



EUCYS 2022 participant factsheet

14 October 2022 – DEF



INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

- This factsheet reports the results of the participant survey from EU Contest for Young Scientists (EUCYS) 2022, which took place between 13-18 September, 2022. The document is intended for EUCYS organizers and stakeholders to understand the participant experience, collect input for future editions, and gain insight about event outcomes and impact.

ABOUT THIS RESEARCH

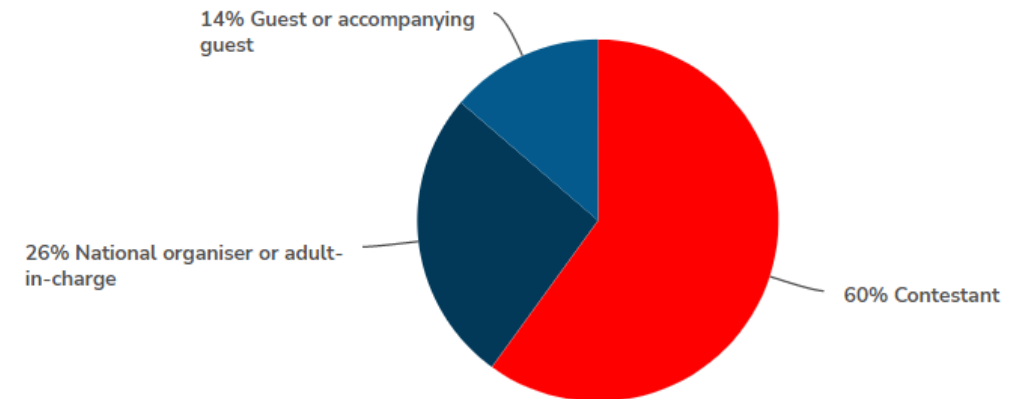
- Participant feedback was collected in late September/early October 2022 via an online survey. As of 14 October, 95 surveys had been completed (74% completion rate).
- The number of *Guests or accompanying guests* respondents ($n = 13$) is too low to offer reliable insight specific to this audience segment. Where they are included it is noted in red.
- *Jury members* received a separate survey, for which there were 15 completed responses. These results, also unreliable for data analysis, are included in the appendix; the verbatim comments can offer helpful insight.

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Samples of verbatim feedback are included in this document; full verbatim is available in a separate .xls.

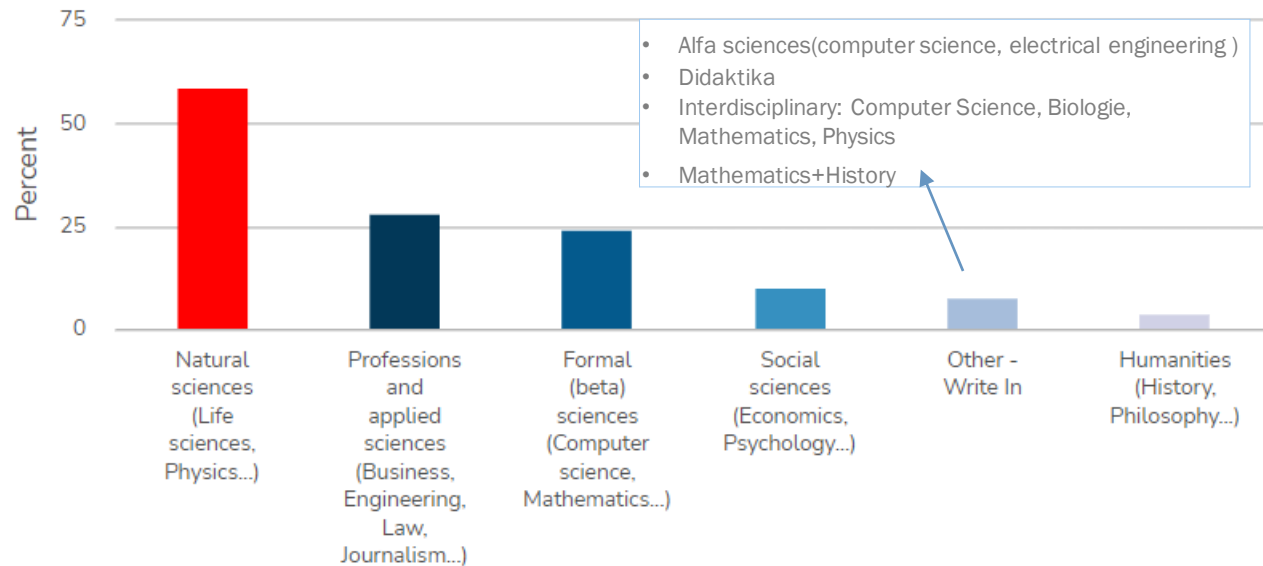
What was your role at EUCYS 2022?



