

Inside this issue:

Welcome to the July issue of the EUROSTUDENT V newsletter! It has been an eventful year so far for the national teams and the central project coordinators. The project coordinators supported the national teams in checking and correcting data inconsistencies and deviations from the EUROSTUDENT specifications, thereby enhancing the overall quality of the delivered data. The members of the Consortium came together to discuss the structure of the Synopsis of Indicators and worked on ways to ensure the exploitation and wide dissemination of EUROSTUDENT V results. The project Steering Board came together in Berlin to advise on the project activities and agree on the next steps. This issue covers updates on key project activities, conferences, new publications and reports. The final section of the newsletter compares international data on the impact of cost-sharing on the behaviour of students and higher education institutions across nine higher education systems.

1. Current EUROSTUDENT V project activities**Schedule**

In November 2013, EUROSTUDENT V transitioned into its third phase, which involves data delivery and control. During this phase, multiple rounds of data checks have been performed and feedbacks have been exchanged with the national teams. Data control comprises of plausibility checks, international comparison of key indicators and comparison with EUROSTUDENT-IV data wherever possible. The project coordinators along with the national teams are currently working on the final round of feedback loops. Until now 20 countries have delivered their data. These include Austria, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Sweden, Slovenia and Slovakia.

Up to 10 further countries have expressed interest to deliver their data in a second wave. These countries are Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belarus, Georgia, Croatia, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Serbia and the Ukraine. Countries participating in the second wave are expected to deliver their data latest by the end of August 2014. Data delivery is, however, not mandatory for all of these countries. In some cases, the participation agreement is of a pilot project nature.

To see the schedule for country field phase and national meta data, visit the following wikipedia (please update your own schedule as necessary): [time schedule](#).

Phase	Dates	Milestones and comments
Preparation of national surveys	April 2012 - February 2013	Core set of questions developed. Regional conferences have taken place. Further support available.
Data collection (field phase)	March 2013 - July 2013	Surveys are executed in countries (in some exceptions field phase is Spring 2014)
Data delivery and control	November 2013 - May 2014 (data delivery until end 2013)	Individual appointments will be made with each country. Feedback loops must be finished at end of May 2014. A number of countries are carrying out their surveys in Spring 2014. These will deliver by October 2014.
Data analysis, comparative control, feedback loop, reporting	May 2014 - November 2014	Comparative analyses will be completed in this phase. Intelligence Briefs will be formulated and published from Spring 2014. Final report will be worked on, but cannot be completed until all countries have delivered their data. In this phase, first preparations will also be made for EUROSTUDENT VI (including Letters of Intent from each participating country).
Dissemination (final conference) & exploitation	September 2014 - May 2015	Final conference, Spring 2015 (will include a pre-Kick-off for EUROSTUDENT VI). Exploitation also via Bologna Implementation Report 2015, Bologna Ministers' Conference May 2015.

[Excerpt from the wikipage]

EUROSTUDENT V – Working group meeting on reporting structure and content, Lisbon, 12 - 13 March 2014

The members of the EUROSTUDENT project consortium came together with external experts for a two-day working group meeting on the reporting structure and content for the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT. The meeting was held on 12 and 13 March 2014 in Lisbon, Portugal. At the meeting, participants discussed the structure of the Synopsis of Indicators for EUROSTUDENT V. The objective of the meeting was to identify relevant policy issues, key questions, variables and target groups to be included in the final report. The meeting involved active discussions on the EUROSTUDENT V set of indicators covering all topic areas – demographics, transition into higher education, time budget and employment, students' resources and expenses, housing, international mobility, assessment and future plans.

For further information please visit our [wiki page](#).



[Participants of the working group meeting, Lisbon, 2014]

EUROSTUDENT V - Steering Board meeting, Berlin, 11 April 2014

The members of the EUROSTUDENT Steering Board came together in Berlin to advise on the project activities and agree on the next steps. Discussions covered a wide range of administrative and financial topics including the Annual and the Financial Report 2013, dissemination and exploitation of the results of EUROSTUDENT V, the preparation of EUROSTUDENT VI and the NIS-Cluster.



