

### Inside this issue:

*Welcome to the first issue of the EUROSTUDENT Newsletter in 2015. We are pleased to announce that the new EUROSTUDENT comparative report 'Synopsis of Indicators' was released at the EUROSTUDENT and PL4SD joint final conference on the social dimension of higher education. The conference was attended by around 250 participants representing Ministries, research organisations, student unions, and other stakeholders working in the area of higher education. The conference provided a medium for active discussions, exchange of ideas, and networking. Thanks to all participants for the great discussions! This issue offers coverage of the conference sessions and gives insights into the upcoming project activities. The final section of the newsletter compares international data on the time budget of students by their housing situation.*

## 1. EUROSTUDENT V Project activities in 2015

### **EUROSTUDENT V Final Conference in conjunction with PL4SD, 25 – 27 February in Vienna, Austria**

From 25 to 27 February 2015 the joint final conference of the projects EUROSTUDENT and PL4SD took place in Vienna, Austria. Around 250 participants from all over Europe attended the conference and actively contributed to a peer learning process on the social dimension.

Before the official start of the conference, a EUROSTUDENT V wrap-up session was organised to reflect on the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT, together with the Project Consortium and the national teams. The main purpose of the wrap-up session was to learn about countries' experiences of participating in EUROSTUDENT V and their suggestions for EUROSTUDENT VI. The national teams actively shared their experiences and challenges of participating in the project and their ideas for next round.



[Participants of the final conference getting together]

A main focus of the conference was put on networking and exchange of knowledge and experience in improving social dimension of higher education. During the conference, four key note speakers presented on the social dimension in European Higher Education:

**Key Note #1: ["The Social Dimension in European Higher Education"](#)**

Jan Sadlak, *President of the IREG Observatory on Academic Ranking and Excellence*

**Key Note #2: ["First Generation Students: From a student's experience to a nationwide support network"](#)**

Katja Urbatsch, *"arbeiterkind.de", Germany*

**Key Note #3 & #4: ["The institutional role in student support"](#)**

Blaženka Divjak, *University of Zagreb, HR* and  
Liz Thomas, *Liz Thomas Associates - higher education research and consultancy, UK*

The core element of the conference was composed of recent research on the social dimension as well as EUROSTUDENT V and PL4SD results in the framework of 9 thematic tracks:

- #1 [Towards a national strategy](#)
- #2 [Access](#)
- #3 [Special student groups](#)
- #4 [Mobility](#)
- #5 [Student support & funding](#)
- #6 [Study and work](#)
- #7 [Expectations and student assessments](#)
- #8 [Retention & success](#)
- #9 [The Eurostudent Network](#)

The conference concluded with a [EUROSTUDENT VI pre-kick-off](#) meeting which brought together representatives from countries interested in participating in the project's sixth round.

All presentation files and key findings of the conference contributions are available on the [PL4SD website](#).



[One of the key note speakers Jan Sadlak]



[Participants of the pre-kick-off meeting]

**BFUG meetings on 26 – 27 January and 24 – 25 March in Riga**

EUROSTUDENT participated in the recent BFUG meetings in Riga, Latvia, in January and March. At the January meeting, EUROSTUDENT informed about the plans for EUROSTUDENT VI and the current state of funding of the project.



## Presentation of EUROSTUDENT results at the International Perspective on Education Seminar, 11 March, Barcelona

At invitation by Fundacio Bofill, Kristina Hauschildt presented the most recent EUROSTUDENT results at the International Perspective on Education Seminar which was held on March 11 in Barcelona, Spain. At the seminar, a presentation by [Miquel Martínez](#) and Ernest Pons offered an insight into the social dimension of student life in Catalonia, contrasting their findings with EUROSTUDENT results. Please find more details on their presentation [here](#). In the future, more data will be available on the situation of students in Catalonia thanks to the project "Via Universitària", a joint initiative of the Fundació Jaume Bofill and the [Vives Network](#). The survey will cover Catalonia, Valencia, the Balearic Islands, Andorra, and Northern Catalonia.

