Youth, digitalisation and gender equality

Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the EU

Expert's Consultation Meeting,
Vilnius,
24 April, 2018

EIGE
European Institute
for Gender Equality

Our starting point: Beijing Platform for Action Critical area L: The girl child

L1. Eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child;

L2. Eliminate negative cultural attitudes and practices against girls;

L3. Promote and protect the rights of the girl child and increase awareness of her needs and potential;

L4. Eliminate discrimination in education, skills development and training;

L5. Eliminate discrimination against girls in health and nutrition;

L6. Eliminate the economic exploitation of child labour and protect young girls at work;

L7. Eradicate violence against the girl child;

L8. Promote the girl child's awareness of and participation in social, economic and political life;

L9. Strengthen the role of the family in improving the status of the girl child.

Main research questions

- How digital technologies could be safer for girls and boys?

- How digital technologies promote gender equality through youth social and political participation?

What do we want to know?

- **access** to digital technologies by different groups of girls and boys (adopting gender and intersectional perspective);

- different **risks and opportunities** for girls and boys;

- **digital spaces** as gendered spaces reflecting social hierarchies;

- forms of **online social and political participation;**

- use of **digital technologies for gender equality** and social inclusion;

- **digital literacy** to <u>recognize</u> gender stereotypes, cyber harassment and violence; to <u>avoid</u> and <u>counter</u> these practices; to know when and where to <u>seek support</u> if needed.
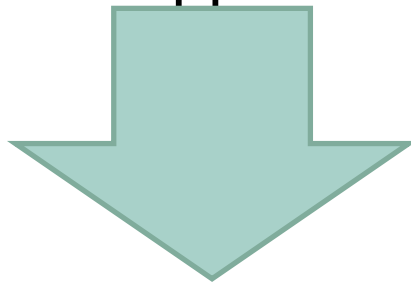
Methodological approach

Quantitative data on access to digital technologies, social and political participation, risks and digital skills (15-24)

Review of literature

Qualitative research through focus groups discussions with girls and boys (15-18) in 10 countries (AT, EE, FR, HU, IE, IT, PL, RO, ES, SE)

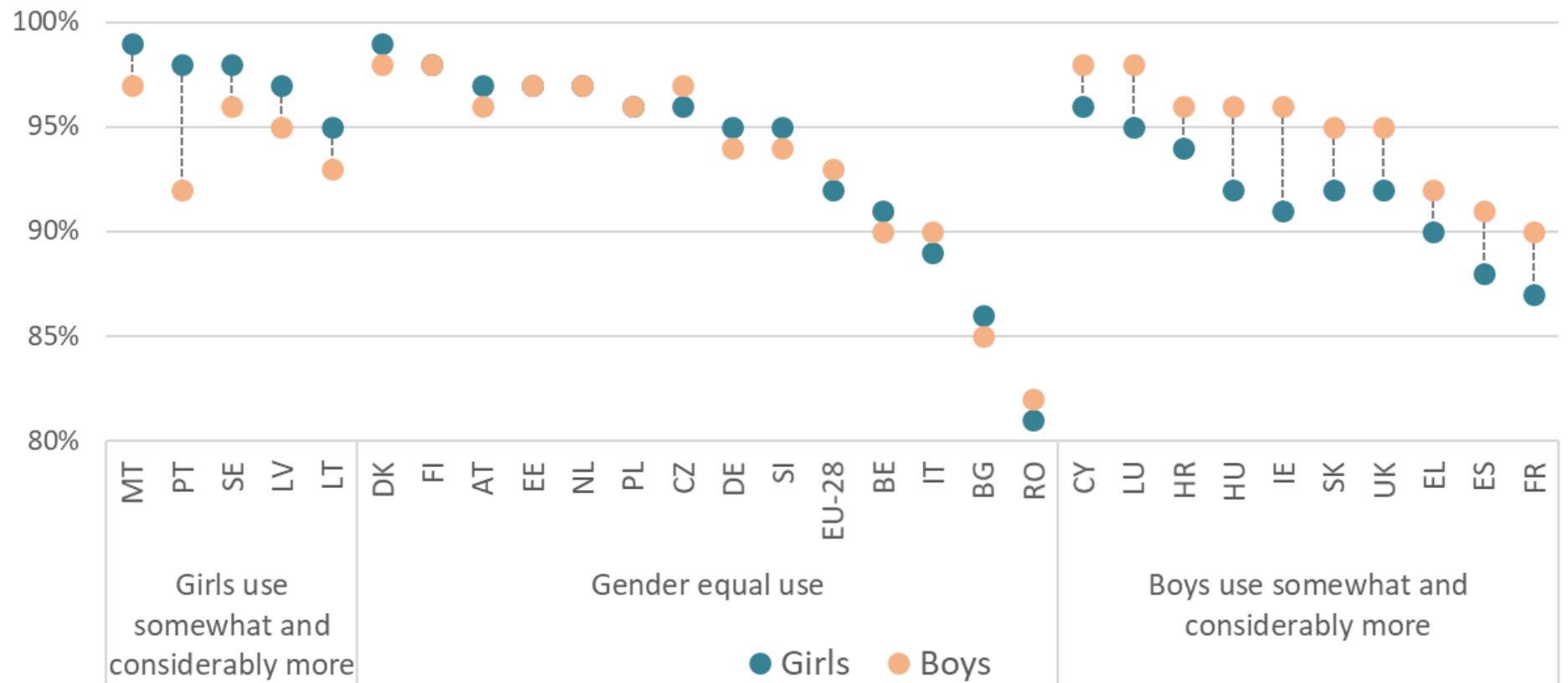Experts' interviews on risks and opportunities in 10 countries

