

### BRIEF STATUS UPDATE

- Final Conference in Copenhagen 15-16 June 2011
- European Dissemination Event in Brussels 19 October 2011
- Released: Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe
- EUROSTUDENT V: Future unclear, but looking positive

### CURRENT PROJECT ACTIVITIES FOR EUROSTUDENT IV

#### European dissemination event and first Intelligence Briefs

On 19 October, we will be releasing the book version of the Synopsis of Indicators at a special event organised in conjunction with the Permanent Representation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the EU. On this occasion members of the European parliament's Education Committee, as well as members of European organisations and institutions such as ESU, EUA, Eurostat, Eurydice, the Bologna Secretariat and European Commission will have a chance to discuss the results of our comparison. To make the event as interactive as possible, key results from the report will be presented in an innovative way. At three different presentation stands, the topics student mobility, access to higher education and student resources, will be explored through policy-related questions which can be discussed using the new EUROSTUDENT data.



Brenda Little, Hanna-Stella Haaristo and Dominic Orr at a working group meeting at EÜL in Tallinn

#### The first four Intelligence Briefs and the questions they deal with

##### Is higher education in Europe socially inclusive?

- Is higher education representative of countries' populations?
- How well do inclusive systems accommodate students' needs?

##### The impact of fees on students' budgets

- How much of Bachelor students' expenditure goes on paying fees?
- What share of Bachelor students actually pay fees?

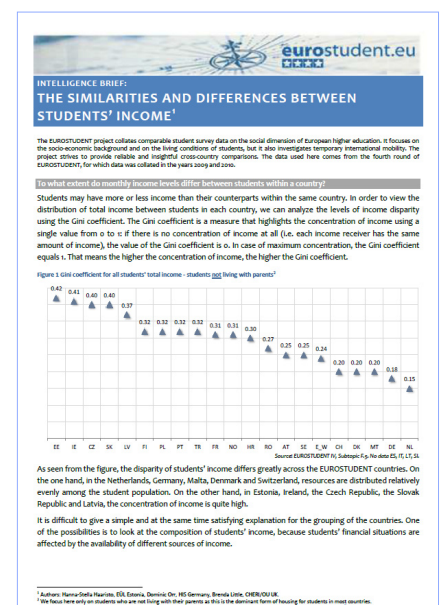
##### Similarities and differences between students' income

- To what extent do monthly income levels differ between students within a country?
- Is income disparity related to the main sources of student income?

##### Short-term learning mobility and mobility obstacles

- Does student mobility vary by social background?
- What do students gain from studying abroad?
- What are the obstacles to studying abroad?

The presenters at the dissemination event are: Brenda Little (Great Britain, formerly of CHERI), Hanna-Stella Haaristo (Estonia, representing EÜL) and Christoph Gwość (Germany, HIS). The three presentations will be based on the first four Intelligence Briefs, which will be distributed for the first time at this event. The drafting process for the Intelligence Briefs was carried out in a special working group consisting of Dominic Orr, Brenda Little and Hanna-Stella Haaristo, with comments from various international experts on the first drafts. The event is by invitation only due to security restrictions. If you would like more information please contact us directly at [eurostudent@his.de](mailto:eurostudent@his.de)

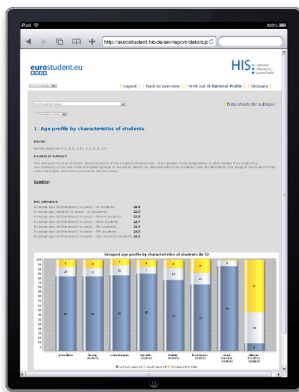
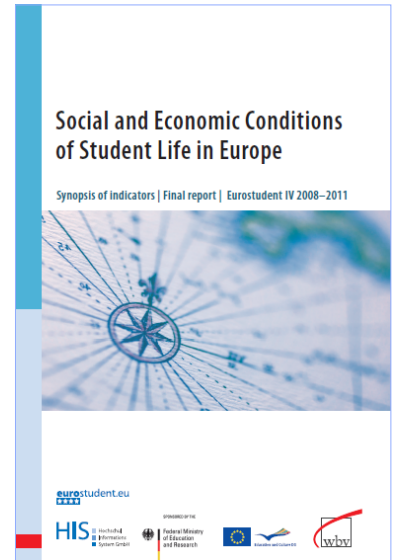