Participant profile

AGE, GENDER, AND DISCIPLINE

How would you describe the scientific category or field of your project? Check all that apply



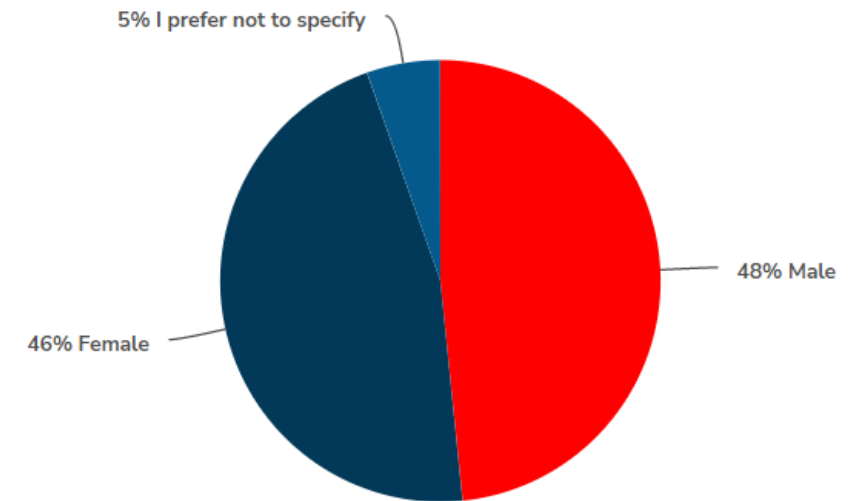
(Inter)discipline?

54 of the contestants and adults-in-charge respondents described their project within one discipline; 29 respondents defined their project as interdisciplinary (29 = 24 who checked 2 or more disciplines + 4 who described an interdisciplinary project in the “write in” field).

How old are you?



With which gender identity do you most identify?



EUCYS 2022 was an unforgettable experience that I am incredibly happy to have been a part of. It has made me proud of the shared European values.
Contestant

Satisfaction & takeaways

What drove satisfaction and dissatisfaction? How does this audience engage with EUCYS? What did participants take away from their experience?

SATISFACTION OVERALL & PROGRAMME ELEMENTS

- The average satisfaction across all participant groups was 8,43.

Satisfaction - Average across all groups	8,43
Contestant	8,40
National organizer or adult-in-charge	8,24
Guest or accompanying guest	8,92

- The contest and awards ceremony were satisfaction drivers. Dinners at the Pesthuis, and to some extent the Cultural program, were less warmly received. These points were consistent between contestants and adults-in-charge.

*...Farewell Dinner was great, but the outdoor discovery night [divided] everybody and it was an abrupt ending without common party and without goodbyes
- Adult-in-charge*

How would you rate these activities?

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Opening ceremony					
Count	0	2	6	45	29
Row %	0%	2%	7%	55%	35%
Contest at Hooglandse Kerk					
Count	0	4	3	31	44
Row %	0%	5%	4%	38%	54%
Social and cultural program (Night of Discoveries, canal tour, Silent Disco...)					
Count	2	3	22	36	18
Row %	2%	4%	27%	44%	22%
Dinners at the Pesthuis					
Count	8	15	24	28	7
Row %	10%	18%	29%	34%	9%
Awards ceremony					
Count	0	5	5	25	46
Row %	0%	6%	6%	31%	57%
Farewell dinner at the Hooglandse Kerk					
Count	2	4	17	28	30
Row %	2%	5%	21%	35%	37%

SATISFACTION: PROGRAMME ELEMENTS

How would you rate these aspects of EUCYS 2022?

