



Institut de
L'Engagement

Funding Democratic Resilience: What Young People Taught Us About Trust And Engagement In The Age Of AI

*Oriane Penny-Lepastier, Executive
Director, Institut de l'engagement
(FRA)*

Institut de l'Engagement



What is it? The Institut de l'Engagement, a non profit organisation created in 2012, works to turn civic engagement into opportunity for young people.



It supports young people from all backgrounds who have been involved in civic or solidarity-based actions by opening up educational and professional opportunities suited to their talents and potential, relying on a broad network of companies, associations, and higher education institutions. It also acts to encourage entry into a dynamic of civic engagement by raising awareness of major contemporary issues.



Since its creation, more than 11,000 young people have been supported by the Institut de l'Engagement.

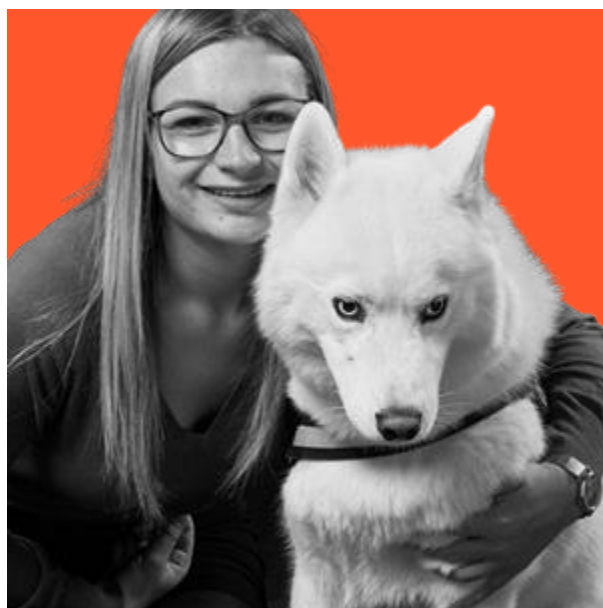


Institut de
L'Engagement

Inspiring stories

From dropping out to a Master's degree

While struggling in his first year of computer science at university, Lavan completed a Civic Service mission fighting the digital divide, where he flourished. He then became a laureate of the Institute of Engagement. Thanks to this support, he obtained a fixed-term contract in a public digital space, which strengthened his desire to work in IT and motivated him to resume his studies. After earning a Bac+4 at Simplon, Lavan completed his Master's degree.



Overcoming disability and creating her own organization

From a young age, Chloé faced many challenges: hospitalizations, foster care, and disability. Only her bond with her dog helped her hold on. After high school, she completed a Civic Service mission and became a laureate of the Institute of Engagement with the project of creating her own animal-assisted mediation organization. With the Institute's support, she founded her association and benefited from numerous training programs. She won several awards, and her association grew to employ three people before she moved on to new activities.

