

# EUROSTUDENT VII

2018 – 2021

Field phase: spring 2019

## Project overview

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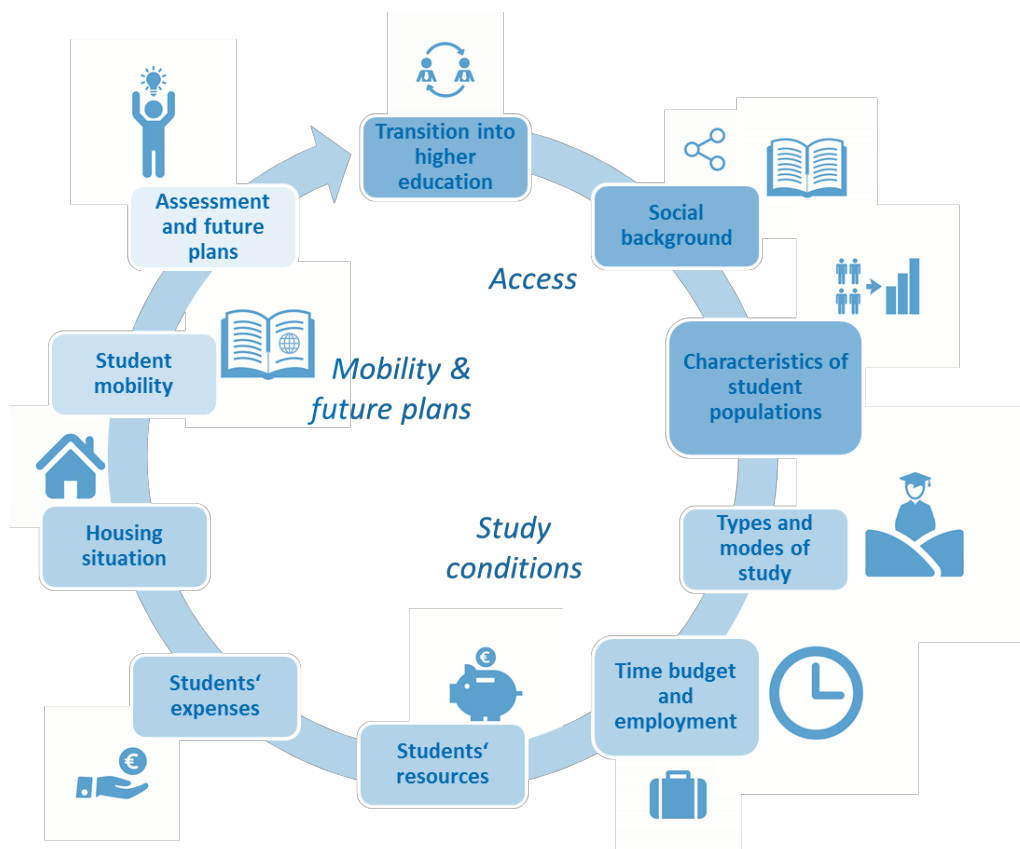


# 1 The EUROSTUDENT project

The EUROSTUDENT project aims to provide a broad, policy-relevant cross-country comparison of data on the social dimension and of student mobility in European higher education. By directly surveying students and collecting data on a wide range of topics, EUROSTUDENT is able to provide indicators on most aspects of students' lives, covering the entire student lifecycle from entry into higher education to assessment of labour market preparedness after graduation. International mobility is also an important aspect covered by the EUROSTUDENT questionnaire.

By providing most information for different groups of students according to study-related characteristics (e.g. study intensity, entry into HE), socio-demographic characteristics (incl. migration background, impairments), and living conditions (e.g. extent of employment, dependency on income source), the EUROSTUDENT indicators allow a differentiated and comprehensive understanding of equity-related issues and questions of the social dimension of higher education in Europe.

**Figure 1: EUROSTUDENT topics**



The EUROSTUDENT consortium provides national ministries and research teams with the EUROSTUDENT core questionnaire, as well as extensive instructions and support for conducting the field phase at the national level, data cleaning, calculation of indicators, and data delivery. The execution of the field phase at the national level remains the responsibility of the national team. The ownership of the collected micro data is not affected by a participation in EUROSTUDENT.

In all its activities, the aspects of quality, relevance, and data usage are central to the project. These three aspects are interrelated and provide the background against which EUROSTUDENT is conducted.

