



The Concept of the EUROSTUDENT IV Synopsis of Indicators

Results from the consultation, the IS Malta
and the discussion paper process

Ankara, 30th November 2010
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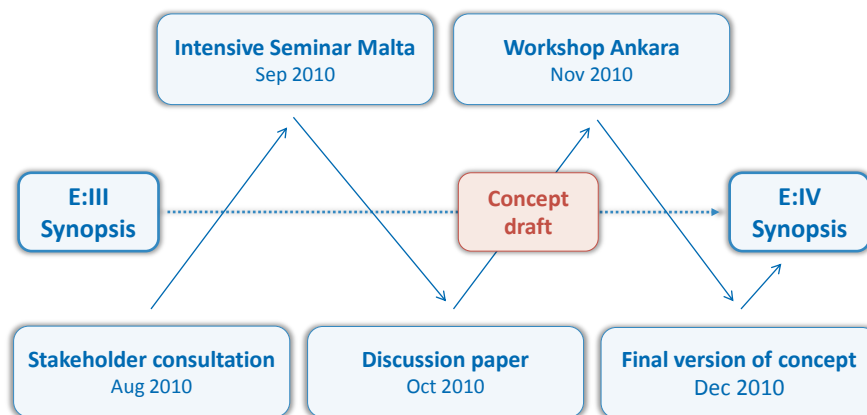
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1) Process to develop the concept for the E:IV Synopsis



2) Scope of the Synopsis: Target groups

Challenge: Definition of target groups

- Target groups should be defined clearly → format and contents contingent on choice of target groups

Target groups of the E:IV Synopsis

- HE policy makers and stakeholders at national and European level (e.g. ministerial bureaucrats, interest groups, BFUG-members)
- Researchers (e.g. PhDs) and other research projects (e.g. Equenet)
- Student organisations (e.g. ESU reports)
- **No focus on decision-makers at institutional level**

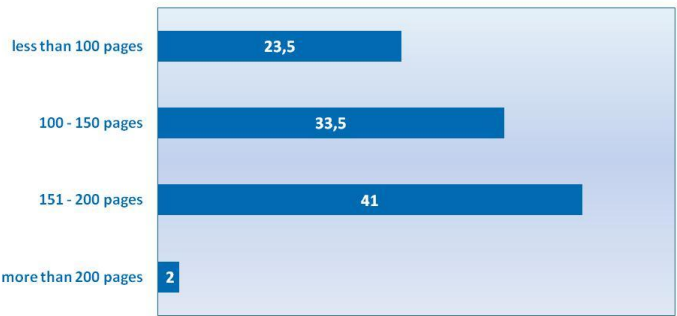
2) Scope of the Synopsis: Length

Challenge: Length

- Manageable number of pages, not (many) more than E:III Synopsis → increases the likelihood of the Synopsis having an impact

2) Scope of the Synopsis: Length

What would be the ideal length of the Synopsis of Indicators?
(share of respondents indicating an answer, in %)



Source: EUROSTUDENT Consultation

2) Scope of the Synopsis: Length

Planned length of the E:IV Synopsis

- 150 – 200 pages

Interrelation of the E:IV Synopsis with other reporting instruments

- While the Synopsis will have a broad, comparative perspective and present mostly analyses on a highly aggregated level → in-depth analyses through other elements of reporting infrastructure
 - Regular cross references to the national profiles, the own national reports and the DRM (similar to OECD StatLinks)
- Synopsis as self-contained report and incentive to explore the E:IV infrastructure at the same time

3) Structure of the Synopsis

Challenges: Continuity, Demarcations, Titles, Sequence

- Since the E:III Synopsis was successful, the structure should not be changed too drastically
- Still, thematic demarcations of topics could sometimes be clearer and more intuitive
- Chapter titles could give a better idea of their actual contents
- Chapters that are important for the understanding of others should be placed at the beginning, also to avoid overlaps between chapters

