

Final conference EUROSTUDENT III

International mobility as an issue for the social dimension of higher education

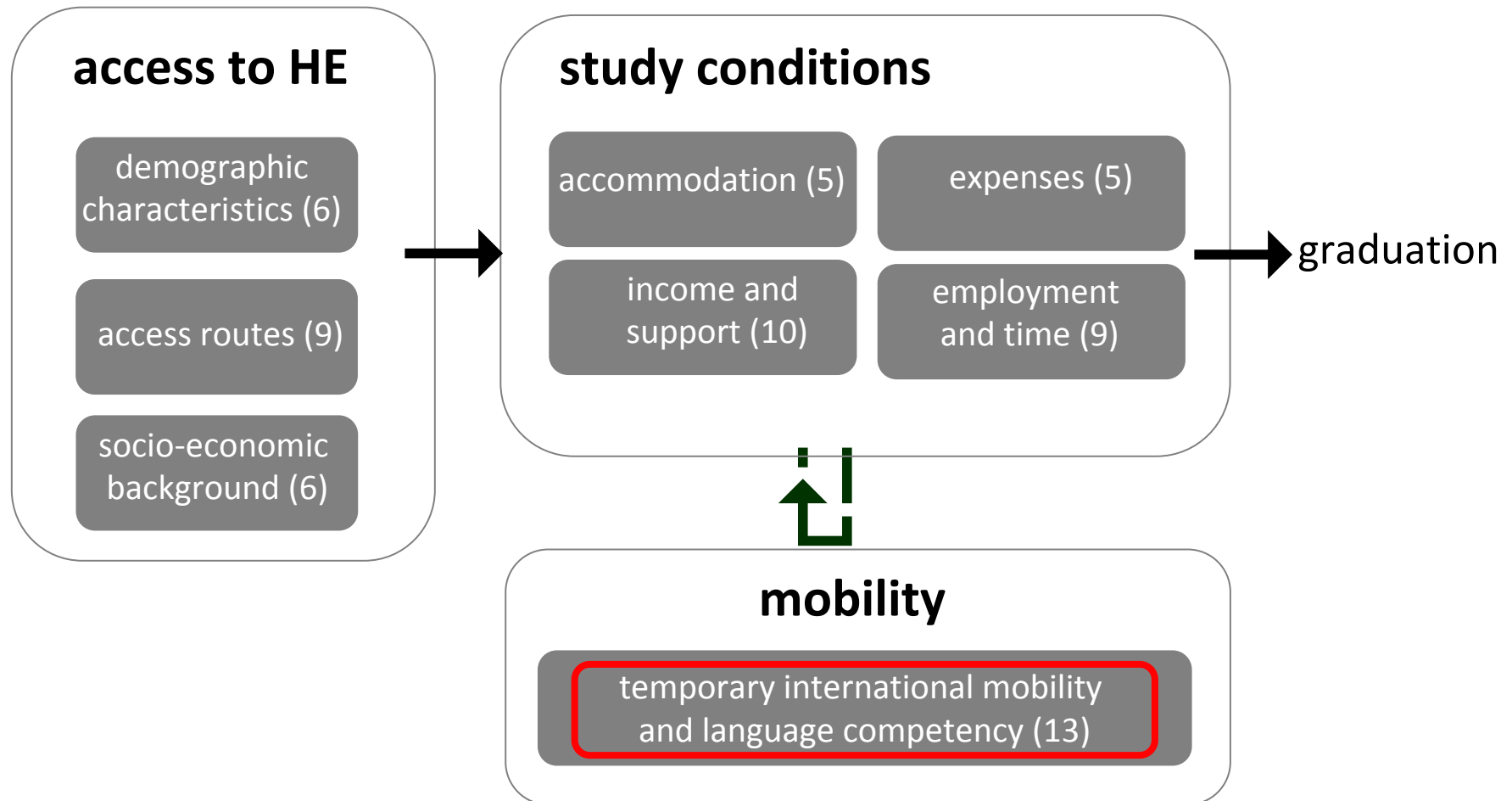
Klaus Schnitzer

HIS, Germany

eurostudent.eu
☆☆☆

28-29 April 2008 Ljubljana, Republic of Slovenia





Contents

1. Introduction (broad topic needs focus)
2. Mobility rates (differences between and in the countries)
3. Influencing factors making the differences
4. Obstacles (influencing non-/mobile students)
5. Policy considerations

- What for?
- How to measure?
- How to enhance?

- What for?

- self-evident academic value (wandering scholar)
- cultural understanding (personal interests)
- communication competences (global players)
- economic interests (Lisbon Strategy)

- How to measure?

Which kind of study-experience?

- enrolment, internships, language courses

20% of what?

- all home students, graduates

20% counted where and which type?

- in guest-countries, home-country?
- temporary, permanent (mobile vs. non-mobile)?