## 1.1 EUROSTUDENT target groups

Due to its broad thematic coverage and the involvement of different stakeholder groups, EUROSTUDENT aims to benefit different target groups, either through direct involvement in the project, or by drawing on the publicly available data and results.

- *Policy-makers* at European and national levels. EUROSTUDENT provides comparative data and analyses on students in the European Higher Education Area that are not available elsewhere. Publication formats such as Intelligence Briefs are aimed specifically at this group, presenting a concise overview of relevant topics.
- *Researchers*. EUROSTUDENT national teams benefit directly from project participation by taking advantage of the expert network which the project provides to exchange expertise on conducting and analysing surveys at the national level. Especially in countries with little to no prior experience, EUROSTUDENT takes on a strong capacity-building role. Furthermore, the results and data collected in the project are available to the research community beyond the project, informing and enabling further research, both comparative and focused on single countries.
- *Students in the EHEA and the general public*. EUROSTUDENT data and results are also of interest to students themselves. For example, a student planning studies abroad might use EUROSTUDENT to gather information on average living costs or typical living situations. Students can also draw on the published data for their own studies, e.g. Bachelor theses. The general public is addressed through wider media activities informing them about interesting results.

## 1.2 EUROSTUDENT goals and contribution

The project fulfils three main functions.

- *EUROSTUDENT assists in capacity-building in order to establish policy-relevant and robust national monitoring structures for the social dimension of higher education.*

By providing common standards for data collection and delivery, the project adds value through the creation of opportunities to develop and exchange know-how on how to carry out effective national surveys. The work accomplished in the previous rounds of EUROSTUDENT has already achieved a high level of acceptance, as evidenced for example by the use of the EUROSTUDENT data in the Bologna Process implementation reports.

- The seventh round of EUROSTUDENT will further focus on ensuring and improving high data quality by providing more assistance to national research teams.
  - Preparatory seminars before and after the national field phases
  - Provision of central online survey tool
  - National-level kick-offs for newly joining teams

- *EUROSTUDENT provides a broad, policy-relevant cross-country comparison of data on the social dimension of European higher education.*

EUROSTUDENT strives to cover as many countries of the European Higher Education Area as possible. In the sixth round (2016-2018), 28 countries participated in the project. In almost all countries, both researchers and policy-makers are involved. This constellation of researchers and policy-makers continues to assure that the development stage of the project adequately takes into account the methodical and analytical challenges involved in fulfilling the goal of supporting evidence-based policy. Close cooperation with participant countries ensures the comparability and interpretability of the data for the different national contexts.

- EUROSTUDENT VII strives to further increase the number of participant countries.
- Different analysis needs will be addressed through different types of publications:
  - The main report “Synopsis of indicators” gives a broad overview of the available indicators.
  - Thematic reviews will focus on specific topics of interest to policy-makers and explore it in a more in-depth, analytical fashion.
  - Intelligence Briefs provide focused insights on a very specific question.
- *EUROSTUDENT supports countries in their efforts to use the insights from the international comparison to review and improve the social dimension of higher education in their country.*

The findings of the comparative study can only support evidence-based policy on national and European levels if the interests and needs of the users are considered. The project will build on previous experience within EUROSTUDENT to create and utilise reporting structures which are informative, sound, and facilitate policy evaluation as well as discussions on further developments. Efforts are made to ensure that results of the project are not only reflected in publications made by the project consortium, but also analysed and disseminated by other data users at the national and European level in order to create a diversity of output.

