

# EUROSTUDENT VI Newsletter September | 2016 | No. 2

## Inside this issue:

### ***Dear EUROSTUDENT VI participants,***

*Hopefully you are reading this newsletter after having had some time during the summer to relax and recharge.*

*The EUROSTUDENT Consortium recently got together in Hanover for its second physical meeting. Discussions centred on data issues – read the report from the first EUROSTUDENT workshop for data cleaning and delivery below to find out more about related plans. Many of you will be happy to hear that in EUROSTUDENT VI, no typing of the results into a database will be needed! The team is also looking towards 2017, when two EUROSTUDENT events – one for researchers, one for policy-makers – will take place. Read more in the section on events.*

*We are also proud to announce the launch of the new EUROSTUDENT blog in this issue. Check it out and set a bookmark in your browser for easy access. And, as always, see the section on publications for an overview of recent EUROSTUDENT and related publications. Two new Intelligence Briefs on mobility obstacles and on the structure of public student support are available on the website.*

*Best wishes*

*Kristina Hauschildt*

*EUROSTUDENT Project Coordinator*

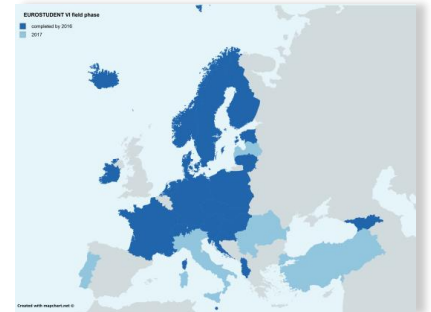
## EUROSTUDENT VI Project activities

### EUROSTUDENT field phase

In three quarters of EUROSTUDENT countries, the field phase will be completed in 2016 (see map).

Students in the remaining countries will be surveyed in the spring/summer semester of 2017.

For any question about the implementation of the national surveys, please contact the EUROSTUDENT staff at [IHS](#).



[EUROSTUDENT VI map of field phases]

### Meeting of the Consortium, 5th - 6th September in Hanover, Germany

The EUROSTUDENT Consortium members got together in Hanover, Germany, for their second physical meeting. A main focus of the discussions were the procedures for data delivery, cleaning, and control. Ideas for the EUROSTUDENT Researchers' Forum and Policy-Makers Conference were also exchanged.

More information on the outcomes of the discussion can be found in the relevant sections in the newsletter below. As always, the minutes of the meeting will be available on the wiki pages as soon as they are approved.



[Family photo Consortium, Hanover, September 2016]

## **EUROSTUDENT workshops for data cleaning and delivery, Vienna, Austria**

Preliminary instructions for data cleaning and delivery were sent out to all national research teams in July. Individual support for data cleaning and delivery is given at workshops taking place in Vienna in August (15th to 17th), October (10th to 14th), and November (7th to 11th).

The first “early-bird” workshop included a step-by-step walk-through through all of the preliminary data preparation steps of the handbook and syntaxes individually with teams from Slovenia and the Czech Republic.

It functioned as a twofold data-quality measure: on the one hand, the goal was to test the international guidelines on data treatment included in the handbook, the uploading syntaxes, and the uploading tool. On the other hand, it was also a check of the national implementations, data and weighting schemes. There were individual sessions on the adaptation of the raw data files to a national data file according to the EUROSTUDENT conventions (first part of the handbook and syntaxes), as well as on the focus group and indicator calculations and the first trial run of the uploading with real national data. The actual data delivery by upload went smoothly and – due to the lack of typing and to the delight of the participants - much faster than in previous rounds of EUROSTUDENT.

The early bird workshop helped to further increase the quality of the handbook, syntaxes and data base. Smaller mistakes have been corrected, and the final version has been sent out to the researchers.

The final version of the handbook will be the basis for the upcoming workshop in October, which is very well booked. In individual sessions with each national team the national implementations, especially on tricky parts like finances, time budget and parts which deviated in the national questionnaire from the core questionnaire, will be checked through. The researchers will get an introduction to the uploading tool and data base as well as the data checking procedures and the drafting of the national profiles.

In case you have any questions about data delivery please do not hesitate to contact the EUROSTUDENT staff at [IHS](#).



[Busy at work at the first EUROSTUDENT data workshop]



[Family photo, Vienna, August 2016]

## New EUROSTUDENT Blog online

This newsletter marks the launch of the new EUROSTUDENT blog. Here the EUROSTUDENT communications officer Hanna-Stella Haaristo from the Consortium Partner Praxis – supported by the rest of the Consortium – will post updates about the project, insights into the data, and other relevant information about the EUROSTUDENT project. In addition, regular news round-ups will gather and share other important news and updates on the social dimension of higher education and students' socio-economic situation in Europe.