3) Structure of the Synopsis: Chapter sequence

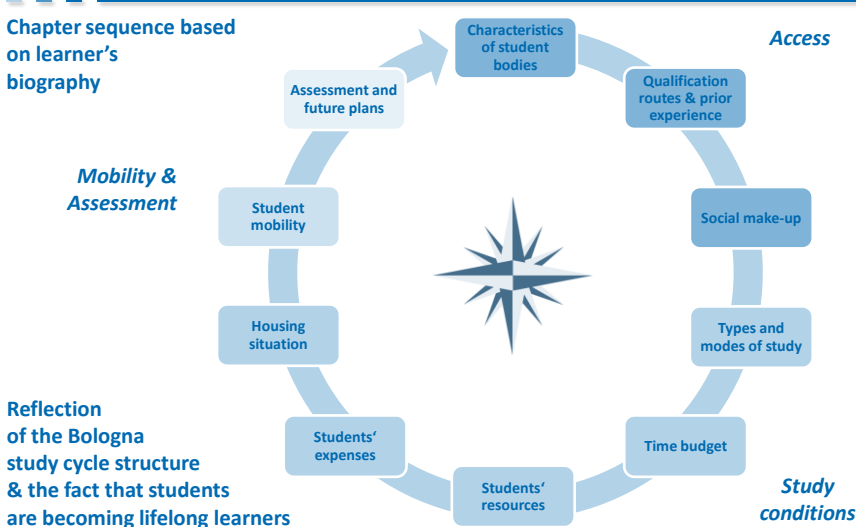
Chapter sequence in the E:IV Synopsis of Indicators

Foreword

1. *Introduction*
2. *Characteristics of national student bodies*
3. *Qualification routes and work experience prior to entry*
4. *Social make-up of national student bodies*
5. *Types and modes of studies*
6. *Time budget for studies and employment*
7. *Students' resources*
8. *Students' expenses*
9. *Housing situation*
10. *Student mobility and internationalisation*
11. *Students' assessment of their studies and future plans*
12. *Concluding policy considerations*

3) Structure of the Synopsis: Underlying model

Chapter sequence based
on learner's
biography



4) Structure of the chapters: Challenges

Challenges regarding the internal organisation of chapters:

- General chapter segmentation should be maintained (Key findings, Main issues, Data and Interpretation)
- Better overview of which are the main results of each chapter
- Although most of indicators are not comparable across rounds, readers will expect to find at least a few main indicators from the E:III Synopsis
- Focus should be on the comparative perspective, but there should also be some room for particularly interesting country examples

4) Structure of the chapters: Solutions

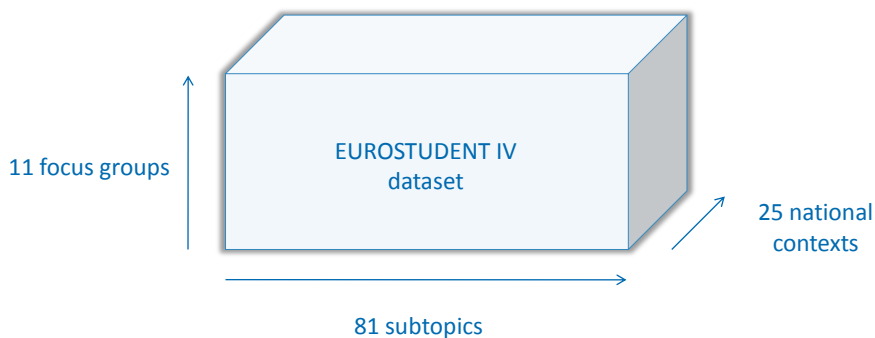
Solutions to improve the internal organisation of chapters:

- Key findings will be shortened, phrased more succinctly and remain on an abstract level
- Main issues will be adapted to new set of indicators & current policy debates
- Data analysis and Interpretation will start with leading indicators (being central for a topic & ideally comparable to E:III match indicator)
→ some continuity to last Synopsis
- Boxes will be used (sparingly) for methodological specifications and interesting country examples

5) Focus topics, subtopics and groups

Challenge: Prioritisation

- Need to find a balance for the three dimensions shown below by highlighting some (sub)topics and groups while cutting back on others



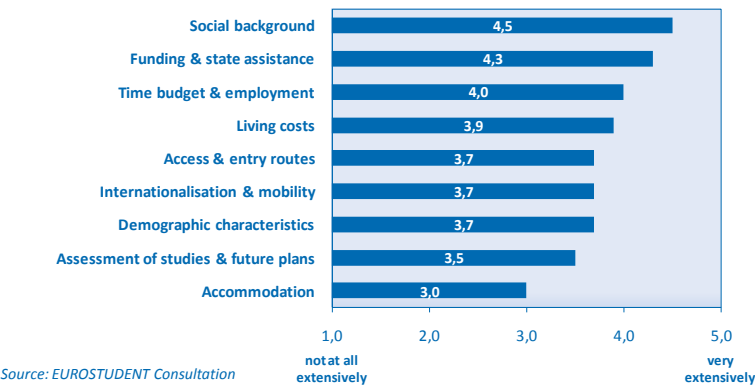
5) Focus topics, subtopics and groups

Solutions: Too early! → What will we base our decisions on?

