

EMPLOYABILITY AND MOBILITY OF BACHELOR GRADUATES IN EUROPE

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Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CUM WORKSHOP
BERLIN, SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 1, 2010



PARTICIPANTS

The conference is directed to international and German stakeholders and agents in higher education and higher education policy:

- members of higher education institutions,
- researchers in the field of higher education,
- national and international associations of higher education institutions,
- associations of employees and employers,
- members of higher education ministries,
- organisations for student mobility,
- further interested persons from higher education and higher education research.

Invitations will be sent by INCHER-Kassel, the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the German Rectors' Conference to respective agents, stakeholders and associations and researchers.

Further interested persons who have not received an invitation are welcome to contact INCHER-Kassel.

TRAVEL / ACCOMODATION

The conference will take place on September 30 - October 1, 2010 in Berlin. The venue of the conference is not fixed yet. Further information will follow in due course.

REGISTRATION

Registration online www.embac2010.de
Registration will be open beginning from June 22, 2010.

COSTS

Participation in the conference as well as coffee breaks and conference lunch is free of charge. Travel and accomodation have to be covered by participants.

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HRK German Rectors' Conference
The Voice of the Universities

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Higher Education Research Kassel

U N I K A S S E L
V E R S I T Ä T

employability and mobility of bachelor graduates in europe

Increasing student mobility and improving employability of graduates are among the key objectives of the Bologna process. However, it is discussed very controversially whether these objectives are achieved. A prevalent concern is that the Europe-wide introduction of undergraduate and graduate study programmes have reduced student mobility over the last years. Furthermore, the perception of bachelor graduates as adequate employees is discussed.

Up to now, there are only few reliable empirical findings on the capability of bachelor graduates to gain an adequate employment as well as on their international mobility. An increased work load and inflexible study structures are assumed to keep students from going abroad, but there is only little data to support this assumption.

With the implementation of periodic graduate surveys in many European countries, it has become possible to develop a comparative study on the basis of existing data from recent graduate surveys. Researchers from "Bologna countries" have therefore been asked by INCHER-Kassel to contribute to the Conference with country reports based on most recent bachelor graduate surveys. The country reports will be released in a book publication which will be presented on the Conference. The reports will serve as input to discuss empirical research outcomes about employability and mobility of bachelor graduates in an international comparative framework for the first time.

The conference will be funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and supported by the German Rectors' Conference (HRK).

Day one: September 30, 2010

Presentation of empirical findings on employability and mobility of bachelor graduates in Europe

The first conference day will focus on the presentation of the country reports on employability and mobility of bachelor graduates and the discussion of these results. Its objective is to present the results to actors, stakeholders and the wider public and thus initiate a discussion on possible implications.

Participants will be international as well as German stakeholders and agents in higher education and higher education policy. Furthermore, representatives of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research as funding organization and the German Rectors' Conference will take part.

Preliminary Programm

- 10:00 Welcome Address
by Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan (tbc)
German Federal Minister of
Education and Research
- 10:10 Welcome Address
by Prof. Dr. Wilfried Müller
German Rectors' Conference, President of
the University of Bremen, Vice-President
of the German Rectors' Conference for
Teaching, Studies and Admission
- 10:20 Welcome Address
by Harald Schomburg
Project director, International Centre for
Higher Education Research (INCHER-Kassel)
- 10:30 Key Note Address
by Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Ulrich Teichler,
(INCHER-Kassel)
"Bologna – motor or stumbling block for
mobility and employability of graduates?"
- 11:00 *tea and coffee*
- 11:30 Synopsis of the book publication
by Harald Schomburg,
(INCHER-Kassel)
„Employability and Mobility of Bachelor
Graduates in Europe – key results of
empirical research“

- 12:15 *lunch break*
- 13:30 Presentation of country reports in
four parallel working groups
- 15:00 *tea and coffee*
- 15:30 Presentation of country reports ctd.
- 16:30 *tea and coffee*
- 17:00 Summary: Results of
working groups and outlook

Day two: October 1, 2010

The current situation of employability and mobility of bachelor graduates in Europe:

Discussion of implications for higher education policy and identification of further research needs. The focus of the second day will be to deepen the discussion and inputs of the previous day in order to develop recommendations for practitioners and policy as well as to identify further research needs.

Participants of the second day will be the authors of the presented publication, further invited experts and stakeholders as well as representatives of Federal Ministry for Education and Research.

Preliminary Programme

- 9:00 Parallel working groups
Working group A: State of the art of
employability of Bachelor graduates
Working group B: State of the art of
mobility of Bachelor graduates
- 10:30 *tea and coffee*
- 11:00 Parallel working groups ctd.
Working group A: Implications of
employability of Bachelor graduates
Working group B: Implications of
mobility of Bachelor graduates
- 12:30 *lunch break*
- 13:00 Plenary:
Sharing of working group results
Developing joined recommendations
Identification of further research needs