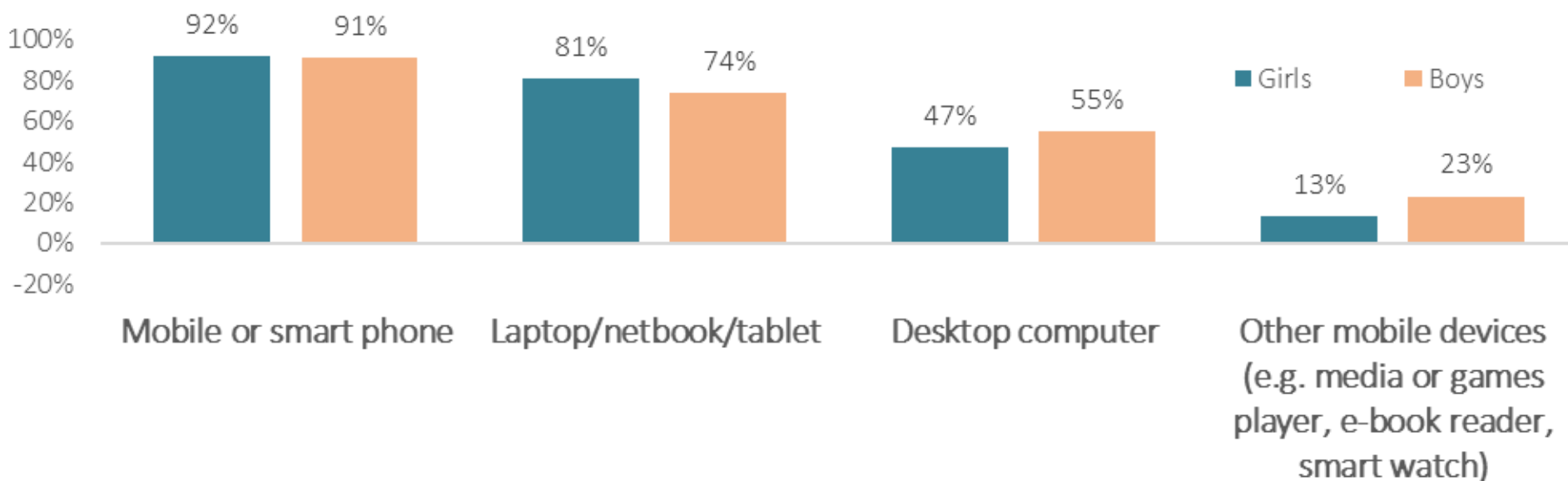## Research findings
Policy recommendations

