

EUROSTUDENT V

TECHNICAL MANUAL FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE EUROSTUDENT SURVEY IN NATIONAL SETTINGS

Final Draft (07.02.13)



Preface

This manual is the result of collective work within the EUROSTUDENT network. It reflects the experience of the previous rounds as well as recent changes in the European Higher Education Area. Through various meetings and discussions, the consortium of EUROSTUDENT V with attached experts from the European Commission, the European Students' Union and partner countries of EUROSTUDENT V, developed the present questionnaire. The work on the questionnaire was accompanied by the work on the handbook, carried out by IHS, Praxis, HIS and ResearchNed.

Based on the previous rounds of EUROSTUDENT, the main objective of the work was to consolidate the questionnaire as well as the handbook. The output should be useful for the national research teams when implementing the questionnaire in their national settings. It therefore provides each question of the core questionnaire with various explanations. The explanatory texts are divided into several sections: the question's **purpose**, necessary **explanation and definition**, use of **hashtags**, **usage and history** of the question and **optional changes**. The first section is pointing out the meaning of the question and the rationale of including it in the questionnaire. The second section gives information on the terms and concepts used in the text for the question. Hashtags indicate the need for adjusting the questionnaire to the national contexts and are explained below. Usage and history refer to the use of the question for the Synopsis of Indicators of EUROSTUDENT IV. Finally, the last section contains suggestions for expanding the questions beyond the information which will be used for EUROSTUDENT or which apply only to optional target groups.

The current manual is the final and approved document to be used for EUROSTUDENT V. Still the authors invite participating countries to provide additional comments, remarks and suggestions on https://eurostudent.his.de/wiki/index.php/EUROSTUDENT_V or via email to Eurostudent@his.de.

This publication reflects the view only of the authors, and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

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Definition of the Target Groups

Following a survey among administrators, researchers and users of the data and the discussions at the workshops in Berlin (24.-25.5.12), an intensive seminar in Hainburg (25.-27.6.12), various discussions within the consortium and with attached experts and a final seminar in Vienna (15.-17.10.12), we have defined a standard target group to be surveyed by all participating countries and optional groups that might be surveyed. The core report of EUROSTUDENT V will only include data on the standard target group. However, if a minimum number of countries can also provide data on any optional groups, we will consider including special chapters in the Synopsis of indicators on these groups or producing special (online) reports on these groups.

In defining the standard target group we have particularly taken note of previous rounds of EUROSTUDENT and of standard international practice (e.g. by Eurostat).

Standard target group to be covered by all participating countries ("minimum"):

- All students in your country, i.e. national and foreign students who are pursuing their studies for a degree in the country of the survey¹, except students on leave and excluding students on incoming and outgoing credit mobility.
- Full-time and part-time students by status.
- Students in all ISCED 5, 6 and 7 programmes, regardless of their character as general or professional, as long as the programmes are considered higher education in your national context.²
- All higher education institutions offering programmes considered "normal". In many cases this means only public, non-specialist institutions of higher education.
- All national degrees corresponding to ISCED 5, 6 and 7 (e.g. BA, MA, traditional diploma, Lizentiat, national degrees in medicine. Short courses only if they are based on ISCED 5.)
- Distance students who study at a "normal" higher education institution, i.e. excluding institutions solely for long distance students like open universities, Fernuniversität Hagen and similar.

Optional groups:

- ISCED 8, Doctoral/PhD-Students
- Higher education institutions not considered for the standard target group (e.g. specialist institutions).

Please adapt your national questionnaire to ensure you can identify exactly the standard target group even if you are surveying other groups of students as well.

¹ Widening the focus of EUROSTUDENT towards students who obtained their prior education in another country but the country of the survey is a major change in the definition of the standard target group. We have thereby taken into account the increasing mobility throughout Europe on all educational levels.