Eurostudent approach:

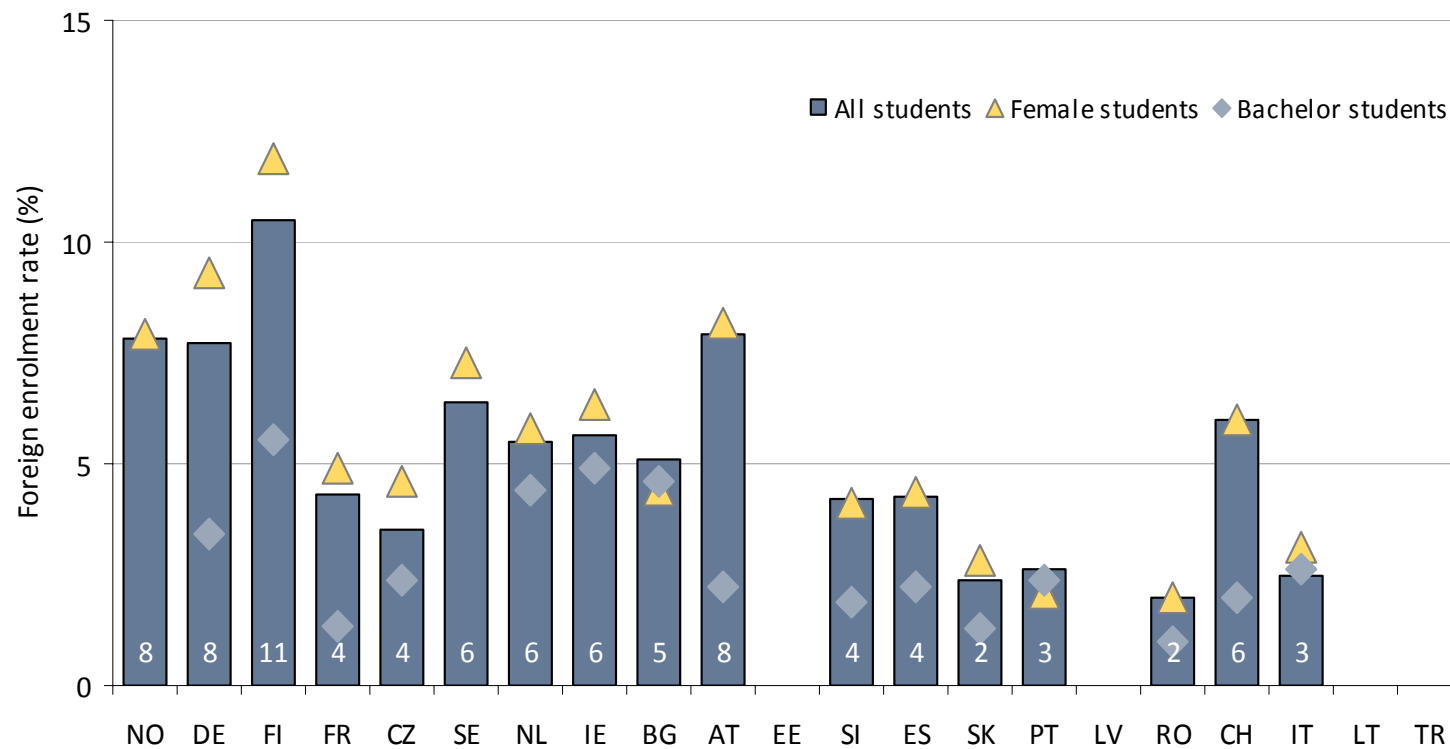
- all kinds of study-experience
- as ratio of home-students (bias!)
- temporary (after return mobility rate)

- How to enhance?

- compatibility of study conditions (harmonisation)
- programme arrangements (ERASMUS)
- language-competency support
- financial support-schemes

