



**EUA**

European University Association



University of  
Zurich <sup>UZH</sup>

# Higher education beyond the traditional cycles: lifelong learning and employability

2018 EUA Annual Conference  
Breakout Session D

## Speakers and chair

**Michael Gaebel**, Director, EUA Higher Education  
Policy Unit

**Hanne Smidt**, EUA Senior Adviser

**Hana Machková**, EUA Board member

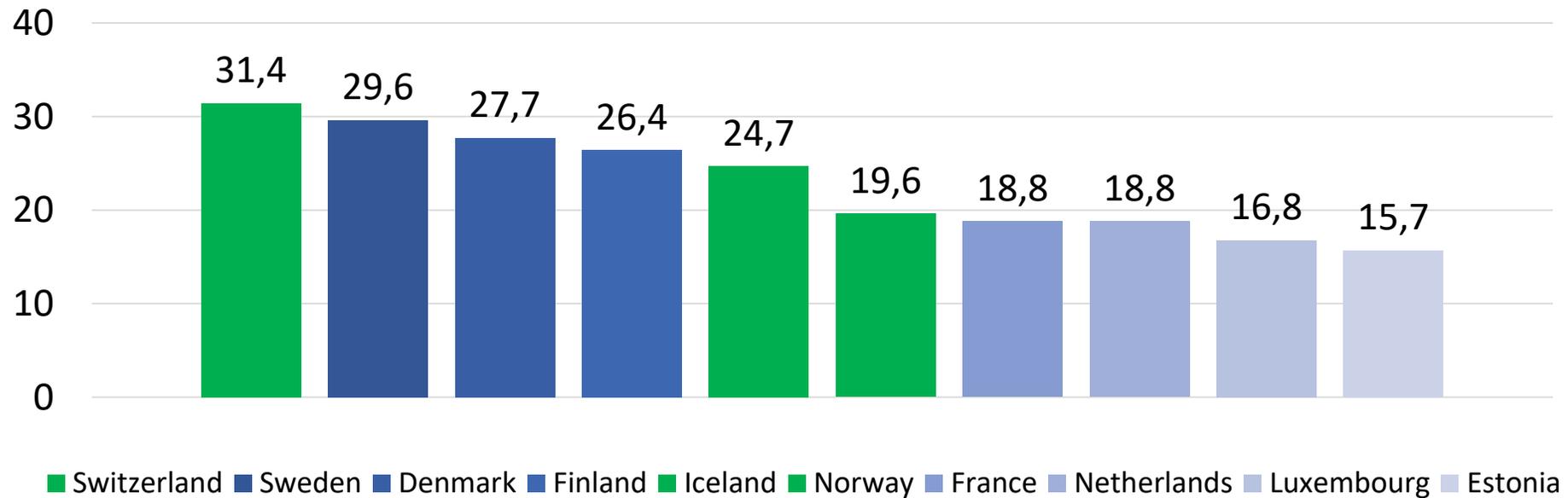
# ET 2020 - Education and Training 2020

- ET 2020 is a strategic Framework for European cooperation in education and training.
- ET 2020 provides common strategic objectives for EU member countries:

*„An average of at least **15 %** of adults should participate in lifelong learning.“*

# Adult participation in learning (%) in 2016

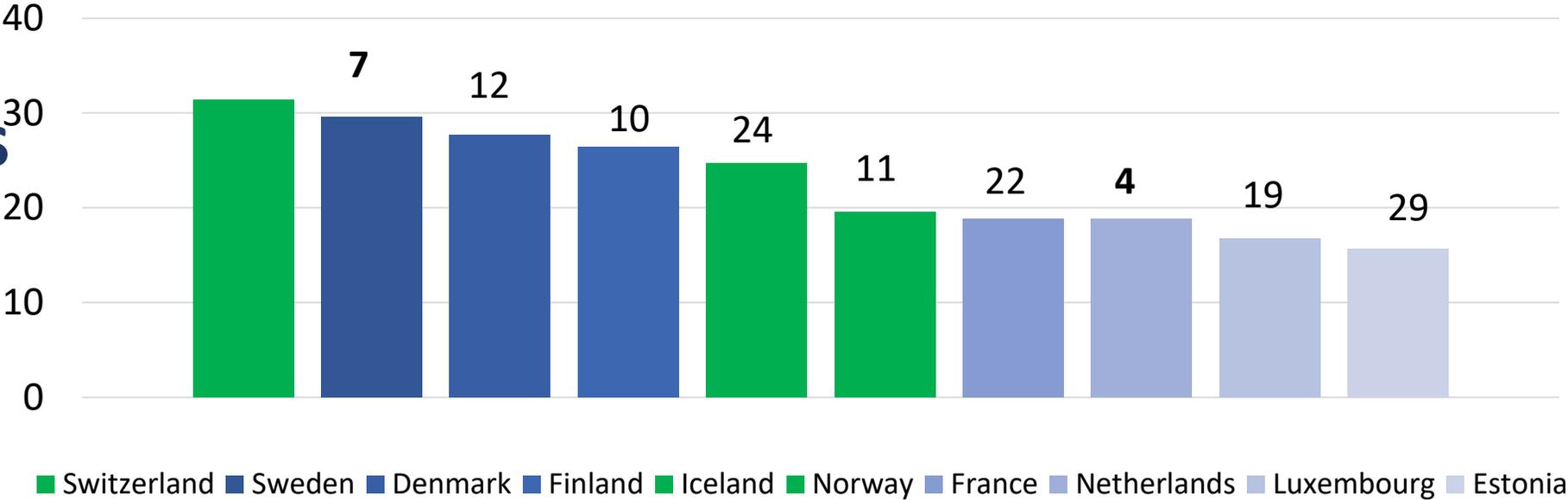
## Top 10 countries



- EU 28 average – 10,8 %
- Only 7 EU countries are fulfilling the goal of at least 15%