² EUROSTUDENT V now refers to the new ISCED 2011 classification. For further information see <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Pages/international-standard-classification-of-education.aspx>

Core Questionnaire of EUROSTUDENT V

1. Current Study Situation

1.0. Do you actively pursue your studies in the current semester?

Single choice.

- Yes, at a university in #country
- Yes, at a university of applied sciences in #country
- Yes, at #other HEI in #country
- Yes, (temporarily) at a University abroad, outside #country (e.g. on Erasmus)
- No, I'm currently interrupting my studies (either officially or not)
- No, I stopped studying
- No, I already graduated

If categories 1 to 3 → please continue with question 1.1.

If categories 4 to 7 → please stop answering the questionnaire (respondent is not part of the standard target group)

1.1. Which study programme are you currently enrolled in?

If you study more than one course at the same time, please fill-in the survey for your main course and stick to this course throughout the whole questionnaire.

Single choice.

- #Short Cycle [ISCED 5]
- Bachelor [ISCED 6]
- Master [ISCED 7]
- #Short national degree [up to 3 years, ISCED 6]
- #Long national degree [more than 3 years, ISCED 7]
- #Other postgraduate programmes [ISCED 7]
- PhD/Doctoral Programme [ISCED 8]

1.2. What is your current formal status as a student?

Single choice.

- Full-time student
- Part-time student
- #Other [optional, formulate regarding national context]

1.3. Is your study programme formally defined as a distance learning programme?

Single choice.

- Yes
- No

1.4. Please provide the location and name of the higher education institution you attend.

If you study at more than one higher education institution at the same time, please refer only to the higher education institution where you attend the courses you refer to above (in 1.1.).

Name of the city/town/place: _____

Name of the higher education institution: _____

1.5. What is the subject you study?

If you study more than one subject at the same time, please refer only to the subject you refer to above (in 1.1.).

Name of subject: _____

1.6. Are you planning to continue studying after finishing your current study programme(s)?

Single choice.

- Yes, within a year after graduating from my current study programme
- Yes, but not within a year after graduating from my current study programme
- No, I do not plan to continue studying at all
- I don't know yet

If "Yes, within a year..." → please go to questions 1.7.-1.8., do not answer question 1.9.

If "Yes, but not within a year ..." → please go to questions 1.7.-1.9.

If "No, I do not ..." or "I don't know yet" → please go to question 1.9.

1.7. On what level do you plan to continue studying?

Single choice.

- Bachelor
- Master
- PhD
- Another programme not mentioned here
- I don't know yet

1.8. Where do you plan to continue studying?

Single choice.

- In [#country]
- Abroad
- I don't know yet

1.9. What do you plan to do within a year after finishing your current study programme?

Single choice.

- I will continue my current paid employment/job/occupation
- I will have or look for a new paid employment
- I will set-up my own business (self-employed)
- I will do something else
- I don't know yet

1.10. What is the main teaching language of your study programme?

Single choice.

- [#official language(s)]
- [English]
- [#Common language in your country]
- [#Common language in your country]
- Other

1.11. How satisfied are you with your studies concerning the following points?

	very well				not at all
Quality of teaching	<input type="radio"/>				
Organisation of studies and timetable	<input type="radio"/>				
Possibility to select from a broad variety of courses	<input type="radio"/>				
University administration's attitude towards students	<input type="radio"/>				
Teaching staff's attitude towards students	<input type="radio"/>				
Study facilities (e.g. library, computers, buildings, classrooms)	<input type="radio"/>				

1.12. How do you rate your chances on the labour market after graduating from your current study programme?

	very good				very poor	unable to rate
On national level	<input type="radio"/>					
On international level	<input type="radio"/>					

2. Study Background

2.1. What was the highest level of education you obtained on graduating from the school system for the first time? (i.e. up to lower secondary or upper secondary school level)

Single choice.

