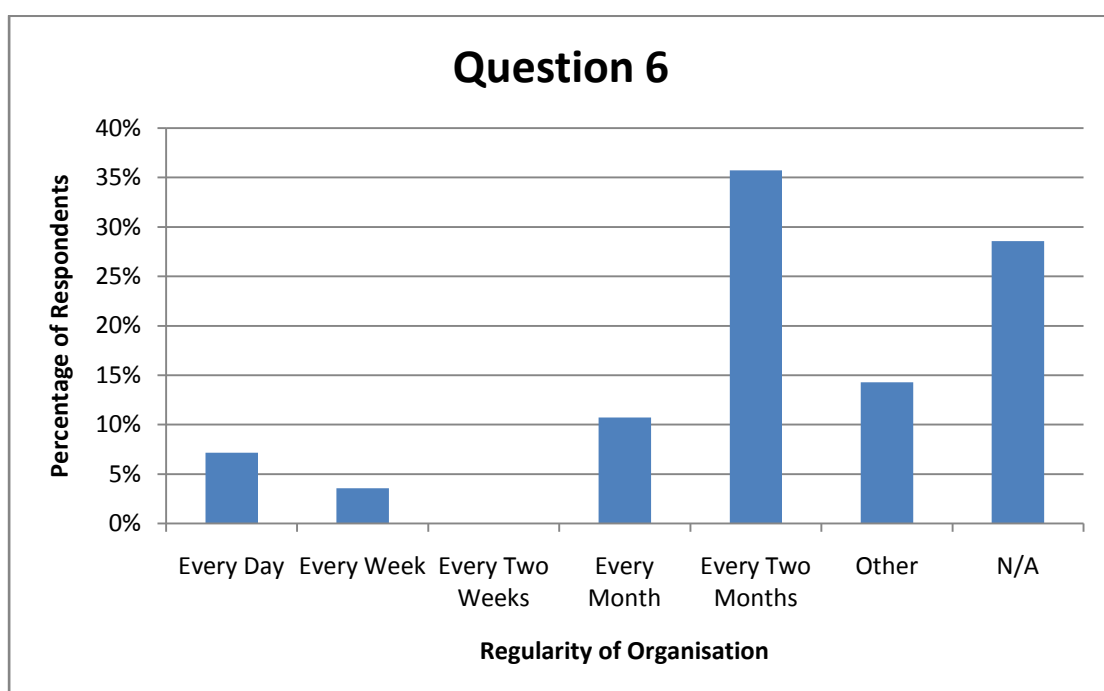


Figure 9: How often are activities organised?

The respondents were then asked about which age groups within the municipality they were most aware of the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo organising activities for (Q.7). Respondents were given the option to chose from six groups: under

10 years old, 10-15 years old, 15-20 years, 20-25 years, 25-30 years old, and other. The results are presented in Table [x], below; and from this we can see that there is a reasonably even spread across the different age groups, with 20-25 being the one with the highest percentage of respondents. It is positive that there seems to be a wide-spread across the ages, as these activities do not just seem to be focused on one specific age group.

Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Under 10 years	2	6.45%
10-15 years	3	9.68%
15-20 years	2	6.45%
20-25 years	5	16.13%
25-30 years	9	29.03%
Other	4	12.90%
N/A	6	19.35%

Table 6: What age group does the Municipality organise the most activities for?

However, when they were asked only two (2) respondents, amounting to 7 per cent of respondents, said that they had personally attended activities organised by the municipality, with 90 per cent of respondents saying that they had not ever attended any (Q.13). Of the two who had attended events, one had attended cultural seminars, while the other said they had taken part in football tournaments organised by the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo.

The respondents, when asked to rate the activities that they know organised by the Municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, were spread across the scale (Q.19). As the Figure below shows, there was a spread across the whole scale, but with a concentration of respondents at the lower end of the scale, with 24 per cent of respondents giving the Municipality the lowest possible score.

