



# **Working Group on Social Dimension and Data on Mobility of Staff and Students**

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Making Bologna a Reality  
Mobility of Staff and Students

London, February 8, 2007



## **Working Group on Social Dimension and Mobility (ToR)**

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- to define the concept of social dimension based on the ministerial communiqués of the Bologna Process
- to present comparable data on the social and economic situation of students in participating countries
- to present comparable data on the mobility of staff and students
- to prepare proposals as a basis for future stocktaking



## **Working Group on Social Dimension and Mobility**

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Austria

EUA

Bosnia Herzegovina

ESIB

Croatia

EI – Pan European Structure

France

Ireland

Bologna Secretariat

Luxembourg

Russia

Experts on data collection

Sweden

UK



# Preliminary Conclusions and Possible Recommendations

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- Social Dimension of Higher Education (students)
- Mobility of Staff and Students



## **Social Dimension of Higher Education – Rationale**

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1. Equal opportunities
2. Reinforced social, cultural and economic development
3. Enhanced quality of higher education and attractiveness of European higher education



## **Core Areas of the Social Dimension**

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- Measures to promote equal opportunities
- Measures to widen access to and participation in higher education
- Study environment that enhances the quality of the student experience
- Student participation in the governance and organisation of higher education
- Finances in order to start and complete studies



# Data Collection on the Social Dimension

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- No comprehensive survey for the social dimension of higher education as such
- Surveys of the international organisations can nevertheless give valuable information
- Gaps:
  - not all participating countries covered,
  - perspectives change according to the objective of the organisation, and
  - no common deadline for publication.



## Possible Recommendations – Social Dimension

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- Strategic overall objective for the Social Dimension:

*“We strive for the societal goal that the student body entering, participating in and completing higher education should reflect the diversity of our populations.”*



## Possible Recommendations – Social Dimension

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- Strategic overall objective for the Social Dimension
- To report by 2009 on national strategies for the social dimension, including action plans and measures to show their impact
- To address the identified data gaps and to entrust one of the data providers with enhancing the comparability and reliability of data across the EHEA



# Mobility of staff and students - Rationale

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1. Creates opportunities for personal growth
2. Develops international co-operation and understanding between individuals and institutions
3. Enhances the quality of higher education and research
4. Responds to the needs of European societies



## **Actions to Promote Mobility**

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- Information, transparency and preparation (equal opportunities for mobility)
- Active action for widened access to mobility opportunities
- Information, administration and services in the hosting country
- Financing mobility
- Welfare systems and labour market regulations



## Data Collection on Mobility

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- Information available on students but hardly any on staff
- No data for all Bologna countries
- No comparable data on genuine student mobility
- No comparable data on staff mobility



# **Student Mobility: Actions Taken by Bologna Countries**

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- Participation in mobility programmes
- Language courses to assist inward mobility, together with increasing provision in English and other languages
- Promoting Diploma Supplements and ECTS
- Provision of scholarships for in- and outward mobility
- Provision of housing for mobile students
- Increasing the number of joint degrees and increasing information about courses available
- Taking part in education fairs



## **Staff Mobility: Actions Taken by Bologna Countries**

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- Participation in exchange programmes
- Experience of working in a foreign HEI taken into account in staff selection and promotion
- Guest lecturers and participation in international conferences
- Participation in international networks and research collaborations
- Bi- and multi-lateral agreements with other HEIs
- Language tuition



## Possible Recommendations – Mobility

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- To report by 2009 on the actions taken at national level to remove obstacles to mobility
- To focus on the main national challenges:
  - facilitate delivery of visas and work permits
  - implement established recognition procedures
  - create incentives for mobility for individuals and HEIs
- To address the identified data gaps and entrust one of the data providers with enhancing the comparability and reliability of data across the EHEA on actual mobility