2. Mobility rates

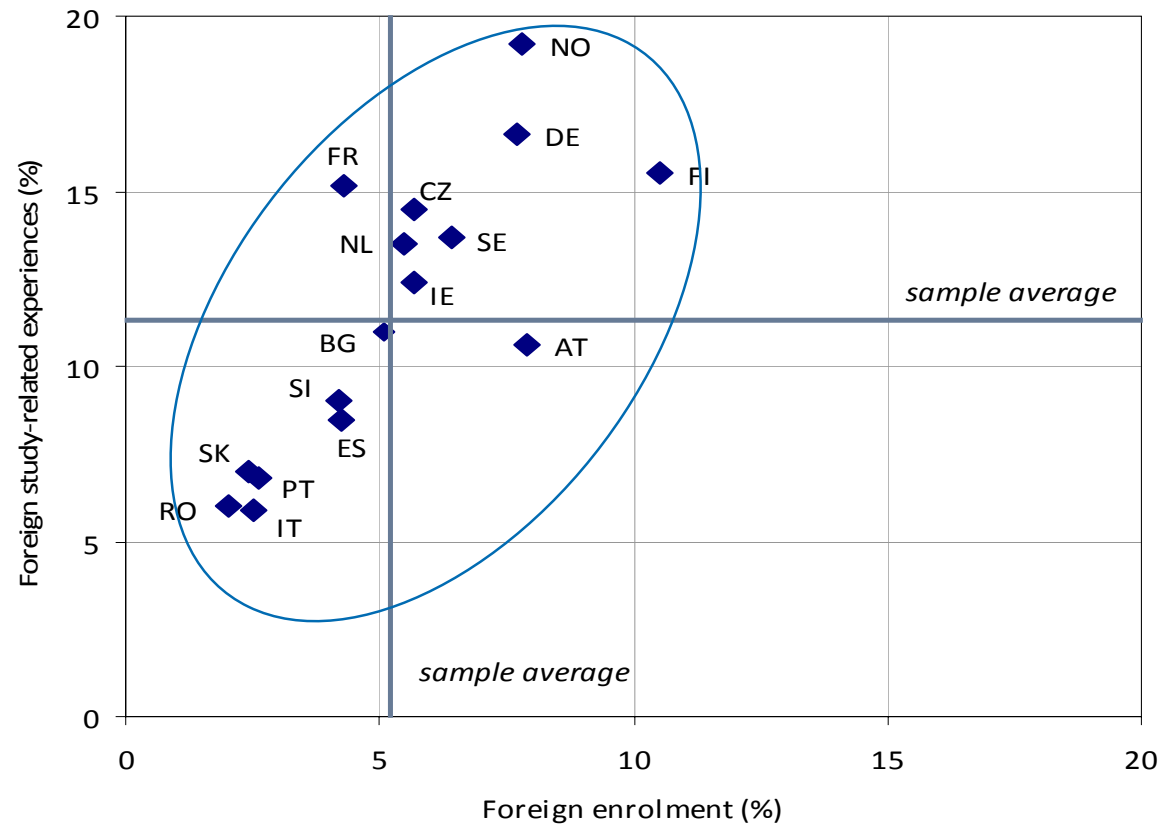
Foreign enrolment in university courses in %



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 53 No data on foreign study-related experiences E/W, SCO.
IT and TR mostly Bachelor students.