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[Kristina Hauschildt presenting EUROSTUDENT results]

## 2. Activities related to the EUROSTUDENT V Network

### PL4SD news

Joint Conference of PL4SD and EUROSTUDENT, 25 – 27 February 2015, Vienna

Within the framework of the conference, PL4SD results were presented as well as a broad range of recent research on the social dimension. The key results and discussions from each thematic track as well as conference presentations are available on the [PL4SD homepage](#).



### EUROGRADUATE 4th project meeting, 24 February 2015, Vienna, Austria

The 4<sup>th</sup> project meeting of EUROGRADUATE to work on the research digest was held in Vienna on February 24. Following the meeting, the participants took part in the Social Dimension in Higher Education conference. There were many discussions on EUROGRADUATE with interested delegates from all over Europe.

eurograduate.eu  
feasibility

### EUROGRADUATE research digest available

Three short research digests cover the existing national and international data capacities as well as the interests and requirements of stakeholders with regard to a European graduate study. They provide first insights into the results of the EUROGRADUATE feasibility study. The results are available on the [EUROGRADUATE homepage](#).

### 3. Publications and reports

#### Release of the EUROSTUDENT V comparative report

The new EUROSTUDENT V comparative report "Synopsis of Indicators" has been released at the final conference.

It can be downloaded [here](#).



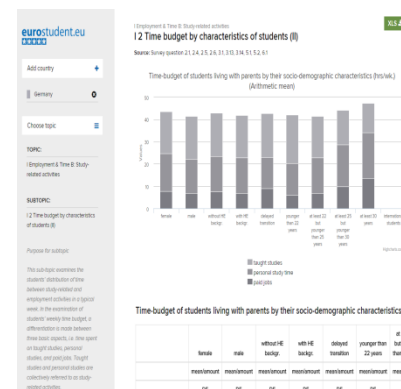
#### Reports of EUROSTUDENT III and EUROSTUDENT IV are now available under open access license

The EUROSTUDENT Synopsis of Indicators of the third and fourth round is now also available under a Creative Commons licence and can be retrieved for free via the website of the publisher Bertelsmann. Please follow the [open access link](#).



#### Release of the new version of the Data Reporting Module (DRM)

A completely new EUROSTUDENT V Database (Data Reporting Module) has been launched. It includes profiles on each of the EUROSTUDENT V participating countries as well as introductory remarks to each of the topics covered. The new version of the database allows compiling data for one or several countries for each of the covered topics and subtopics individually. The new DRM generates figures and tables for the selected configurations and allows for downloading data as excel file for further use and calculations. You can access the database [here](#).



#### EUROSTUDENT videos

On the [EUROSTUDENT-YouTube channel](#) you can watch videos with impressions from the final conference as well as 10 short videos covering topics from the EUROSTUDENT V synopsis of indicators.