- Results of the stakeholder consultation and the ensuing discussion processes (IS Malta, discussion paper)

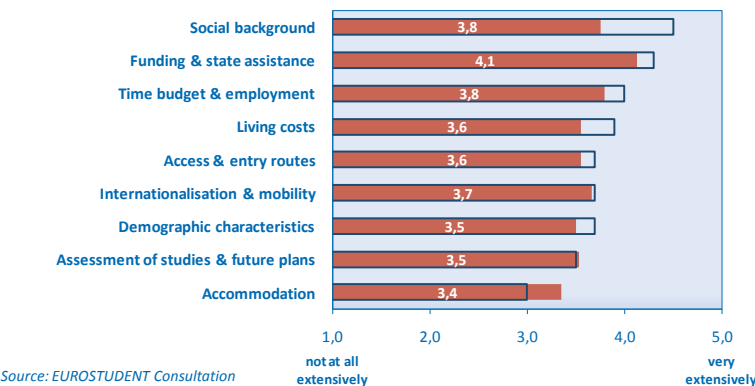
5) Focus topics

Considering their future relevance in your country/the EU, how extensively should the following topics be treated in the Synopsis?
(average of values chosen by respondents on a scale from 1 to 5)



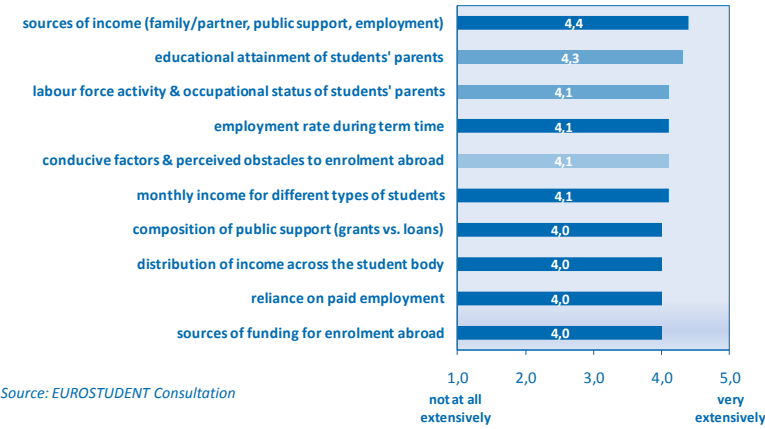
5) Focus topics (means of issues)

Considering their future relevance in your country/the EU, how extensively should the following topics be treated in the Synopsis?
(mean of values for issues chosen by respondents on a scale from 1 to 5)



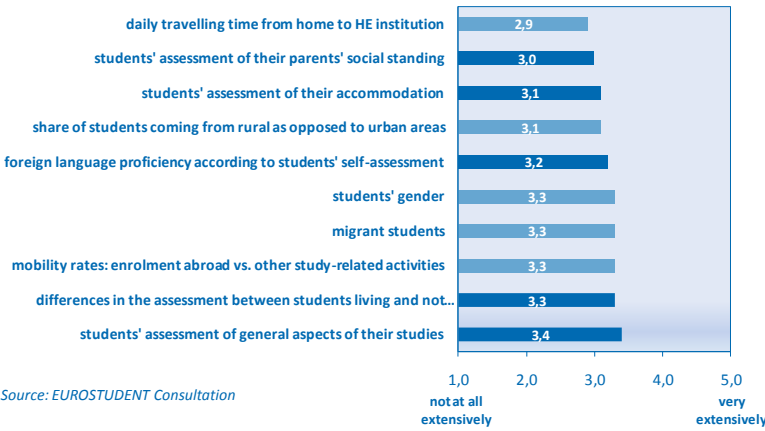
5) Focus subtopics: Most highly ranked issues across topics

How extensively should the following issues be treated in the Synopsis?
(average of values chosen by respondents on a scale from 1 to 5)