Girls ahead of boys in daily use of internet in 5 MS equal in 13

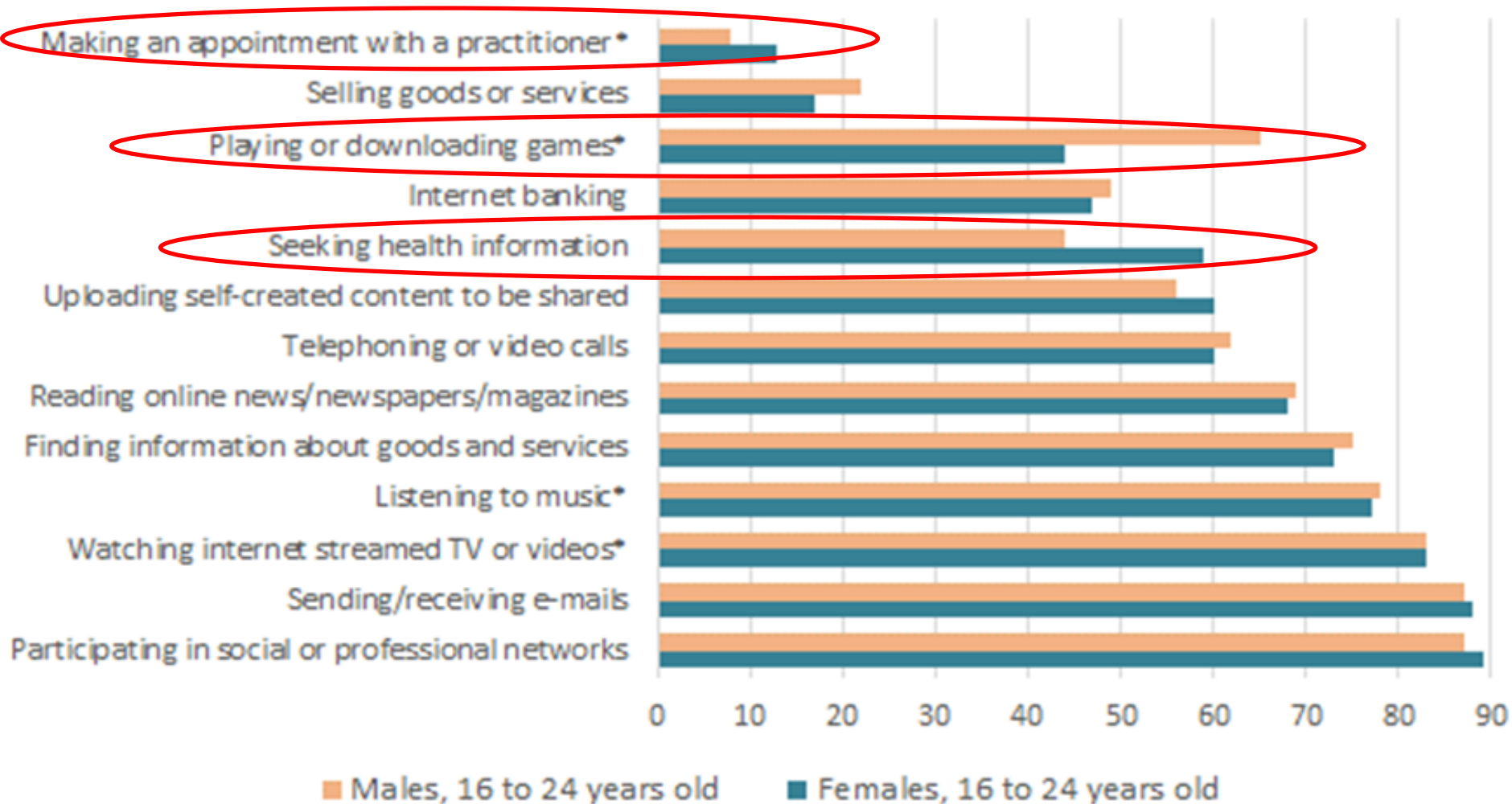## Daily use of internet, by sex and country (16-24, %, 2017)