#list of all possible national qualifications – including

- [name of #national qualification] (up to lower secondary (ISCED 24, 25))
- [name of #national qualification] (upper secondary academic track (ISCED 34))
- [name of #national qualification] (upper secondary dual track (ISCED 34/35))
- [name of #national qualification] (upper secondary vocational track (ISCED 35))
- [name of other #national qualification]
- Foreign Qualification

2.2. Where did you graduate from the educational level mentioned above?

#Province: _____ [drop-down or open question]

#Country: _____ [drop-down or open question]

2.3. When did you obtain the qualification mentioned in 2.1.?

Month _____ Year _____

2.4. What qualifications, examinations or measures qualified you for entry into higher education?

Multiple answers possible.

#list of all possible national qualifications and measures, including

- [name of #national qualification according to upper secondary qualification (ISCED 34/35)]
- [name of #central higher education entrance examination for all students]
- [name of #national qualification according to upper secondary school academic track through adult learning (ISCED 34/35/44/45)]
- [name of #national qualification according to special examinations for certain student groups (e.g. for mature students)]
- [name of # special access courses]
- [name of #national qualification based on accreditation of prior learning and/or vocational experience (APR)]
- [name of #national qualification according to special entrance qualification for certain fields of study (e.g. music, arts, sports)]
- Foreign qualification

2.5. When did you obtain/complete the most recent qualification, examination or measure, which qualified you for entry into higher education?

If you have entered multiple qualifications, examinations, measures under question 2.4., please refer here only to the latest qualification, examination or measure (single choice).

Month _____ Year _____

2.6. When did you enter higher education for the first time?

Month _____ Year _____

2.7. When did you start your current study programme?

Month _____ Year _____

2.8. Did you ever interrupt your education career after entering higher education for at least one year?

Multiple answers possible.

- Yes, I interrupted between entering higher education and graduating from higher education for the first time
- Yes, I interrupted between graduating from higher education and re-entering higher education
- No, I did not interrupt my education career after entering higher education

2.9. Did you have a paid job before entering higher education for the first time?

Please exclude compulsory military service or equivalent.

Single choice.

- Yes, working/vocational training for at least one year and at least 20h per week
- Yes, less than 1 year or less than 20h a week
- No

3. Living Conditions

3.1. Who do you live with during the study term/semester (Monday until Friday)?

Multiple answers possible.

- Parents/other relatives
- Partner/spouse
- My child(ren)/my partner's child(ren)
- With (an)other person(s) not mentioned above
- I live alone

[Questions 3.2.: only students who do not live with their parents/other relatives]

3.2. Do you live in a student accommodation, i.e. dormitory or halls of residence?

Single choice.

- Yes
- No

3.3. How satisfied are you with your accommodation?

Very satisfied Not satisfied at all

3.4. What are your (most) frequently used modes of transportation to get from your home to your HE institution during the current semester?

Please indicate all frequently used modes (multiple answers possible) and indicate the most frequent one (single choice).

	Frequently used	Most frequent
Foot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bicycle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Car/motorbike or similar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>

3.5. On a typical day, how much time does it take you to get from your home to your higher education institution during the current semester?

Home is your place of living during study term/semester (Monday until Friday)

One way _____ minutes on average

3.6. What is the average monthly amount at your disposal from the following sources during the current semester?

At your disposal is the money which is meant for monthly consumption, no matter when it was earned. (National currency)

Add a '0' if you did not receive any income from a certain source.

	Average amount
Provision from family/partner	_____
From public sources	
- non-repayable student grant	_____
- repayable student loan	_____
From private sources (foundation etc.)	
- non-repayable student grant	_____
- repayable student loan	_____
Self-earned income	
- from current paid job	_____
- from previous job (e.g. during holidays)	_____
Other	
- public sources (incl. child benefit, pension)	_____
- private sources	_____
Total	_____

3.14. How many hours do you spend in a typical week in taught courses and on personal study time?

Try to remember day by day and fill in the sum of hours over the whole week including the weekend. Add a '0' or strike-out box if no hours were spent on an activity on the respective day.