## Released: Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe

Finally, on 19 October, the book version of our report will be released entitled “Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe. 2008-2011”. In comparison with the conference version of the report, you will notice the new layouting, but you may not notice at first sight the two additional chapters: 11. Students’ assessment of their studies and future plans and 12. Policy considerations. Both of these chapters provide an outlook on what could happen after the study in terms of, on one hand, students’ biographies (Chapter 11) and, on the other, policy discussions (Chapter 12). Aside from these additions, all the data used in the report was checked and a number of countries provided data updates and corrections.

Concurrently, the EUROSTUDENT database (or Data Reporting Module) will be released with detailed country data shown as graphics and charts and available for download as Excel files. The database will be accessible from this date without password on:

<http://www.eurostudent.eu/results/data>



## Final EUROSTUDENT Conference in Copenhagen

On 15 and 16 June the EUROSTUDENT final conference took place at the modern campus of the IT-University Copenhagen, Denmark. The results of the new study were presented and discussed with many national and international experts in the field. The conference was organised in conjunction with the Danish University and Property Agency and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. One of the main questions for this national ministry is: what does this study mean for us? Therefore, on the second day, a public debate with students and stakeholders from Denmark took place in a student halls of residence entitled “Danish higher education in the light of the results from EUROSTUDENT”. Following the conference, we received a message of thanks from the incumbent minister, Ms. Charlotte Sahl-Madsen: “As Minister of Science, Technology and innovation, I found the report to be an interesting glimpse into the social dimension of higher education among European students. I know my fellow peers in Europe share this view. On many areas the conclusions of the report have been eye-openers and have pointed out where action is needed. And I welcome the intense debate on how we should take these actions.” All presentations from the conference can be seen and downloaded on the conference website:

[http://www.eurostudent.eu/conferences/copenhagen/home/index\\_html](http://www.eurostudent.eu/conferences/copenhagen/home/index_html)



## Steeplechase - Looking into obstacles to mobility

One of the clearest next steps for our project is to facilitate more in-depth analyses of the collated data in order to better understand the comparative phenomenon sketched in our final comparative report. The problem for the coordinators of the project at the moment is that the microdata from the national datasets is not centrally available. This means that smaller scale cooperative projects are necessary to further analyse, for instance, the dimensions of inequity in higher education access or in participation in temporary studies abroad. Such analyses will lead to better understanding and also better policy development. These issues have been discussed at previous EUROSTUDENT meetings and this was the reason that IHS submitted proposals to the EU’s lifelong learning programme involving various members of the EUROSTUDENT network. As with the main proposal to the lifelong learning programme, these proposals were rejected. HIS has just submitted a much smaller scale project to the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research with a similar focus. The project is entitled “steeplechase” and aims to compare and contrast mobility obstacles for certain types of student in case study countries using the EUROSTUDENT IV data set. Researchers from four countries have offered to assist HIS in this comparative analysis, if the funding is approved. They are: Froukje Wartenbergh-Cras, ResearchNed (Netherlands), Martin Unger, Institut für Höhere Studien (Austria), Michal Miszkowski, Consultant for Polish Ministry of Science (Poland) and Martin Teichgräber and Sarah Gerhard Ortega, Statistics Switzerland (Switzerland). HIS would be very happy to support other country teams with similar goals. Just keep us informed.



## EUROSTUDENT V

We would like to keep you up-to-date on the developments towards EUROSTUDENT V. After many discussions at national and international level, we assess the likelihood of EUROSTUDENT V taking place as very probable.

We currently strive to establish a participation-fee model, with fees payable by all countries taking part in the project. It is likely that a share of the participation fee will be subsidized by the EU, thereby reducing the net cost of participation for each country. Additionally, countries wishing to be involved in the central coordination of the project are invited to make a supplementary voluntary contribution to the budget, this will largely cover the costs of the tasks in which they are involved. The Dutch and German governments have already made such a commitment as "leading partner countries". The funding model will be discussed at the next BFUG meeting in Cracow on 13 and 14 October. Here is an outline of the current state of planning. Please contact us for more information and a sheet explaining how the funding system works.



