

Opening Session and Presentation of Key Results of the Eurodoc Survey

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Why survey?

- What is the real situation concerning current employment conditions, social benefits and working conditions for doctoral candidates?
- Where are the real differences between countries, cultures and models of doctoral education and what can we learn from them?

➤ **The lack of comparable data**

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Survey Background

- The first survey of doctoral researchers on this scale – in cooperation with the International Centre for Higher Education Research at the University of Kassel.
- Previous surveys are mainly country reports or focused only on some topics

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Survey in Facts

1. Target group: doctoral candidates (32 countries/8900 answers)
2. Duration: December 2008 – May 2009
3. Structure of the survey:
 - Mobility
 - Career paths & Qualifications
 - Supervision & Training
 - Funding & Working conditions

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Survey in Facts

Online survey

77 questions / 30 minutes

Respondents

- students enrolled in doctoral programmes
- academic and research assistants working on their doctorate (or equivalent degree), or
- they had a mixed status, standing both as employees and students.

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Time frame

December 2008 – May 2009: Online survey

June 2009 – October 2009: Cleaning & Analysing Data

November 2009: Survey Workshop, Bonn

December 2009 – March 2010: Work in process

March 2010: Discussion papers, 2010 Eurodoc Conference, Vienna

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Survey findings

- 56,3 % female x 43,7 male
- 46,4% no prior working experience
- 82% funding (salary or scholarship)
- 18% NO Funding for doing the doctorate
- 9% knows about European Charter for Researchers

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Survey findings

- Training on transferable skills, teaching skills, language skills – predominately voluntary
- 32 % of respondents does not spend even an hour per week on the writing part of the endeavour
- 64 % supervisor´s feedback is useful
- 30% full coverage of a stay abroad
- 20% funded by own finance