

## ***Capturing the social dimension in European higher education. The contribution of EUROSTUDENT***

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EUROSTUDENT

# EUROSTUDENT III member countries

## EUROSTUDENT III 2005-08

23 countries

National students of HE

c. 120k students

Final international conference

*Ljubljana, April 2008*

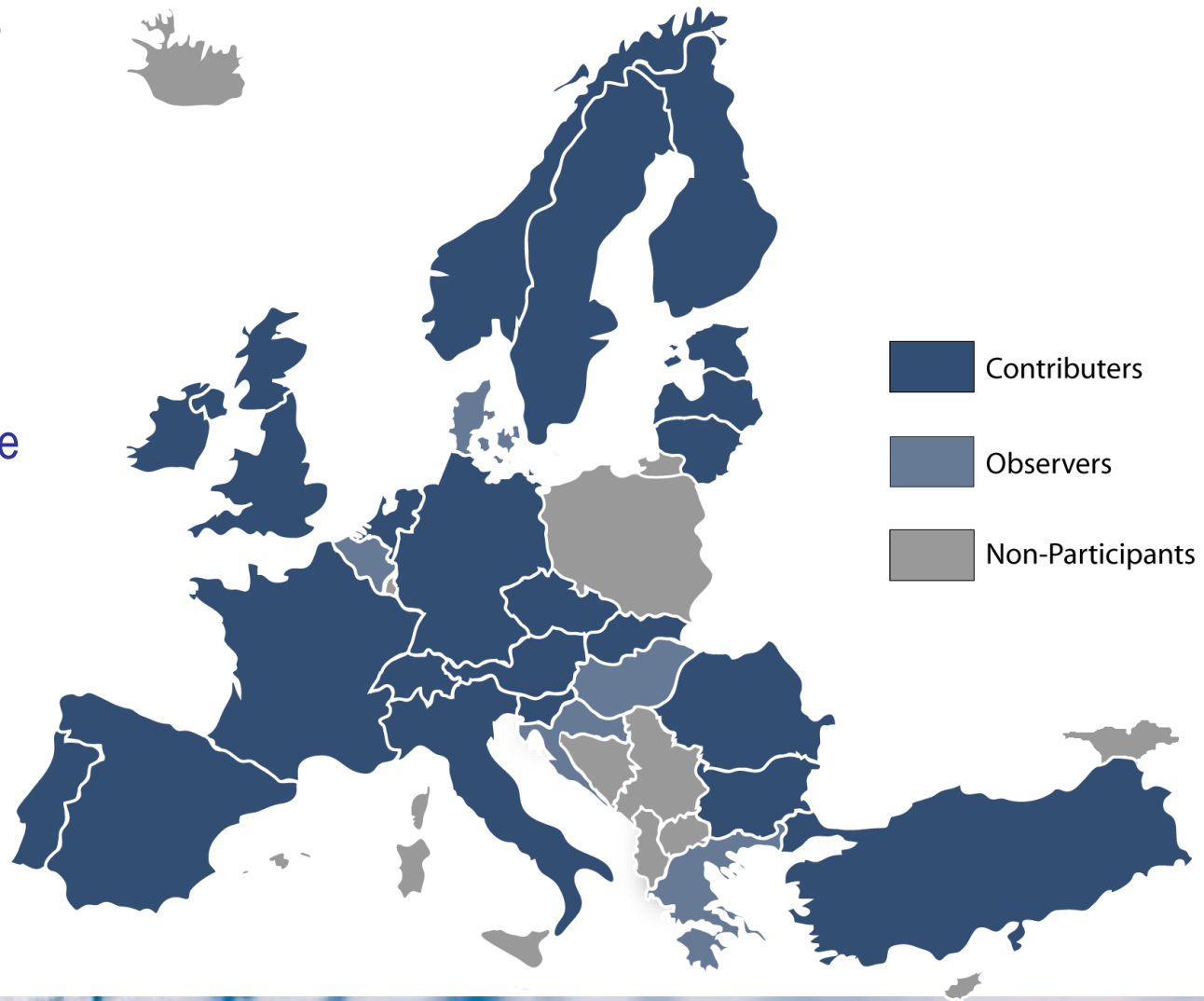
National conferences

*e.g. Berlin, September 2008*

*Rome, November 2008*

**Final report published**

*see [www.eurostudent.eu](http://www.eurostudent.eu)*



# Current issue: Equity in HE

The share of a national population undertaking higher education has risen between 1998 and 2005 by 27% (European average) and the increases by country are significantly higher (Lithuania and Romania have doubled participation rates in this period).

