Update to the Bologna Follow-Up Group from EUROSTUDENT

CI BFUG meeting, Dublin, Ireland, November 5th-6th, 2026

Background: the EUROSTUDENT project

EUROSTUDENT is a long-running European comparative research project that collects and analyses data on students' social and economic conditions in higher education. Drawing on large-scale student surveys across participating countries, it covers a broad range of topics, including students' socio-economic backgrounds, pathways into higher education, living arrangements, financial resources and expenses, employment alongside studies, time use, study experiences and international mobility. The data reveal how students' circumstances and experiences differ across countries and between student groups, helping to identify inequalities and barriers to equitable participation and successful completion of higher education. EUROSTUDENT thus provides a valuable evidence base for national policy-making and supports the European Higher Education Area's commitment to strengthening the social dimension of higher education. This is directly relevant to the EHEA's commitment to strengthening data collection and monitoring progress on the Principles and Guidelines to Strengthen the Social Dimension of Higher Education as noted in the last Communiqués.

Forthcoming EUROSTUDENT 9 results

EUROSTUDENT 9 has completed data collection in the 26 countries participating in the current project round (2024 – 2027). The full comparative report is expected in summer 2027. First results from the round's four topical modules covering financial deprivation, mental health, discrimination and students' future plans are planned to be available in time for the 2027 EHEA Ministerial Conference.

Preparations for the next EUROSTUDENT round

The next EUROSTUDENT round (EUROSTUDENT 10) is planned to run from September 2027 to August 2030. As in previous rounds, the project will bring together national research teams under the guidance of an experienced central coordination team. The central team provides common methodological standards, survey instruments and quality assurance procedures to ensure the international comparability of data, while participating countries organise and conduct their national surveys.

In previous rounds, EUROSTUDENT has been funded through a combination of national contributions for the implementation of student surveys and national and European Union funding for central coordination and comparative analysis. The funding arrangements for the next round, including the availability of co-funding through the Erasmus+ programme, are currently being determined.

Ministries are encouraged to consider their respective countries' participation in EUROSTUDENT 10 at an early stage, particularly in view of national planning, budgeting and procurement requirements. An official invitation to participate will be issued to all EHEA countries. In the meantime, ministries from countries not currently participating in EUROSTUDENT that are interested in joining the project to monitor their social dimension policies in line with commitments outlined in recent EHEA Ministerial Communiqués are invited to contact the EUROSTUDENT Coordinator, Kristina Hauschildt at the German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW), for further information on the project,

participation requirements and practical aspects of setting up a national survey (see contact details below).

EUROSTUDENT 9 final conference

The EUROSTUDENT 9 final conference will take place on June 9th- June 10th, 2027, in Berlin, Germany. It will bring together researchers, policymakers and higher education stakeholders from across Europe to present and discuss the main findings of the ninth EUROSTUDENT round, exchange perspectives on students' social and economic conditions, and explore the implications for higher education policy, particularly with regard to the social dimension of the European Higher Education Area.
Further information and an official invitation to all EHEA members will follow.

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