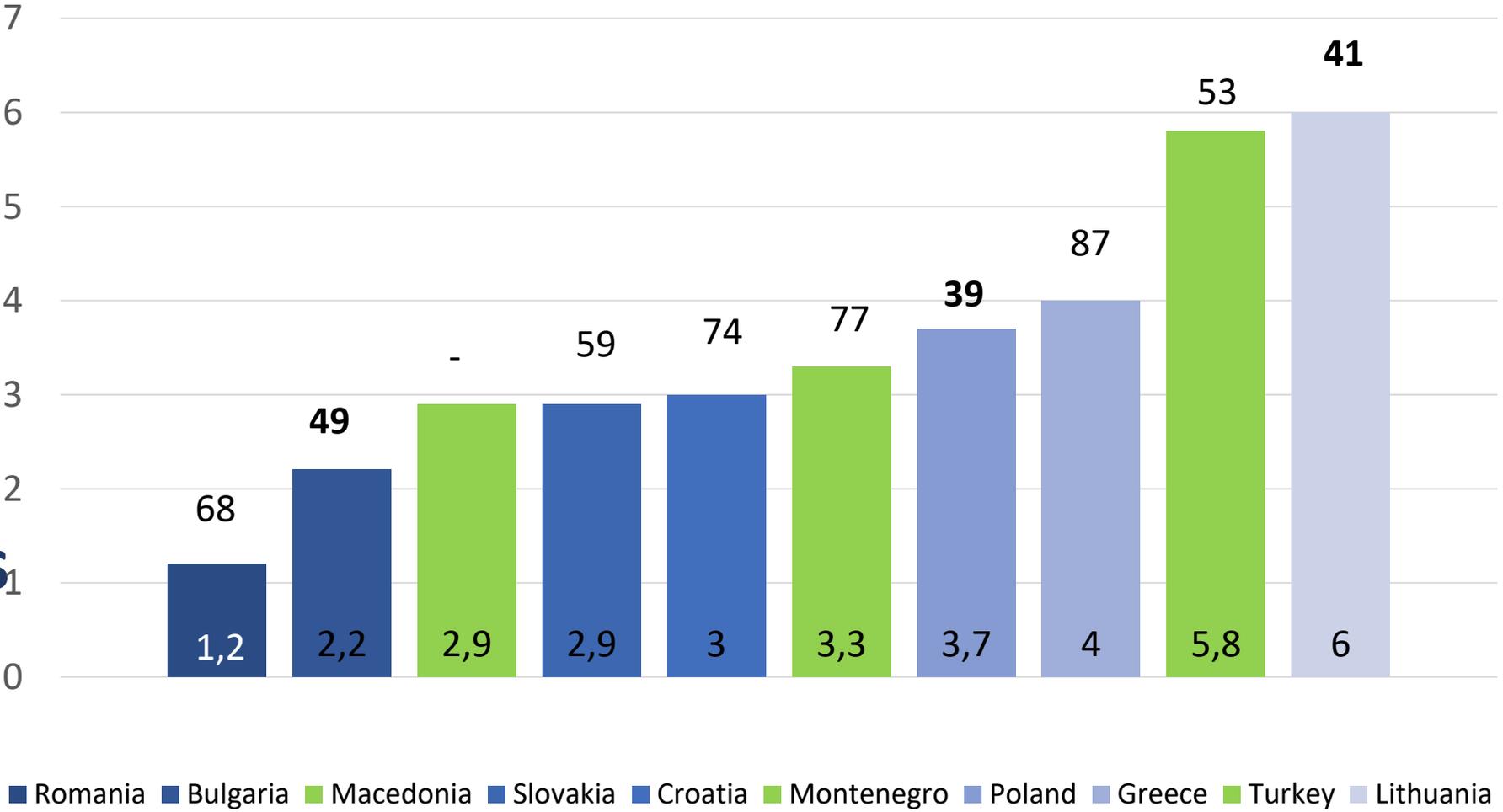
Source: Eurostat

# The Global Competitiveness Ranking (2017 – 2018) – 137 economies



Source: World Economic Forum

# Adult participation in learning lowest % countries / Global Competitiveness Ranking





**EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES'  
CHARTER  
ON LIFELONG LEARNING**

## Term “lifelong learning”

- First-time education for **disadvantaged groups**
- **Continuing education** and training for well-qualified graduates
- **Post-retirement opportunities** for cultural enrichment

# Universities commit to:

1. Embedding concepts of widening access and lifelong learning in their **institutional strategies**.
2. Providing education and learning to a **diversified student population**.
3. Adapting study programmes to ensure that they are designed to widen participation and attract **returning adult learners**.
4. Providing appropriate guidance and **counselling services**.
5. **Recognizing** prior learning.
6. Embracing lifelong learning in **quality culture**.
7. Strengthening the relationship between **research, teaching and innovation** in a perspective of lifelong learning.
8. Consolidating reforms to promote a flexible and creative **learning environment for all students**.
9. Developing **partnerships** at local, regional, national and international level to provide attractive and relevant programmes.
10. Acting as **role models** of lifelong learning institutions.