

ZA4986

**Flash Eurobarometer 260
(Students and Higher Education Reform)**

**Country Specific Questionnaire
United Kingdom**

FLASH 260

STUDENTS AND HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|--|--------|--|
| Your local interviewer ID | | | | |
| Settlement name | | | | |
| Respondent ID | | | | |
| Date of the interview | Month | | Day | |
| Start time of the interview | Hour | | Minute | |
| End time of the interview | Hour | | Minute | |
| Region ID | | | | |

Good morning / afternoon, I'm _____ from COMPANY. I would like to ask you to participate in a brief survey among students in higher education . The survey is commissioned by the European Commission. Please help me with your answers, it will not take more than 7-8 minutes. The questionnaire is anonymous; your responses will be used to generate statistics for our country. You can refuse to answer any of the questions if you wish so.

- D0. In which institute do you study ?**
- (List of national HEIs)
 - Other 9999

IF OUT OF QUOTA → THANK AND TERMINATE

- D7. Are you a full-time or part-time student?**
- Full-time 1
 - Part-time 2
 - [DK/NA] 9

- D5. What is your field of study?**
- Engineering 1
 - Business and economic studies..... 2
 - Languages 3
 - Law 4
 - Teacher training 5
 - Medical Studies 6
 - Health studies incl. Nursing..... 7
 - Other social sciences..... 8

Please, specify:.....

- Other hard sciences 9

Please, specify:.....

- Other humanities 10

Please, specify:.....

- [DK/NA] 99

IF OUT OF QUOTA → THANK AND TERMINATE

BACKGROUND QUESTIONS:

D1. Gender

[DO NOT ASK - MARK APPROPRIATE]

- Male 1
- Female..... 2

D2. How old are you?

- [][] years old
- [00]..... [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

D6. How long have you been a student in higher education?

- [][] number of years
- [98].....[less than a year]
- [99]..... [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

IF D6=98 OR D6=99 THANK AND TERMINATE

D3. In what country did you obtain your upper secondary diploma?

D4. Could you indicate how advanced you are in your studies?

- Bachelor/first cycle 1
- Master/second cycle 2
- Doctorate/third cycle 3
- Part-time/further education at BA-level 4
- Part-time/further education at MA-level 5
- [DK/NA] 9

D8. Please indicate which kind of degrees your institution awards?

- It awards only Bachelor (first cycle) degrees 1
- It awards both Bachelor (first cycle) and Masters (second cycle) degrees 2

- It awards all degrees: Bachelor (first cycle), Masters (second cycle) degrees, and Doctorate (or PhD) degrees 3
- It awards only Masters (second cycle) degrees 4
- It awards both Masters (second cycle) degrees and Doctorate (or PhD) degrees but no Bachelor (first cycle) degrees 5
- [DK/NA] 9

Access and Equity

I would like to ask you a few questions on your opinion about the higher education system in general.

Q1A. Which statement do you agree with more?

- All qualified students should have the right to study OR 1
- Only the very best student should have the right to study 2
- [DK/NA] 9

Q1B. Which statement do you agree with more?

- Universities should admit all students OR 1
- Universities should have the right to select students which match their profile 2
- [DK/NA] 9

Q1C. Which statement do you agree with more?

- Higher education should be free of charge OR 1
- Student fees are acceptable, when combined with grants and loans 2
- [DK/NA] 9

Q2. How much would you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- Strongly agree 4
- Rather agree 3
- Rather disagree 2
- Strongly disagree 1
- [DK/NA] 9

A) HEIs should provide more programmes for part-time students (lifelong learning) 1 2 3 4 9

B) HEIs should do more to ensure that a variety of social and cultural backgrounds are represented at universities 1 2 3 4 9

C) Study programmes should focus on teaching specialised knowledge in a given field of study 1 2 3 4 9

D) Study programmes should also include generic competences like communication skills, teamwork, and learning to learn (acquire learning skills for later life) 1 2 3 4 9

Purpose of studies

Q2.1 According to you how important is each of the following purposes of higher education?