Some gender gaps remain in access to certain devices

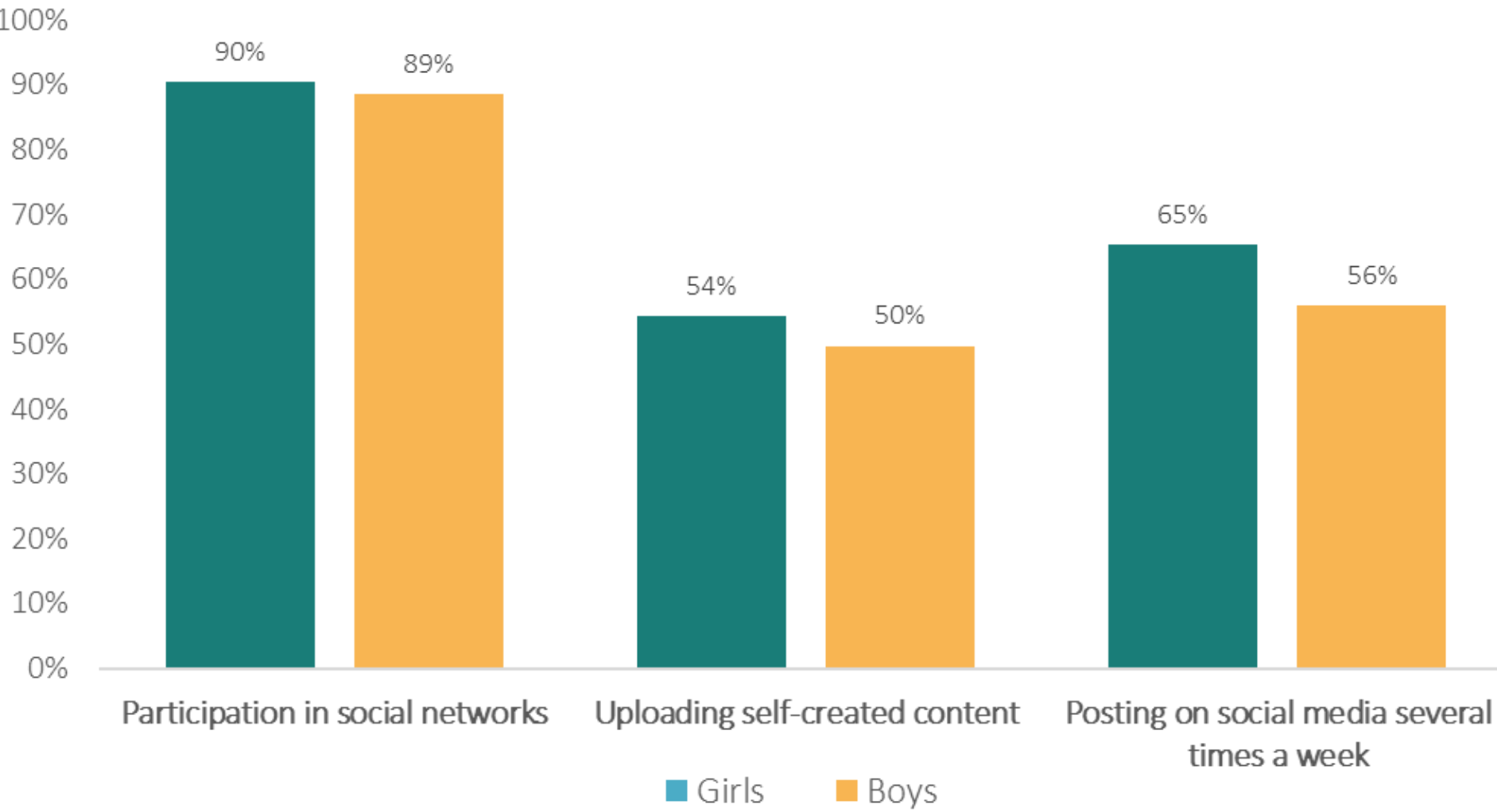Devices used to access the internet in the EU-28, by sex (16-24, 2016)

Similar engagement across main activities

Activities that individuals in the EU-28 perform online, by sex (16-24, %, 2016*/2017)

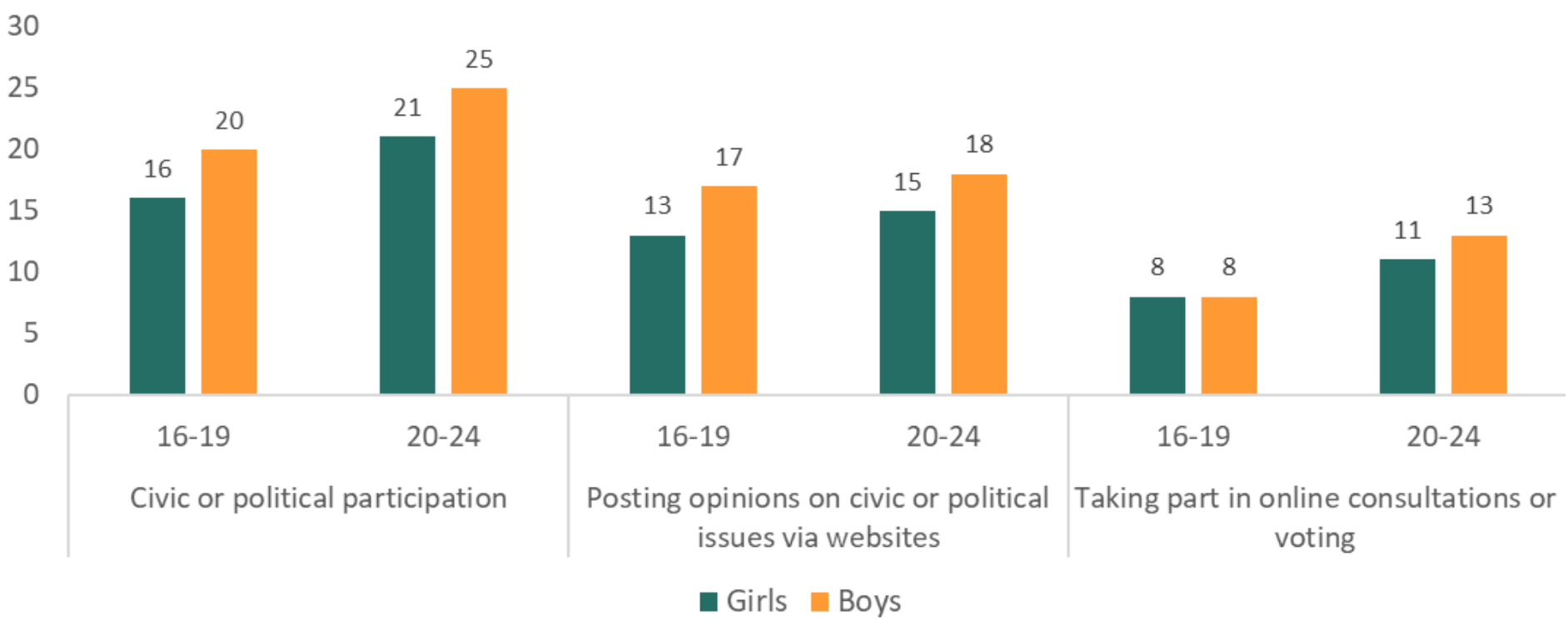Males, 16 to 24 years old   Females, 16 to 24 years old