After a period of extensive HE expansion in Europe a new policy emphasis is turning to equity and **who** is getting into and completing higher education

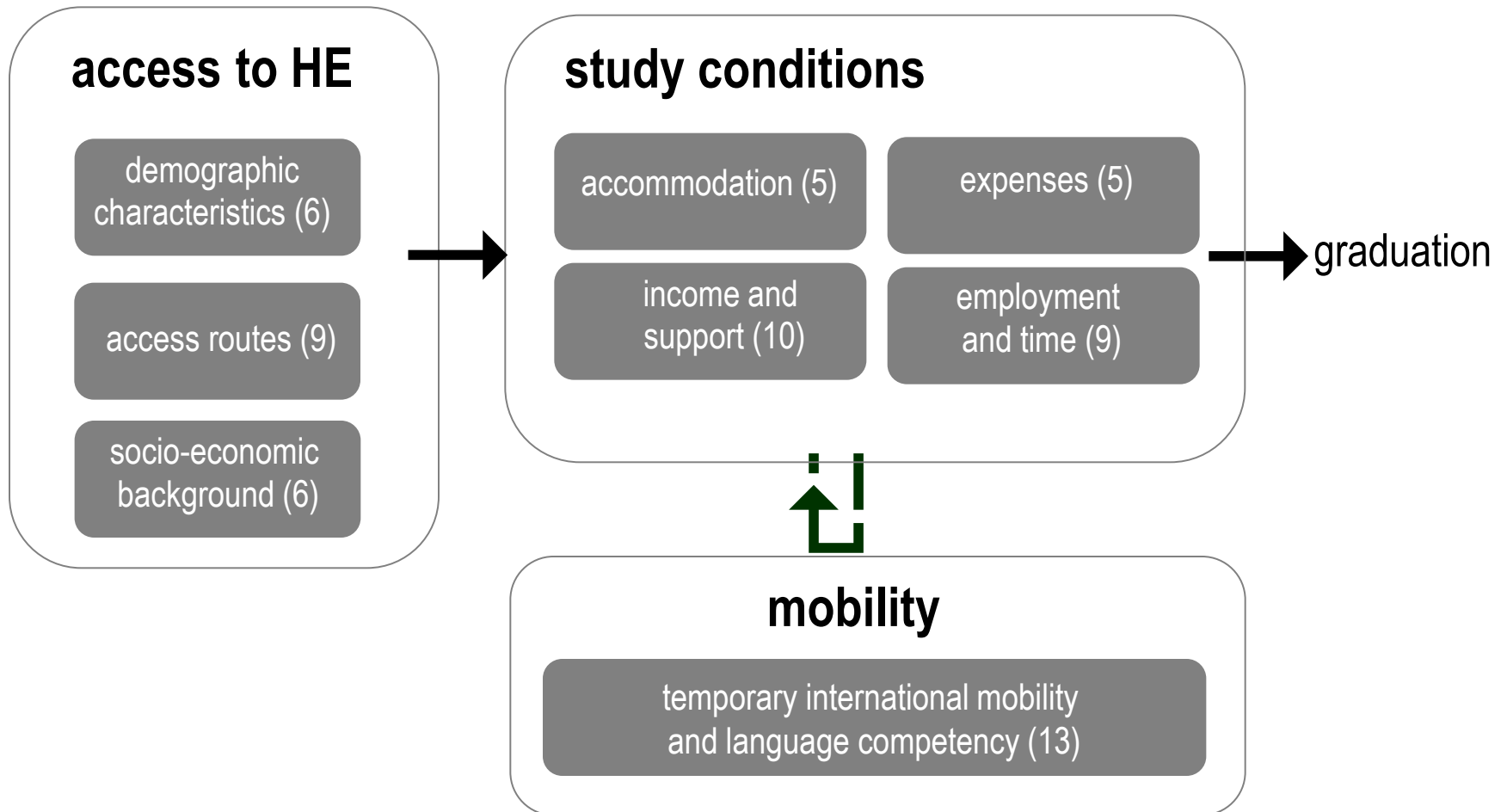
e.g. on an international level:

