

## ANALYSIS

Sustainable development means that everyone, including future generations are able to fulfill their needs and realise their rights. However, this must be done through the sustainable use of our planet's resources. Unfortunately, sustainable development and global warming is still not taken seriously by most people. Nevertheless, we can all contribute to make things change by doing actions in our daily lives that could improve the situation of the planet.

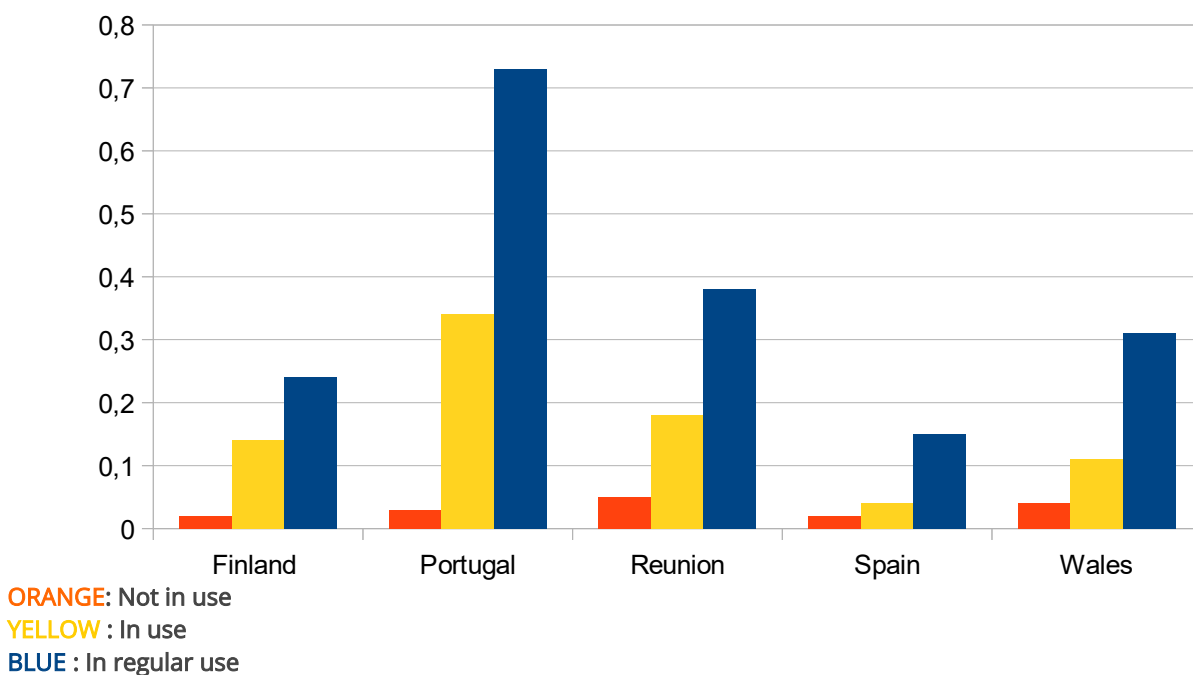
In relation to this, we are analyzing the answers to a questionnaire that was carried out in the context of an erasmus project. It was completed by students from Finland, Portugal, Reunion, Spain and Wales and today I focused on the answers to the following question : « Do you resell and donate items ? »

One of the bigger problems that the world is facing today is textile-waste. Compared to the year 2000, the average consumer today buys 60% items of clothing but keeps those items for half as long. Moreover, thrown away textile clothes decompose by emitting toxins that are released into the air and water and are polluting our environment. The most dangerous chemicals released by decomposing textiles in the landfills are carbon dioxide and methane, they are therefore both contributing to the global warming.

Moreover, when you donate something and they're reused by someone else, there's no need for the production of new items since there would be no one to buy them.

In fact, to produce new clothes, the fashion industry uses huge amounts of water. For example, cotton is a popular material used in textile production but it's a plant that's highly water intensive. Finally, donating your used clothing and children's things to a nonprofit resale organization or charity organization can help countless people. In fact, donated clothes are often sent to third world countries to be sold at cheaper prices. This allows people living in poverty to afford much-needed clothes and shoes, so it's great. As a consequence, reselling and donating items has many benefits for you, and for the future of our planet. It is an important move towards sustainable development that everyone should adopt.

*We can establish the graph showing the student's answers for « Resell and donate items »*



This graph allows us to understand that the percentage of people who sell or donate their clothes can differ : it depends on the country. If we add the answers of the students who responded « in regular use » to those who responded « in use », we have the percentage of people who use this method in a regular way or sometimes. What is striking is that Portugal is the country where people are most likely to resell or donate their clothes or items: approximately 97% and closely followed by Finland with 95%. We then have Reunion (92%), Wales (91%) and lastly Spain (90%). Among the 5 others, Spain is therefore the country where people are the least likely to resell or donate clothes and items. These results may depend on the awareness that has been spread among the local population of each country about sustainable development. Otherwise, it may also depend on the personal determination of each person to help others. Finally, it may be related to the amount of clothing purchased by people. For example, in Portugal, some people may buy large quantities of clothes and end up giving most of them to charity because they no longer use them or want the new trendy ones.

To conclude, we can say that the concept of reselling and donating items is linked to the 12th goal of the SDGs, namely « Responsible Consumption and production » that urgently requires us to reduce our ecological footprint by changing the way we produce and consume goods and resources. The sustainable development goals (SDGs) also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.

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