### Project duration

April 2012 – May 2015 (38 Months), i.e. the project will only start if it has been assessed as feasible in the Spring of 2012

### Project consortium

The project consortium carries out all activities associated with project coordination (preparation for data delivery – rules and conventions for central data collection – data control, analysis and reporting). It is led by HIS & leading partner countries, defined as those countries which make a contribution to the coordination costs (NB: this may also be staff time) in addition to the participation fee.

### Next steps for EUROSTUDENT V

13-14 October

BFUG Meeting – Countries receive information on EUROSTUDENT funding model (i.e. this information sheet). They are asked to make a declaration of intent to participate in EUROSTUDENT V and pay the country participation fee.

15 November

HIS/EUROSTUDENT provides a work programme for execution of EUROSTUDENT and a model contract to all interested countries in order to aid discussions at national level.

15 December

Deadline for submission of signed Letters of Intent, which are formal country confirmations of intent to participate.

January-February 2012

EUROSTUDENT V Projekt Consortium and the International Steering Board make a final decision on the feasibility of carrying out the project based on the number of country commitments and the funding raised. Following a positive decision, contracts will be sent out to those countries who have declared their intent to participate.

15 February 2012

Countries submit signed contract on the basis of the final calculation of country participation fees. This contract includes a clause that it is only valid on condition of the provision of the EU subsidy.



# ACTIVITIES IN AND CONCERNING THE EUROSTUDENT NETWORK

## Presentations, conferences, meetings

28-29.03.11 Berlin: From Imbalanced to Balanced Mobility in the EHEA – Current Challenges and Perspectives for the Future (DAAD) (presentation)

29.03.11 Berlin: BFUG Working Group Mobility (participation)

2-3.05.11 Tallinn: ESU Board Meeting (presentation)

20.05.11 Berlin: 3rd Meeting of the EUROSTUDENT Steering Board (meeting)

15-16.06.11 Copenhagen: E:IV Final Conference (event)

1.7.11 Riga: BFUG Working Group Reporting (participation)

11-13.7.11 Berlin: Development of the Social Dimension – Stocktaking and Future Perspectives of Student Services and Student Affairs (ECStA) (presentation)

12.7.11 Berlin: BFUG Working Group Social Dimension (participation)

24.08.11 Berlin: BFUG Working Group Mobility (participation)

31.08.11 Vienna: E:IV Internal Meeting EUROSTUDENT V (meeting)

8-9.9.11 Tallinn: E:IV Working Group Meeting “Intelligence Briefs” (meeting)

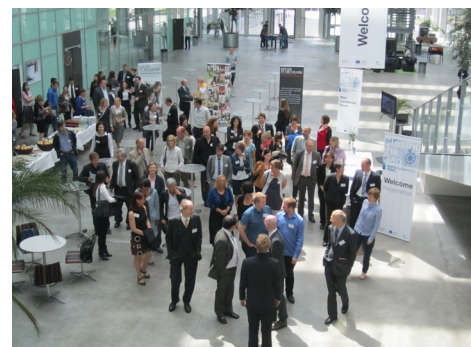
23.09.11 Valencia: II Jornada sobre la Dimensión Social de la Educación Universitaria en España (presentation)

14.10.11 Brussels: ACA seminar on the social dimension of higher education (presentation)

18.10.11 Brussels: GUE/NGL seminar on participation and higher education, European Parliament (presentation)

17-19.10.11 Bucharest: The Future of Higher Education - Bologna Process Researchers' Conference (presentation)

19.10.11 Brussels: EUROSTUDENT European Dissemination Conference in conjunction with the Dutch Permanent Representation to the EU (event)