Bologna Process

Lisbon Agenda

OECD Thematic Review on Tertiary Education

# Social dimension... part of a students' learning biography

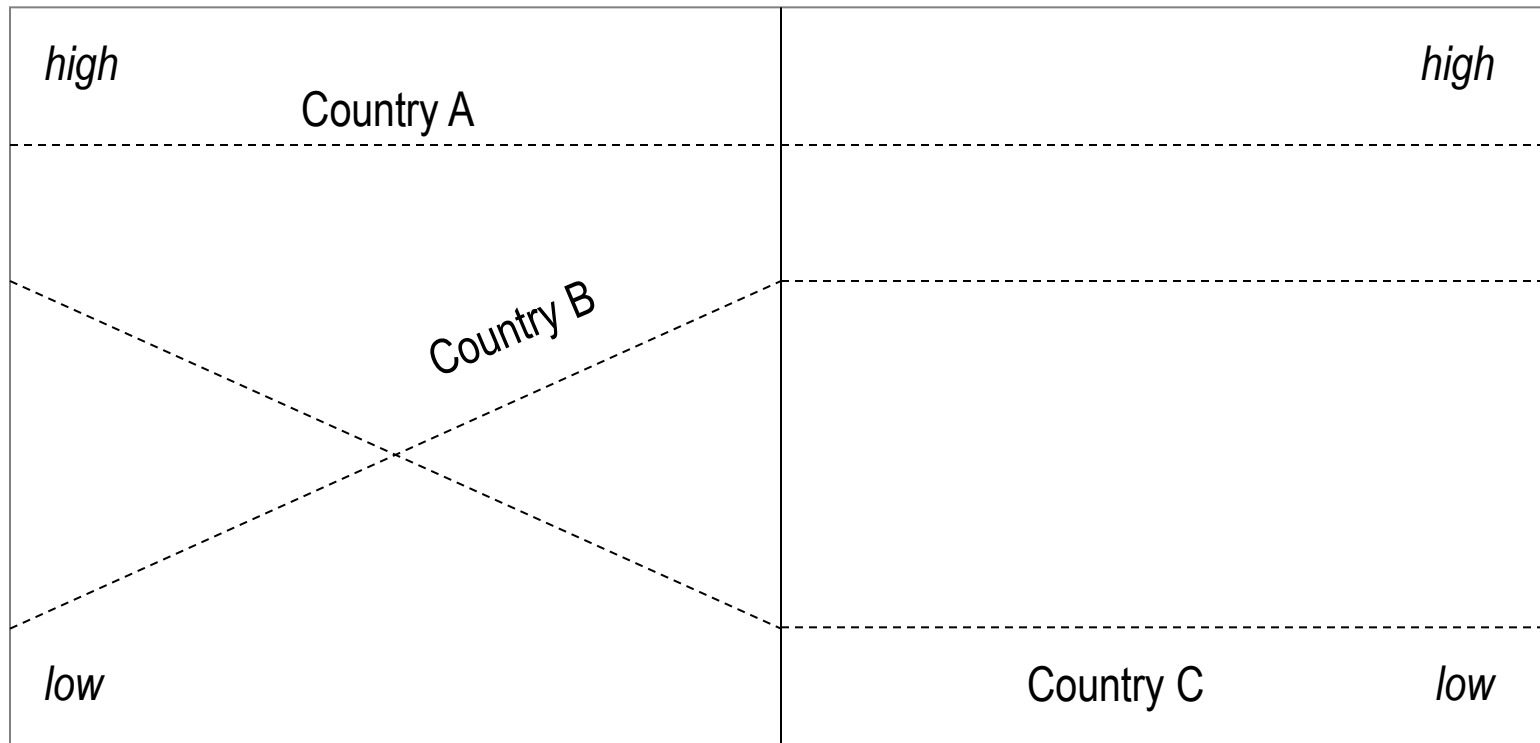


# The “social dimension” = participative equity

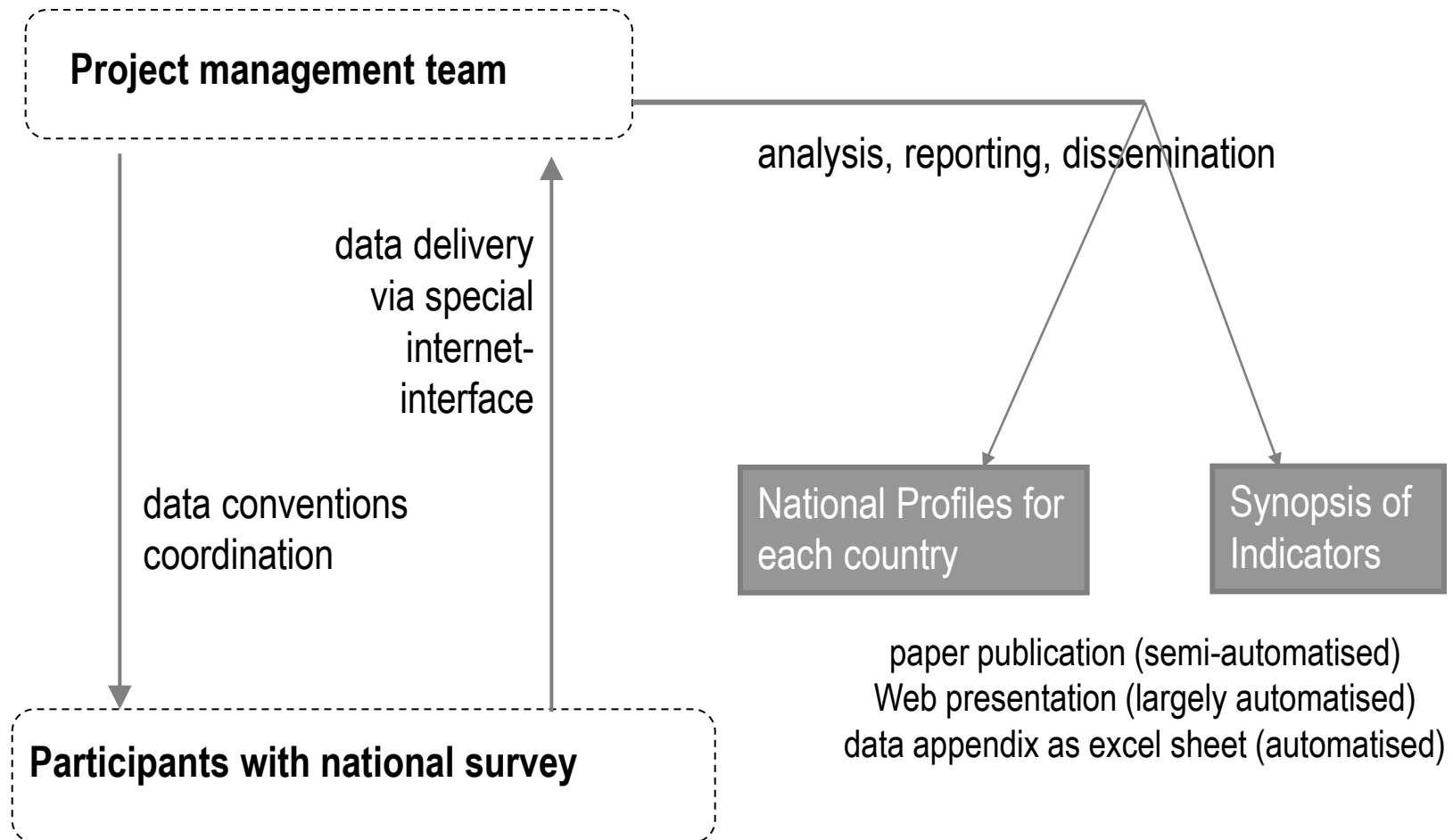
Entrance to higher  
education

Study  
framework

Graduation



# Organisation – Data collection and reporting





## EUROSTUDENT Dataset

### National Profiles

- 23 national reports
- In-depth data
- National commentaries
- Compare data by country on-line
- Compare data by country in Excel data sheets

### Data appendix: Key indicators

- All key indicators
- All 63 subtopics
- All countries
- Excel data sheets

### Synopsis of indicators

- Comparative report
- All countries
- Interpretive analyses

## A look at accommodation from an international perspective - Significance

- *Adequate accommodation is – together with sufficient financing – a main framework condition for the “smooth operation” of studies.*
- *Financial concerns with accommodation as part of students’ living costs may have a negative impact on equity of access to higher education especially for those potential students from families with lower income.*
- *For instance, students may have to make a choice between remaining with their parents/relatives and studying in the university nearest to this address or choosing an alternative study location, but having to work during studies to cover the costs of rent.*

from: Chapter 4 “Accommodation”, Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe (EUROSTUDENT 2005-2008), 2008