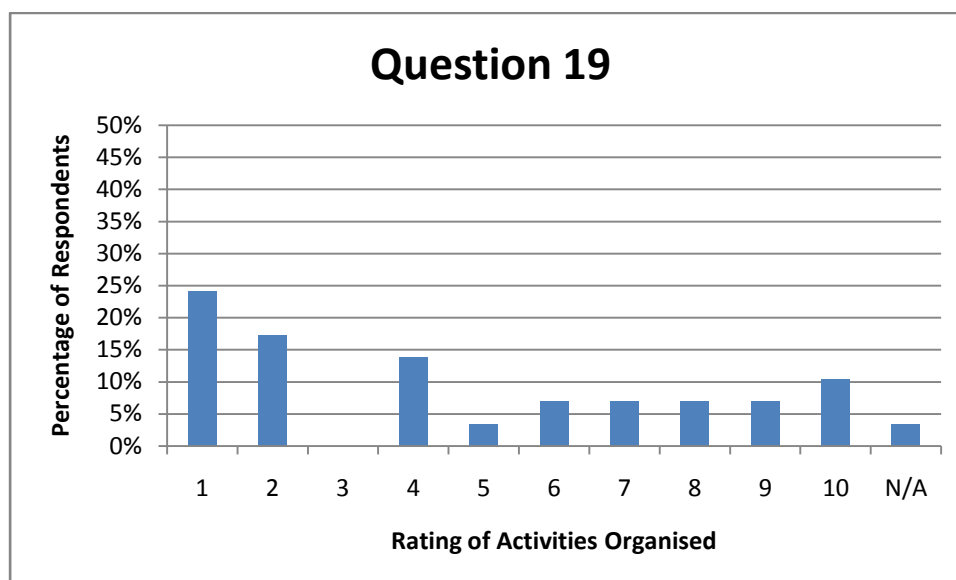


Figure 10: On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the activities organised by the municipality?

The low level of attendance of events, highlighted earlier, might be due to the perceived low level of advertisement of activities within the Serbian community. When asked, only 17 per cent of respondents said that they thought that the activities organised were advertised and promoted sufficiently within their community, with 80 per cent saying they were not (Q.20). Moreover, when asked only 66 per cent of respondents said that any adverts were also not sufficiently translated into the other languages in use in the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo (Q.21).

The respondents were then asked whether there is an easily available schedule of events available (Q.10). Only 38 per cent of respondents said that it was available, while 62 per cent said that it was not. Moreover, only 28 per cent of respondents said that they knew that this schedule is available in their mother tongue, either in the original or translated version (Q.11). There were also a large percentage of respondents, 76 per cent, who said that when there is a schedule available, there are problems with it not being followed, with many of these respondents highlighting that there were issues with the municipality suddenly delaying events (Q.12).

The most respondents, amounting to 11 individuals, when asked, said that events are held in municipal buildings (Q.16). This was closely followed by public spaces (such as squares and public sports centres) and private spaces (such as hotels), with 10 respondents saying that they knew of events being organised in each of these. Moreover, only 24 per cent of respondents said that multiple communities use the same buildings and spaces for their events, with 72 per cent of respondents saying that this does not occur as far as they are aware (Q.17).

The respondents were also asked to rate the conditions of the places that are available for the events held by the municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the lowest

and 10 being the highest. As can be seen from Figure [x] below, there was a relatively even spread across the scale, with 37 per cent of respondents giving the spaces a rating of 3 or lower, while 34 gave them a rating of 8 or higher (Q.18).

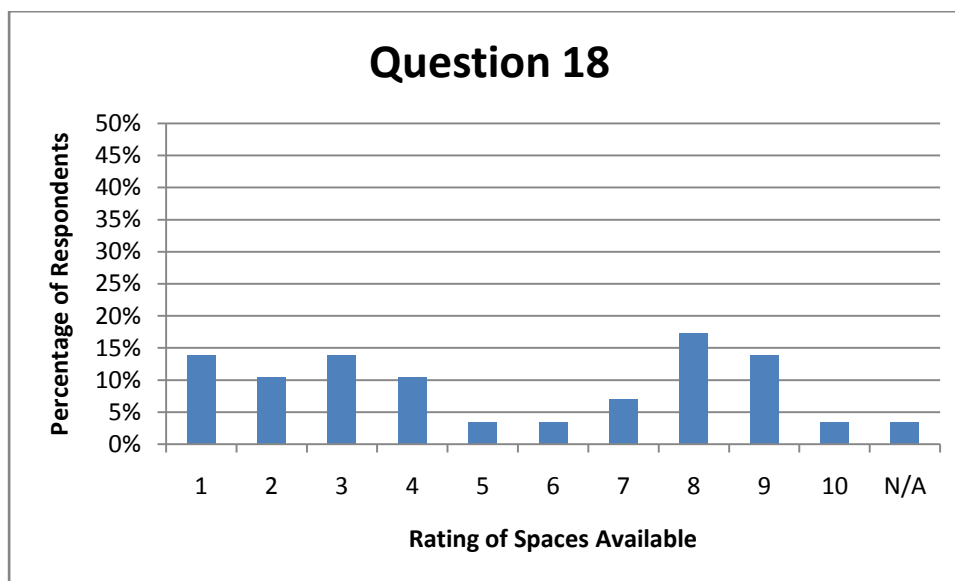


Figure 11: How would you rate the conditions of the places available for events?