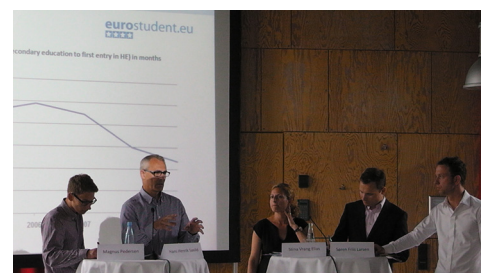
Scene from final conference, Copenhagen



Scene from final conference, Copenhagen



Scene from final conference, Copenhagen



Scene from public debate, Copenhagen



Scene from Spanish conference, Valencia

## Press articles (a selection)

Since the final conference in Copenhagen, the press all over Europe has been talking about the EUROSTUDENT results. Here is a small selection of the articles we have found.

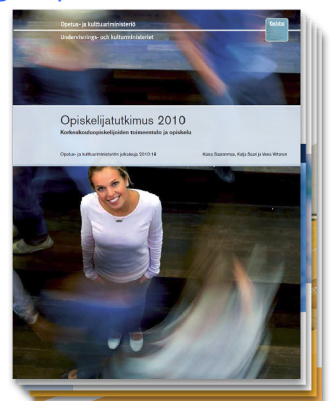


- AT: Österreich bei finanzieller Absicherung von Studierenden Negativbeispiel im Europa-Vergleich. Online under: [http://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS\\_20110626\\_OTS0028/oeh-oesterreich-bei-finanzieller-absicherung-von-studierenden-negativbeispiel-im-europa-vergleich](http://www.ots.at/presseaussendung/OTS_20110626_OTS0028/oeh-oesterreich-bei-finanzieller-absicherung-von-studierenden-negativbeispiel-im-europa-vergleich)
- AT: Österreich ist Land der "Teilzeit- studierenden". Online under: <http://derstandard.at/1308679606752/Europa-Vergleich-Oesterreich-ist-Land-der-Teilzeitstudenten>
- CH: Studenten sind reiche Nesthocker. Online under: [http://www.20min.ch/news/kreuz\\_und\\_quer/story/26857330](http://www.20min.ch/news/kreuz_und_quer/story/26857330)
- DE: Vergleichs-Report "Eurostudent" - Wie Europas Studenten ticken Online under: <http://www.spiegel.de/unispiegel/studium/0,1518,768363,00.html>
- DK: 40 procent af de studerende vil have flere timer. Online under: <http://www.undervisere.dk/ObjectShow.aspx?ObjectId=68972>
- ES: La universidad española camina hacia la equidad social europea. Online under: [http://www.aprendemas.com/Noticias/html/N9170\\_F26092011.html](http://www.aprendemas.com/Noticias/html/N9170_F26092011.html)
- ES: La Universidad española, un ascensor social más lento de lo que parece. Online under: [http://www.elpais.com/articulo/Comunidad/Valenciana/Universidad/espanola/ascensor/social/lento/parece/elpepiespval/20110924elpval\\_16/Tes](http://www.elpais.com/articulo/Comunidad/Valenciana/Universidad/espanola/ascensor/social/lento/parece/elpepiespval/20110924elpval_16/Tes)