[Members of the Steering Board, Berlin 2014]

The Steering Board offered significant feedback on the Annual and the Financial Report 2013. They raised several questions and comments and made appropriate recommendations for changes. The revised documents have since been approved by the Steering Board and the Annual Report is available on the project website. The Steering Board also provided critical inputs on effective measures for dissemination and exploitation of EUROSTUDENT V results, preparation of EUROSTUDENT VI and the NIS-Cluster. The Steering Board agreed on the venue and the dates for the EUROSTUDENT V final conference to be held in conjunction with the final conference of the PL4SD project.

EUROSTUDENT V seminar on exploitation, Malta, 14 - 15 May 2014

The members of the EUROSTUDENT project consortium came together for a two-day seminar on exploitation and intelligence briefs for the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT. The meeting was held 14-15 May 2014 in Malta. The focus of the meeting was on identifying the key target audiences for EUROSTUDENT V data and results, key issues relevant to the identified target audiences, and the effective media for data use and dissemination. The discussions were based on effective measures for exploitation developed during the last round of EUROSTUDENT by the central coordination as well as the national research teams. Furthermore, new possibilities for using EUROSTUDENT data were also explored for wider dissemination. In this regard, an exploitation strategy targeted at the European level as well as using EUROSTUDENT data effectively at the national levels were pointed out. To coordinate these instruments and modes, Hanna-Stella Haaristo (Praxis) was appointed the communication officer of EUROSTUDENT V. She is now responsible for managing Twitter and other social networking accounts, devising communication strategies, developing dissemination toolkits (graphs, video), updating newsletter / website content, and monitoring policy events. As an important platform for promoting the results of the project, the group also talked about the EUROSTUDENT V final conference to be held in February 2015 in Vienna in conjunction with the final conference of the project Peer Learning for the Social Dimension.



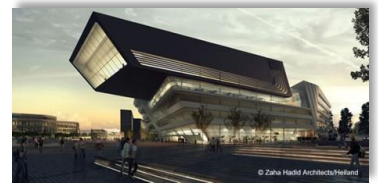
[Members of the Consortium, Malta, 2014]

For further information please visit our [wiki page](#).

EUROSTUDENT V and PL4SD Final Conference on Social Dimension in Higher Education: Call for Contribution

The final conference of the EUROSTUDENT V project in conjunction with the final conference of the Peer Learning for Social Dimension (PL4SD) project will be held 25-27 February 2015 in Vienna, Austria.

The conference will provide an interactive forum for policy makers, stakeholders, researchers and the public. At the conference, the results of EUROSTUDENT V and PL4SD will be presented to several hundred delegates. We cordially invite you to register for the conference from September 2014 onwards and thus participate in an interactive discourse on the social dimension in higher education. There is a call for contribution targeting researchers, practitioners and policy makers in the field of the social dimension in higher education. We encourage you to send us an abstract for a presentation on either research concerned with the social dimension, actions, measures, strategies or coherent approaches for improving the social dimension in national contexts. For further information please see our [call for contributions](#) or visit our [conference page](#).



[Business University Vienna, Final conference venue 2015]

EUROSTUDENT VI

The EUROSTUDENT project Consortium has commenced preparations for the next (sixth) round of the project. A tentative schedule for the sixth round of EUROSTUDENT is as follows:

- Start E:VI – May 2015 (but informal kick-off February 15)
- Field phase – Spring 2016
- Data delivery – Winter 2016
- Data control and analysis – 2017
- Final conference – Spring 2018
- Expected data of Bologna Ministers' conference – April/May 2018

2. Activities related to the EUROSTUDENT V network

Meeting EUROSTUDENT NIS-Initiative, Minsk, 14 February 2014

A final preparatory meeting for the joining of Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russia and the Ukraine to the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT was held in Minsk on the 14th February 2014. These countries are joining together in the EUROSTUDENT NIS-Initiative.