2. Mobility rates

Study-related stays abroad and foreign enrolment

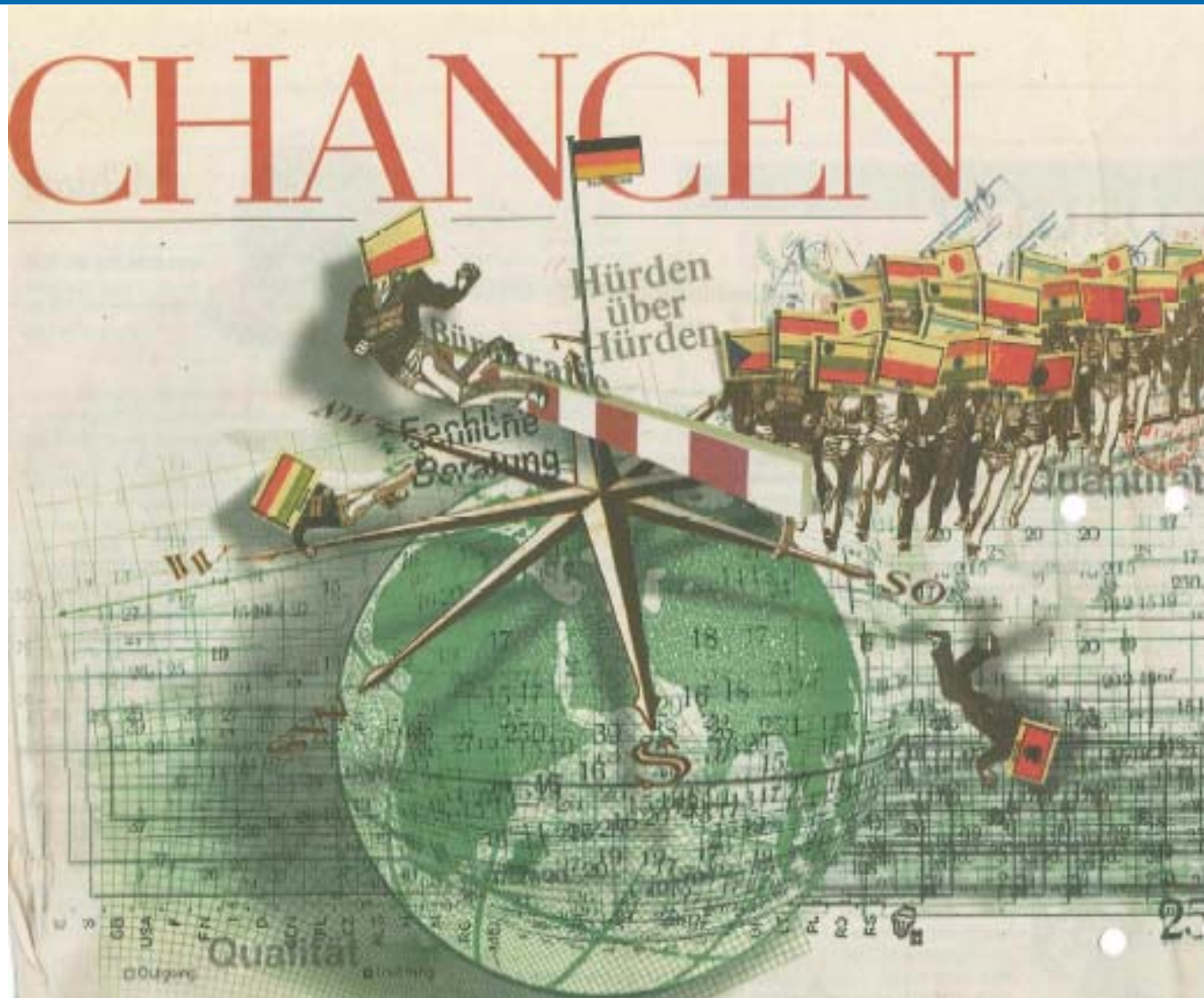


Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 53 No data: CH, E/W, SCO, LV, LT, EE, TR

Decision depends on multifarious aspects

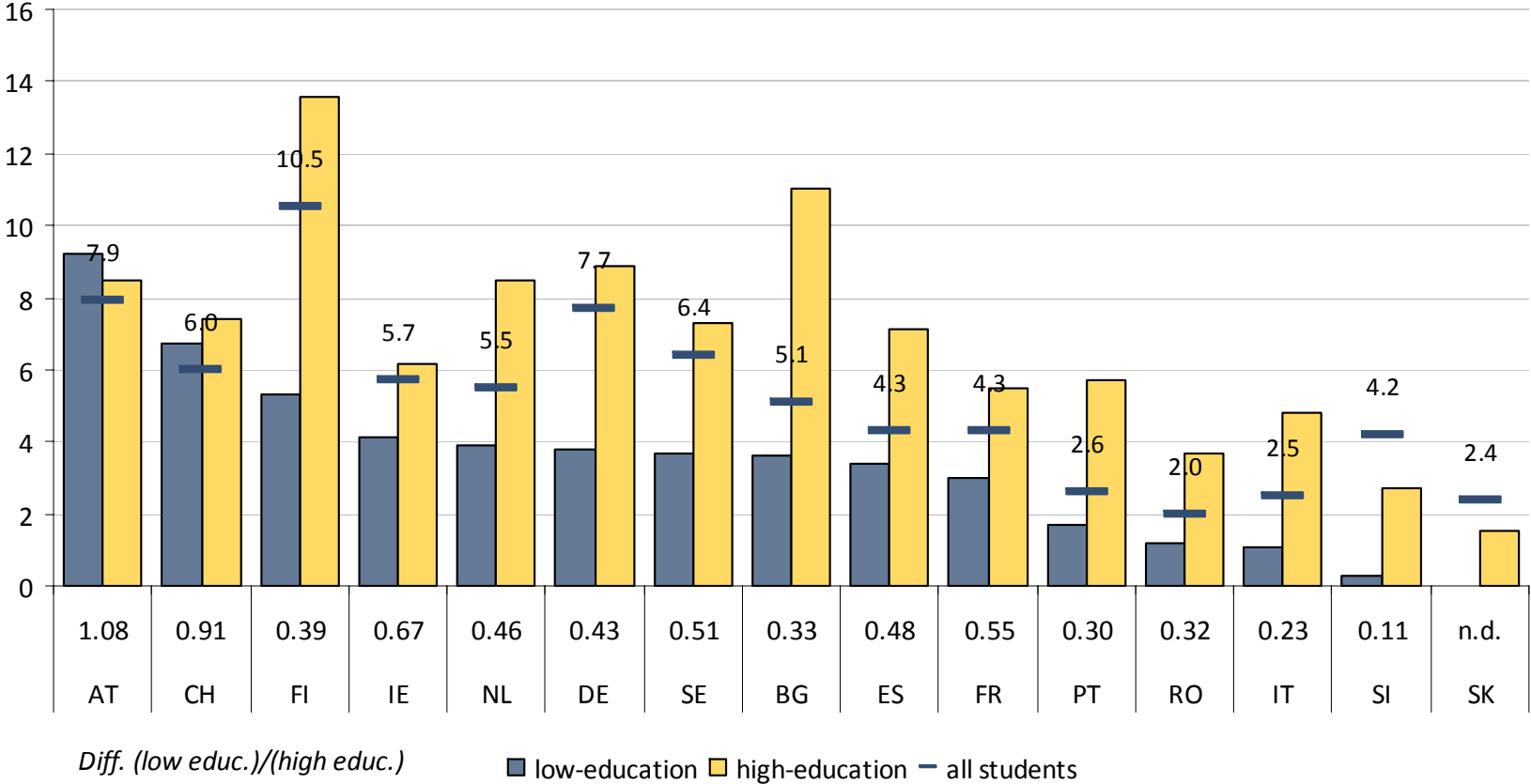
- study-system
- capacity – of guest country
- support by mobility programmes
- **social-background**
- **financial affordability**
- **financial support-systems**
- personality (mental disposition)

