



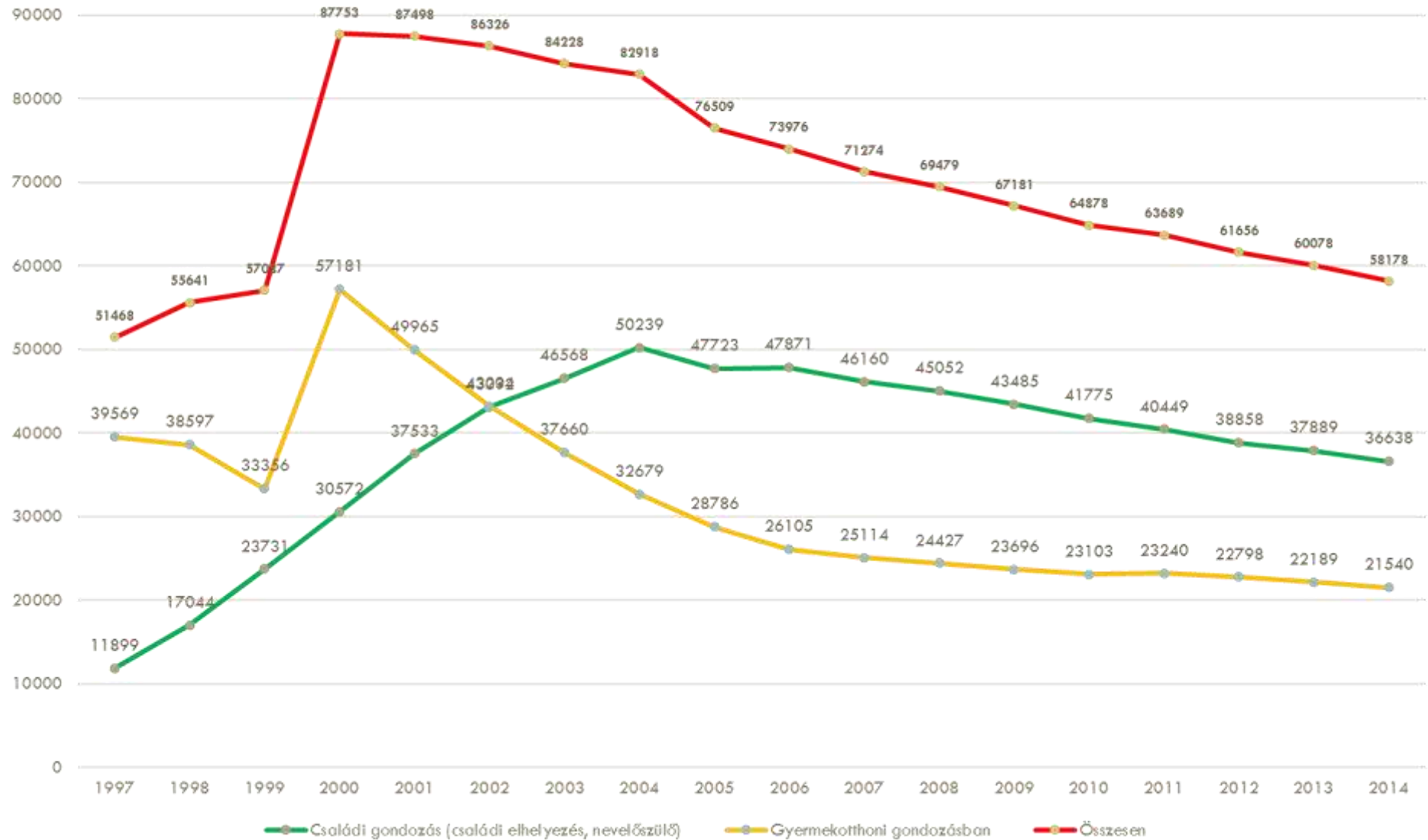
ASPECTS OF YOUTH WELFARE A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

OVERVIEW OF YOUTHCARE IN ROMANIA

Reform of Romanian childcare system started in 1997. Main aspects:

- decentralization - operation of the system becomes the responsibility of counties.
- elimination of large, centralized institutions.
- Developing a network of foster parents, and home placement of children.
- home placement for the youngest and special boarding schools are integrated into childcare system
- county level child protection and social services directorates are united

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN SOCIAL CARE (1997 – 2014)



INSTITUTIONS AT COUNTY LEVEL

In Romania, the protection of children's rights is regulated by Law nr. 272 /2004

The age at which young people are getting out of the social protection system:

- 18 years for those who are not continuing their studies
- at the age of 26 if full-time students are continuing their studies

2 more years can be required for those young people who cannot start an independent life at that point, with one condition – they must not refuse any kind of job offer.