- FR: Vie Etudiante : "Rentrée universitaire : tout augmente pour les étudiants, sauf les bourses". Online under: <http://www.imaginons-ensemble-lavenir.com/categorie-11449304.html>
- HR: Four out of five students rely on parents. Online under: <http://dubrovacki.hr/clanak/32250/four-out-of-five-students-rely-on-parents>
- HR: Godišnji trošak studiranja u Hrvatskoj viši od 30 tisuća kuna. Online under: <http://www.suvremena.hr/20335.aspx>
- IT: Studenti fuori sede: figlio mio quanto mi costi? Online under: [http://tg24.sky.it/tg24/cronaca/2011/09/01/universita\\_studenti\\_fuori\\_sede\\_costo\\_investimento\\_terlizzese.html](http://tg24.sky.it/tg24/cronaca/2011/09/01/universita_studenti_fuori_sede_costo_investimento_terlizzese.html)
- LT: Darbas, studijos, darbas...Lietuvos studentai renkasi darbą. Online under: <http://www.laikas.lt/lt/info/3139/darbas-studijos-darbaslietuvos-studentai-renkasi-darba/>
- NL: De student in kaart gebracht. Online under: <http://scienceguide.nl/201106/de-student-in-kaart-gebracht.aspx>
- NL: Hollandse jongeren verslaan Belgen op de arbeidsmarkt! Online under: <http://www.studentenwerk.nl/weblog/222-hollandse-jongeren-verslaan-belgen-op-de-arbeidsmarkt>
- NO: Norske studenter studerer 34 timer i uka. Online under: <http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/kd/aktuelt/nyheter/2011/norske-studenter-studerer-34-timer-i-uka.html?id=655276>
- NO: Bruker 34 timer i uka på studier - Undersøkelse avliver myten om at norske studenter studerer for lite. Online under: <http://www.studenttorget.no/index.php?show=3799&expand=3796,3799&artikkelid=9863>
- PL: Polscy studenci nie chcą uczyć się za granicą. Online under: [http://studia.dlastudenta.pl/artykul/Polscy\\_studenci\\_nie\\_chca\\_uczyc\\_sie\\_za\\_granica,69982.html](http://studia.dlastudenta.pl/artykul/Polscy_studenci_nie_chca_uczyc_sie_za_granica,69982.html)
- SE: Tuffast för studerande med barn. Online under: <http://hd.se/inrikes/2011/01/03/tuffast-for-studerande-med-barn/?from=rss>
- UK: Undergraduate fees highest in England, Wales and Ireland. Online under: [http://www.researchresearch.com/index.php?option=com\\_news&template=rr\\_2col&view=article&articleId=1069064](http://www.researchresearch.com/index.php?option=com_news&template=rr_2col&view=article&articleId=1069064)