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Communications before and during the event					
Count	1	5	11	42	23
Row %	1%	6%	13%	51%	28%
Location(s)					
Count	1	1	4	28	48
Row %	1%	1%	5%	34%	59%
Catering					
Count	7	8	24	29	14
Row %	9%	10%	29%	35%	17%
Atmosphere					
Count	0	0	3	32	47
Row %	0%	0%	4%	39%	57%
Scientific level of projects and participants					
Count	0	0	6	23	53
Row %	0%	0%	7%	28%	65%

- Dissatisfaction with catering appears to be driven by a lack of variety, an experience of having not enough food available, and/or a wish for meat or other protein to be included.

i like the idea of vegetarian food and support it. however, we had the same lunch every day, a bit more variety would be better. also, we asked several times for second helpings at dinner, and were denied every time. young people are hungry... - Adult in charge

- A theme in verbatim comments from contestants was making new friends and scientific exchange

I had a great time at eucys because ...the competitors we meet are part of the same universe as us (science). it was an experience I will never forget. only small flaw was the food (good but lack of meat) - Contestant

I made many new friends and exchanged many Ideas and opinions, with jury and other contestant. - Contestant

RESULTS: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

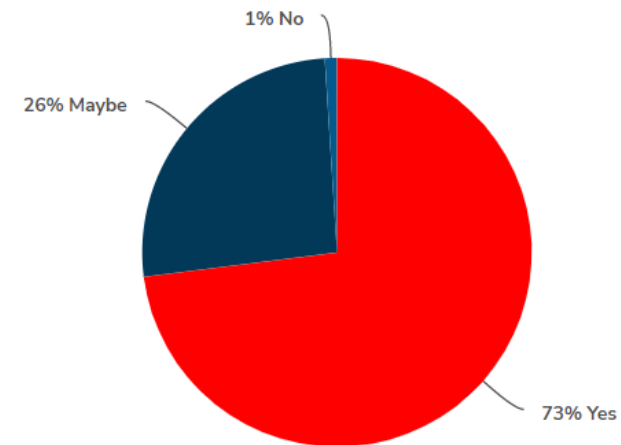
To what extent did your participation inspire you / your future career to:

	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A lot	Massively!
Make a contribution to positive societal impact					
Count	0	1	8	29	18
Row %	0%	2%	14%	52%	32%
Collaborate with people in other countries					
Count	1	0	4	14	37
Row %	2%	0%	7%	25%	66%
Combine science from different fields					
Count	0	3	11	17	26
Row %	0%	5%	19%	30%	46%

To what extent did you personally develop:

	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A lot	Massively!
Confidence in yourself					
Count	4	1	11	33	8
Row %	7%	2%	19%	58%	14%
Confidence that your efforts are valuable to society					
Count	3	3	20	18	13
Row %	5%	5%	35%	32%	23%
Belief that your efforts are needed by society					
Count	1	2	24	19	11
Row %	2%	4%	42%	33%	19%
New perspectives or ideas from the jury and/or other contestants					
Count	0	9	7	26	15
Row %	0%	16%	12%	46%	26%

Will you stay in touch with new friends or contacts from EUCYS 2022?



Of those you'd like to keep in touch with, do some:

	No	Yes
...come from a different country or region?		
Count	3	78
Row %	4%	96%
...have a different scientific interest?		
Count	7	70
Row %	9%	91%