	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU
Taught studies (lessons, seminars, labs, tests, etc.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Personal study time (like preparation, learning, homework)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

3.15. Looking at your workload based on the time you spend on study-related activities (= taught studies + personal study time) and on paid jobs, please rate your satisfaction with your workload.

	I want less				I want more
Time for study-related activities	<input type="radio"/>				
Time for paid jobs	<input type="radio"/>				
Total workload	<input type="radio"/>				

4. International Mobility

4.1. Have you ever been enrolled abroad as a student in higher education?

Please refer only to temporary study periods outside of #country, for which you were enrolled/registered at a HEI abroad. Please exclude full study programmes undertaken abroad. Single choice.

- Yes, I have (→ please go on to question 4.2.)
- No, but I plan to go (→ please go on to question 4.7.)
- No, and I do not plan to go (→ please go on to question 4.9.)

[Questions 4.2. to 4.6.: only students who have studied abroad]

4.2. What degree were you studying for, when you went abroad?

Multiple answers possible.

- Bachelor [ISCED 6]
- Master [ISCED 7]
- PhD/ Doctoral Programme [ISCED 8]
- #Short national degree [up to 3 years, ISCED 6]
- #Long national degree [more than 3 years, ISCED 7]
- #Other postgraduate programmes [ISCED 7]
- Other

4.3. What country did you go to and for how long?

If you have studied abroad more than once, please refer to your most recent stay abroad.

Fill in the duration in months.

.... Country [open answer (on paper) or drop down list with countries]

.... Duration in months

4.4. Were the credits (ECTS, certificates) you gained for your studies abroad recognised by your home institution?

If you have studied abroad more than once, please refer to your most recent stay abroad.

Single choice.

- Yes, all of the credits were recognised
- Yes, the credits were partly recognised
- No, none of the credits were recognised
- I don't know (yet)
- I did not gain any credits for my studies abroad

4.5. Within which of the following organisational frameworks was your study abroad organised?

If you have studied abroad more than once, please refer to your most recent stay abroad.

Single choice.

- EU-programme (e.g. Erasmus, #other)
- Other programme (e.g. #national programmes)
- No programme

4.6. Which of the following sources did you use to fund your study period abroad and which one of them was your primary source of funding?

If you have studied abroad more than once, please refer to your most recent stay abroad.

Please think about all costs of studying abroad including, e.g. both travel costs to the foreign location and tuition/registration fees at the foreign institution of higher education.

Please indicate all sources of funding you used (multiple answers) and indicate the primary source of funding (single choice).

	Sources of funding	Primary source of funding
Contribution from parents/family/partner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Own income from previous job or own savings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Income from paid job during my studies abroad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Study grants/loans from host country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Regular #study grants/loans from home country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Special study grant/loan from home country for going abroad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU study grants (e.g. Erasmus, #other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Funding from private businesses or non-governmental organisations (NGOs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>

[Questions 4.7. to 4.8.: only students who have not studied abroad but plan to]

4.7. What country do you plan to go to for your temporary studies abroad?

... Country [Open answer (on paper) or drop down list with countries]

Don't know yet

4.8. Within which of the following organisational frameworks do you plan to organise your temporary study abroad?

Single choice.

EU-programme (e.g. Erasmus, #other

Other programme (e.g. #national programmes)

No programme

I don't know yet

[Questions 4.9. to 4.10.: all students]

4.9. To what extent are or were the following aspects an obstacle for studying abroad to you?

If you have been abroad, please consider to which extent the following aspects were real obstacles to the planning and implementation of the period abroad. If you have not been abroad (yet), please consider to which extent the following aspects currently deter you from going abroad.