Chances and hurdles



3. Influencing factors – social background

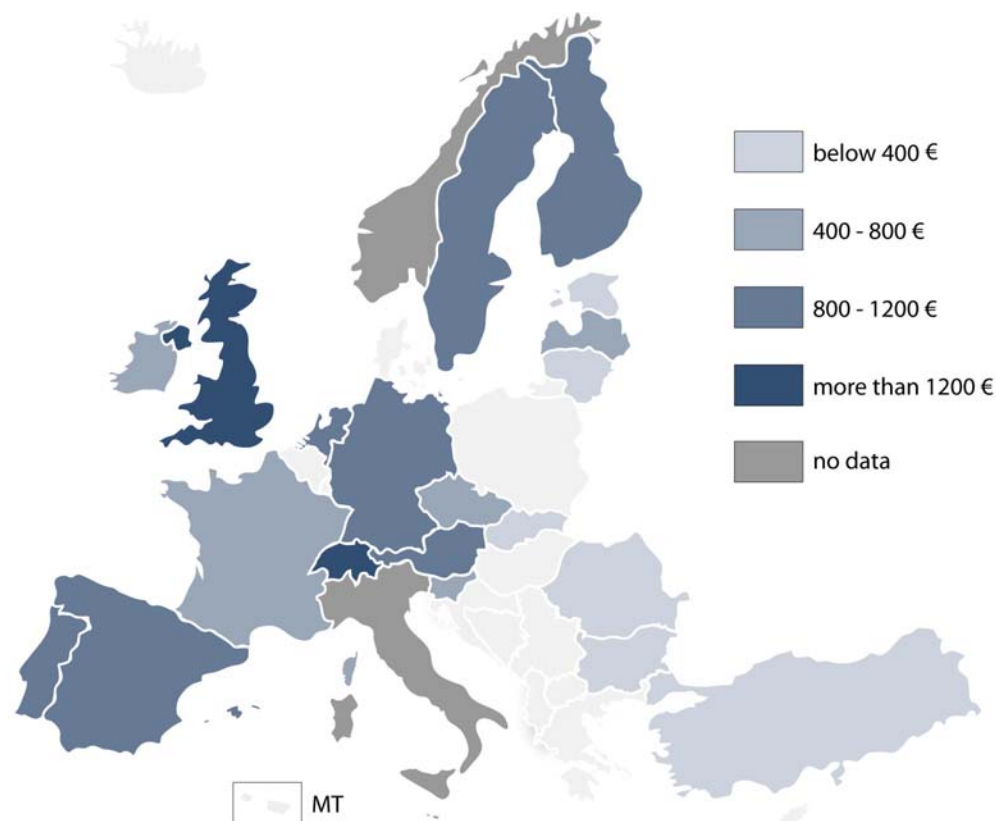
Foreign enrolment by parents' education



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 53&58. No data E/W, SCO, LV, LT, EE, TR, NO, CZ, CH; no data for low education SK

3. Influencing factors – financial situation

Geographical distribution of total income of students (Income classes in €, all students maintaining own households)



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 27. No data IT, NO.

Perception and effects of financial barriers :

