



The European Council for Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers

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EURODOC survey press release December 2008

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Europe-wide Survey on Doctoral Programmes

EURODOC, the European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers, is conducting a Europe-wide survey of doctoral researchers – the first survey of doctoral researchers on this scale – in cooperation with the International Centre for Higher Education Research at the University of Kassel. The survey will be launched on 9 December 2008 and will stay online until 30 April 2009.

This is the first survey of its kind and roughly 100,000 European doctoral researchers will be asked to take part in this study. The survey will be conducted in Austria, Belgium, Belarus, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, FYR Macedonia, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey and Ukraine.

Harald Schomburg, senior Researcher of INCHER, describes the motivation of the project: *“The current knowledge about the situation of doctoral candidates in Europe is not satisfactory and adequate.”* A large scale survey on doctoral candidates on the European level has never been conducted. Key questions on many points raised also by the European Charter for Researchers remain unanswered:

- ⇒ What is the real situation concerning current employment conditions, social benefits and working conditions for doctoral candidates?
- ⇒ Where are the real differences between countries, cultures and models of doctoral education and what can we learn from them?

EURODOC recognised the need for the comparative research on the situation of the doctoral candidates. *“The survey will help to answer these questions with the clear aim to improve the situation of doctoral candidates”,* explains Karoline Holländer, President of EURODOC, *“We invite all doctoral candidates to take part in the survey, in order to use their right to participate in the Bologna process.”*

Max Reinhardt, the survey coordinator, adds: *“The survey covers a broad range of aspects concerning young researchers.”* The topics include qualification requirements, career paths, funding schemes, models of training and supervision, working conditions, expected and achieved results of scientific work and mobility.

You will find the online survey at: <http://www.eurodoc.net/survey>

We thank you in advance for your valued cooperation.

Max Reinhardt
Survey coordinator

Karoline Holländer
President of EURODOC

Harald Schomburg
INCHER



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EURODOC background:

EURODOC was founded in Girona (Spain) on 02/02/02. It is the European Council of doctoral candidates and young researchers. It takes the form of a federation of national associations of Ph.D. candidates and young researchers.

EURODOC's objectives are:

- To represent doctoral candidates and junior researchers at the European level in matters of education, research, and professional development of their careers.
- To advance the quality of doctoral programmes and the standards of research activity in Europe.
- To promote the circulation of information on issues regarding young researchers; organize events, take part in debates and assist in the elaboration of policies about Higher Education and Research in Europe.
- To establish and promote co-operation between national associations representing doctoral candidates and junior researchers within Europe.

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