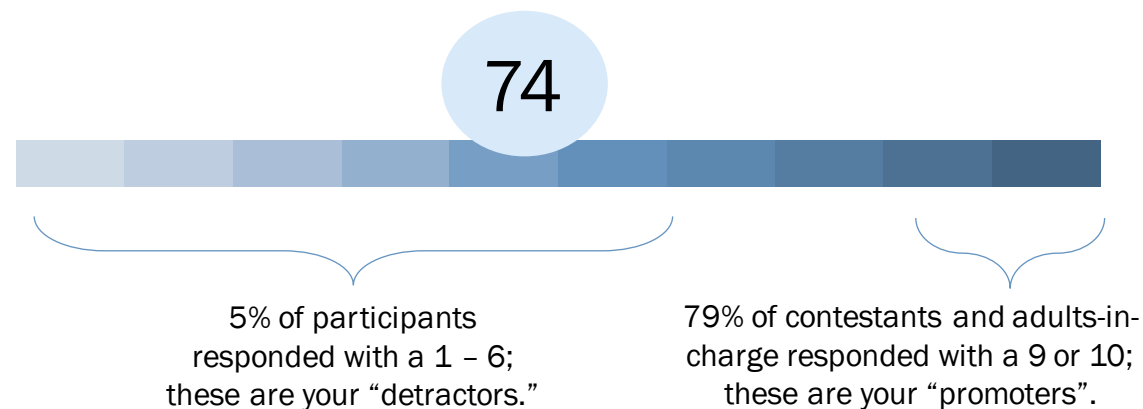
ENGAGEMENT WITH EUCYS

I believe that EUCYS helps to...

	Not at all	Somewhat	A little	A lot	Massively!
Connect science and society					
Count	0	5	11	41	36
Row %	0%	5%	12%	44%	39%
Facilitate cooperation and information exchange between young scientists					
Count	0	1	6	33	53
Row %	0%	1%	6%	35%	57%

Guest & accompanying guest responses included

Net Promoter Score
How likely are you to promote EUCYS to your network?



Net Promoter Score (NPS) is a formula based on percentage of customers rating their likelihood to recommend a company, a product, or a service to a friend or colleague. It is often used as an indicator for growth, customer engagement, and loyalty. NPS scoring ranges from a low of -100 to a high of 100. Generally speaking, a result of 30 or above is a quite positive result.

Operations

Sustainability, location, food for thought 2023

SUSTAINABILITY

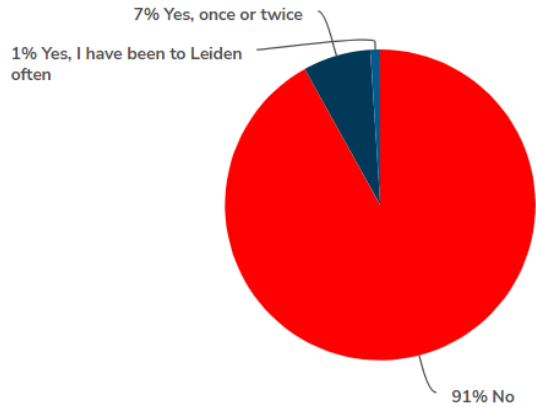
Did you appreciate EUCYS' efforts to minimize impact on the environment? For example:

	I was not aware of this.	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A lot	Massively!
Encouraging teams to travel by train (with a goal of 25% train travel) Count Row %	4 5%	4 5%	6 7%	19 23%	30 37%	19 23%
Planning all activities within walking distance and scheduling enough time for walking Count Row %	0 0%	0 0%	3 4%	9 11%	34 41%	36 44%
Offering only vegetarian and vegan catering with minimal plastic use Count Row %	1 1%	18 22%	16 20%	18 22%	11 13%	18 22%