[EUROSTUDENT NIS-Initiative participants, Minsk, 2014]

EUROGRADUATE news

The aim of the EUROGRADUATE project is to systematically explore the possibility of establishing a study on Europe's higher education graduates.

The project has just entered its field phase: the IHS team has conducted interviews with the members of the Stakeholders' Board and the European Commission to find out what is needed and wanted for a European graduate study. Results will be discussed in the research digest available in early 2015.

The surveys of ministries, NRCs, and higher education researchers are a further major part of the project. The first potential respondents have been contacted and are asked about their interests, preferences, and expectations regarding a European graduate study.

For further information please visit the EUROGRADUATE [website](http://eurograduate.eu).



PL4SD Interim Conference, Vienna, 2-3 April 2014

The Interim Conference of the project Peer Learning for the Social Dimension (PL4SD) was held 2-3 April 2014 in Vienna, Austria. The conference was attended by 70 participants from 22 countries. The participants represented universities, ministries, research organisations, student unions, the European Commission and the Bologna Secretariat. The conference presented six plenary sessions with 20 speakers. A selection of measures from different countries collected by the PL4SD project were presented and discussed around the following four thematic areas:



1. Access to higher education for underrepresented groups of students
2. Different ways to improve the situation of students with disabilities
3. Various forms of counselling & guidance for prospective students
4. Examples of national action plans for the social dimension

Representatives from Armenia, Austria, Croatia, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden and the United Kingdom presented national measures undertaken by these countries in the above areas.

The presenters and the participants enthusiastically shared their initiatives, experiences and views related to the social dimension of higher education.

For more information please visit [PL4SD website](#).

3. Publications and reports

Annual Report 2013

The EUROSTUDENT V Annual Report was released in May 2014 and is now available through our project website. This publication reports on current activities of the EUROSTUDENT project, includes a special highlight on the use of EUROSTUDENT data across Europe, financial updates, and the organizational structure. The Annual Report is available for download at www.eurostudent.eu.



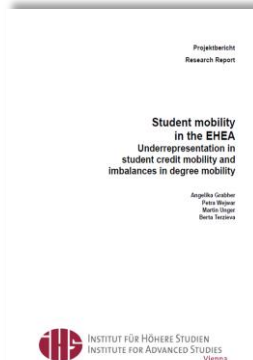
Student mobility in the EHEA Underrepresentation in student credit mobility and imbalances in degree mobility

This report was commissioned by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research. It aims to provide the discussions of the BFUG Working group "Mobility and Internationalisation" with input regarding the explanation of differences and inequalities in student mobility within and between countries of the EHEA. This matter will be approached from two perspectives.

The first part focuses on **credit mobility**, which is defined as a temporary enrolment abroad with the aim of pursuing one's studies but finishing them in the home country. These analyses are based on a special analysis of national student survey data from the EUROSTUDENT network.

The second part of this report focuses on **degree mobility**, which is defined as long term mobility of students with the purpose of completing a whole study cycle and the acquisition of a degree (Bachelor-, Master- or Doctorate) abroad. Using 2010 data on student mobility from the data centre of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics this chapter describes the presence and distribution of mobile students worldwide and in the EHEA. The balance and imbalance of mobility flows across EHEA countries from a bilateral and regional perspective are as well analysed.

The results of the report are available under the following [Link](#).



4. International and comparative statistics

Do changes in cost-sharing have an impact on the behaviour of students and higher education institutions? Evidence from nine case studies.