## National reports

The following reports are studies on students' social and economic situations based on countries' data sets participating in EUROSTUDENT IV. See also: <http://www.eurostudent.eu/results/reports>

- AT: Unger, M. et al. (2010): Studierenden-Sozialerhebung 2009. Online under: [www.sozialerhebung.at](http://www.sozialerhebung.at)
- CH: Boegli, L. / Gerhard, S. / Teichgräber, M. (2010): Studieren unter Bologna - Hauptbericht der Erhebung zur sozialen und wirtschaftlichen Lage der Studierenden an den Schweizer Hochschulen 2009. Online under: [http://www.eurostudent.eu/download\\_files/documents/National\\_Report\\_Switzerland\\_German.pdf](http://www.eurostudent.eu/download_files/documents/National_Report_Switzerland_German.pdf)
- DE: Isserstedt, W. / Middendorff, E. / Kandulla, M. / Borchert, L. / Leszczensky, M. (2010): Die wirtschaftliche und soziale Lage der Studierenden in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland 2009. Online under: [http://www.sozialerhebung.de/pdfs/Soz19\\_Kurzfassung.pdf](http://www.sozialerhebung.de/pdfs/Soz19_Kurzfassung.pdf)
- DK: Danish University and Property Agency (2011): Selected Results for Denmark - EUROSTUDENT IV. Online under: <http://www.ubst.dk/uddannelse-og-forskning/eurostudent/rapport-om-studerendes-forhold/EUROSTUDENT%20IV%20-%20Selected%20Results%20for%20Denmark.pdf>
- FI: Saarenmaa, K. / Saari, K. / Virtanen, V. (2010): Opiskelijatutkimus 2010 Korkeakouluopiskelijoiden toimeentuloja opiskelu. Online under: [http://www.eurostudent.eu/download\\_files/documents/National\\_Report\\_Finland\\_Finnish.pdf](http://www.eurostudent.eu/download_files/documents/National_Report_Finland_Finnish.pdf)
- FR: Belghith, F. / Verley, E. / Vourc'h, R. / Zilloniz, S. (2011): La vie étudiante repères. Online under: <http://www.ove-national.education.fr/publications/notes-rapports-et-autres/83,La%20vie%20C3%A9tudiante%20-%20Rep%20-%20Edition%202011>
- HR: Cvitan, M. / Doolan, K. / Farnell, T. / Matković, T. (2011): Socijalna i ekonomska slika studentskog života u Hrvatskoj. Online under: [http://www.eurostudent.eu/download\\_files/documents/National\\_Report\\_Slovenia\\_English.pdf](http://www.eurostudent.eu/download_files/documents/National_Report_Slovenia_English.pdf)
- LV: SKDS (2009): Studentu sociālie un ekonomiskie dzīves apstākļi Latvijā. Online under: [http://izm.izm.gov.lv/upload\\_file/petijumi/Atskaite\\_EUROSTUDENT\\_IV\\_10\\_11\\_2009.pdf](http://izm.izm.gov.lv/upload_file/petijumi/Atskaite_EUROSTUDENT_IV_10_11_2009.pdf)
- NO: Arnesen, C. Å. / Hovdhaugen, E. / Wiers-Jensen, J. / Per Olaf Aamodt, P.O. (2011): Studiesituasjon og studentøkonomi Norske resultater fra den europeiske studentundersøkelsen Eurostudent IV. Online under: <http://www.nifu.no/Norway/Publications/2011/NIFU%20Webrapport%2033-2011.pdf>
- RO: Apostu, O. / Fartușnic, C. / Florian, B. / Horga, I. / Voinea, L. (2010): EUROSTUDENT IV Condiții economice, sociale și mobilitatea internațională a studenților din România
- SE: Rurling, Å / Gillström, P. (2010): Eurostudent – om svenska studenter i en europeisk undersökning, hösten 2009. Online under: [http://www.eurostudent.eu/download\\_files/documents/1020R-eurostudent-2009.pdf](http://www.eurostudent.eu/download_files/documents/1020R-eurostudent-2009.pdf)
- SI: Slovenian Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (2010): EUROSTUDENT SI 2010 Economic, Social and Housing Conditions, and the International Mobility of Students in Slovenia. Online under: [http://www.eurostudent.eu/download\\_files/documents/National\\_Report\\_Slovenia\\_English.pdf](http://www.eurostudent.eu/download_files/documents/National_Report_Slovenia_English.pdf)
- SK: Šulanová, M. / Srnánková, L. (2010): Sociálne a ekonomické podmienky života študentov denného štúdia verejných VŠ na Slovensku. Online under: [http://www.uips.sk/sub/uips.sk/images/VS/soc\\_post\\_st\\_2009\\_def.pdf](http://www.uips.sk/sub/uips.sk/images/VS/soc_post_st_2009_def.pdf)