### 4. International and comparative statistics

#### EUROSTUDENT V 2012 – 2015 Synopsis of Indicators: Statistic on time budget of students by housing situation

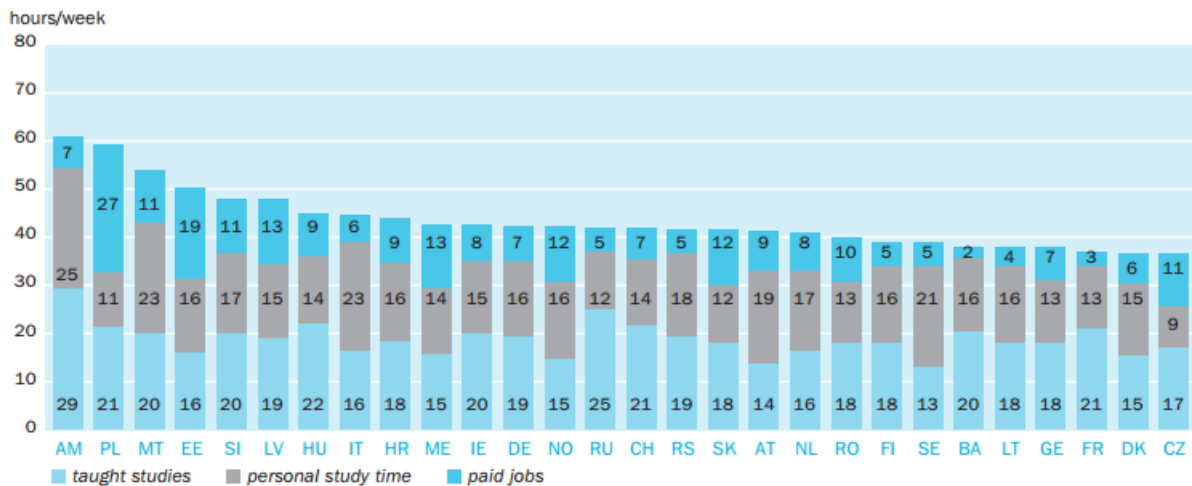
Different factors may influence students' choices with regard to accommodation such as personal preferences, financial restrictions, and societal norms. The type of housing can be quite influential on the day-to-day organisation and experience of students. The figure below shows that the time budget of students living with parents varies from less than 40 hours per week in countries such as Finland, Sweden, Lithuania, or France, to more than 60 hours per week in Armenia and Poland.

In almost all of the EUROSTUDENT countries, the weekly time budget of students not living with their parents is higher compared to their peers living with parents. In half of the EUROSTUDENT countries, students living at home spend a marginally higher time on taught studies compared to students not living at home. In the majority of the EUROSTUDENT countries, students not living with parents spend more time on personal studies than students living with parents. However, this difference is marginal and fluctuates between one hour and four hours per week.

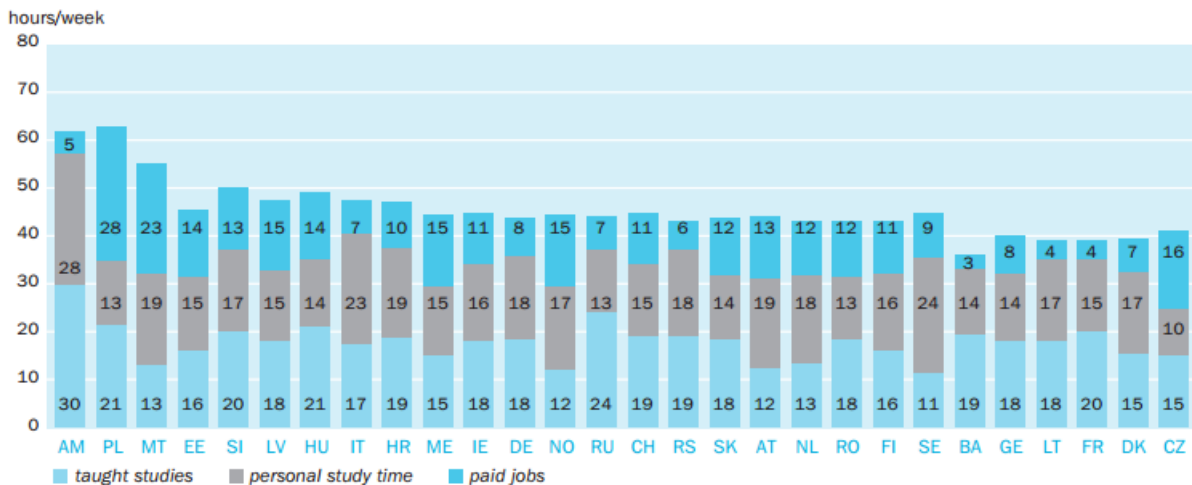
### Time budget of students by housing situation

Students' time budget by type of activity (in hours/week)

#### a) Students living with parents



#### b) Students not living with parents



Data source: EUROSTUDENT V, I.1. No data: UA.

EUROSTUDENT question(s): 3.13 How many hours do you spend on paid jobs in a typical week during this semester?, 3.14 How many hours do you spend in a typical week in taught courses and on personal study time?

Deviations from EUROSTUDENT standard target group: DE, GE, IT.