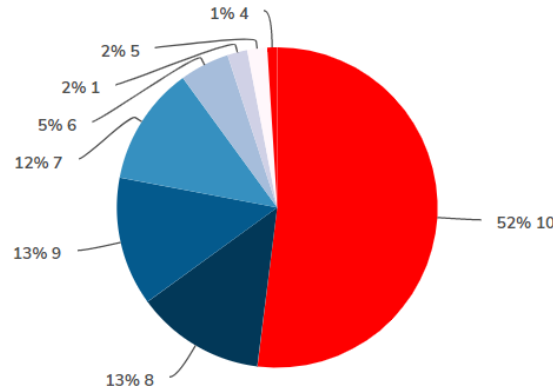
HOST CITY LEIDEN

Guest & accompanying guest responses included

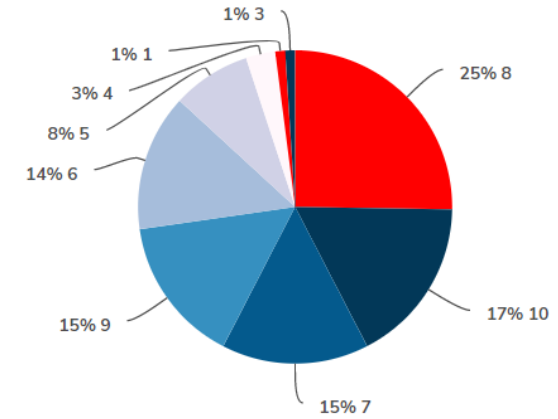
Had you ever visited Leiden before EUCYS 2022?



How likely are you to recommend Leiden to your friends, family, or colleagues as a destination?



How attractive do you personally find Leiden for future scientific work or study?



Net Promoter Score

How likely are you to recommend Leiden?

54

Net Promoter Score (NPS) is a formula based on percentage of customers rating their likelihood to recommend a company, a product, or a service to a friend or colleague. It is often used as an indicator for growth, customer engagement, and loyalty. NPS scoring ranges from a low of -100 to a high of 100. Generally speaking, a result of 30 or above is a quite positive result.

HOST CITY LEIDEN

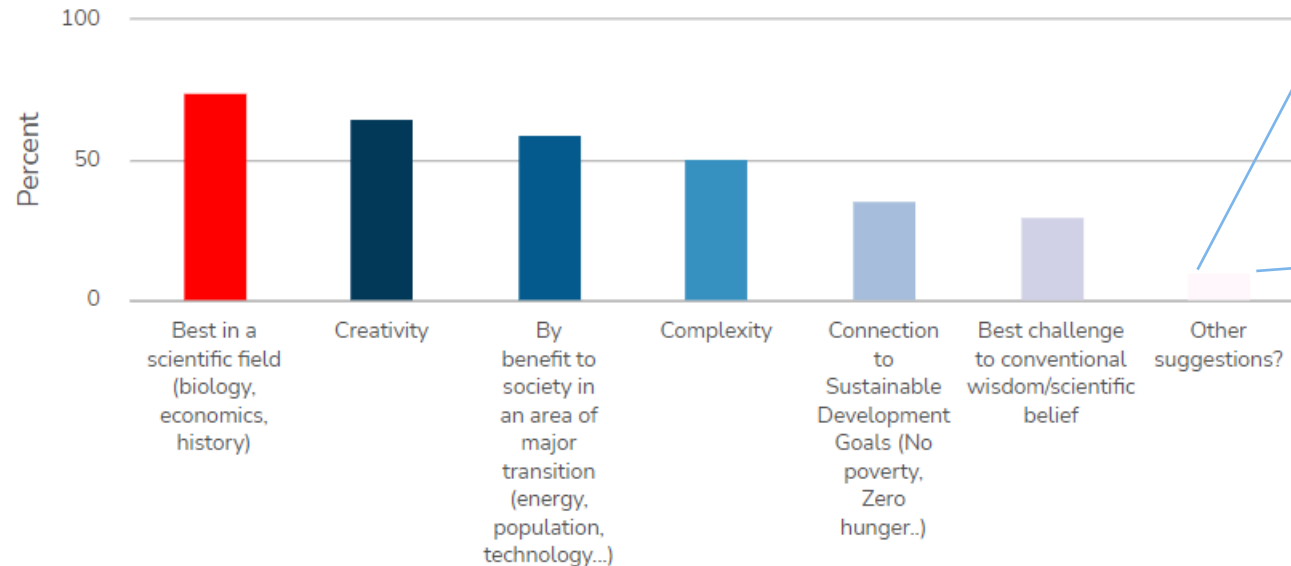
Guest & accompanying guest responses included