- Very important 4
- Rather important 3
- Rather not important 2
- Not important at all 1

| | |
|--|-----------|
| - [DK/NA] | 9 |
| A) To provide students with the knowledge and competences they need to be successful in the labour market (employability)..... | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| B) To enhance personal development | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| C) To educate for active citizenship (learn to develop a critical mind and play an active role in society) | 1 2 3 4 9 |

Quality and Transparency

Q3. To what extent would you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | |
|---|-----------|
| - Strongly agree | 4 |
| - Rather agree | 3 |
| - Rather disagree | 2 |
| - Strongly disagree | 1 |
| - [DK/NA] | 9 |
| A) Students choose where to study on the basis of the quality/reputation of the institution and its study programmes..... | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| B) Students choose where to study on the basis of other factors, such as location, friends, cost, etc..... | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| C) Students have enough information to choose where to study..... | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| D) Independent reports on the quality of universities and programmes would help students to decide where to study | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| E) Performance rankings of universities and programmes would help students to choose where to study | 1 2 3 4 9 |
| F) Students should be involved in quality reports and rankings..... | 1 2 3 4 9 |

Mobility and recognition

Q4. Are you planning to pursue part of your studies in another country?

| | |
|---|---|
| - Yes | 1 |
| - No, I have already studied abroad | 2 |
| - I applied but was not selected | 3 |
| - No, I planned to, but then gave up | 4 |
| - No, I never planned to study abroad | 5 |
| - [DK/NA] | 9 |

[IF THE ANSWER IS 4 OR 5 IN Q4]

Q5. Please tell me whether the following issues represented a very big, big, small, or no obstacle at all to your ambition of studying abroad:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| - Very big obstacle..... | 1 |
| - Big obstacle | 2 |
| - Small obstacle | 3 |
| - No obstacle at all..... | 4 |
| - [DK/NA] | 9 |

- A) Lack of information on the opportunities to study abroad 1 2 3 4 9
- B) Lack of funds 1 2 3 4 9
- C) Lack or difficulty to obtain recognition for study periods spent abroad 1 2 3 4 9
- D) The different quality of education abroad 1 2 3 4 9
- E) Language barriers 1 2 3 4 9
- F) The professors/teachers in my university do not encourage mobility 1 2 3 4 9

Q6. How much would you agree or disagree with the following statements?

- Strongly agree 4
- Rather agree 3
- Rather disagree 2
- Strongly disagree 1
- [DK/NA] 9
- A) Short study periods abroad (e.g. Erasmus type) are in most cases fully recognised by the home university upon return (no need to re-sit exams) 1 2 3 4 9
- B) All study programmes should include a short study period in another country as an integrated part of the studies 1 2 3 4 9
- C) Most non-mobile students obtain ECTS credit points for studies completed at their institution 1 2 3 4 9
- D) Most mobile students obtain ECTS credit points for their study period abroad 1 2 3 4 9
- E) There should be a possibility to undertake work placements in private enterprises as part of the study programme 1 2 3 4 9
- F) It is important for HEIs to foster innovation and an entrepreneurial mindset among students and staff 1 2 3 4 9
- G) HEIs should provide tailor-made study programmes for enterprises, to help upgrade their work force 1 2 3 4 9
- H) Enterprises should be more involved in higher education management, curricula design and funding 1 2 3 4 9

Future plans

[FOR BA STUDENTS:]

[ADDRESSED TO FIRST CYCLE GRADUATES - 'BACHELOR', 'LICENCE' ETC]

Q7A. What are your plans after graduation?

- Continue on to a second cycle degree (master programme)..... 1
- Find work and never study again 2
- Find work and resume studies later on a part-time basis..... 3
- [DK/NA] 9

[FOR MA STUDENTS:]

Q7B. After graduation, do you intend to

- Do a third cycle - (doctorate/PhD) 1
- Do further studies (e.g. another MA)..... 2
- [Neither of these]..... 7
- [Both of these] 8
- [DK/NA] 9