

ZA4986

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

**Country Specific Questionnaire
Ireland**

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