## *EUROSTUDENT III Core questions*

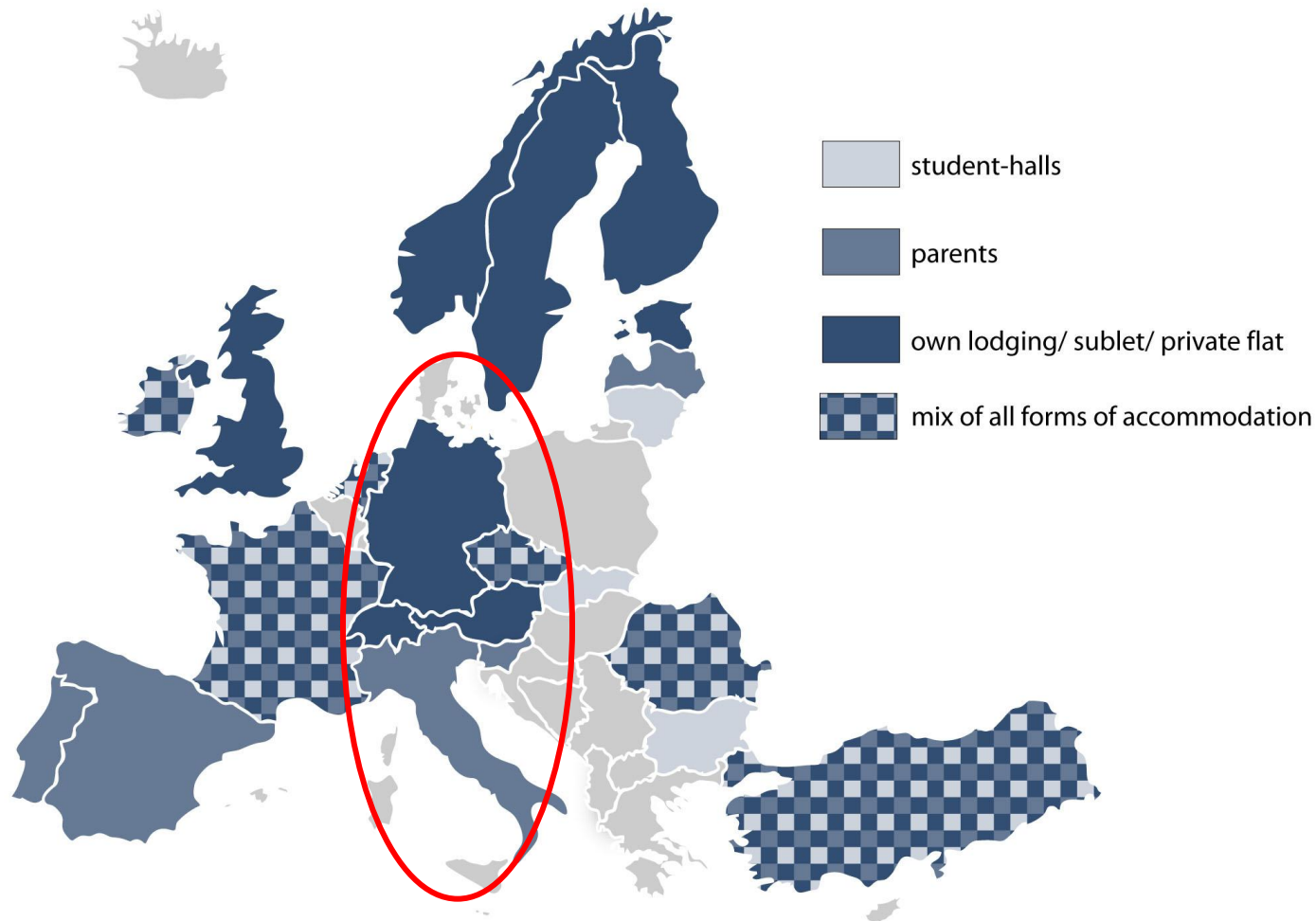
### **4.1 Where do you live during study terms/semester?**

- at home (with parents/relatives)
- lodging/sublet/private flat
- student hall of residence

### **4.4 How would you describe the following aspects of your living conditions?**

- accommodation
- material well-being / financial situation
- workload (including both study time and job)