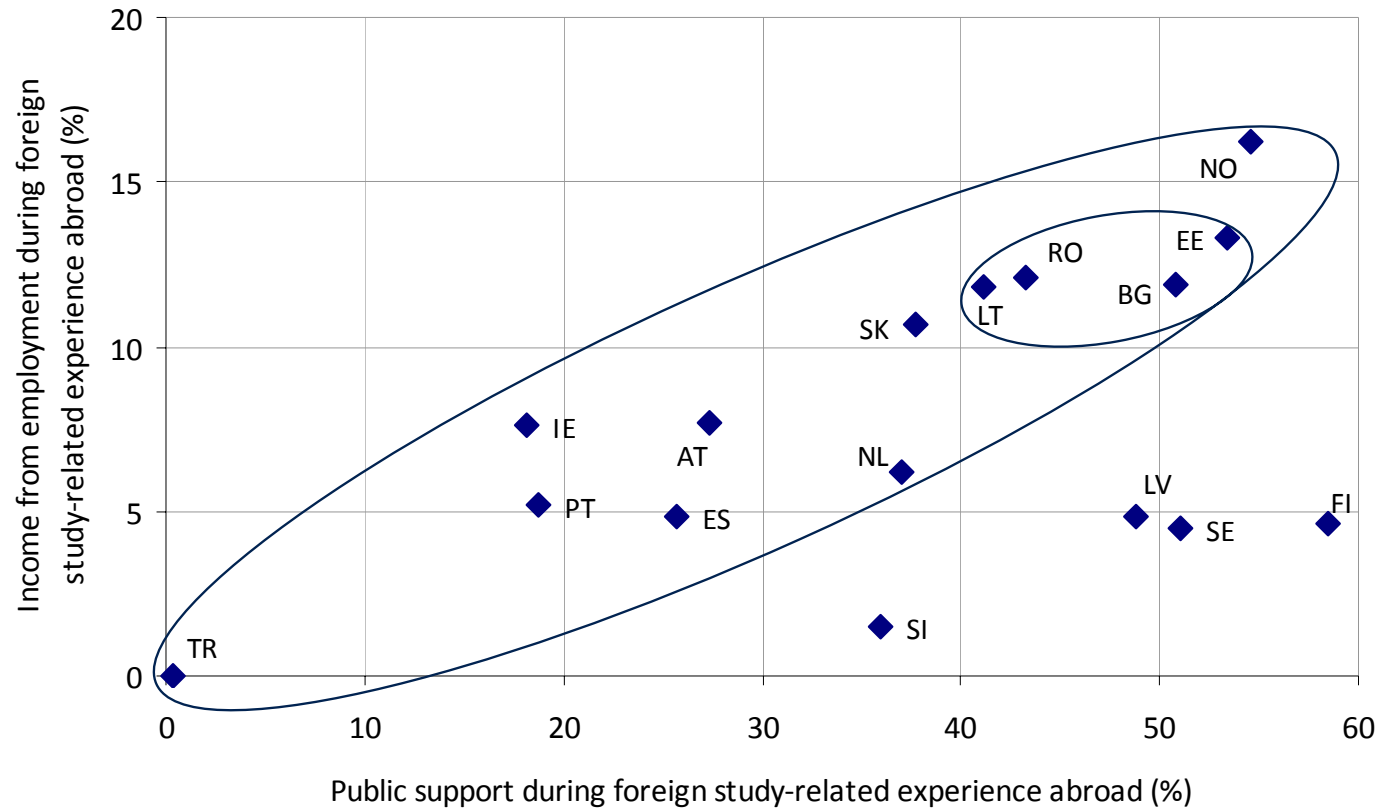
- high income-differentials between East and West
 - double disadvantage: lower purchase-power in guest country
 - study-fees in guest-countries (obstacle)
 - study-fees in home-countries (push factor)
 - attractive guest-countries (pull factor)
- The paradox of mobility-flows: poor financial situation can be a barrier or a mobilising push factor
- unintended effects (brain drain)

Necessity of state-support to overcome financial barriers

- public support (incl. free-movers)
 - by home-country (portability)
 - by guest-country (accessibility of loans)
 - by EU (mobility loan-system, targeted grants)

3. Influencing factors – financial situation

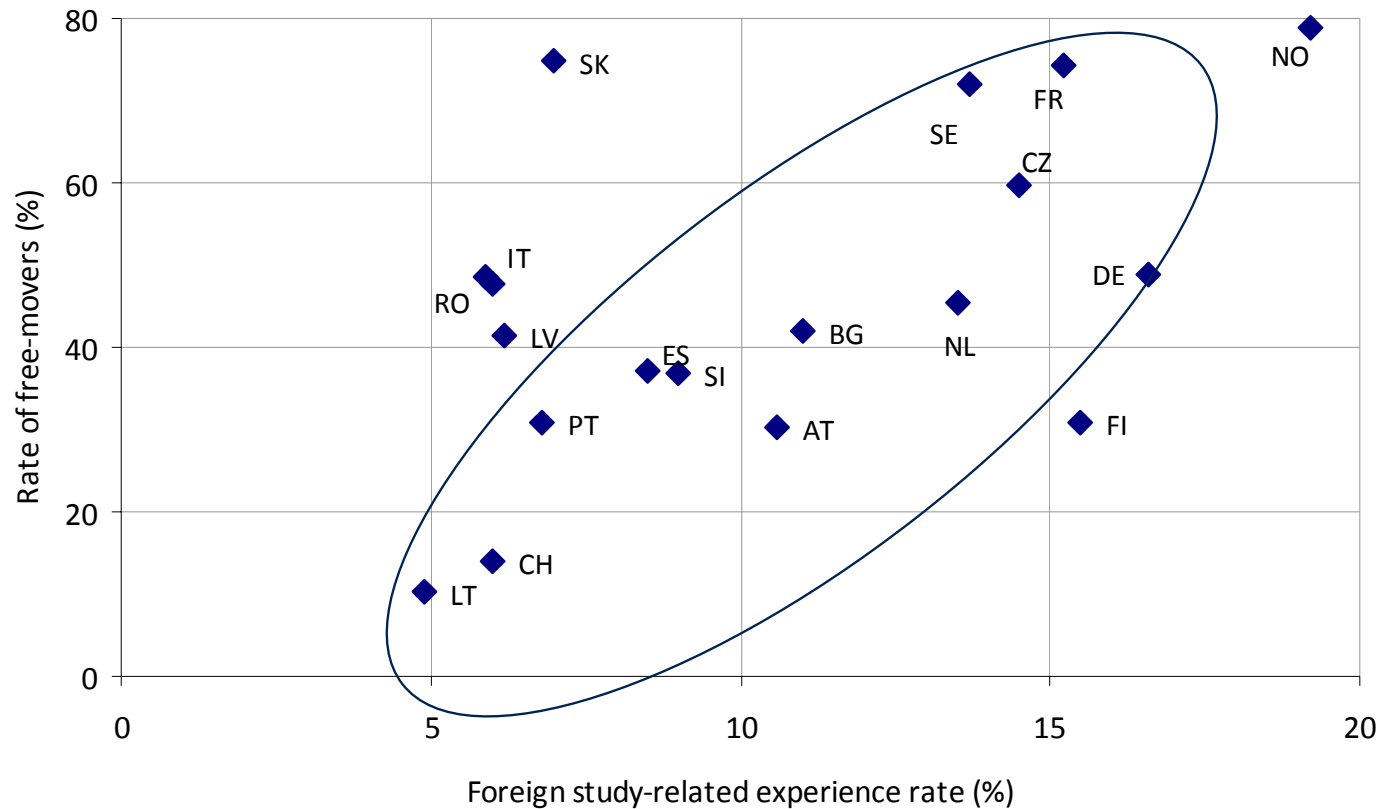
Rate of self-financing through employment by rate of financial public support during stay abroad in % (only students with foreign study-related experience)



