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*Welcome to the final issue of the EUROSTUDENT Newsletter in 2014. The Central Coordination Team at DZHW would like to take this opportunity to thank all EUROSTUDENT Partners for their continuous support of the EUROSTUDENT Project throughout the year. This issue will look back on the activities and publications related to the EUROSTUDENT V Project in 2014. Moreover, with this issue we would like to give a preview for the upcoming year 2015: The **EUROSTUDENT V Final Conference in conjunction with PL4SD** as well as the **start of EUROSTUDENT VI**.*

The EUROSTUDENT team wishes everyone a happy holiday season and all the best for the New Year!

1. EUROSTUDENT V Project activities in 2014

Current and upcoming project activities

At the close of the year, the EUROSTUDENT Project has achieved a major milestone in the development of the final report following the completion of data control and comparative analyses. The final report will be released in February 2015 during the final conference in Vienna.

Several meetings and seminars were held this year. These events significantly helped to improve the overall quality of the project. In March 2014, the consortium met in Lisbon with external experts for a two-day working group meeting on the reporting structure and focus of analysis for the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT. Two months later, the members of the EUROSTUDENT Consortium came together in Malta for a seminar on intelligence briefs and further initiatives to support the exploitation of the EUROSTUDENT data set.



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

In August 2014, a selected group of EUROSTUDENT participants attended an intensive seminar in Vienna. This seminar was designed to support countries in data handling, especially data cleaning, and weighting.

Further, the EUROSTUDENT Consortium met in Tallinn in October to discuss the third quality check report, the concept of the Data Reporting Module (DRM), and strategies for supporting national exploitation initiatives. Taken together, these events significantly contributed to improving the data delivery, data analysis and data exploitation. All issues which were highlighted as important by the International Steering Board at its meeting in April 2014.



[Members of the the Steering Board, Berlin, 2014]



[Members of the the Consortium, Malta, 2014]

Data delivery and control	November 2013 – May 2014 (data delivery until end 2013)	Individual appointments were made with each country. Up to four feedback loops were finished until the end of May 2014. 29 countries have delivered their data.
Data analysis, comparative control, feedback loop, reporting	May 2014 - November 2014	Comparative analyses were completed in this phase. An Intelligence Brief was formulated and published. Final report will be worked on and will be published at the Final Conference. In this phase, first preparations were also 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.

[EUROSTUDENT V schedule]

1.1. EUROSTUDENT V Final Conference on Social Dimension in Higher Education

EUROSTUDENT V Final Conference in conjunction with PL4SD on Social Dimension in Higher Education

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.

During the three days, you will be given the chance to attend presentations on following topic areas:

- Targeted measures to improve the situation of students
- Policy interventions and strategies
- Recent research for evidence based policy and action

Overall, 20 thematic sessions (e.g. "access", "future plans", "socio-economic background" and "underrepresented groups") with more than 60 contributions from policy, research and action will be held.

The conference will moreover include the **EUROSTUDENT V Wrap-up** (25.02.2015; 10:00 am) as well as the **EUROSTUDENT VI Kick-off** (27.02.2015; 14:30 pm).

We are excited and honored to welcome – amongst others - **Prof. Jan Sadlak, Dr. Katja Urbatsch, Prof. Blaženka Divjak, Prof. Liz Thomas and Mette Andersen** as keynote speakers and presenters.

We cordially invite you to register for the conference until 27 February 2015 and thus participate in an interactive discourse on the social dimension in higher education. For more information please see the [website of the conference](#).

We would also like to mention that Austrian Airlines offers all delegates and accompanying persons 15% discount off all published fares for Austrian Airline flights to Vienna. The booking period for this offer ends on February 27 2015.

Save the date!



Photo by Pezi, retrieved from [Wikimedia Commons](#)

[Business University Vienna, Final conference venue 2015]

Please find below an overview of the conference schedule:

