The EUROGRADUATE Pilot Survey

Background, state, next steps, and perspectives

ISEW Club Career Services: Seminar on Career Monitoring, June 15th 2018
Kai Mühleck
Project background

- Political challenges for higher education (Yerevan Communiqué 2015; EC 2017)
  - Better match of higher education & labour market needs
  - Societal relevance: strengthen civil societies, contribute to social cohesion, tolerance, democratic values
  - Contribute to innovation & growth
- Perception of insufficient data & lack of transparency on higher education graduates (e.g. EUA 2017; EC 2017)
- National-level surveys to heterogeneous to compare
- International data (e.g. EU-LFS, PIAAC) limited by small number of respondents and/or lack of information on higher education
  - Idea to set up a European graduate survey
Project background II

• EUROGRADUATE feasibility study (10/2013-03/2016):
  – Strong demand for European graduate study
  – Design for a potential European graduate survey
  – Test-run in a pilot survey

• EUROGRADUATE pilot survey: 01/2018-10/2019
• Funded by the European Commission
• Key goal: Test & prepare potential full roll-out
Project organisation

- DG Education (European Commission)
- Pilot countries & further interested countries
- Stakeholder organisations: EUA, EURASHE, ESU, ESAA

Coordination

- ROA
- DZHW
- IHS
- DESAN
- cApStAn
- gesis

Internat. project consortium

Ken Mayhew (University of Oxford), Stephanie Eckman (RTI International), Jan Koucky (Charles University)

Advisory board

Scientific committee
Project tasks: Pilot surveys

- Pilot surveys in 8 countries (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Norway & possibly Malta)
  - Graduates of academic years 2012/13 & 2016/17
  - 5,000 contacts per cohort & country
  - Graduates of ISCED 5, 6 & 7 programmes
  - If academic ISCED 5 degrees & if offered by higher education institutions
  - Regardless of organizational mode (e.g. long-distance or joint degree) & enrolment status (e.g. part- or fulltime)
  - All types of institutions regardless of legal status (public, private) & orientation (general or professional)
  - No programmes that are part of an employment, e.g. military or police academies, public administration programmes
  - No ISCED 8
Project tasks: Pilot surveys

• Questionnaire content

1. Education history: e.g. study programme, grade, mode of teaching & learning, evaluation of programme, further activities during studying, previous education, continued studying

2. Work history & current employment: e.g. transition to employment, job search, occupation, position in job, working hours, earnings, adequacy

3. Competencies: required level at work, own level (self-assessments)

4. Regional & international mobility

5. Social outcomes: health, trust, happiness, attitudes towards democracy, political participation, voluntary work
Project tasks: Pilot surveys

- Survey design
  - Sampling framework set up by national research teams guided by consortium
  - Random samples (if applicable)
  - Modes for first contact & reminders may differ between countries (online, postal, mix)
  - Online surveys
  - Centralised hosting of the computer-assisted-interview (CAI) framework
- Field phase: Sept. 21st to Dec. 15th
Project tasks

• Data collection strategy for Erasmus+ countries
  - Check data collection conditions for 33 countries (EU28 + Iceland, Liechtenstein, Macedonia, Norway, Turkey)
  - Is contact information available? What kind & quality of contact information? Where is it stored? Can it integrated in a central database? Can it be combined with a central address register?
  - Is random sampling applicable (size of cohort)? How can sampling be conducted?
  - Which existing graduate surveys need to be considered? How to coordinate existing graduate surveys with a European survey?
  - Interest to participate in full roll-out

• (Re-)Assess feasibility of full roll-out & give recommendations on how to conduct a European graduate survey
| M1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| WP1: Questionnaire |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| WP1a Master questionnaire (ROA (L), DZH, IHS) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP1b Translation & verification of questionnaire (cApStAn) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP1c Online survey facilities & data management (DESAN) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP2: Data collection strategy & implementation |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| WP2a Data collection strategy all Erasmus+ countries (DZH) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP2b Selection pilot countries (IHS (L), ROA, DZH) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP2c Data collection strategy pilot countries (IHS (L), gesis) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP3 Consultation national bodies & stakeholders (ROA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP4 Pilot data collection (DESAN (L), IHS, national teams) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP5 Data cleaning & preparation (IHS (L), national teams) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP6 EUROGRADUATE pilot study reports (ROA (L), DZH, IHS) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP7 Project management (ROA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP8 Dissemination & exploitation (DZH (L), ROA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WP9 Quality assurance (ROA) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Main products

• *Comparative synthesis report* on main topics of EUROGRADUATE pilot survey

• Concise *national reports* on findings in pilot countries

• *Technical report*: implementation of survey in pilot countries, technical assessment of pilot surveys, data collection conditions in Erasmus+ countries, evaluation of feasibility of full roll-out & recommendations

• *Scientific Use File* of survey data

• To be expected by end of 2019/start of 2020

Further information & updates?

• [www.eurograduate.eu](http://www.eurograduate.eu)