Leiden has shown that it is a city...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
..that connects science, knowledge, art and craftsmanship.					
Count	0	2	13	53	26
Row %	0%	2%	14%	56%	28%
...that embraces scientific talent					
Count	0	1	14	52	26
Row %	0%	1%	15%	56%	28%
...that is welcoming and makes you feel at home					
Count	1	5	7	44	37
Row %	1%	5%	7%	47%	39%
...where everyone matters, regardless of their social class					
Count	2	2	21	37	31
Row %	2%	2%	23%	40%	33%
...that sparks your interest and surprises you					
Count	0	4	15	46	28
Row %	0%	4%	16%	49%	30%

FOR THE FUTURE

If you were planning EUCYS 2023, how would YOU judge projects and award prizes? You can choose as many ideas as you like:



Contestants:

- 1) Motivation/personal drive/ tendency to keep on going despite challenges
- 2) Best per group countries (e.g. in group per 10 countries)
- 3) for their [state] of development
- 4) Future potential
- 5) Was there external help? Was it achieved alone.

Adult-in-charge:

- 1) The current judging criteria are fine. Do not change them.
- 2) The current process; best projects; works well
- 3) Scientific methodology

Recurring themes in responses to “Other feedback that can help us improve for the next edition of EUCYS?” include:

1. Improvements to the catering (variety, enough availability, reduced waste, meat...)
2. More time to interact with other contestants
3. Improvements to the jury (make-up, processes, timing)
4. More time to enjoy the city

C I G A R B O X



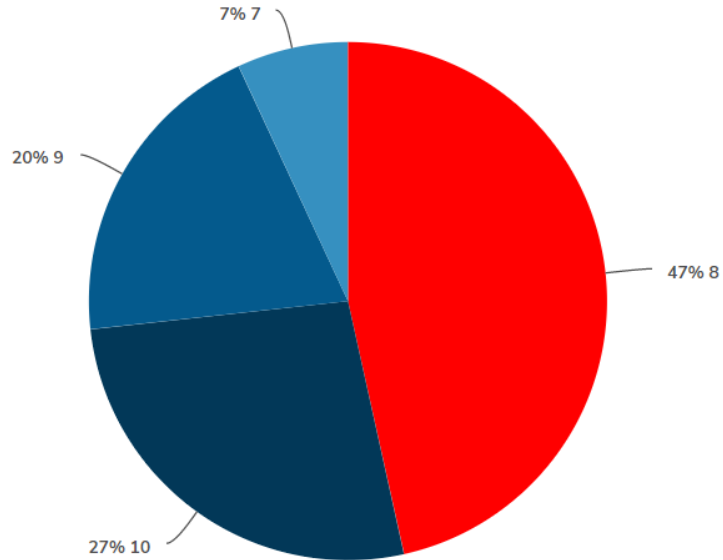
The logo consists of the letters 'C I G A R B O X' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Each letter is filled with a white icon: 'C' is a gauge, 'I' is a ruler, 'G' is a gear, 'A' is a compass, 'R' is a lightbulb, 'B' is a bar chart, 'O' is a circular arrow, and 'X' is a hammer and arrow.

APPENDIX

- Jurist results

JURY: SATISFACTION ($n = 15$)

How would you rate your overall experience at EU Contest for Young Scientists (EUCYS) 2022?



Average satisfaction = 9/10

How would you rate the following elements of your experience?

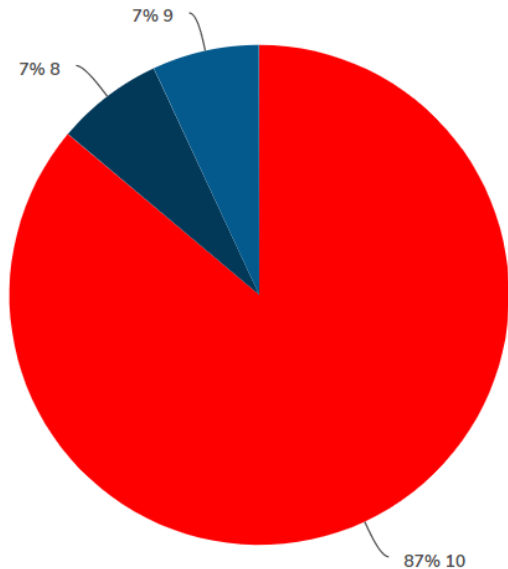
	Not applicable	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Communications before and during the event Count	0	1	0	2	9	3
Location(s) Count	0	0	0	2	7	6
Catering Count	0	0	2	4	7	2
Atmosphere Count	0	0	0	1	3	11
Scientific level of projects and participants Count	0	0	0	1	9	5

JURY: TAKEAWAYS (*n* = 15)

I believe that EUCYS helps to...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
Connect science and society Count	0	1	0	6	8
Facilitate cooperation and information exchange between young scientists Count	0	0	0	4	11

How likely are you to recommend EUCYS to others?