- Family-type placement centers- 45 apartments
- Foster parents – (200 persons)
- Placement center next to special school – 2 centers
- Severely injured children placement center – 2 centers
- Emergency placement centers
- Living centers– 24 centers (most are run by non-governmental organizations)
- NGOs placement centers- 8 centers

Decentralized placement houses in Harghita county



Harghita county child protection system includes the following types of services:

Placement:

- with their family (**200 children**)
- foster parents (**410 children**)
- family-type placement center (**400 children**)
- classic placement center (next to special schools) (**110 children**)
- severely injured children placement center (**68 children**)
- centers of non-governmental organizations (**100 children**)
- living centers (**600 children**)

Consulting (with all the children from the system)

Case management (the examination of the child violation marks, the placement in a reintegrated family, preparations and oversight)

Emergency admission

Adoption

Child protection agencies:

- **Family-type placement centers-** 45 apartments
- **Foster parents– (200 persons)**
- **Placement center next to special school – 2 centers**
- **Severely injured children placement center – 2 centers**
- **Emergency placement centers**
- **Living centers– 24 centers (most are run by non-governmental organizations)**
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-Children involved in household tasks and farming in their houses



THE SAINT FRANCIS FOUNDATION OF DEVA

Saint Francis Foundation of Deva is a non-profit organization founded by Bőjte Csaba - a Franciscan brother in 1993, he begun his work by adopting several homeless children

The Deva Foundation operates primarily in the Deva region of Romania and has support centers throughout Romania – 9 counties, 80 localities, 2300 children. Altogether the foundation helped over 5000 poor and orphaned children.

Their goals are:

- To help orphan, semi-orphan children with disadvantaged psicho-social, economic and cultural background
- To create equal opportunities , to ensure linguistic and religious identity and conditions for intellectual, physical and moral development

Their service was developed as an alternative system for the state child protection system, aiming to correct those deficiencies

Children at the Saint Francis Foundation of Deva



THE SAINT FRANCIS FOUNDATION OF DEVA

Structure of their activity

- Family protection – consultations, psychological and material assistance, support
- After-school care – teaching and educational activities with the purpose of socialization, effective prevention, integration – success in social inclusion
- Intarnee homes :
 - Centers for children in high risk – social families take in these children
 - Social collages – non-academic institutions, for children and youngsters – this type of social service is not listed in the national social service system
- Aftercare
 - University collages, career guidance, labor market integration, family support and housing, mother-daughter centers

EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN THE YOUTH FIELD (2010-2018)

Committee of the Regions opinion adopted in February 2016, highlighting the following:

It is necessary to react as rapidly as possible – in the area of youth affairs during the period 2016-2018