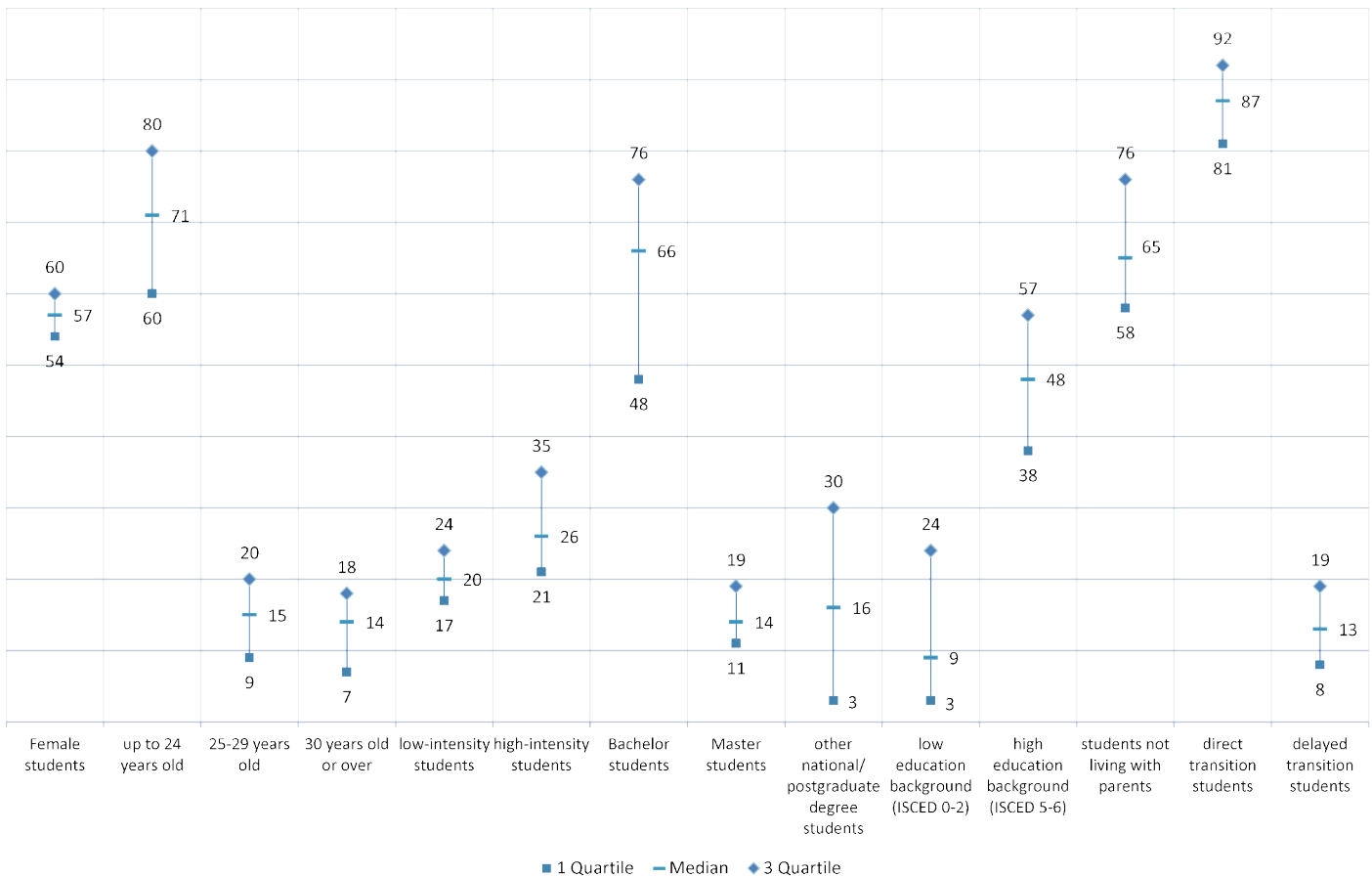


# FEATURED INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS

## Focus groups in EUROSTUDENT IV

The EUROSTUDENT project looks at the social and economic conditions of student life in Europe. In this, we distinguish between student groups on the understanding that the social dimension of higher education only becomes visible if we move our analyses beyond the average student. In the chart below the size of some of these focus groups is given in cross-country average. This itself is an important result of the study.

For each student group three percentage shares are given. They show the median value and the values of the first and third quartiles in cross-country comparison of the 25 countries that took part in EUROSTUDENT IV. The median value is the point dividing the number of countries into two halves, meaning that half of the countries have a percentage share below this value and half have a percentage share above it. The first and third quartiles are computed in the same way, but with different splits. The first quartile is the mark where one quarter of the countries have a value below it and three-quarters a value above it. The third quartile is – vice versa – the mark where three-quarters of the countries have a value below it and one-quarter a value above it. In this way, it shows the normal range of shares across countries. Naturally, it would now be interesting to compare the percentage shares of individual countries to this range, but this is not shown here.<sup>1</sup>



The results highlight the fact that students in European higher education tend to be Bachelor students no older than 24 years old, who entered higher education almost directly after leaving secondary school (direct transition students) and who are, in the majority, female and have parents who themselves graduated from college or university (high education background). However, interesting new groups of ‘non-traditional’ students do appear to be emerging. We can see that in one quarter of the countries, the share of students 30 years old or over is at least 18%, the share of students with a delay of longer than two years between leaving school and entering college is at least 19% (delayed transition students) and the share of students, whose parents did not attain tertiary education themselves, is at least 24%.

<sup>1</sup> Please see Appendix D in Orr, Gwosć & Netz (2011): Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe 2008-2011 for this information.