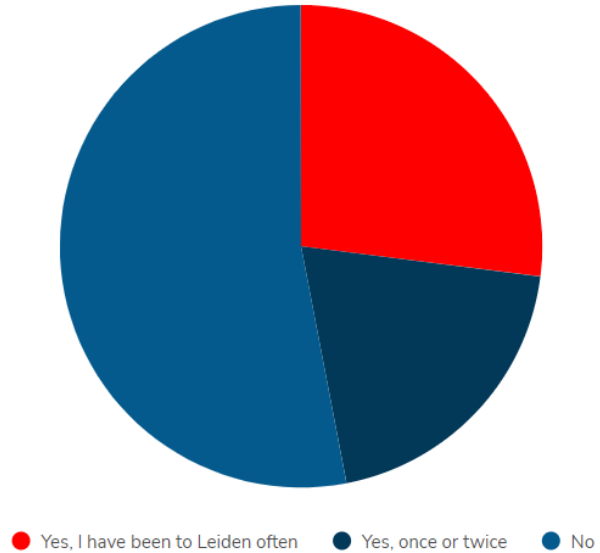


To what extent did your participation:

	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A lot	Massively!
Inspire you to (re)consider your work's contribution to positive societal impact Count	0	0	7	6	1
Introduce you to a relevant contact or institution in another country Count	2	1	8	1	2
Lead to a relevant contact from a scientific discipline other than your own Count	3	1	5	4	1

JURY: LEIDEN ($n = 15$)

Had you ever visited Leiden before EUCYS?



Leiden has shown that it is a city...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
..that connects science, knowledge, art and craftsmanship. Count	0	0	2	7	5
...that embraces scientific talent Count	0	1	3	7	3
...that is welcoming and makes you feel at home Count	0	0	2	8	3
...where everyone matters, regardless of their social class Count	0	0	4	7	3
...that sparks your interest and surprises you Count	0	0	2	11	1

JURY: VERBATIM (*n* = 15)

Highlights and stand-out moments

- Congratulations everyone, a job really well done. You've set a great example for future editions of EUCYS.
- I cannot single out a moment. It is the whole experience that is special
- Keep it up! Very good organisation :)
- Many meetings and discussions with the candidates as well with my fellow jury members. One favorite moment would be the farewell dinner in the church, sitting at these big tables and seeing the marching band walk over the tables to the exit. What a marvelous setting!
- The enthusiasm of the contestants. Nervous but excited. Warms the heart to see such young engagement with STEM.
- The selection of outdoor places to eat with the juror voucher was brilliant!!
- the students
- There are many of them

Suggestions for 2023

- Be more aware of the culture/habits of other countries. You should not impose 100% vegan meals to young people. It leads to the opposite reaction to what is intended - that people are introduced to good vegan meals, without the imposition.
- Do not skip the final party as this event is a very good opportunity for contestants to engage in an informal setting with the jury and receive further feedback and support on their work.
- Make sure that there is a relaxed indoor party after the official farewell dinner. The chance to interact with jury, contestants and national organizers vanished with the rain.
- More time to socially interact. Possibly have - in addition to the jury - one enthusiastic researcher from each participant state join in and possibly coach the students from a generally neutral, but mere scientific outreach point of view to add flavor to the national organizers. Or, 1-2 renowned researchers in each EUCYS topical area, visit and neutrally comment on the students' exhibit and talk line. This could give the students some new experience. And/or give interested students during a reception more talk time with experienced scientists. Some did enjoy this on Saturday, but far too less time to interact with those interested.