Modes of online social participation

Activities related to online participation, EU-28 by sex, (15/16-24) 2015
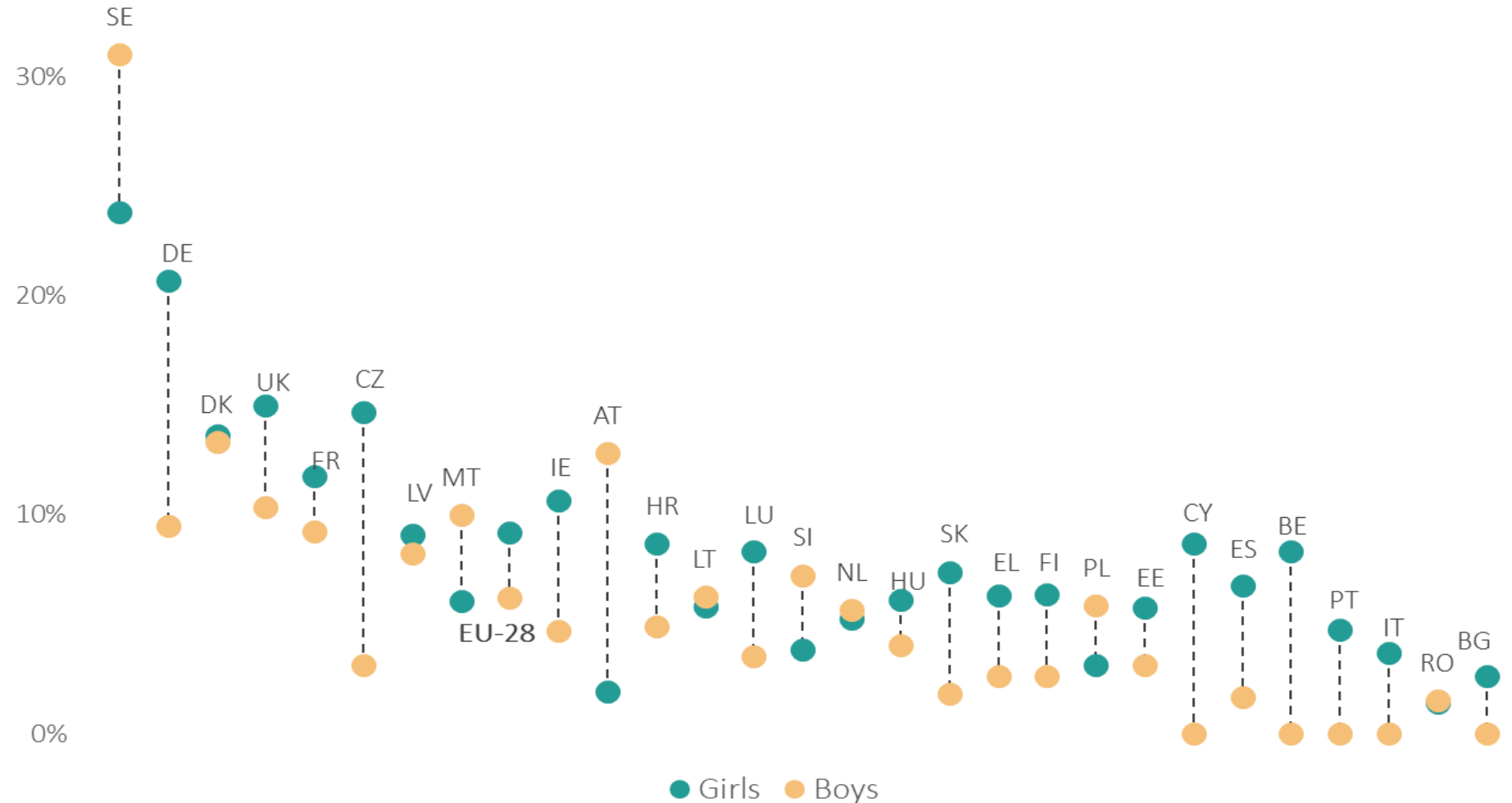
Modes of online political participation