	Big obstacle				No obstacle
Insufficient skills in foreign language	<input type="radio"/>				
Lack of information provided by my #HE institution	<input type="radio"/>				
Separation from partner, child(ren), friends	<input type="radio"/>				
Additional financial burden	<input type="radio"/>				
Loss of paid job	<input type="radio"/>				
Lack of motivation	<input type="radio"/>				
Low benefit for my studies at home	<input type="radio"/>				
Difficult integration of studying abroad into the structure of my home study programme	<input type="radio"/>				
Problems with recognition of results achieved abroad	<input type="radio"/>				
Problems with access regulations to the preferred country (visa, residence permit)	<input type="radio"/>				
Insufficient marks for studying abroad	<input type="radio"/>				
Limited admittance to mobility programmes (of home/host institution)	<input type="radio"/>				

4.10. Have you ever been abroad for other study-related activities as a student in higher education?

If you've been abroad more than once per activity, please refer to your most recent stay abroad.

Research / Fieldtrip	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No (if no → please go on to question 5.1.)
Internship / work placement	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No (if no → please go on to question 5.1.)
#Summer/winter school	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No (if no → please go on to question 5.1.)
Language course	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No (if no → please go on to question 5.1.)
Other	<input type="radio"/> Yes / <input type="radio"/> No (if no → please go on to question 5.1.)

If "Yes" continue with next question / if "No" continue with question 5.1.

Please fill in, per activity, the following details for your most recent study-related stay abroad.

[For online-questionnaire only: Only show options filled in at previous questions]

	Duration in months	Country	Was it part of your study programme?	Did you gain ECTS with it?
Research / Fieldtrip	_____	_____	Yes /no	Yes /no
Internship / work placement	_____	_____	Yes /no	Yes /no
#Summer/winter school	_____	_____	Yes /no	Yes /no
Language course	_____	_____	Yes /no	Yes /no
Other	_____	_____	Yes /no	Yes /no

5. Personal Details

5.1. When were you born?

Please provide month and year of your birthday.

Month _____ Year _____

5.2. What is your sex?

- Female
 Male

5.3. In which country were you and your parents (or those who raised you) born?

Please refer to current national borders.

	Country	Don't know
You	[Open question (if paper) or drop-down]	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mother	[Open question (if paper) or drop-down]	<input type="checkbox"/>
Father	[Open question (if paper) or drop-down]	<input type="checkbox"/>

5.4. What are your written and spoken language skills?

Please rate your grade of proficiency in the applicable language(s).

	Mother tongue	Very good				No knowledge
[#official language(s) in your country]	<input type="radio"/>					
English	<input type="radio"/>					
[#other common language in your country]	<input type="radio"/>					
[#other common language in your country]	<input type="radio"/>					
Other living language 1	<input type="radio"/>					
Other living language 2	<input type="radio"/>					
Other living language 3	<input type="radio"/>					

5.5. Do you have any children, if yes how many?

- No
 - Yes, I have [__] [number of] children
- If "No" (go on to question 5.7.)

5.6. How old is your youngest child?

___ years of age

6. Family Background

In this section you will be asked some questions about your family background. The following questions are about your mother and father or those person(s) who raised you.

6.1. What is the highest level of education your father and mother have obtained?

	Father	Mother
#Up to lower secondary (ISCED 0, 1, 2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Upper secondary (ISCED 3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Post-secondary non-tertiary (ISCED 4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Short-cycle tertiary education (ISCED 5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Bachelor or equivalent (ISCED 6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Master or equivalent (ISCED 7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Doctoral or equivalent (ISCED 8)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do not know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6.2. What are the present or most recent occupations of your father and mother?

Please classify the job according to one of the following categories of occupation.

	Father	Mother
#Managers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Professionals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Technicians and associate professionals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Clerical support workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Service and sales workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Craft and related trades workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Elementary occupations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
#Armed forces occupations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Do not know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Never been active in the labour market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6.3. Some people are considered to have a high social standing and some are considered to have a low social standing. Thinking about your family background, where would you place your parents on this scale if the top indicated high social standing and the bottom indicated low social standing?

- high social standing
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
- low social standing