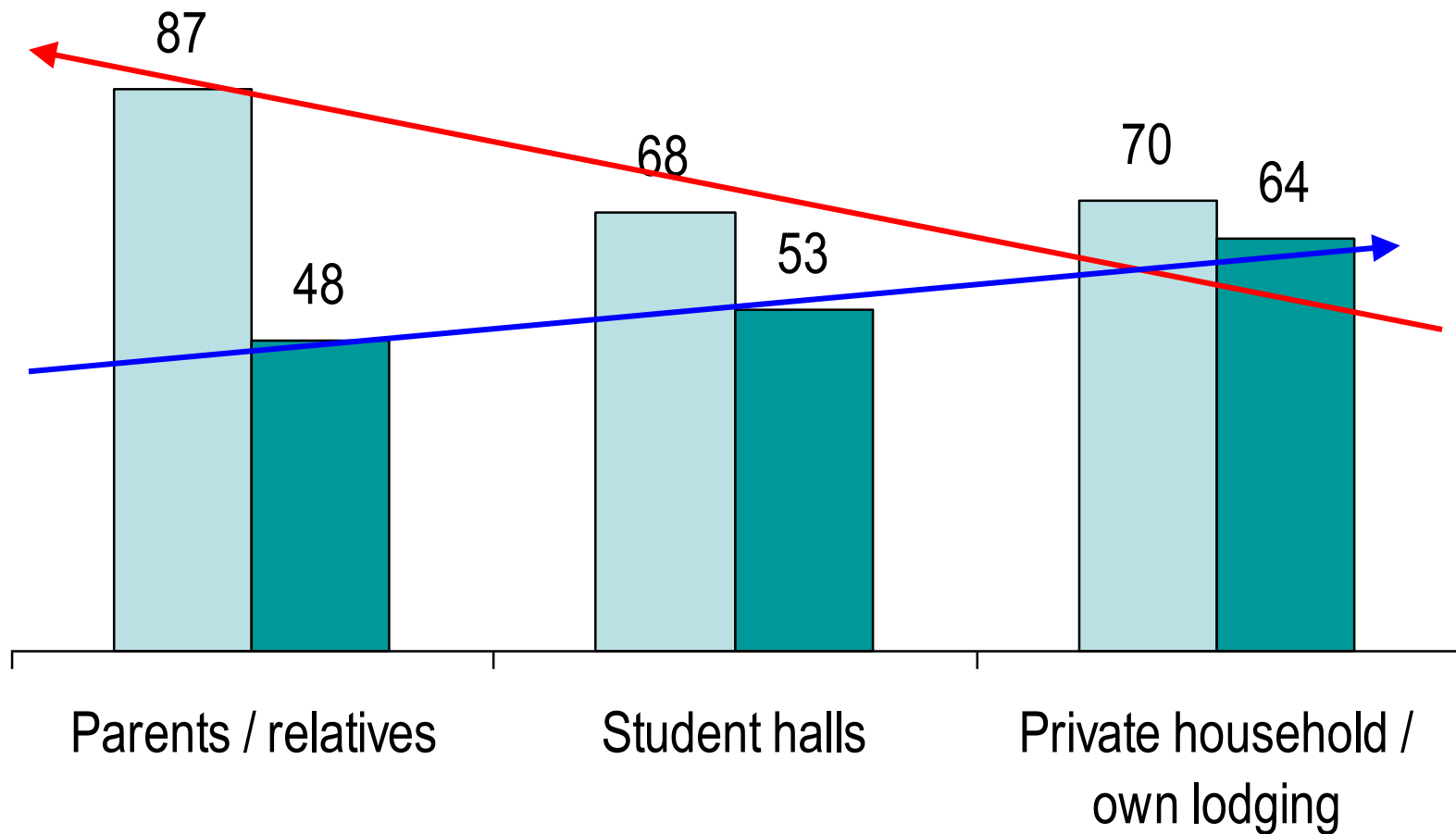
# Most frequent type of residence by country in % (all students)



Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 22. No data LV. Data for IT and TR refer only to Bachelor students.