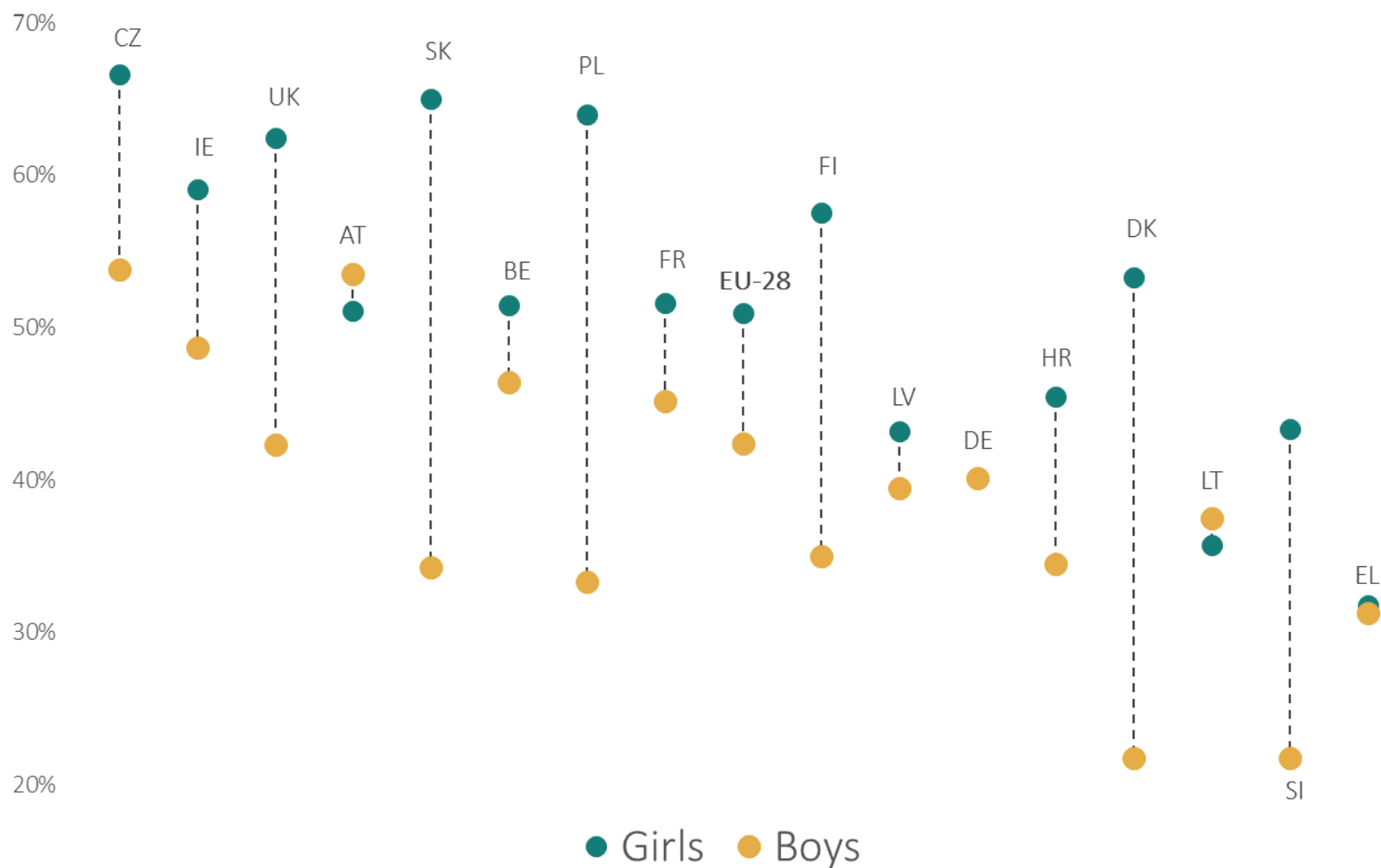Activities related to political participation by sex and age, 2017