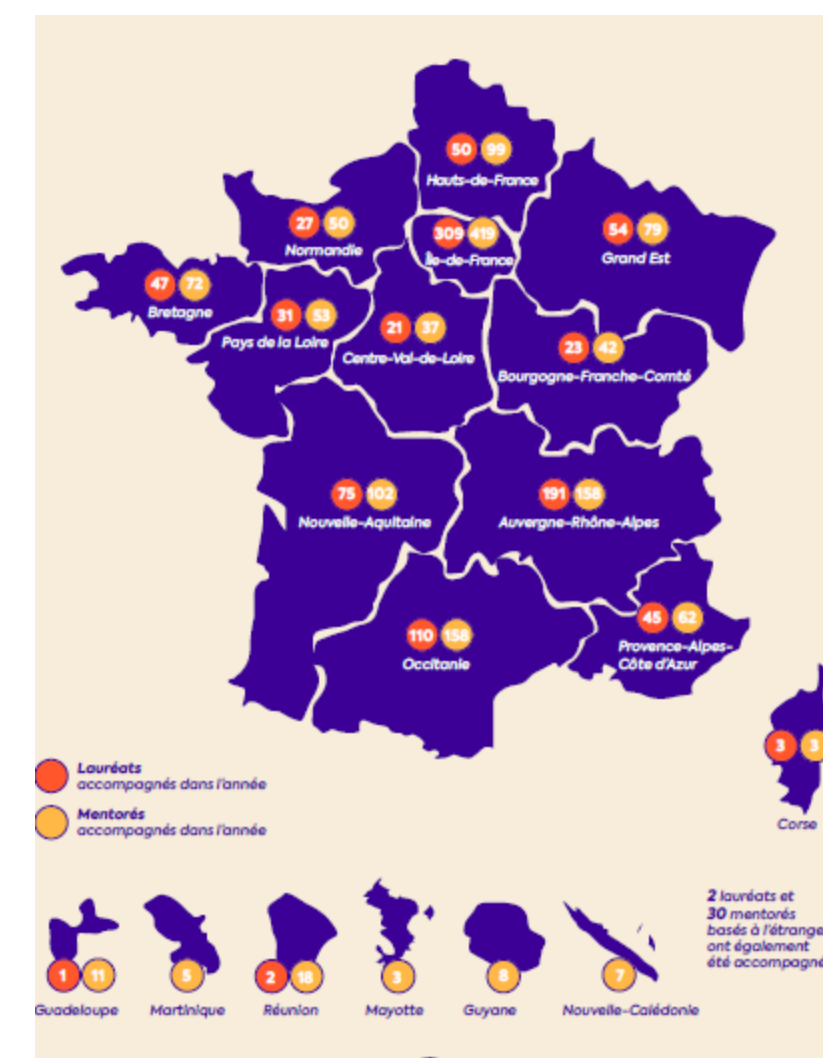
❖ #1 — Young people do want to engage

8 out of 10 young people in France say they are ready to get involved in a cause they care about.

Engagement reveals essential human skills:

Initiative · Empathy · Critical thinking – Cooperation · Responsibility

“What have you done for others?”





Institut de
L'Engagement

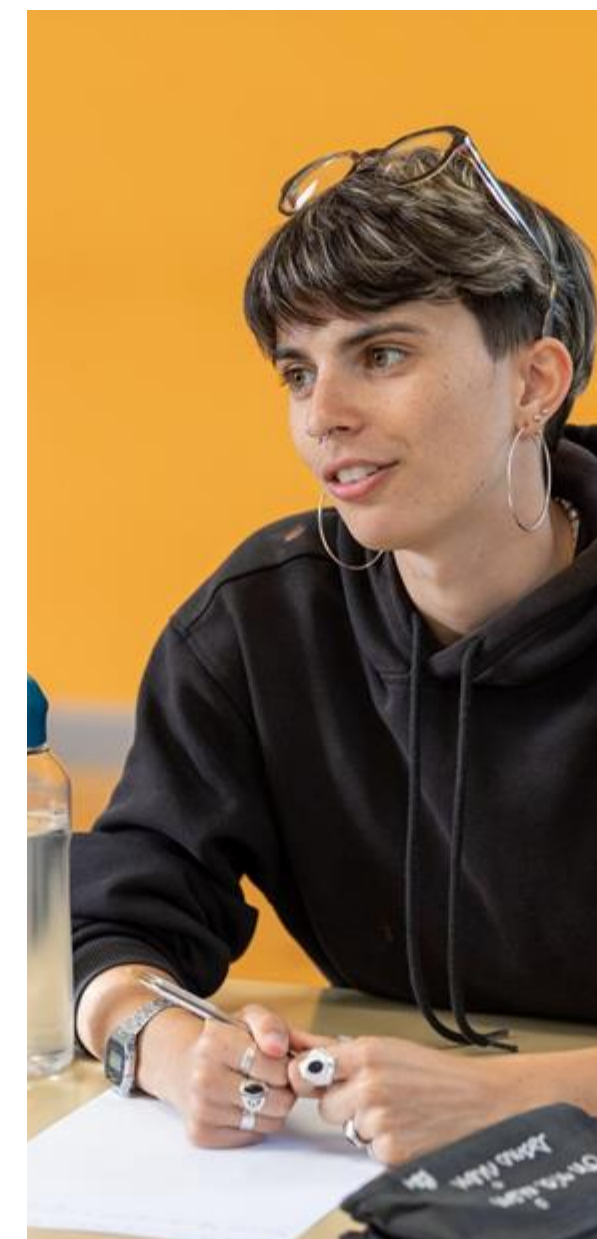
#2 — Engagement builds the power to act

I can act.
I can be useful.
I can change something.