# Satisfaction with accommodation form

Students (very) satisfied with accommodation form – selected countries

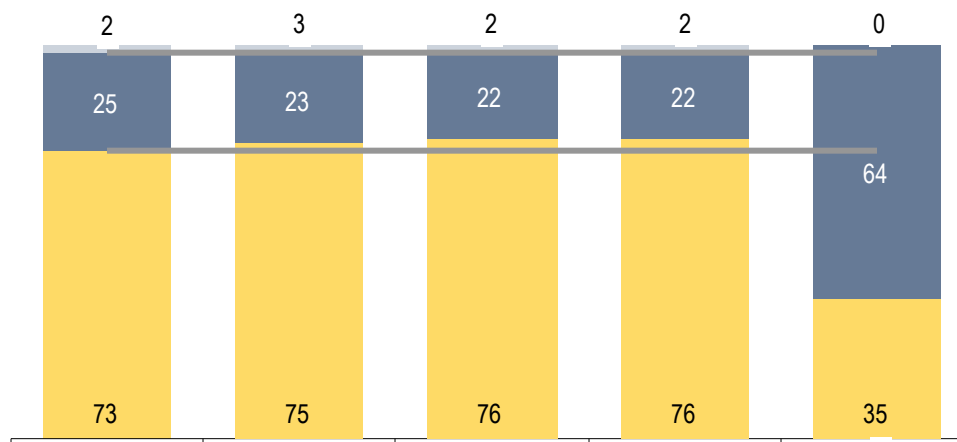


■ Italy ■ Germany

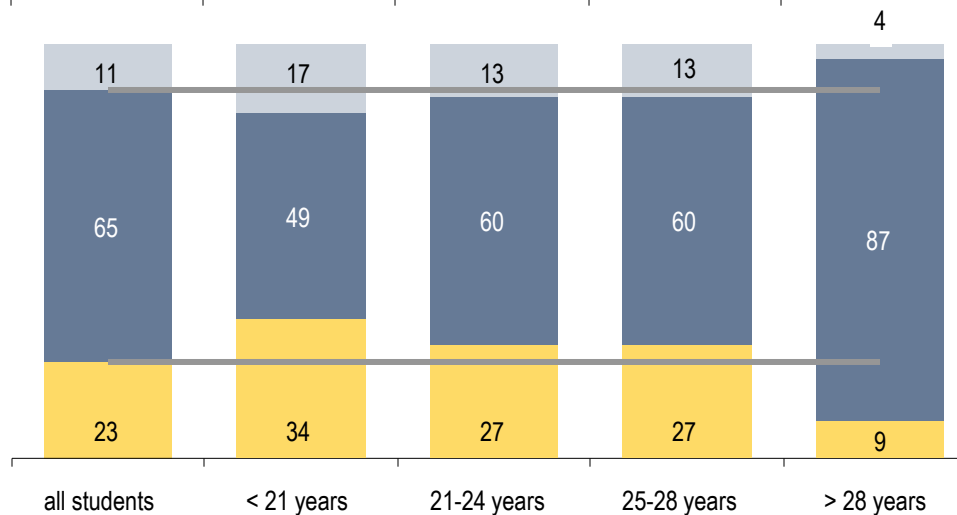
Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 26