The questionnaires also asked the respondents about their knowledge of whether the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo allows minority communities within their municipality to celebrate holiday days that are specific to their community (Q.8). The respondents were nearly even split, with 45 per cent saying that they were able to, while 55 per cent said that they were not. Those who said that they were able to highlighted religious celebration days, such as Easter and Christmas as celebrated days, along with some national days; however, none of them said that the Municipality supported these in terms of giving financial aid to the celebrations (Q.9).

Only 7 per cent of respondents said that they were aware of the Municipality of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo cooperating with other organisations in Kosovo, such as NGOs, and these individuals said that they were only aware of it occurring when there are calls for public work (Q.14). The same percentage said that they were aware of Novobërdë/Novo Brdo cooperating with other Municipalities in Kosovo, with 90 per cent saying this had never occurred (Q.15).

It is also important to highlight that only 24 per cent of respondents said that the activities that are organised by the Municipality are open to members of multiple communities, with 66 per cent saying that they are never inter-community events (Q.22).

Finally, the respondents were asked if they feel that inter- and intra-community activities are important, and whether they feel that the Municipality should organise

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these (Q.23). Sixty-two (62) per cent of respondents said that these kinds of activities are important, while 34 per cent of respondents said that they feel that they are not. The respondents highlighted that these activities are important so that the communities can integrate properly and for the youth to become more active.

PARTEŠ/PARTESH

ECMI Kosovo, and its partners, received 30 responses to the questionnaire about 'Youth Activities' from the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh. Of these respondents, 87 per cent said that they only speak Serbian. Two (2) respondents also speak Albanian, the other official language of Kosovo, and three (3) also speak English (Q.2).

When asked, only 37 per cent of respondents said that they were aware of any activities organised for their community by the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh (Q.3). Of the 30 respondents, 12 said that they knew of youth activities being organised, while 17 knew of sporting activities and 11 knew of cultural activities (Q.4). However, only 30 per cent of respondents said that these events occur regularly in comparison to 50 per cent saying that they did not occur with any regularity (Q.5)

Moreover, when asked how often these activities are organised, the largest proportion of respondents who knew – 17 per cent – stated that they were only ever organised approximately every two months (Q.6). Only one (1) respondent said that they were organised on average more often than once every two weeks. Those who selected the 'other' option generally said that the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh organises events every four (4) to five (5) months.

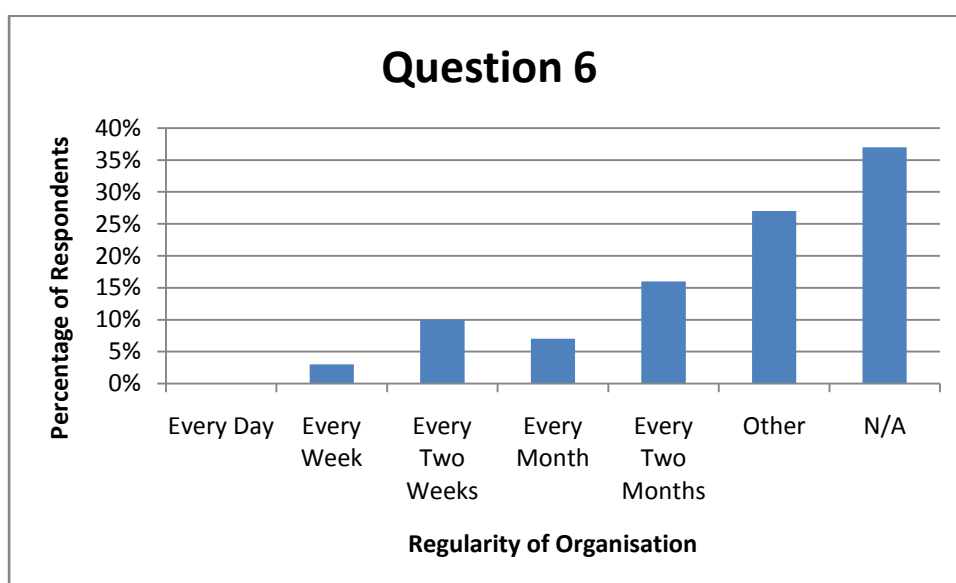


Figure 12: How often are activities organised?

The respondents were then asked about which age groups within the municipality they were most aware of the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh organising activities for (Q.7). Respondents were given the option to choose from six groups: under 10 years old, 10-15 years old, 15-20 years old, 20-25 years old, 25-30 years old, and other. The

results are presented in Table 7, below, and from this we can see that there is a reasonably even spread across the different age groups, with 10-15 years and 15-20 years being the groups with the highest percentage of respondents (n=7 each).

Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Under 10 years	3	10.00%
10-15 years	7	23.33%
15-20 years	7	23.33%
20-25 years	6	20.00%
25-30 years	1	03.33%
Other	1	03.33%
N/A	8	26.66%

Table 7: What age group does the Municipality organise the most activities for?

However, when they were asked, only three (3) respondents (10%) said that they had personally attended activities organised by the municipality, with 90 per cent of respondents saying that they had not ever attended any (Q.13). Of the three who had attended events, only one gave further details about the event saying that they had attended a football tournament organised by the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh in 2013.

The respondents, when asked to rate the activities that they know organised by the Municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, were concentrated between a score of between 3 and 5 indicating a somewhat poor perception of municipality event organisation (Q.19).

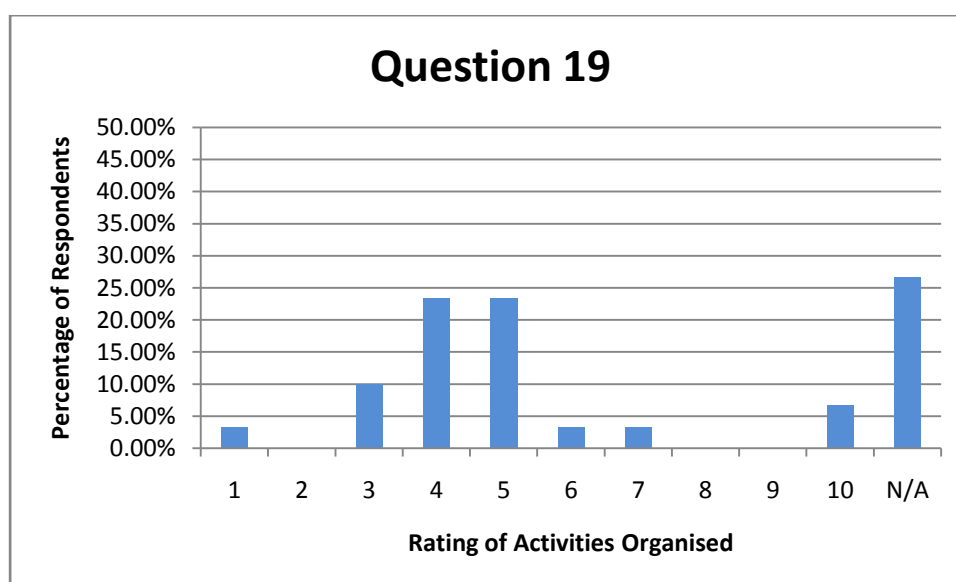


Figure 13: On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the activities organised by the municipality?

The low level of event attendance, highlighted earlier, might be due to the perceived low level of advertisement of activities within the Serbian community. When asked,

only 13 per cent of respondents said that they thought that the activities organised were advertised and promoted sufficiently within their community, with 80 per cent saying they were not (Q.20). Moreover, when asked 47 per cent of respondents said that any adverts were also not sufficiently translated into the other languages in use in the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh (Q.21).

The respondents were then asked whether there is an easily available schedule of events available (Q.10). 40 per cent of respondents said that it was available, while 37 per cent said that it was not. Therefore, no major conclusions can be drawn. Moreover, only 40 per cent of respondents said that they knew that this schedule is available in their mother tongue, either in the original or translated version (Q.11). An equal number of respondents (n=12) said that there are problems with schedules being followed as those who said that there are no such problems (Q.12).

The majority of respondents, amounting to 11 individuals, when asked, said that events are held in public buildings (Q.16). The next most common venue were said to be public spaces (n=5), municipality buildings (n=4) and private spaces (n=3). Only 23 per cent of respondents said that multiple communities use the same buildings and spaces for their events, with 53 per cent of respondents saying that this does not occur as far as they are aware (Q.17).

The respondents were also asked to rate the conditions of the places that are available for the events held by the municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest. As can be seen from Figure 14 below, the majority of respondents (90%) gave a score between 3 and 8 (Q.18).