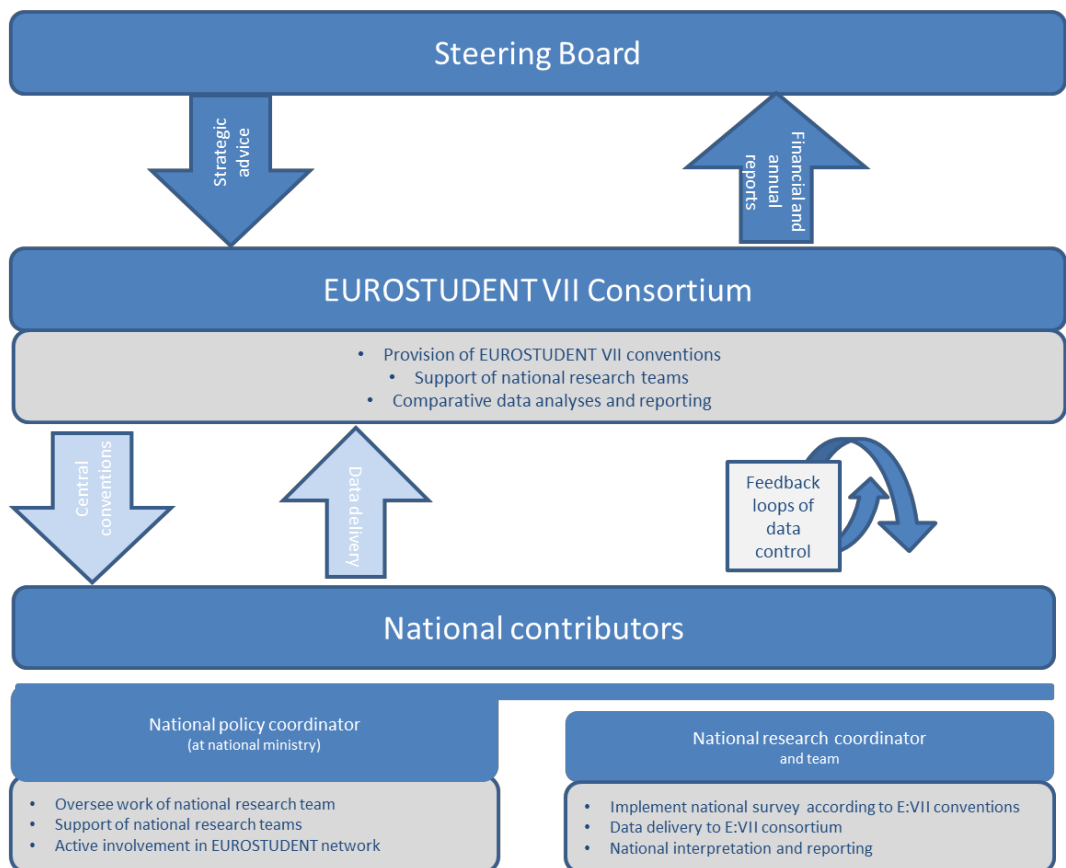
- In EUROSTUDENT VII, ministry representatives will be involved throughout the project through a series of events which provide an opportunity to give feedback to the EUROSTUDENT consortium and influence the direction of the project, as well as provide a platform for exchange among participants:
  - EUROSTUDENT kick-off (summer 2018)
  - EUROSTUDENT policy workshop (spring/summer 2019)
  - EUROSTUDENT policy-makers conference (data preview – spring/summer 2020)
  - EUROSTUDENT final conference (spring 2021)
- The EUROSTUDENT researchers’ conference will encourage and showcase the use of EUROSTUDENT data by national research teams, inspiring further analyses with national and comparative EUROSTUDENT data.
- All collected indicators will be made publicly available in the interactive EUROSTUDENT online database at the end of the project round.

## 2 Planned roles and responsibilities in the EUROSTUDENT VII project

EUROSTUDENT couples a central coordination approach with a strong network of national partners in each participant country. In order to involve policy and research perspectives alike, each participating country, ideally, involves both ministry representatives as well as researchers in the national EUROSTUDENT team. EUROSTUDENT requires that a national policy coordinator at the national ministry as well as a national research coordinator be named per country. A Steering Board guides the consortium in its work.

The EUROSTUDENT consortium is made up of seven member organisations; each of these partners is assigned specific tasks. The consortium provides national contributors with the EUROSTUDENT core questionnaire, as well as extensive instructions for conducting the field phase at the national level, data cleaning, calculation of indicators, and data delivery. The execution of the field phase at the national level remains the responsibility of the national teams. The delivered data is checked in a series of feedback loops for accuracy and comparability.

**Figure 2: Planned EUROSTUDENT VII structure**



The comparative data analysis is then conducted centrally and published in different reporting formats. During data delivery, national teams are strongly encouraged to provide detailed comments explaining the pattern of results while taking into account national specifics, so that the



national perspective is reflected. In most countries, national results are additionally published in the form of national reports.

## 2.1 Planned consortium EUROSTUDENT VII

The EUROSTUDENT Consortium will be responsible for the execution of the project as described in the work programme (see [section 3](#)). The main focus of the consortium's work lies on the international and comparative aspects of the EUROSTUDENT project. National ministries and national research teams are supported in their efforts to conduct a student survey at the national level that can be used towards valid cross-country comparisons.