25.02.2015					
Eurostudent V wrap-up (pre-conference)					
Beginning of the conference					
14:30-16:30	Welcome Notes				
16:30-17:15	Discourse Cafe				
17:15-18:15	The Social Dimension in European Higher Education Key Note				
18:15-21:00	Discourse Cocktail & Buffet and Spot on: Action First generation students: from a student's experience to a support network				
26.02.2015					
09:00-10:30	Spot on Institutions & Research: The institutional role in student support Key Notes				
10:30-11:15	Discourse Cafe				
11:15-12:45	Towards a national strategy	Access	Special student groups	Mobility	Student support & funding
12:45-14:30	Lunch				
14:30-16:00	Towards a national strategy	Access	Special student groups	Study and work	Mobility
16:00-16:45	Discourse Cafe				
16:45-18:15	Student support & funding	Expectations and student assessments	Special student groups	Study and work	Retention & success
19:00-22:00	Networking Dinner				
27.02.2015					
09:00 - 10:30	Towards a national strategy	Expectations and student assessments	Special student groups	The Eurostudent Network	Retention & success
10:30-11:15	Discourse Cafe				
11:15-12:45	Spot on policy: The future of the Social Dimension in the European Higher Education Area				
End of the conference					
14:30-16:30	Internal Meeting: Kick-off Eurostudent VI				

* The EUROSTUDENT V pre-conference takes place on 25.02.2015 from 10:00-13:00. Find the detailed schedule [here](#).

1.2. EUROSTUDENT VI



The EUROSTUDENT V Final Conference will not only wrap up the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT, it will mark the kick-off for the project's sixth round at the same time. In October 2014, the letters of intent were sent out to all countries in the European Higher Education Area. Until now we have received (or are in the process of receiving) 20 letters of intent. However, this is not sufficient. In the fifth round 30 countries participated and we expect to reach the same number of participating countries this time. Therefore we ask all our national partners to keep up their efforts.

The sixth's round key dates are as follows:

- Start of EUROSTUDENT VI (May 2015)
- Participating countries name national research teams (June 2015)
- Users' conference (Summer 2016)
- Field phase of national surveys (Spring 2016)
- Winter 2016 Data delivery of national data to central coordinators
- Policy-makers' conference (Summer 2017)
- Comparative data control and analysis by central coordinators (2017)
- Final conference EUROSTUDENT VI (Spring 2018)

What is new in EUROSTUDENT VI?

The three focal points in this sixth round will be:

- Stronger support for national teams
- Increasing in-depth, policy-relevant analyses
- Fostering wide and continuous exploitation of the EUROSTUDENT data

2. Activities related to the EUROSTUDENT V Network

EUROSTUDENT – NIS Initiative in 2014

As previously reported, it has been an important goal of the fifth round of EUROSTUDENT to reach out to countries, which had not previously participated in the project. A special focus was set on the Newly Independent States. A final preparatory meeting was held in Minsk on the 14 February 2014 with the participation of representatives from Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Russia and the Ukraine. This initiative has led to the countries Armenia, Georgia, Russia and the Ukraine providing carrying out student surveys and providing their data for the EUROSTUDENT data set.



[EUROSTUDENT NIS-Initiative participants, Minsk, 2014]

PL4SD in 2014

An 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.



Country reviews in three countries - Lithuania, Armenia, and Croatia - were carried out in 2014 with the assistance of international experts. The review team for each review combined three international experts and four representatives of the PL4SD team: Dominic Orr (DZHW), Martin Unger (IHS), Melinda Szabo (ENQA, DZHW) and Petra Wejwar (IHS). For each review, a preparatory background report was written containing general information on the national higher education system and useful contextual information. The results from all three country reviews will be presented at the conference "The Social Dimension in European Higher Education". For more information visit www.socialdimension-he.eu

EUROGRADUATE Third Project Meeting

From October 29-31, the EUROGRADUATE Consortium met in Brussels to discuss the first project results with the Scientific Board and the Stakeholders' Board. This included findings from the EUROGRADUATE surveys and expert interviews among national ministries, NRCs, graduate researchers, and European level stakeholder organisations. Representatives of the European Commission, ESU, EUA, EURASHE, BUSINESSEUROPE, and EUROCHAMBRES provided in their opinion and on the expected project results and the next steps to be taken. The results indicate a high level of interest in a European graduate study from all sides. Design and contents of a European graduate study are starting to take shape even if views on some requirements are divergent. Based on the project findings, the consortium also discussed possible ways of organising and setting up a European graduate study with the project boards. These discussions were very fruitful and have led to significant advances of the EUROGRADUATE project. The meeting was kindly hosted by EURASHE.



3. Publications and reports

Annual Report 2013

In May 2014, the EUROSTUDENT V Annual Report 2013 was released. 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 organisational structure. The Annual Report is available for download at [the EUROSTUDENT website](#).