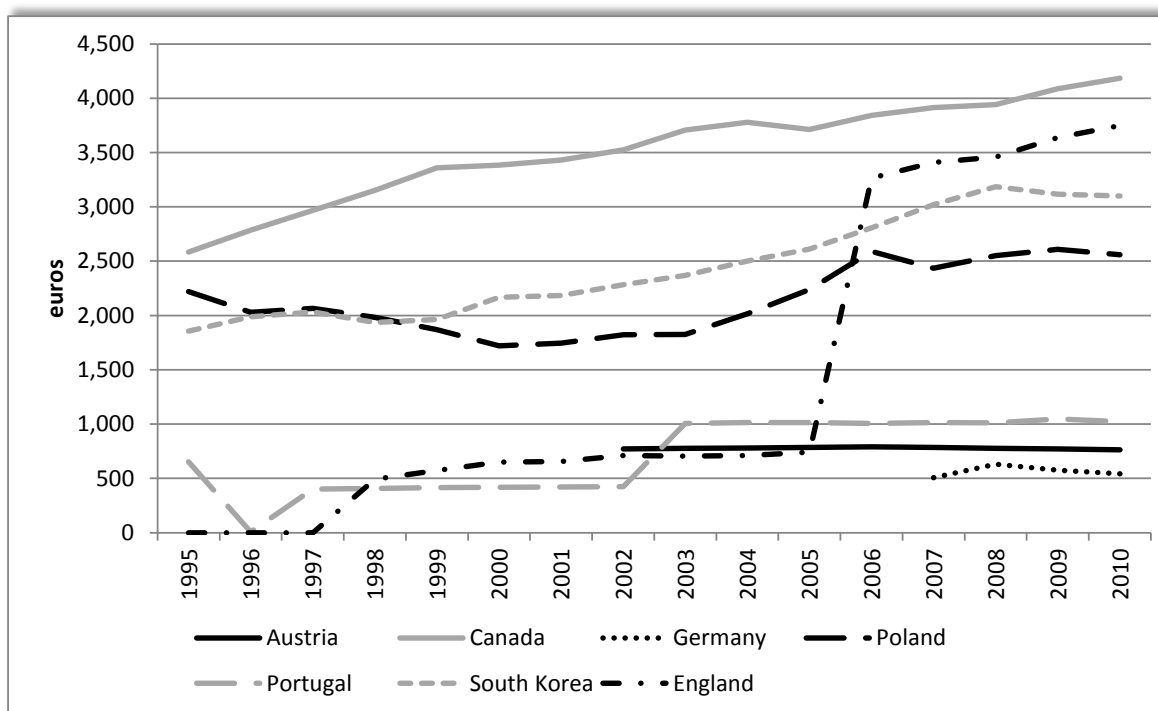
This international comparative study, commissioned by the European Commission, reviews the public and private contribution to higher education from a policy perspective. It analyses the effect of different models of cost-sharing (shift in the balance of public and private funding) on students and higher education institutions. The study covered nine different countries which included Austria, Canada, UK-England, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Portugal and South Korea. The report was prepared by an independent team of researchers coordinated by the Hannover-based Deutsches Zentrum für Hochschul- und Wissenschaftsforschung (DZHW) and Higher Education Strategy Associates (HESA), based in Toronto.

Using a mix of quantitative data and primary and secondary qualitative evidence, the study examined the impact of changes in cost-sharing policies (and particularly tuition fees as a clear policy intervention) from two perspectives: from the student perspective, the study focuses on student net costs. It assumes that an increase in private costs will have an impact on students' behaviour. From the institutional side of cost-sharing, the study investigates the changing balance of public and private revenues for higher education institutions (HEIs). A change to this balance affects the relative importance of its income sources which is assumed to also change the behaviour of HEIs.

The main findings of the report were the following: It is not the tuition fees that affect the behaviour of HEIs towards market demand but the structural incentives that surround the fees. The negative effects of rising private cost to student demand are smaller than is commonly assumed. The evidence amassed in this research confirms that looking at (changing) fee levels in isolation are insufficient to explain (changes in) participation or study behaviour.

For more information, please visit the [European Commission page](#).

Example: Changes in students costs, Figure 4.1: Fees at public HEIs in case-study countries (1995 – 2010), p.70



Note: Data for England include English and Welsh full-time undergraduate students up until 2004, from 2005 onwards only English full-time undergraduate students are included. For Germany average real fees taking account of waivers and discounts. Constant prices (2011).
Source: Case studies.