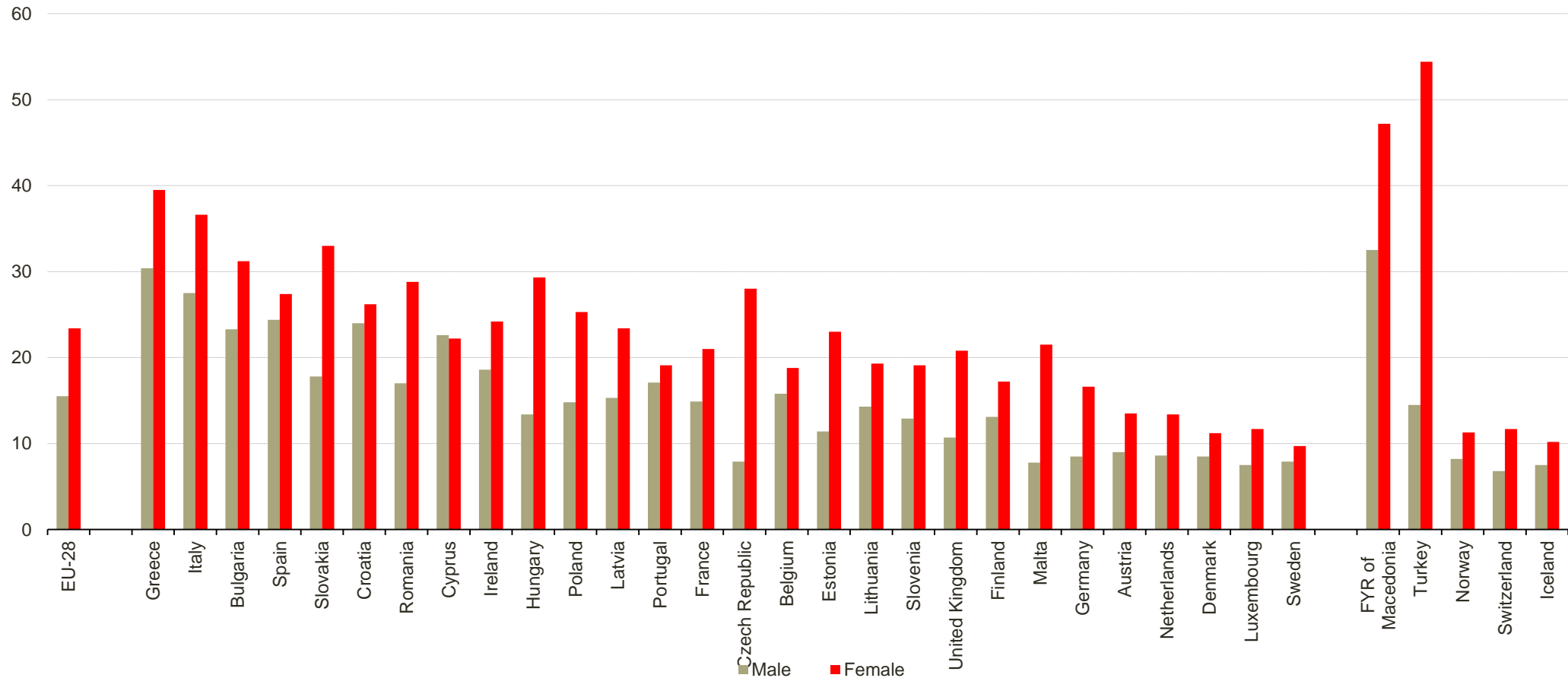
It is essential in the future to **ensure equal opportunities, promote social integration and improve the competitiveness** of young people on the labour market,

while fostering active citizenship (youth participation), the strengthening of youth work, non-discrimination and intercultural understanding, should remain the key objectives of youth policy;

We suggested the developing a **basic package** that each Member State should, where possible, guarantee for young people. This package could focus on:

- access to high speed internet
- the option of learning a second foreign language within the public education system
- career guidance and continuous mentoring
- the chance of appropriate involvement in volunteering, promoting the preparation for a first job,
- flexible and accessible forms of funding.

SHARE OF YOUNG PEOPLE (AGED 20–34) NEITHER IN EMPLOYMENT NOR IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING, BY SEX, 2014 (%)



EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN THE YOUTH FIELD (2010-2018)

the Committee underlines that all **youth strategies and policies shall incorporate horizontal measures** fighting the phenomena of discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability and sexual orientation.

It would therefore make sense to draw up, on the basis of the relevant data, appropriate action plans to increase the accessibility of **good housing conditions to young people**.

It considers it important for local and regional authorities to find local solutions that will, on the one hand, help to make the region in question more competitive and, on the other, clearly **strengthen equal opportunities among young people**;

It emphasizes the need to **foster spaces for bringing young people together**, run by local actors in partnership with, among others, private stakeholders, who can take the needs of their target group of young people and turn them into opportunities for future employability, for sounding out entrepreneurial skills and promoting active participation;

For any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

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