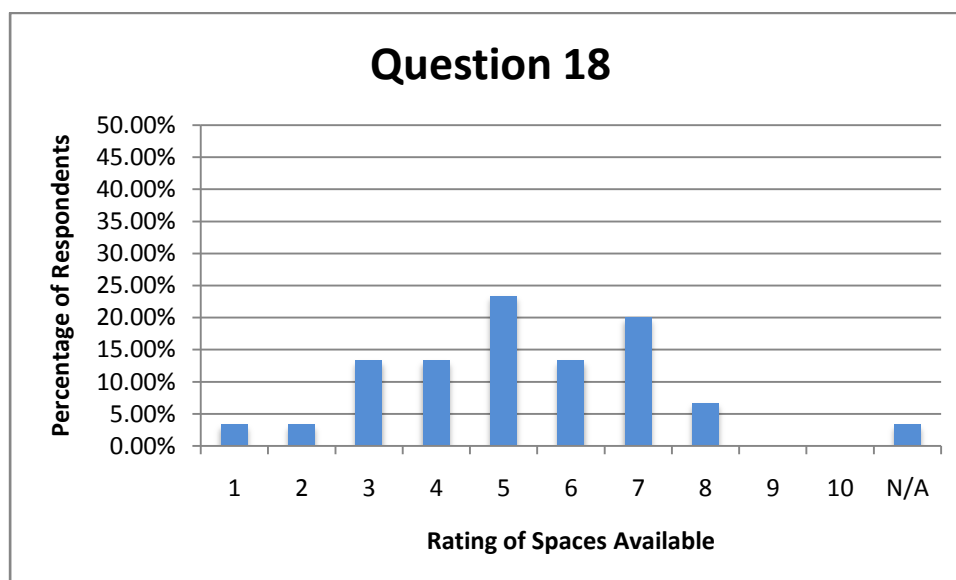


Figure 14: How would you rate the conditions of the places available for events?

The questionnaires also asked the respondents about their knowledge of whether the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh allows minority communities within their municipality to celebrate holiday days that are specific to their community (Q.8). An almost equal

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number of participants said that the Municipality does allow minority communities to celebrate any holidays (30%), does not permit such celebrations (33%), or did not answer the questions (37%). Those who said that they were able to celebrate their holidays listed the permitted holidays as being religious and public holidays (Q.9).

Only 13 per cent of respondents said that they were aware of the Municipality of Parteš/Partesh cooperating with other organisations in Kosovo, such as NGOs (Q.14). Only one (1) respondent said that they were aware of Parteš/Partesh cooperating with other Municipalities in Kosovo. The remaining 97 per cent said that they were not aware of such activities (Q.15).

It is also important to highlight that only 20 per cent of respondents said that the activities that are organised by the Municipality are open to members of multiple communities, with 57 per cent saying that they are never inter-community events (Q.22).

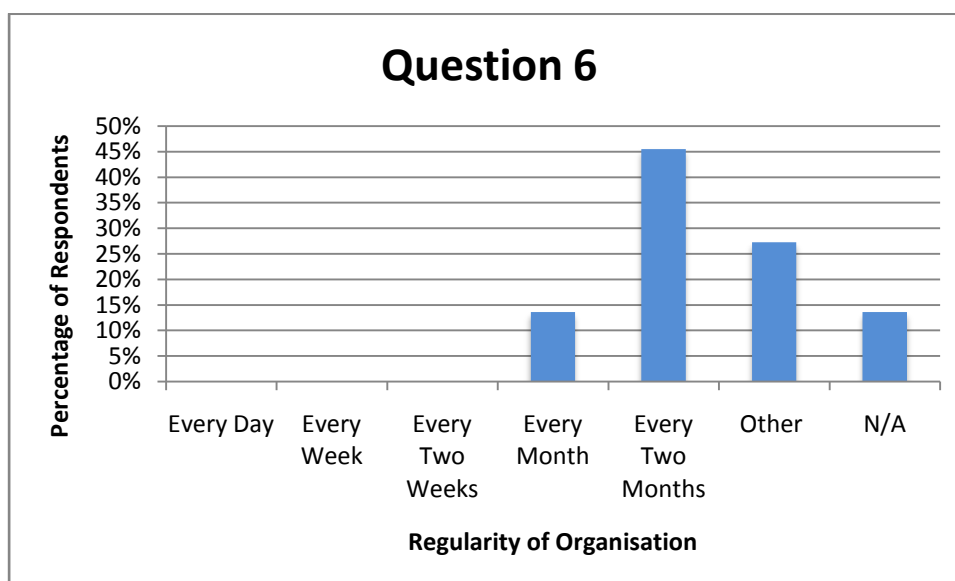
Finally, the respondents were asked if they feel that inter- and intra-community activities are important, and whether they feel that the Municipality should organise these (Q.23). Sixty-three (63) per cent of respondents said that these kinds of activities are important, while 34 per cent of respondents said that they feel that they are not. The respondents highlighted that these activities are important so that the younger generations can be involved in their Municipality, learn about other Municipalities and interact with people from other Municipalities.

RANILUG/RANILLUG

ECMI Kosovo, and its partners, received 22 responses from the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug for the 'Youth Activities' questionnaire. Of these respondents, all but one (1) said that they only speak Serbian, while one (1) said that they also speak English. None of the respondents said that they also speak Albanian, the other official language of Kosovo (Q.2).