# Type of residence by age in %, selected countries

Italy



Germany



living with parents / relatives



lodging / sublet / private flat



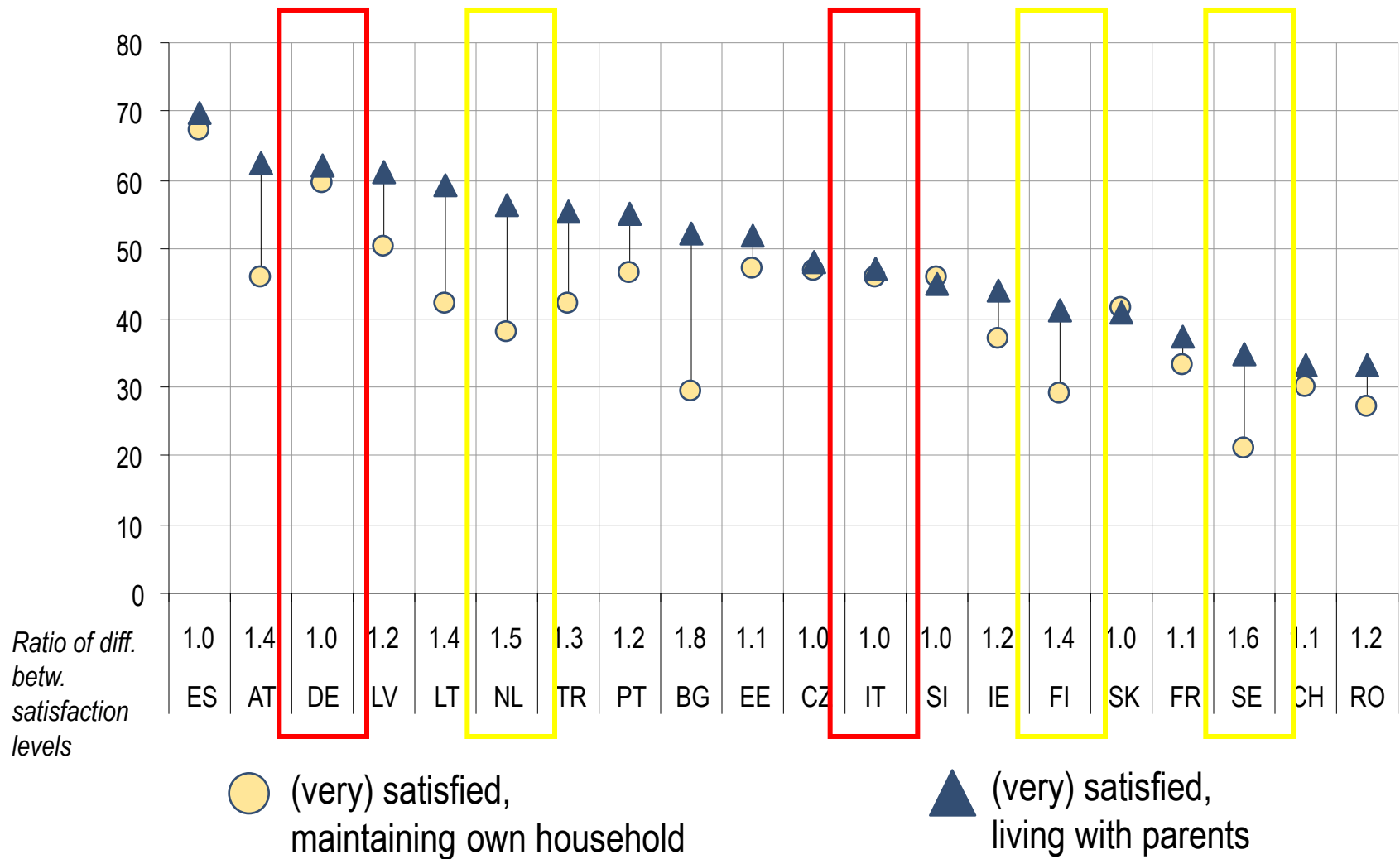
student-hall



→ National Profiles

Source: EUROSTUDENT III, Subtopic 22.

# Satisfaction with material well-being by accommodation form – Students (very) satisfied with material well-being living with parents / relatives vs. counterparts maintaining own households



# Conclusion...What is the value of such data?

## Data provides new challenges...

- International comparative data provides insights into alternatives and future policy developments
- Data confirms or – more often – calls into question stereotypes
- Data highlights the importance of context
- Difficult to set (normative) benchmarks and thus inappropriate for rankings
- Data should be used to initiate further research (case studies)



## Publications

### EUROSTUDENT III (2005-2008)



The central EUROSTUDENT report is the Synopsis of Indicators, which provides a discussion and interpretation of the data from a comparative perspective.

The Synopsis of Indicators is published under the title "Social and Economic Conditions of Student Life in Europe" by W. Bertlesmann Verlag. It is available from all good book sellers or directly via the order form here.

A summary of this report is available to download here

- English
- German

A national report is also available for each country involved in the EUROSTUDENT project entitled National Profile. See Data Reporting Module

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### Accompanying national studies

- Isserstedt, Wolfgang, Middendorff, Elke, u. a., Die wirtschaftliche und soziale Lage der Studierenden in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland 2006. 18. Sozialerhebung des Deutschen Studentenwerks durchgeführt durch HIS Hochschul-Informationssystem
- Unger, Martin und Wroblewski, Angela, Studierenden-Sozialerhebung 2006. Bericht zur sozialen Lage der Studierenden. Studie im Auftrag des Bundesministeriums für Wissenschaft und Forschung (BMWF)
- The social dimension in higher education - Switzerland in European Comparison (available in German and French)

### Use of EUROSTUDENT data by third-parties (selection)

- Education at a Glance 2008 (OECD)