5) Focus subtopics: Least highly ranked issues across topics

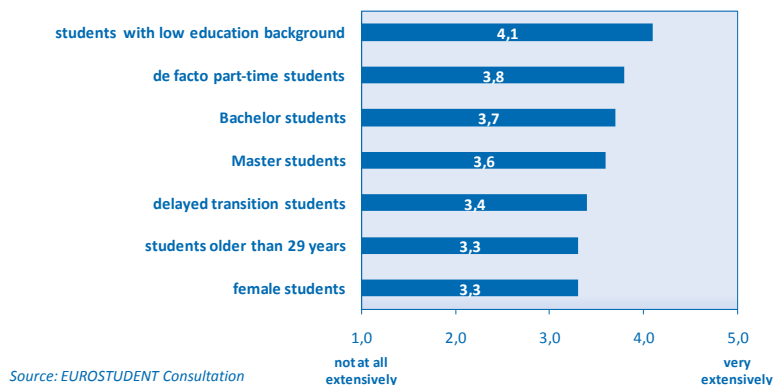
How extensively should the following issues be treated in the Synopsis?
(average of values chosen by respondents on a scale from 1 to 5)



5) Focus groups

Considering their future relevance in your country/the EU, how extensively should the following groups of students be treated in the Synopsis?

(average of values chosen by respondents on a scale from 1 to 5)



5) Focus topics, subtopics and groups

Solutions: Too early! → What will we base our decisions on?

- Results of the stakeholder consultation and the ensuing discussion processes (IS Malta, discussion paper)
- Results of the working groups in Ankara (open format: not departing from E:IV set of indicators, but from current national policy debates)
- Set of indicators covered in E:III Synopsis
- Data availability, data quality & the results of the data analyses!

6) Next steps

Possibilities of participation / Means of quality assurance

- Feedback on the concept of the Synopsis until December 15th
- Feedback from all national teams on draft in March/April 2011
 - control of correctness of data
 - check of coherence of data & interpretation with national sources
- Selection of peer from the EUROSTUDENT network for each chapter
 - assessment of choice of indicators
 - appraisal of structure & argumentation
 - support in including other data sources/publications



Questions or Suggestions?

Introduction to working group sessions

Central questions

- Which topics/problems are **currently** dominating the higher education policy discourse in your country?
- Which topics/problems will become more relevant in the **future** (and why)?
- Which topics/problems are not or only marginally present in the higher education policy discourse, but should play a **more important** role?

In answering these questions, please:

- point out the **similarities** of and **differences** between the debates in your countries.
- keep in mind which is the **E:IV set of indicators**.

Introduction to working group sessions

Working groups

- 4 working groups comprising countries that are geographically close and/or are believed to have similar structural characteristics
- Adherence to group depends on the country you represent within the EUROSTUDENT Network
- Each country cluster will be represented by one working group rapporteur invited beforehand

Introduction to working group sessions

Working groups

- **Group 1 – Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia**
Meta Dobnikar, Hall D
- **Group 2 – Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland**
Ronan Vourc'h, Hall E
- **Group 3 – Croatia, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Turkey**
Luka Juroš, Hall H
- **Group 4 – Denmark, England/UK, Finland, Norway, Sweden, The Netherlands**
Brenda Little, Hall C

Introduction to working group sessions

Way of working

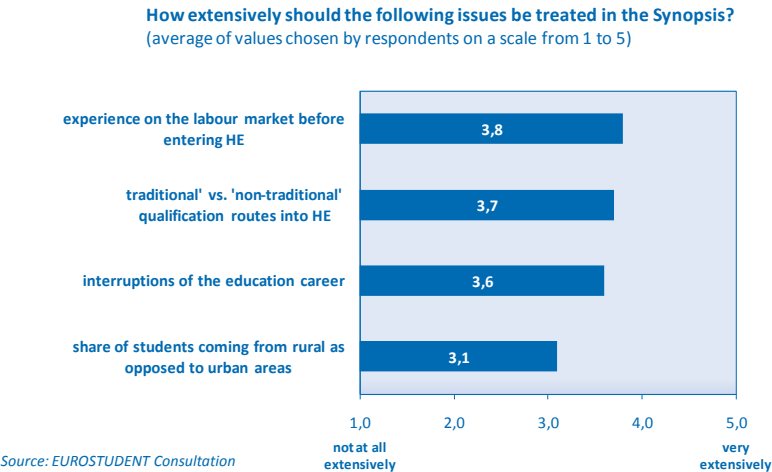
- **First group session after the break:** lively discussions in groups
 - **Second group session tomorrow morning:** continuation of discussions & formulation of statements based on central questions
 - **Final plenary session tomorrow afternoon:** presentations of statements (of up to 10 minutes) by working group rapporteurs
- **Exploitation:** Working group results will be used to further improve the concept of the E:IV Synopsis of Indicators. Also, they will help us to set priorities whilst writing the Synopsis.