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 57. No data CH, CZ, DE, E/W, FR, IT, SCO .

3. Influencing factors – financial situation

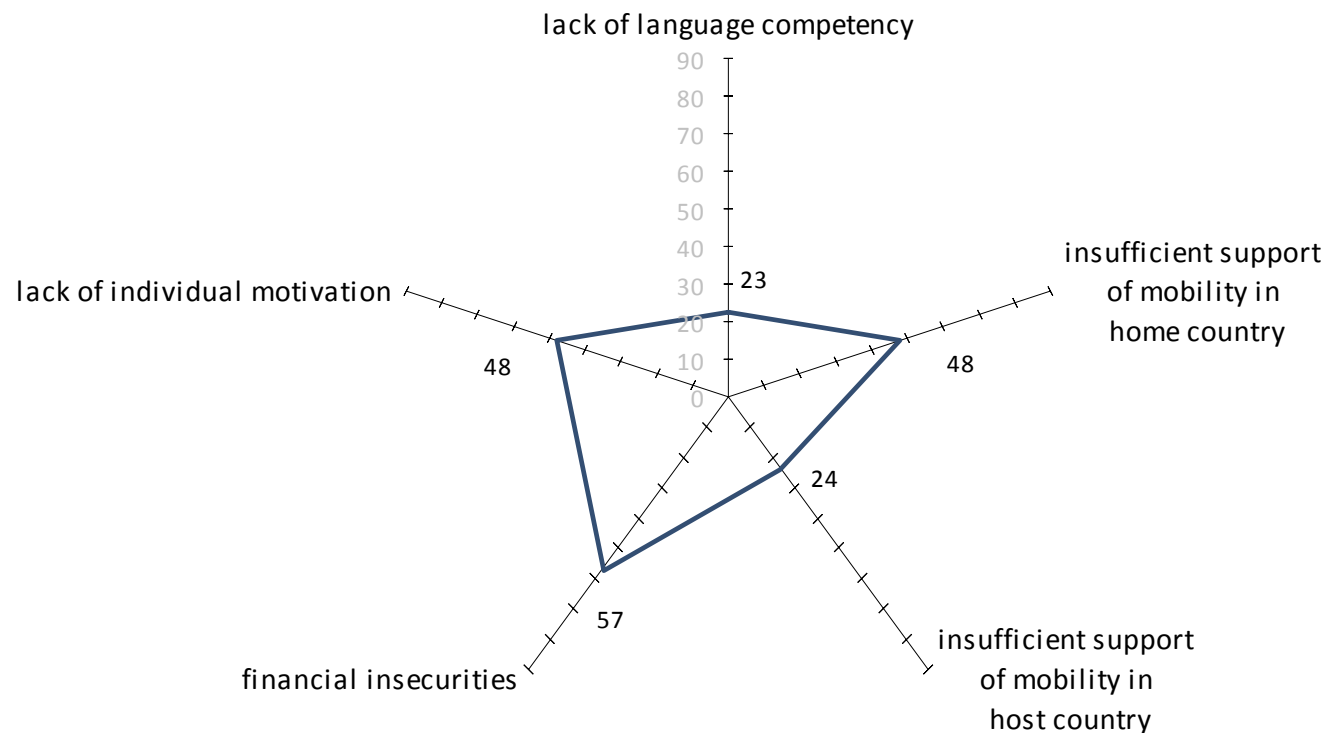
Mobility as free-mover and foreign study-related experience rate