When asked, 86 per cent of respondents said that they were aware of activities organised for their community by the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug (Q.3). Of the 22 respondents, 5 said that they knew of youth activities being organised, while 15 knew of sporting activities and 4 knew of cultural activities (Q.4). 73 per cent of respondents said that these events occur regularly, whereas 22 per cent of respondents stated the contrary (Q.5).

Moreover, when asked how often these activities are organised, the largest proportion of respondents who knew – 45 per cent – stated that they were only ever organised approximately every two months (Q.6). No respondent said that they were organised on average more often than once per month. Those who selected the 'other' option generally said that the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug organises events yearly.

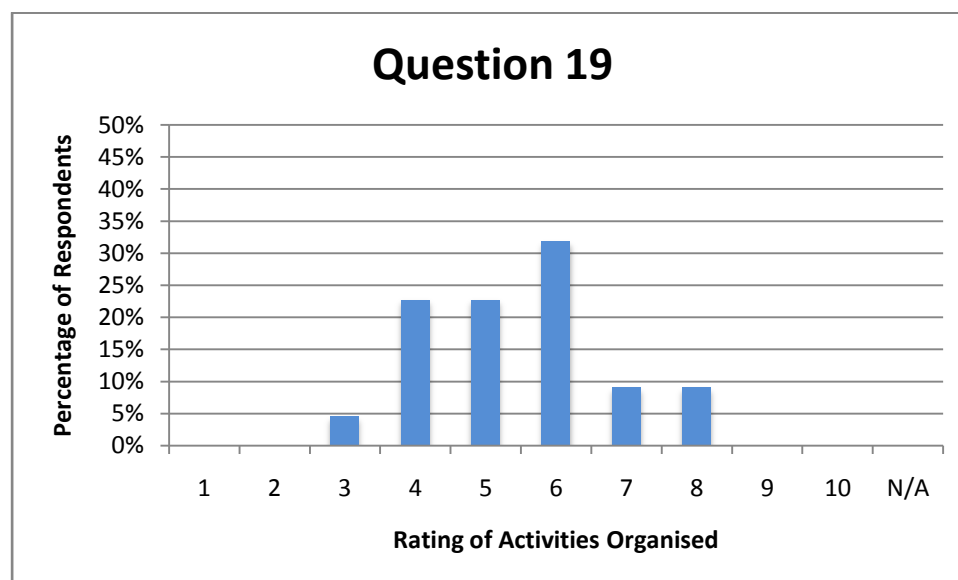


The respondents were then asked about which age groups within the municipality they were most aware of the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug organising activities for (Q.7). Respondents were given the option to choose from six groups: under 10 years old, 10-15 years old, 15-20 years old, 20-25 years old, 25-30 years old, and other. The results are presented in Table [x], below. The majority of respondents stated that the 20-25 years age bracket is the most catered for (n=6).

Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
Under 10 years	1	4.54%
10-15 years	0	0.00%
15-20 years	4	18.18%
20-25 years	6	27.27%
25-30 years	4	18.18%
Other	5	22.72%
N/A	2	9.09%

When they were asked, 15 respondents (68%) said that they had personally attended activities organised by the municipality (Q.13). Of the three who had attended events, the majority listed football tournaments, followed by other events such as folk activities and basketball games.

The respondents, when asked to rate the activities that they know organised by the Municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, were concentrated between a score of between 4 and 6 indicating a moderate perception of municipality event organisation (Q.19).

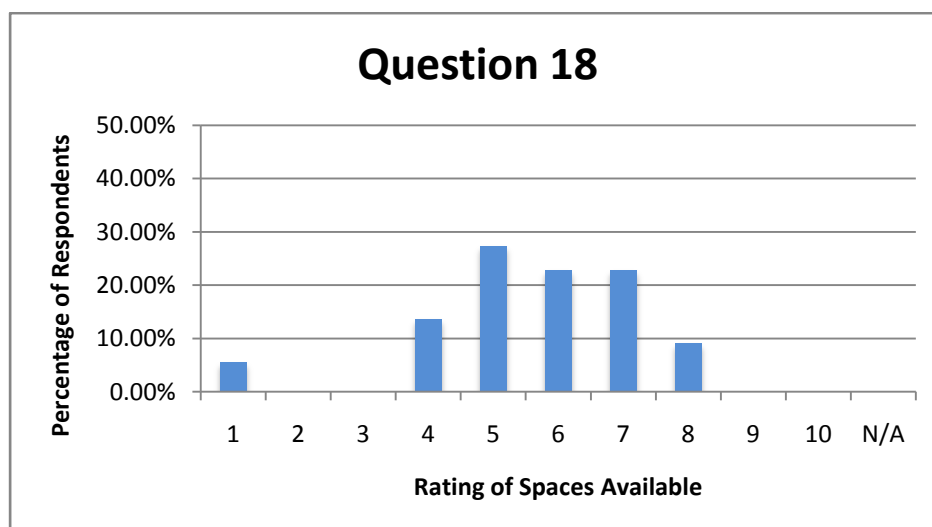


When asked, only 72 per cent of respondents said that they thought that the activities organised were advertised and promoted sufficiently within their community, a positive response in comparison to other municipalities (Q.20). Furthermore, 86 per cent of respondents said that activity adverts were sufficiently translated into the other languages in use in the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug(Q.21).