Limited data on risks show girls' greater exposure

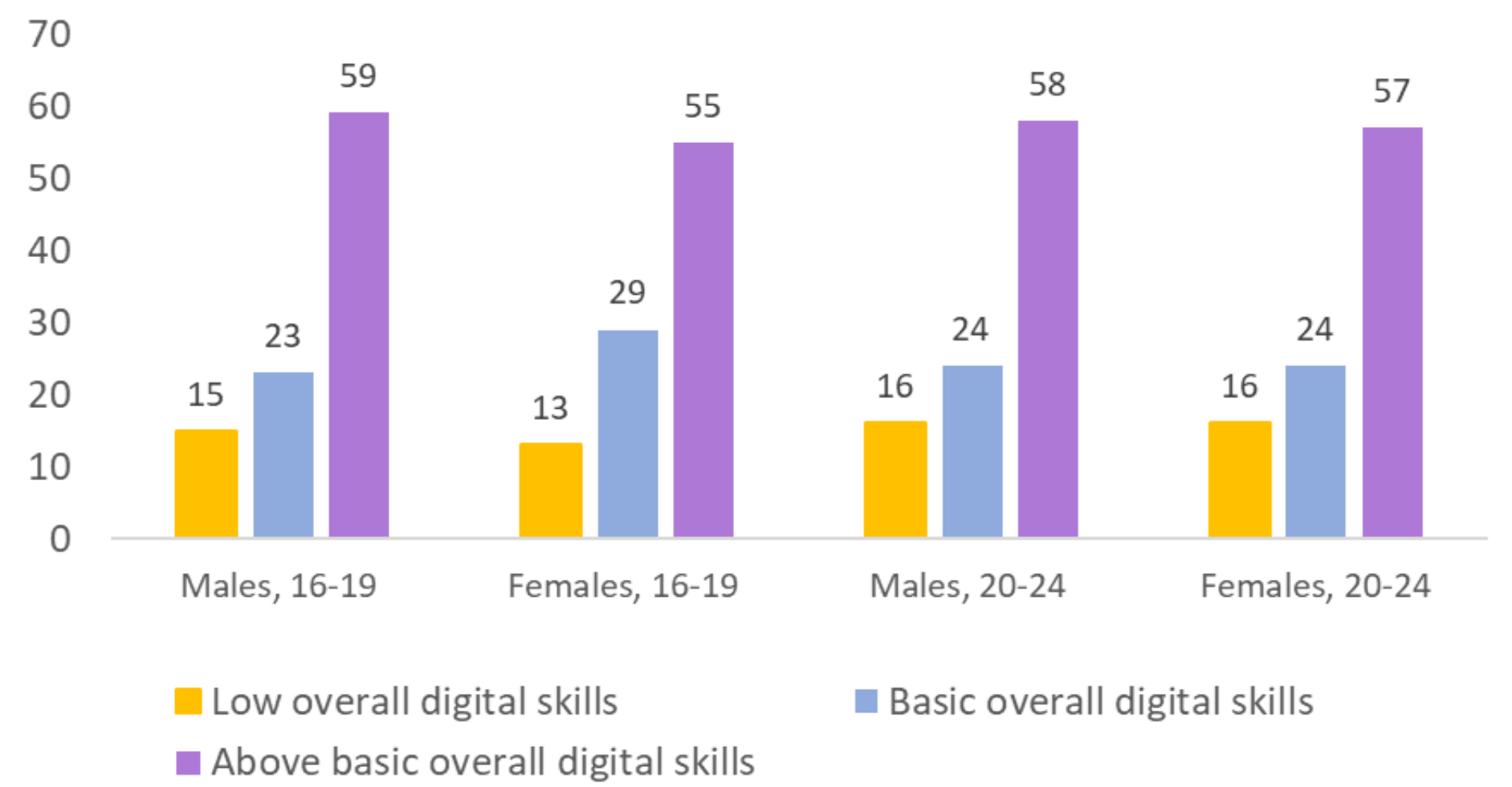Individuals who have been a victim of any kind of online harassment by sex and country, 15-24, 2013