The following organisations are planning to continue their successful cooperation by forming the EUROSTUDENT VII consortium:

- German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW), DE
- Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS), AT
- ResearchNed, NL
- MOSTA Research and Higher Education Monitoring and Analysis Centre, LT
- National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE), MT
- Praxis Centre for Policy Studies, EE
- Federal Statistical Office (FSO), CH

DZHW is planned to head the consortium as international coordinator and will be responsible for overall project leadership and coordination; while each individual partner takes responsibility for one or more specific work packages. IHS takes on the role as “head of data”, assuming responsibility for all technical data-related issues.

## 2.2 National contributors

In order to involve policy and research perspectives alike, the national EUROSTUDENT team of each participating country should ideally consist of both ministry representatives and researchers. At the national level, student surveys delivering data to EUROSTUDENT are conducted in close cooperation with the project consortium.

**EUROSTUDENT VII will require that a national policy coordinator at the national ministry as well as a national research coordinator be named per country<sup>1</sup>.**

The *national policy coordinator* will serve as the primary point of contact for the EUROSTUDENT consortium at the ministry for all EUROSTUDENT-related matters.

The *national research coordinator* will serve as the primary point of contact for the EUROSTUDENT consortium with regard to all technical details of survey execution and the national level as well as data preparation and delivery.

The national research teams are chosen and funded by the participating national ministries. The national research teams are responsible for implementing a national student survey, delivering the data to the EUROSTUDENT consortium in accordance with EUROSTUDENT conventions, and providing national interpretations of the delivered data.

<sup>1</sup> In some cases, this may be the same person.

For countries taking part for the first time, as well as countries with research teams without EUROSTUDENT experience, a national-level kick-off meeting with ministry representatives, researchers and EUROSTUDENT consortium members is mandatory. For all others, it is strongly encouraged.

The national teams conduct the national survey and the data calculation and delivery in close cooperation with the EUROSTUDENT consortium.

The task of the national research team includes:

- Scheduling of the national survey
- Translating and adapting the EUROSTUDENT core questionnaire
- Development of the national sampling plan
- Implementation of the national student survey (“field phase”) in spring/summer of 2019
- Participation in EUROSTUDENT workshops and conferences
  - Preparatory seminars before the field phase (Jan-Mar 2019)
  - Data delivery workshop (summer/autumn 2019)
  - EUROSTUDENT researchers’ conference (winter/spring 2020)
  - EUROSTUDENT final conference (spring 2021)
- Preparation of national data for international comparison according to the EUROSTUDENT requirements (incl. data cleaning, weighting, plausibility checking and recoding)
- Undergoing EUROSTUDENT data control process
- Delivery of national indicators to EUROSTUDENT Consortium
- Interpretation of data from a national perspective

Furthermore, the consortium invites and welcomes active involvement in the EUROSTUDENT network (e.g. by informing consortium of national-level publications, co-authoring Intelligence Briefs, etc.).

### 3 Draft EUROSTUDENT VII work programme<sup>2</sup>

The consortium members will organise their work in distinct work packages as outlined below. In parallel, national teams conduct the national surveys in line with the EUROSTUDENT conventions in close cooperation with the EUROSTUDENT consortium<sup>3</sup>.

#### ***Work package 1 – Preparation of national surveys and central data conventions***

- Development of EUROSTUDENT core questionnaire (core set of questions)
- Providing guidance and support with regard to implementation of EUROSTUDENT core questionnaire to national research teams
- Offering central online survey tool (limited national adaptations possible)

<sup>2</sup> Final work programme to be provided with participant country contract

<sup>3</sup> Costs for the execution of the national survey and the work of national researchers are not covered by EUROSTUDENT.

