Erasmus Student Mobility: Impact on skills, employability and career

Runa Gudmarsdottir
European Commission
What is the impact?
Students:
• Impact on individual skills enhancement and employability?

Staff:
• Impact on individual competences, personality traits and attitudes?

HEIs:
• Impact on the internationalisation of HEIs?
5 on-line surveys in 2013 ... ...80,000 respondents

Quantitative study
34 countries

- 56,733 students (mobile, non-mobile)
- 18,618 alumni (mobile, non-mobile)
- 4,986 staff members (mobile, non-mobile)
- 964 HEIs
- 652 employers (55% SMEs)
- largest study ever conducted on the programme

Qualitative study
8 countries

- BG, CZ, FI, DE, LT, PT, ES and UK
- Interviews, workshops, site visits
Tests before and after mobility
designed to evaluate students' behaviour in 6 key specific areas (memo© factors)
Why do students take part in Erasmus?

Over 90% to:
* have experience of living abroad
* develop skills
* improve language abilities

More than 85% to:
enhance employability abroad

ERASMUS non-selective programme:
only 14% non-mobile not having been selected

+50% non-mobile:
uncertainty on additional costs and lack of financial resources
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personality Trait</th>
<th>Importance (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tolerance of ambiguity</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal awareness</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curiosity</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confidence</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decisiveness</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem-solving skills</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The image includes a bar chart showing the importance of various personality traits for employers, with Tolerance of Ambiguity being the most important at 96%.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adaptability</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge of host country</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to work with people from...</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign language skills</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intercultural competences</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication skills</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To feel European</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading and writing skills</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning and organisational skills</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

ERASMUS STUDENTS

MORE THAN 85% of students study or train abroad to enhance their employability abroad

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
Young people who study or train abroad are half as likely to face long-term unemployment
5 years after graduation the unemployment rate of Erasmus students is 23% lower
Erasmus students increase their advantage over non-mobile students by 42%.
WORK PLACEMENT

Almost 1 in 10 Erasmus trainees who did work placements have started their own company and 3 out of 4 plan to or can envisage to do so.

More than 1 in 3 Erasmus students were offered a position at their host company.
Broader horizons and social links

INTERNATIONAL LIFE

Former Erasmus students

- 40% moved to another country after graduation
- 93% can easily imagine living abroad in the future
- 33% have a life partner with a different nationality
- 27% met their life partner during their stay abroad

Non-mobile students

- 23% moved to another country after graduation
- 73% can easily imagine living abroad in the future
- 13% have a life partner with a different nationality
- 27% met their life partner during their stay abroad
• More than 80% of Erasmus students feel a strong bond with Europe
• Only 70% of non-mobile students
• 84% of Erasmus students felt more European after their stay abroad
Mobility clearly has an impact..

..but what are we doing to support it?
ERASMUS+: Link to Europe 2020 targets

- **Higher education attainment**
  - 40% of 30-34 year olds HE graduates
    - (35.7% in 2012)

- **Early school leaving**
  - 10% of 18-24 year olds not enrolled
    - (12.7% in 2012)

- **Employability**
  - 82% of graduates (20-34 year old) employed within 3 years from graduation
    - (75.7% in 2012)
Erasmus+ 14.7 billion € +40% 2014-2020
3 Key Actions

Learning Mobility of Individuals
At least 63%
4 million people mobile

Cooperation for innovation
At least 28%

Support for policy reform
4.2%
ERASMUS+: more quality through a reinforced quality framework

- Erasmus Charter for Higher Education
- Inter-institutional agreements
- Learning agreements / mobility agreements
- Erasmus Student Charter
- Flexible and cost efficient linguistic support
ERASMUS+: more inclusive

- Reinforced linguistic support
- Support for people with special needs
- More support for people with disadvantaged background and fewer opportunities
- Specific support for outermost regions
The **Erasmus** Impact Study

**Comparative analysis of countries and regions**

- Focus on results relating to student mobility and the development of skills, competences and employability
- Contractor: CHE Consult
- Final report due **end October 2015**
Country comparative analysis

• Aim: to show differences between individual countries
• Selection based on availability of data and equal coverage of country size
• The selection of countries is not final yet:
  • The countries below clearly have enough data; others are still under consideration

Spain  Germany  Italy  France  Poland
Regional analysis

Aim: to identify patterns between the 4 regions of Europe

All countries with sufficient data analysed

The ERASMUS Impact Study

Western Europe

Eastern Europe

Northern Europe

Southern Europe
The **Erasmus** Impact Study


IP/14/1025
MEMO/14/534