● Girls ● Boys

Girls more likely to disengage out of fear of abuse

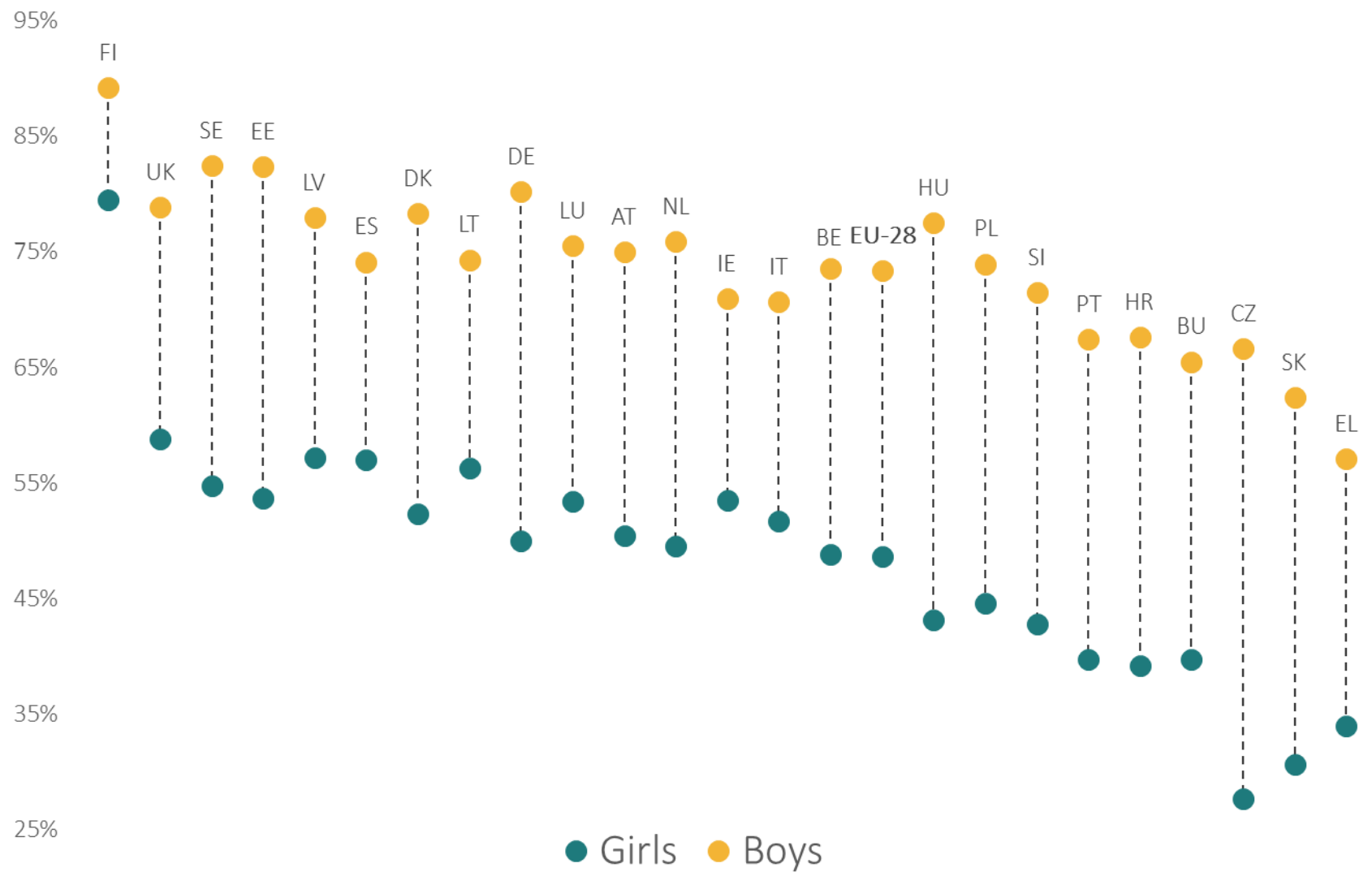Hesitate to engage in social media debates due to abuse (15-24, 2016)

● Girls ● Boys

In the EU, a skilled generation but gaps remain

Individuals' level of digital skills, EU-28 and by sex, Eurostat (16-24). 2017

Legend:
- Low overall digital skills
- Basic overall digital skills
- Above basic overall digital skills

Data:
- Males, 16-19: 15, 23, 59
- Females, 16-19: 13, 29, 55
- Males, 20-24: 16, 24, 58
- Females, 20-24: 16, 24, 57

Boys more comfortable across various digital skills

Install software by themselves, by sex and country, PISA (15-16), 2015)

● Girls ● Boys

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