**Work package 2 – Field phase support**

- Support of national teams during field phase

**Work package 3 – Data cleaning, calculation and delivery for comparative analysis**

- Organising and supporting data delivery, including instructions
- Central checking of delivered data

**Work package 4 – Development of indicators, data analysis and reporting**

- Development of analysis strategy and indicators
- Comparative data analysis
  - Providing data analysis for sneak preview conference (spring/summer 2020)
  - Writing and publishing comparative report “Synopsis of Indicators”
  - Writing and publishing comparative reports “Thematic Reviews”
  - Writing and publishing Intelligence Briefs
- Developing and providing online database (spring/summer 2021)
- Organising and executing Researchers’ Conference
- Developing guidelines for national Profiles

**Work package 5 – Communication**

- Developing strategy for successful communication and promotion of project and data to policy-makers, researchers, students, and general public
- Ongoing planning and coordination of communication and dissemination activities
- Support of national teams in dissemination of data and results
- Supporting analyses and dissemination of EUROSTUDENT data

**Work package 6 – Quality assurance**

- Development of quality plan
- Regular quality checks
- Reporting to the Steering Board

**Work package 7 – Project leadership and coordination**

- Overall leadership and coordination (monitoring project progress, coordinating work in work packages)
- Budget management and accounting
- Internal project communication (to consortium, national ministries, and research teams)
- Strengthening policy-relevance of data by involving and addressing involved ministries
- Organisation and execution of final conference
- Stakeholder relations/external communication, incl. BFUG

***Under discussion: Work package “EUROSTUDENT micro data” (optional)***

- The EUROSTUDENT VI consortium is currently investigating the possibilities of creating a shared EUROSTUDENT VII data set in the context of the project.
- This would entail the preparation and processing of national micro data sets for comparative purposes according to international data sharing standards, as well as the coordination of interested national teams.
- The feasibility of this, as well as the interest among ministries and research teams is currently being investigated.
- Participation in this work package may be offered at a later point, possibly at extra cost.

***EUROSTUDENT VII key deliverables***

- EUROSTUDENT core questionnaire for adaptation to national context
- Instructions on execution of survey at the national level
- Online survey tool incl. instructions for use
- Instructions for data delivery and data cleaning, incl. model syntax
- Seminars for national teams to support survey execution and data delivery
- Conferences to bring together EUROSTUDENT participants
  - Kick-off meeting
  - Researchers’ Forum
  - Policy Workshop
  - Sneak preview data conference
  - Final conference
- Comparative publications using EUROSTUDENT data
  - Synopsis of Indicators
  - Two thematic reviews
  - Intelligence Briefs
- EUROSTUDENT VII online database

## 4 Funding EUROSTUDENT VII

The funding of the project is planned to be based on two sources:

- Participation fees paid by national ministries to the EUROSTUDENT VII consortium
- Additional financial support from specific national ministries

The European Commission has announced its support for the seventh edition of EUROSTUDENT in the [Erasmus+ Work Programme 2018](#). Based on a restricted call to apply for co-funding, EUROSTUDENT VII participation fees will be eligible for co-funding of up to 75% for eligible countries. All eligible countries having signed a Letter of Intent to participate in EUROSTUDENT VII will be informed about further steps in this matter. Currently, the beneficiary identification process is expected to take place in February/March 2018, with the call for applications to be launched in May 2018.

Participation fees vary based on a country's GDP and number of students in Bachelor's level (academic) programmes, as well as based on the number of countries taking part in EUROSTUDENT VII. See Table 1 for an overview of planned participation fees.<sup>4</sup>

**Any costs incurred at the national level for the participation in EUROSTUDENT, including the costs for the work of the national research team and the execution of the national survey, are not part of EUROSTUDENT and need to be funded additionally at the national level.**

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<sup>4</sup> Table 1 depicts expected fees based on expected participation. Should large changes in number and/or composition of participants occur, fees might need to be re-calculated. Any changes in fees will be clearly communicated before the contracting process.

**Table 1: Planned participation fees EUROSTUDENT VII**

	Country <sup>1</sup>	Planned E:VII participation fee <sup>2,3</sup> if 25 or more countries take part	Planned E:VII participation fee <sup>2,3</sup> if 20-24 countries take part	Planned E:VII participation fee <sup>2,3</sup> if 15-19 countries take part
AD	Andorra	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
AL	Albania	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
AM	Armenia	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
AT	Austria	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
AZ	Azerbaijan	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
BE (fl.)	Belgium (Flemish community)	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
BE (fr.)	Belgium (French community)	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
BG	Bulgaria	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
BY	Belarus	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
CH	Switzerland	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
CY	Cyprus	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
CZ	Czech Republic	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
DE	Germany	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
DK	Denmark	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
EE	Estonia	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
ES	Spain	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
FI	Finland	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
FR	France	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
GE	Georgia	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
GR	Greece	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
HR	Croatia	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
HU	Hungary	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
IE	Ireland	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
IS	Iceland	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
IT	Italy	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
KZ	Kazakhstan	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
LI	Liechtenstein	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
LT	Lithuania	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
LU	Luxembourg	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
LV	Latvia	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
MD	Moldova	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
ME	Montenegro	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
MK	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
MT	Malta	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
NL	The Netherlands	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
NO	Norway	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
PL	Poland	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
PT	Portugal	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
RO	Romania	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
RS	Serbia	12,600 €	15,700 €	20,900 €
RU	Russia	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
SE	Sweden	68,100 €	85,100 €	113,400 €
SI	Slovenia	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
SK	Slovak Republic	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
TR	Turkey	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €
UA	Ukraine	27,500 €	34,400 €	45,800 €
UK	United Kingdom	111,800 €	139,800 €	186,300 €