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 53 & 60. No data E/W, EE, FR, SCO, TR, CH

4. Obstacles (non-mobile students)

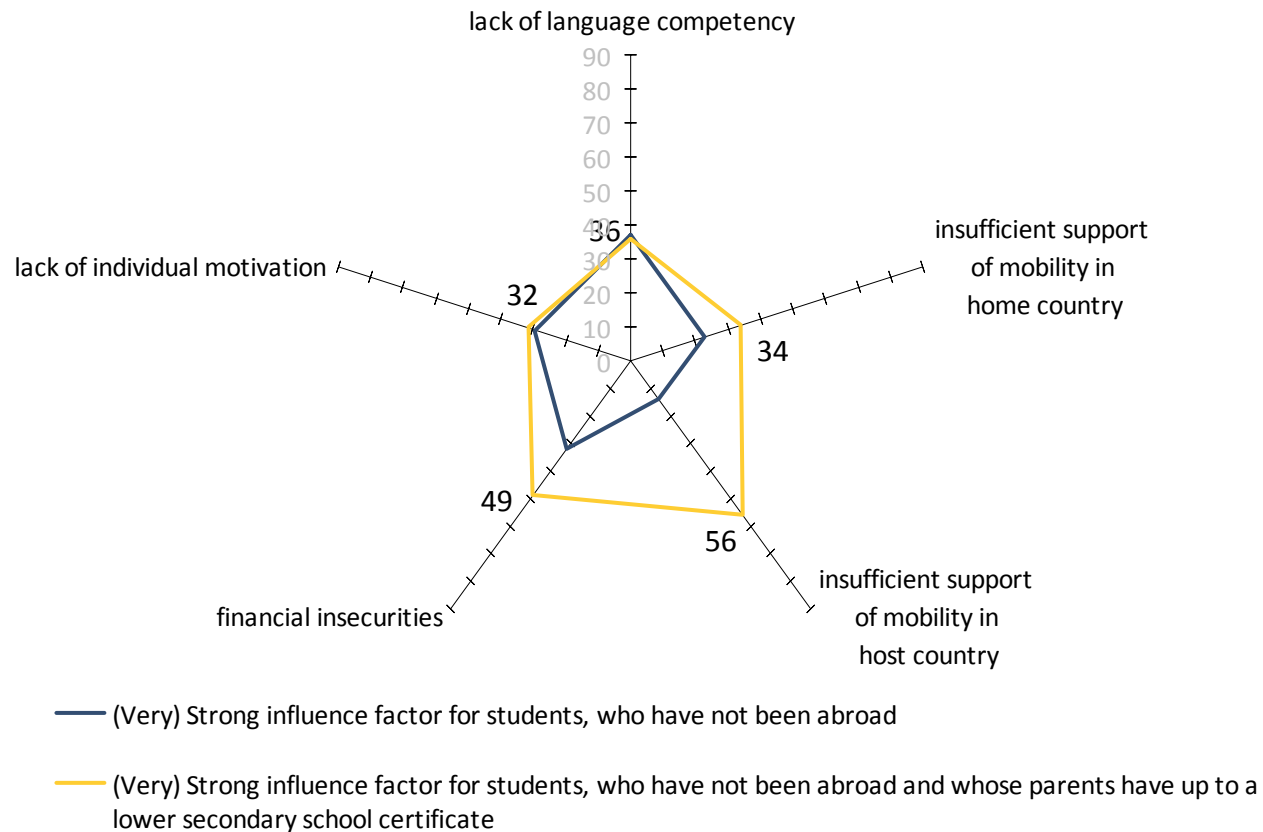
Issues that have a (very) strong influence on plans for study-related periods abroad for students who have not been abroad (median of all countries) – share of students in %



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 61. No data E/W, FI, FR, LT, LV, NO, RO, SCO, SI, TR

4. Obstacles (non-mobile students)

Issues that have a (very) strong influence on plans for study-related stays abroad for students who have not been abroad and by parental education background, Bulgaria



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 61 & 62. No data E/W, FI, FR, LT, LV, NO, RO, SCO, SI, SK, TR.

Enhancing international mobility in Europe

- harmonisation of study-systems is one way (the smooth path)
- harmonisation of financial opportunities the other way (the rocky path ahead of us)

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune At Home Abroad

iht.com Business Culture Sports Opinion

AMERICAS EUROPE ASIA/PACIFIC AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST | TECH/MEDIA STYLE HEALTH

TRAVEL PROPERTIES BLOGS DISCUSSIONS SPECIAL REPORTS AUDIONEWS

Europe's wandering scholars can't afford to be poor

By **Patrick Blum** Published: February 12, 2007

Erasmus, a program in Europe to promote mobility and quality in higher