The respondents were then asked whether there is an easily available schedule of events available (Q.10). 91 per cent of respondents said that it was available. Moreover, 95 per cent of respondents said that they knew that this schedule is available in their mother tongue, either in the original or translated version (Q.11). The majority of respondents (n=17) said that there are no problems with schedules being followed, in contrast with four (4) respondents who stated the contrary (Q.12).

The majority of respondents, amounting to 15 individuals (68%), when asked, said that events are held in public buildings (Q.16). The next most common venue were said to be public spaces (n=3) and private spaces (n=3) with municipality buildings receiving the lowest number of responses (n=2). 59 per cent of respondents said that multiple communities use the same buildings and spaces for their events, with 32 per cent of respondents saying that this does not occur as far as they are aware (Q.17).

The respondents were also asked to rate the conditions of the places that are available for the events held by the municipality, on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the lowest and 10 being the highest. As can be seen from Figure [x] below, the majority of respondents (95%) gave a score between 4 and 8 (Q.18).



The questionnaires also asked the respondents about their knowledge of whether the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug allows minority communities within their municipality to celebrate holiday days that are specific to their community (Q.8). The majority of participants said that the Municipality does allow minority communities to celebrate their holidays (68%), in contrast with 32% who stated the contrary. Those who said that they were able to celebrate their holidays listed the permitted holidays as religious holidays and the Day of the Republic (Q.9).

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Only one (1) respondent said that they were aware of the Municipality of Ranilug/Ranillug cooperating with other organisations in Kosovo, such as NGOs (Q.14). Furthermore, only three (3) respondents said that they were aware of Ranilug/Ranillug cooperating with other Municipalities in Kosovo. The remaining 86 per cent said that they were not aware of such activities (Q.15).

Slightly fewer respondents (45%) stated that the activities that are organised by the Municipality are open to members of multiple communities, than those who stated the contrary (55%), indicating that inter-community events may not be commonplace (Q.22).

Finally, the respondents were asked if they feel that inter- and intra-community activities are important, and whether they feel that the Municipality should organise these (Q.23). Fifty-five (55) per cent of respondents said that these kinds of activities are important, while 45 per cent of respondents said that they feel that they are not. The respondents highlighted that these activities are important as they are not organised very often, but they could allow for community exchange.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the research conducted on the issue of youth and cultural activities, there are several recommendations that ECMI Kosovo and its partners wish to put forward.

The organisation of youth and cultural activities is key for the integration of minority communities into the municipalities as a whole. Through the organisation of these activities, the younger members of the communities can socialise with different communities. With 50% of its population under the age of 25, Kosovo has the youngest population in Europe. Considering the significant portion of the population that is classified as youth, little has been done to adequately address their needs, leaving them disillusioned with Kosovo institutions and lacking motivation to be politically active. Frequently marginalised for their ethnic background, youth from Serb communities are at an even greater disadvantage.

There were issues raised in several of the municipalities such as Gjilan/Gnjilane and Parteš/Partesh, where the majority of respondents did not know of their Municipality organising any activities for members of their communities. This is something that should be addressed by these municipalities, as it is important that there are these events organised.

It is also central that the Municipalities respect the Law on Languages, and ensure that the notifications and schedules of events are translated into the languages in local use, so that all communities are able to access them, and therefore partake in any activities organised. This was also shown by the relatively small number of respondents who said that they had ever attended events organised by their municipality and the fact that also there was a relatively small number of respondents who said that the municipality translated all schedules into the local languages. By not translating the documents related to these events, the Municipality are preventing those members of the Serbian minority community who do not speak Albanian from accessing the events, and thus reducing their community's interactions within other groups.

Moreover, the Municipalities should also work to ensure that there is a regular schedule, and that it is followed, to ensure that there is regular interaction between the communities. It is also important that all municipalities develop activities for all age groups, including younger children, so that there is more socialisation between communities at a younger age. This is also key to make sure that the divisions between communities are not cemented at a younger age.