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> For countries not listed, please enquire directly. <sup>2</sup> Fees indicated reflect net costs. 19 % VAT will be applied. The reverse charge procedure may be applied if conditions are met. Each participant country is responsible for identifying and paying any applicable taxes. <sup>3</sup> Expected fees based on expected participation. Should large changes in number and/or composition of participants occur, fees might need to be re-calculated. Any changes in fees will be clearly communicated before contracting.

## 5 What to expect when taking part in EUROSTUDENT VII - Overview and key dates

### EUROSTUDENT VII will...

- provide a core questionnaire for a national survey on the social and economic conditions of students, as well as temporary mobility.
- provide detailed instructions on the execution of a national survey and offer central hosting via an online survey tool.
- provide instructions and offer extensive support for data cleaning and calculation to national teams to prepare data according to international EUROSTUDENT standards.
- conduct and publish comparative analyses of the data across all participant countries (see planned publications below).
- make the collected data publicly available in an online database.
- organise events for ministry which offer the chance to learn about and discuss the social and economic conditions of students in the EHEA (see below).

### What's new in EUROSTUDENT VII vs. EUROSTUDENT VI?

- Improved questionnaire based on consultation with national teams and external experts
- Provision of central online survey tool (with possibility to adapt to national context)
- Two thematic reviews
- Closer cooperation with ministry officials, additional policy workshops
- Under discussion: creating a EUROSTUDENT micro data set (optional add-on, feasibility under investigation)

## Planned major events in EUROSTUDENT VII

What?	Target group	When?
EUROSTUDENT VII kick-off	National policy coordinators	summer 2018
National-level kick off	First-time EUROSTUDENT participant countries/research teams and on demand	summer 2018
Preparatory seminars for field phase	National research coordinators	winter/spring 2019
Policy workshop	National policy coordinators	spring/summer 2019
Preparatory seminars for data delivery	National research coordinators	autumn/winter 2019
Researchers' conference	National research coordinators	winter/spring 2020
Sneak preview data conference	National policy coordinators	spring/summer 2020
EUROSTUDENT VII final conference	National policy coordinators, national research team, and externals	spring/summer 2021

## Planned publications in EUROSTUDENT VII

What?	When?
Intelligence Briefs	throughout
Two thematic reviews	autumn 2020 and spring/summer 2021
EUROSTUDENT VII Synopsis of Indicators	spring/summer 2021
EUROSTUDENT VII database	spring/summer 2021

## Important project dates in EUROSTUDENT VII

What?	When?
Project start	June 2018
Core questionnaire and instructions on survey execution available	December 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2018
National teams conduct field phases	February – June 2019
National data delivered to EUROSTUDENT	December 2019
Review and quality check of delivered data	winter 2019/spring 2020
EUROSTUDENT VII Synopsis of Indicators and final conference	spring/summer 2021

## Timeline - preparing EUROSTUDENT VII as participants

What?	When?
Send signed letter of intent to DZHW	Until December 31st, 2017
Visit the EUROSTUDENT VI final conference and get an update and outlook on E:VII	March 6-7, 2018
Register as a beneficiary with the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (if applicable) to secure Erasmus+ co-funding	February/March 2018 (expected)
Sign EUROSTUDENT VII participant contract with EUROSTUDENT consortium	April 30th, 2018
Respond to call for applications to Erasmus+ co-funding (if applicable)	April/May 2018 (expected)
Appoint national policy coordinator	until project start in June 2018
Secure appointment and funding of national research team	until project start in June 2018
Participation fees due	June/July 2018