Synopsis of Indicators

In December 2014, the Central Coordination Team at DZHW in Hanover completed the EUROSTUDENT V Synopsis of Indicators. It is now at the publishing house for final editing and typesetting. This Final Report will be released at the EUROSTUDENT V Final Conference in February 2015 in Vienna.

4. International and comparative statistics

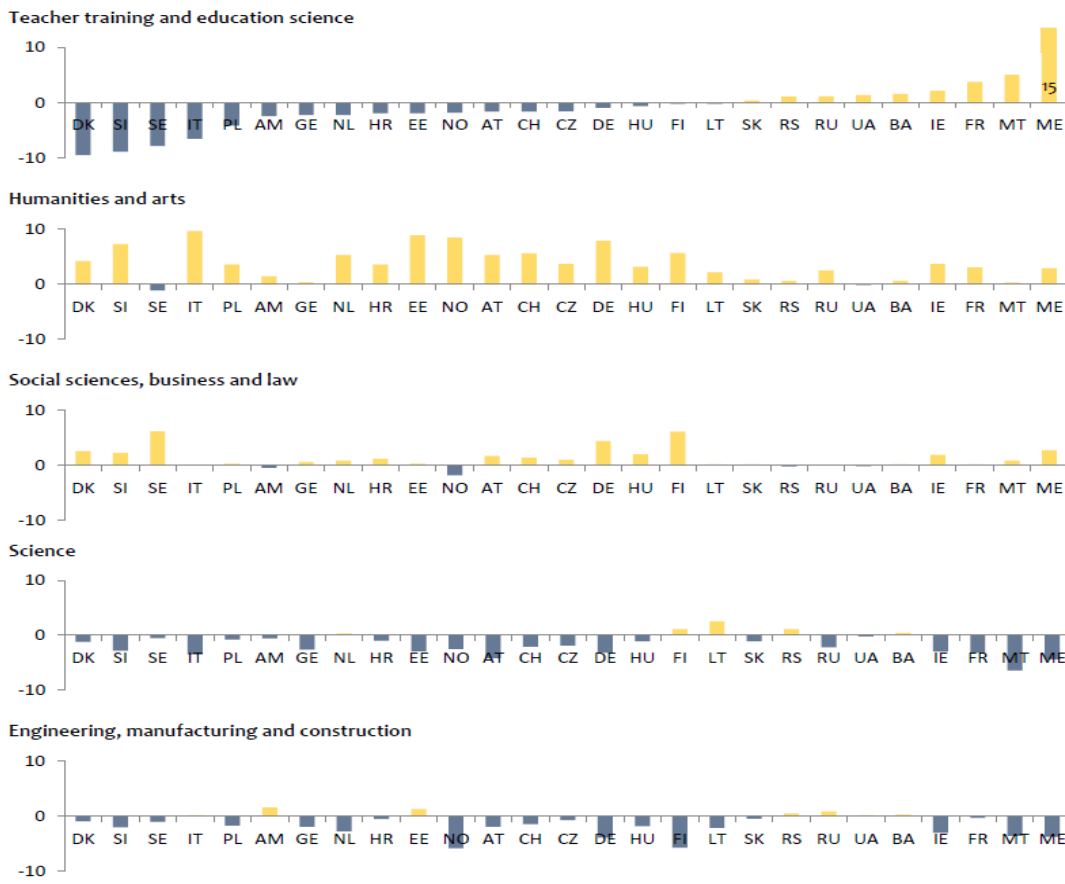
Intelligence Brief: Are Teacher Training Students Internationally Mobile?

In October 2014, members of the DZHW team in Hanover published the first Intelligence Brief based on EUROSTUDENT V data. It incorporates data collected during the current round of EUROSTUDENT.

This Intelligence Brief begins by discussing the relevance of international mobility for teacher training students and subsequently comments on the notable differences in foreign enrolment rates by country and field of study. It highlights that teacher training students are underrepresented among those studying abroad temporarily in most countries. Reasons are suggested for this low foreign enrolment rate of teacher training students and implications for higher education policy are pointed out.

The full Intelligence Brief is available for download at [the EUROSTUDENT website](#).

Figure 2: Over- and underrepresentation of students who have been temporarily enrolled abroad by field of study (percentage point difference to share of all students who have been enrolled abroad)



Source: EUROSTUDENT V, K.4.