Go and have a look at [www.eurostudent.eu/blog](http://www.eurostudent.eu/blog) and make sure to subscribe to the email or RSS updates to stay in the loop. The blog is public, so feel free to share with anyone who might be interested!

To suggest content for the blog or alert EUROSTUDENT of interesting developments in your country, please contact [Hanna-Stella Haaristo](#).



## Quality Check

The quality plan and the quality check 1 are available on the [EUROSTUDENT Wiki site](#). After four years of commitment in quality assurance for EUROSTUDENT projects, Sarah Gerhard Ortega recently left the project in order to hold her new position in the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (FSO). [Yassin Boughaba](#) (FSO) is now in charge of Work Package 6. Feel free to contact him with any comments or questions on quality assurance.

## **EUROSTUDENT is hiring**

The German Centre for Research on Higher Education and Science Studies (DZHW) is looking for a researcher to join the EUROSTUDENT project team. For more information, see the [job posting here](#).

## **Activities related to the EUROSTUDENT VI Network**

### **Bologna Follow Up Group Working Group 1 „Monitoring“**

On September 13th, Kristina Hauschildt took part in a meeting of the BFUG WG 1 in Berlin. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the chairs' proposal for the structure and indicators of the Implementation Report. EUROSTUDENT will again deliver several indicators for the report, especially with regard to diversity and mobility.

## EUROSTUDENT events

**SAVE THE DATE – April 6, 2017 – SAVE THE DATE**

### **EUROSTUDENT VI Policy-makers conference**

**Date: Thursday, 6 April 2017**

**Place: Malta**

In spring of 2017, the EUROSTUDENT policy-makers conference in Malta will bring together ministry representatives from the countries participating in EUROSTUDENT VI, as well as other interested policy-makers and international stakeholders.

The conference will provide a first “sneak preview” of the fresh EUROSTUDENT data. Participants are invited to provide feedback and discuss the policy relevance of different topics and questions related to the socio-economic situation of students in the European Higher Education Area. Results of the conference will directly feed into the EUROSTUDENT Thematic Review, which will provide an in-depth analysis on a topic of particular importance to policy makers drawing on the dataset collected through EUROSTUDENT VI. Discussions will also inform other project publications such as the Synopsis of Indicators and Intelligence Briefs.

Come to the conference to...

- ...get a sneak preview of EUROSTUDENT VI data
- ...gain in-depth insight into possible thematic review topics
- ...discuss preliminary results and provide feedback on their importance for policy development
- ...provide feedback on effective means of disseminating EUROSTUDENT VI findings
- ...learn more about different national situations regarding the social and economic conditions of student life
- ...network with fellow policy-makers involved in EUROSTUDENT VI from other countries

More information will be provided per separate email. Also keep an eye on the [conference website](#).

For questions, contact [eurostudent@dzhw.eu](mailto:eurostudent@dzhw.eu), [Madonna Maroun](#) or [Christine Scholz](#) at NCFHE in Malta.



[Valletta, Malta, 2013 [by Paradasos](#)]

## EUROSTUDENT Researchers' Forum

The EUROSTUDENT Researchers' Forum, held in Vilnius, Lithuania, from February 1st - February 2nd is taking more and more shape.

**Day 1** will feature

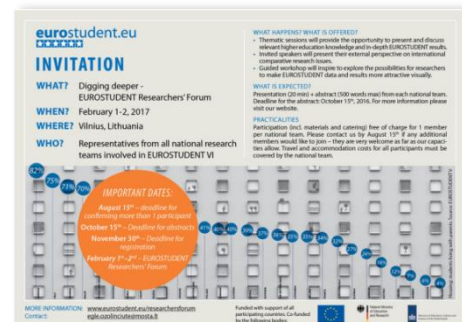
- **Plenary Session: Stakeholders on Use and Uses of EUROSTUDENT Data**
- **Parallel Thematic Sessions** (presentations by EUROSTUDENT researchers)
- **Keynote speeches**
  - **Methodological Challenges in International Comparative Surveys** (working title) - *Ineke Stoop, Deputy Director of Methodology of the European Social Survey, Netherlands Institute for Social Research*
  - **Using international comparisons to help understand and frame the specifics of national higher education systems – an example using EUROSTUDENT data** (working title) – *Nicolas Charles, Université de Bordeaux*
- **Speed Networking Session** to meet other researchers and discuss project ideas

**Day 2** is devoted to thinking about the communication and dissemination of project results. Working together with experts on data visualization, researchers have a chance to take concrete steps towards making attractive and informative graphics based on EUROSTUDENT data.

National research teams have been invited to the Forum and are asked to submit abstracts to the organisers until October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Any research teams wishing to attend with more than one person are kindly asked to let the organisers know about this as soon as possible!

