Young civic actors in the ECA see digital technologies as increasing opportunities, enabling direct engagement, improving their outreach, helping gain public support for their causes and making cross-border connectivity easier.

How do young activists use digital realm and social media platforms?

Most promoted causes online:
- Education: 70%
- Human rights and social justice: 55%
- Activities for the youth: 51%

Most used platforms:
- Facebook: 76%
- Twitter: 71%
- Instagram: 51%
- YouTube: 35%
- Other: 30%

What are barriers to equal and effective online participation?

- Sociocultural barriers: 36%
- Political barriers: 35%
- Financial barriers: 35%
- Digital barriers and threats: 32%
- Logistical barriers: 25%
- Legal barriers: 23%
- Physical barriers and threats: 12%

What are the challenges young activists face when they participate and engage online?

- There is a lot of fake news on social media: 85%
- I am worried about extremist content online: 73%
- The internet creates polarisation of opinions and public discourse: 69%
- Data is not protected and views could be used against them: 57%

60% of women say gender impacted how others reacted to their civic views, compared to men.

How does Covid-19 pandemic impact online participation?

- Exposes public to:
  - Disinformation online: 78%
  - Extreme and divisive views in society: 64%

- 65% think that excludes some groups, especially those without skills and tools.

Covid-19 also has a positive effect:
- Increasing the importance of online efforts: 84%
- Creating barriers for traditional civic activities: 69%

Percentages of survey respondents. UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub recently published the "Civic Participation of Youth in a Digital World" report, please see it here: https://www.eurasia.undp.org/library/democratic_governance/CivicParticipation.html