**ENGAGEMENT → SKILLS →
RECOGNITION → CONFIDENCE →
ENGAGEMENT**

*Democracy becomes an experience —
not just an institution.*

FROM ENGAGEMENT TO TRUST





Institut de
L'Engagement

DEMOCRACY IN THE AGE OF AI

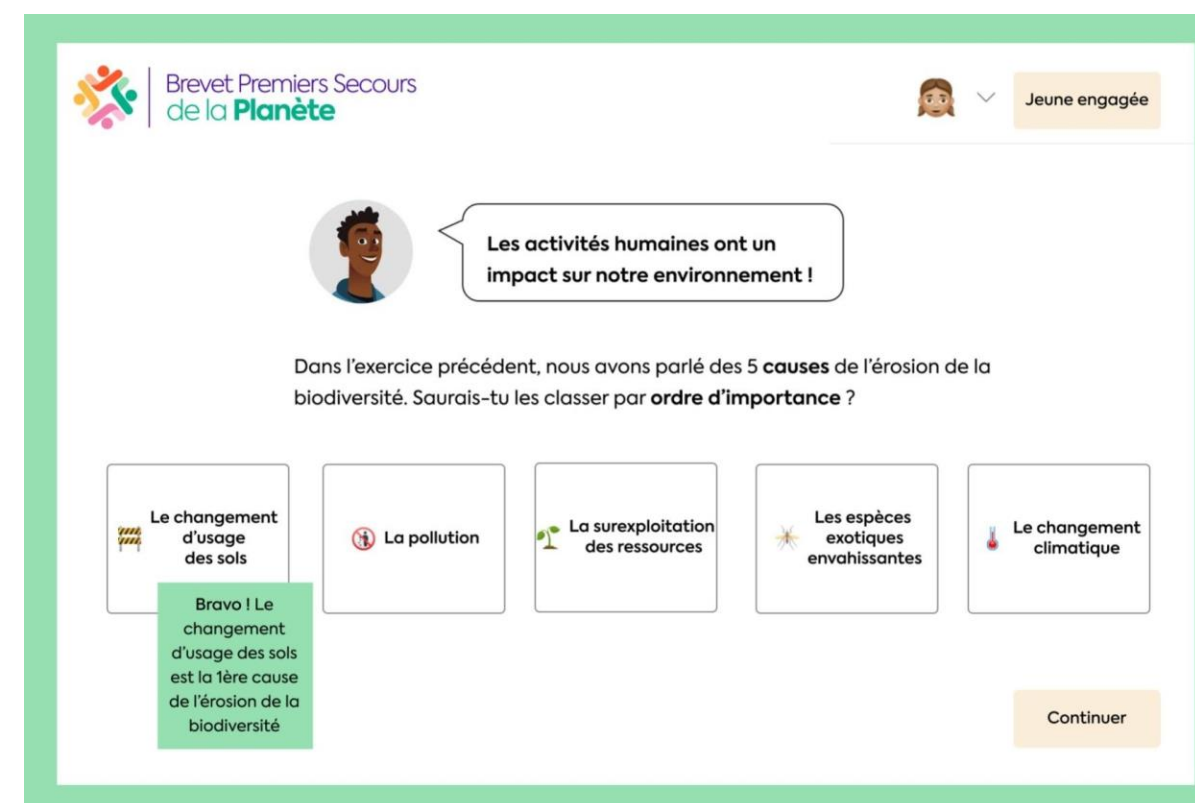


#3 — Democratic education must evolve

Democratic literacy now includes algorithmic literacy.

AI · Algorithms · Misinformation

Young people need the tools to understand the systems shaping what they **see, read and believe**.





Institut de
L'Engagement

New forms of democratic education

PREMIERS SECOURS DE LA PLANÈTE

Scientific knowledge about climate & biodiversity

Knowledge → Action

ALGOETHICS

Understanding algorithms, AI & their ethical implications

Understanding → Critical thinking → Action

Knowledge should lead to critical thinking.

Critical thinking should lead to action.

FROM KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION



Premiers Secours
de la **Planète**



Algo Ethics

Philanthropy as democratic risk capital

Giving civil society the freedom to:

**IDENTIFY → EXPERIMENT → LEARN →
REDESIGN → SCALE**

**Respond to emerging challenges before
they become crises.**

.

THE ROLE OF PHILANTHROPY





CIVIL SOCIETY
Innovates

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
Create the conditions for scale

BUSINESSES
Bring skills, resources & opportunities

PHILANTHROPY
Makes experimentation possible
None of us can do it alone.



Give young people the knowledge to understand the world

...and the power to believe they can change it!





Institut de
L'Engagement
ENGAGEMENT.FR

Thank you!

Contact : Oriane Penny-Lepastier,
Executive Director

Oriane.penny-lepastier@engagement.fr