Visit the EUROSTUDENT [website](#) for more, continuously updated information, including a full draft agenda, the call for papers, and practical information.

For questions, please contact [eurostudent@dzhw.eu](mailto:eurostudent@dzhw.eu) or [Eglė Ozolinčiūtė](#) at Mosta.



[Invitation for the [EUROSTUDENT VI Researchers' Forum](#) in Vilnius, Lithuania]

## EUROSTUDENT publications

### **Intelligence Brief: What are the obstacles to student mobility during the decision and planning phase?**

A new EUROSTUDENT [Intelligence Brief](#) examines possible obstacles to temporary student mobility in the different phases of the decision process. Do students who are planning to study abroad face different obstacles than students who do not?

The data show that financial and familial obstacles are of especially high relevance with regard to the initial decision to go abroad for study purposes. While financial concerns remain an issue, students who are already planning to study abroad are mainly concerned about practical matters: integrating a stay abroad into their study programme, getting relevant information, securing a place in a mobility programme, and ensuring their results achieved abroad will be recognised.

Hauschildt, K. (2016). What are the obstacles to student mobility during the decision and planning phase? *EUROSTUDENT Intelligence Brief No. 2, 2016*. Hanover: German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW).

### **Intelligence Brief: The structure of public student support in Europe**

The share of recipients of public support as well as the composition of this support differs greatly across EUROSTUDENT countries. In most countries, financial support from the public sector is available to students in the form of both grants and loans. [This brief](#) discusses the implications of the two different types of support and analyses the relationship between the average share of recipients in a country and the share of loans. Currently no relationship between the two can be found in the EUROSTUDENT countries.

Gwosc, C. & Hauschildt, K. (2016). The structure of public student support in Europe. *EUROSTUDENT Intelligence Brief No. 3, 2016*. Hanover: German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW).



## **Other publications**

### **European Tertiary Education Register database**

The [European Tertiary Education Register \(ETER\)](#) is a database of higher education institutions in Europe. On June 20th, the public database has been updated to provide easier access to the data.

ETER provides detailed data on 2,465 higher education institutions hosting more than 17 million students at Bachelor, Master and PhD level. Covering 32 European countries, the data includes university size, number and gender of students and staff, subject areas and degree levels, as well as information about research, international students and staff, and funding. The data is drawn from national statistical authorities.

### **Social Selectivity of Studying Abroad – new research articles**

From EUROSTUDENT data, we know that studying abroad is clearly socially selective. The share of students going abroad for a temporary enrolment, internship, or language course is higher among students with higher education background than among students from non-academic backgrounds in almost all EUROSTUDENT countries.

Together with different co-authors, Nicolai Netz, one of the authors of the EUROSTUDENT V report, has taken a closer look at this phenomenon in two recently published articles.

[The first article](#) helps understand the mechanisms behind the social selectivity of studying abroad. It develops a theoretical framework based on theories of rational choice and cultural reproduction and uses data from the German School Leavers Survey. The findings indicate that underprivileged students' lower likelihood of forming a study abroad intention partially results from previous life course events. Related to their previous educational decisions and experiences, underprivileged students have worse performance-related preconditions for studying abroad. Furthermore, their higher cost sensitivity and lower benefit expectation explain their reluctance to study abroad.

[The second article](#), published in *Sociology of Education*, combines German student survey data (Sozialerhebung) with administrative data on higher education entry rates for the years 1991 to 2012 to examine whether access to study-abroad opportunities is socially selective and whether this pattern changed during educational expansion. The results confirm that studying abroad was socially selective during the entire observation period, with increases between 1991 and 2003. Further, the results document qualitative differences in study-abroad experiences: students from a high social background increasingly choose exclusive types of stays abroad, that is, prolonged stays and stays funded through study-abroad scholarships. High-background students thus seem to replace their prior practices with more exclusive study-abroad practices.

Lörz, M., Netz, N., & Quast, H. (2016). Why do students from underprivileged families less often intend to study abroad?. *Higher Education*, 72, 153–174. [doi:10.1007/s10734-015-9943-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10734-015-9943-1)

Netz, N., & Finger, C. (2016). New Horizontal Inequalities in German Higher Education? Social Selectivity of Studying Abroad between 1991 and 2012. *Sociology of Education*, 89 (2), 79-98. [doi: 10.1177/0038040715627196](https://doi.org/10.1177/0038040715627196)

Responsibility for this newsletter is held by DZHW GmbH, Hannover (eurostudent@dzhw.eu). You have received this newsletter because we have you registered as interested in the EUROSTUDENT project. Should this not be the case, please contact us and we will remove your address from our mailing list. Project website: [www.eurostudent.eu](http://www.eurostudent.eu). On this website, project participants will also find access to the project wikispaces.

EUROSTUDENT VI Consortium:



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