The Municipalities should also work to invest in the facilities available for the communities to use for activities and events, to ensure that they are of acceptable quality, something that not all respondents said was currently occurring. Moreover,

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several communities registered that the facilities available are not made use of by all communities. This will impact on the different communities and may prevent integration within the municipality.

It might be beneficial for the different municipalities to coordinate projects with each other. By organising activities across the Municipalities the different communities can pool their resources, as well as facilitating more communication between members of the Serbian community who live in different Municipalities. Moreover, by doing this, the Municipalities might be able to attract more donors in order to gain investment into their communities so that they can organise better events within their municipalities.

The law requires also that minority communities are allowed to celebrate their own holidays. While it seems that across all municipalities there are the provisions available to celebrate these, the Municipalities should make sure that the public spaces are open to all their communities to celebrate their specific days.

Finally, when they were asked the majority of respondents from the Serbian community said that they wished that their municipality organised more events for their community. Nearly all respondents said that this would be beneficial by increasing the socialisation of their communities and integration of the communities over all. This is an issue that it seems that the Serbian community are invested in, and as such if there is

V. ANNEX I

QUESTIONNAIRE - YOUTH ACTIVITIES ORGANISED IN ANAMORAVA REGION

European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI) Kosovo in partnership with Communication with Social Development (CSD) and Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Womens' Organisation of Kosovo (NRAEWOK) on behalf of the project "Empowering Civil Society to Participate Effectively in Policy and Decision-Making Processes through Dialogue with Government Institutions", funded by the European Union Office in Kosovo supported the establishment of the **Anamorava Serb Youth Community Network**. The establishment of Anamorava/Pomoravlje region Network will foster a link between various CSOs from the region and will better advocate for their respective local government structures. One of the activities of the Network is to conduct a research on youth activities that are organised in this region.

Thus, we would kindly ask you to spend five (5) minutes of your time to fulfil this questionnaire.

Thank you for your support!

Questions

1. In which Municipality do you live?

2. What languages do you speak?

3. Are you aware of any activities organised for your community by your municipality?

YES

NO

4. What type of activities do your municipality organise for your community? Please tick as appropriate.

- I. Youth activities (including youth groups, trips);
- II. Sports (including sports teams, competitions);
- III. Cultural activities (art groups, visits, exhibitions, concerts).

5. Are the activities organised regularly?

YES

NO

6. If yes, how often are they organised?

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- I. Every day;
- II. Every week;
- III. Every two weeks;
- IV. Every month;
- V. Every two months;
- VI. Other.

If other, please specify: _____

7. What age groups do the municipality organise the most activities for?

- I. Under 10 years old;
- II. 10 – 15 years old;
- III. 15 – 20 years old;
- IV. 20 - 25 years old;
- V. 25 – 30 years old;
- VI. Over 30 years old.

8. Does your municipality offer the ability for minority communities to celebrate any specific holiday days in their culture?

YES NO

9. If yes, please give details about what days are observed and how the municipality aids this (for example, do they allow use of public spaces, do the schools observe the holidays, do they offer any form of financial support).

10. Is there an easily available schedule for events?

YES NO

11. If yes, is the schedule available in your mother tongue, either in the original or in a translated version?

YES NO

12. Are there problems with the schedule not being followed/activities being cancelled?

YES NO

If yes, please give further details.

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13. Have you ever attended any activity organised by your municipality?

YES

NO

If yes, please give further details of the activities you have attended.

14. Are you aware of the municipality coordinating any projects with outside organisations, such as Non-Governmental Organisations, donors, or central level institutions?

YES

NO

If yes, please give details of what events, and with whom are they organised?

15. Are you aware of your municipality organising events in cooperation with other municipalities across Kosovo?

YES

NO

If yes, please give details of which municipalities, and what projects.

16. Where are the activities you are aware of organised? Please tick all applicable.

- I. Municipal buildings (e.g. municipal offices, town halls);
- II. Public buildings (e.g. schools, sports centres, university buildings);
- III. Public spaces (e.g. streets, squares, fields);
- IV. Private spaces (e.g. privately-owned football fields, hotels, restaurants).

17. Do multiple communities use the same buildings and spaces within your municipality for events?

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YES

NO

18. How would you rate the conditions of the places available for events? With 1 being very bad, and 10 being excellent.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Other comments:

19. On a scale of 1 to 10 how would you rate the activities organised by the municipality? With 1 being very bad and 10 being excellent.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

Other comments:

20. Do you think that any activities organised by the municipality are advertised and promoted sufficiently within your community?

YES

NO

21. Are there sufficient translations of advertisements into other languages within the municipality?

YES

NO

22. Are there multi-community activities organised by the municipality?

YES

NO

23. Do you think that it is important for the municipality to organise these types of activities, both within and between communities?

YES

NO

Please, explain your answer.

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