

ZA4540

**Flash Eurobarometer 198
Perceptions of Higher Education Reforms**

**Country Specific Questionnaire
Ireland**

Eurobarometer / Flash

Eurobarometer Flash on Higher Education Reform (DG EAC/A2)

Good morning / afternoon, I'm _____ from Gallup. I would like to ask you to participate in a brief survey on higher education reform conducted among university professors. The survey is commissioned by the European Commission. Please help me with your answers, your opinion is very valuable for us. Answering the questions will not take more than five minutes. The questionnaire is anonymous; your responses will be used to generate statistics for our country. You can refuse to answer to any of the questions, should you wish to.

Q1. Could you please tell me how much do you agree with the following statements regarding the higher education system: do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

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

- A1. The introduction of the three cycle system (bachelor-master-doctor) will improve (or has improved) the quality of education..... 1 2 3 4 9
- A2. The introduction of the three cycle system (bachelor-master-doctor) will improve (or has improved) the quality of research training for doctoral candidates..... 1 2 3 4 9
- B. It would have been better if the old one-tier system (without a split in bachelor and master) was kept..... 1 2 3 4 9
- C. First cycle graduates (bachelors) will find suitable jobs on the labour market 1 2 3 4 9
- D. First cycle graduates (bachelors) should follow a master programme in the same field of study before entering the labour market 1 2 3 4 9
- E. There is a need for European quality standards for higher education..... 1 2 3 4 9
- F. There is a need for European quality labels for certifying the quality of institutions and programmes 1 2 3 4 9
- G. The European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) should be used in all programmes of study 1 2 3 4 9

Q2. I am going to read more statements about the higher education system. Again, could you please tell me how much do you agree with these statements: do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

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

- A.1 More opportunities should be created for double and joint degrees, at bachelor and master level 1 2 3 4 9
- A.2 Double and joint degrees should also be promoted at doctoral level 1 2 3 4 9
- B1. Mobility should be an obligatory part in the curriculum for all students 1 2 3 4 9
- B2. Mobility should be an obligatory part in the curriculum for doctoral candidates 1 2 3 4 9
- C. Study programmes need to adapt more to labour market needs 1 2 3 4 9
- D. Study and training programmes should encompass more generic competences like communication, teamwork, entrepreneurship and learning to learn 1 2 3 4 9
- E. Universities should open up and also serve adult learners 1 2 3 4 9

Q3. And lastly, I am going to read some statements about governance and funding options in the higher education system. Please tell me how much do you agree with these statements: do you agree strongly, agree, disagree or strongly disagree?

READ OUT – ROTATE – ONE ANSWER PER LINE

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

- A1. Universities need more autonomy from public authorities 1 2 3 4 9
- A2. Universities need stronger guidance from public authorities 1 2 3 4 9
- B. Universities are in need of better internal management 1 2 3 4 9
- C. Competition between universities will lead to improvement of quality 1 2 3 4 9
- D. Universities need to interact more with society for knowledge sharing and fostering innovation 1 2 3 4 9
- E. 1 Universities should be publicly funded and not seek more private funding 1 2 3 4 9
- E. 2 More private funding would help universities to gain extra income and perform better 1 2 3 4 9
- F. Partnerships with business will reinforce universities 1 2 3 4 9
- G. Universities should be allowed to select and refuse students 1 2 3 4 9
- H. Student fees are acceptable as a source of extra income for universities 1 2 3 4 9
- I. Student fees should be accompanied by support for less-advantaged students 1 2 3 4 9

Q4. Several bodies could be involved in higher education reform. I will list a couple of them. Could you indicate how much confidence do you have in their involvement: do you have ...

- Full confidence 1
- Some confidence 2
- Not confidence at all 3
- [DK/NA] 9

- A: National or regional authorities 1 2 3 9
- B: National rectors conference - National association of universities 1 2 3 9
- C: University Leadership (Rector - Board)..... 1 2 3 9
- D: European Commission 1 2 3 9
- E: European University Associations..... 1 2 3 9
- F: Faculty you are part of 1 2 3 9
- G: Private enterprises..... 1 2 3 9
- H: Professional associations 1 2 3 9

D1. Gender [DO NOT ASK - MARK APPROPRIATE]

- Male 1
- Female 2

D2. How old are you?:

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

D2A. Could you indicate which category best describes your position?

- Rector / Head of Institution 1
- Dean / Director of studies 2
- Full professor 3
- Lecturer 4
- Assistant professor..... 5
- Doctoral candidate 6
- Other teaching staff 8
- [DK/NA] 9

D3. What is your field?

Engineering	1
Business and economic studies	2
Languages	3
Law.....	4
Teacher training	5
Medical Studies	6
Nursing.....	7
Other social sciences	8
Other hard sciences	9
Other humanities.....	10

D4. How long have you been teaching in higher education?

number of years
[99] [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

D5. Could you please tell me what kind of degrees are awarded by your institution?

it awards only Bachelor (first cycle) degrees	1
it awards both Bachelor (first cycle) and Masters (second cycle) degrees	3
it awards all degrees: Bachelor (first cycle), Masters (second cycle) degrees, and Doctorate (or PhD) degrees	5
it awards only Masters (second cycle) degrees.....	2
it awards both Masters (second cycle) degrees and Doctorate (or PhD) degrees ..	4
[DK/NA]	9