Questions or Suggestions?

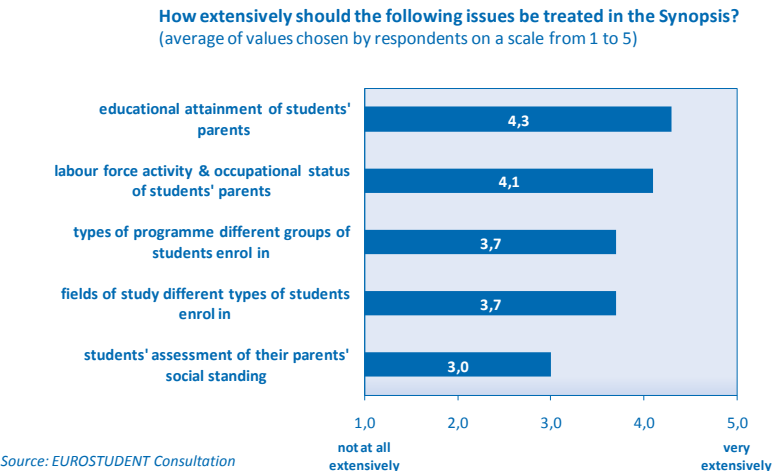
Annex

Detailed results of the stakeholder
consultation

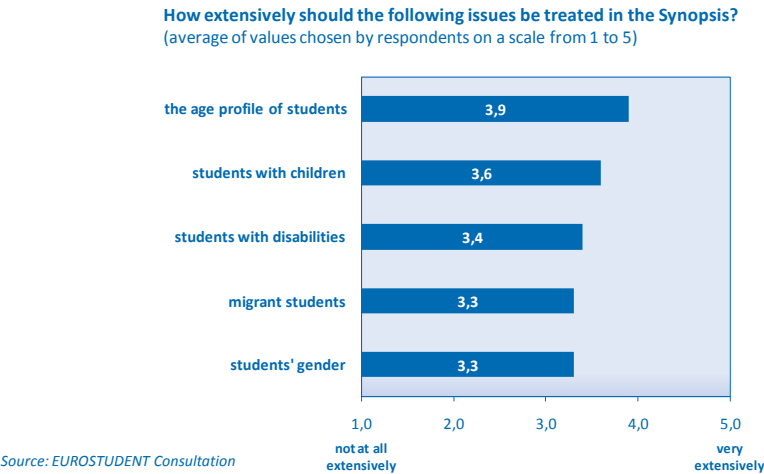
Results: Access & entry routes



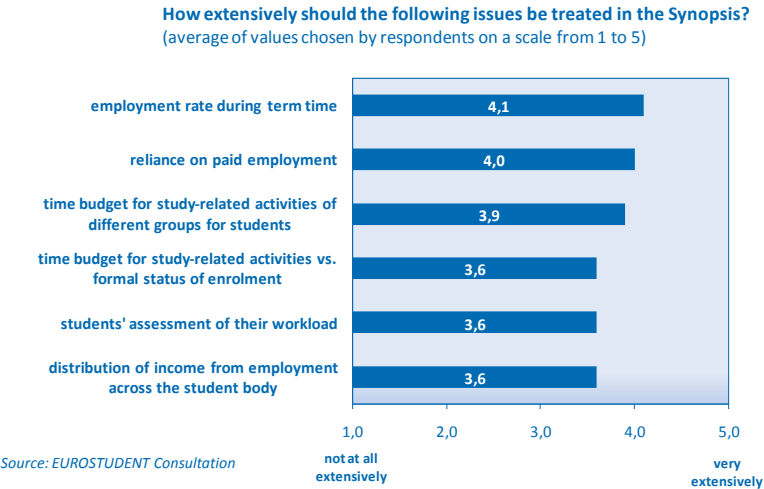
Results: Social background



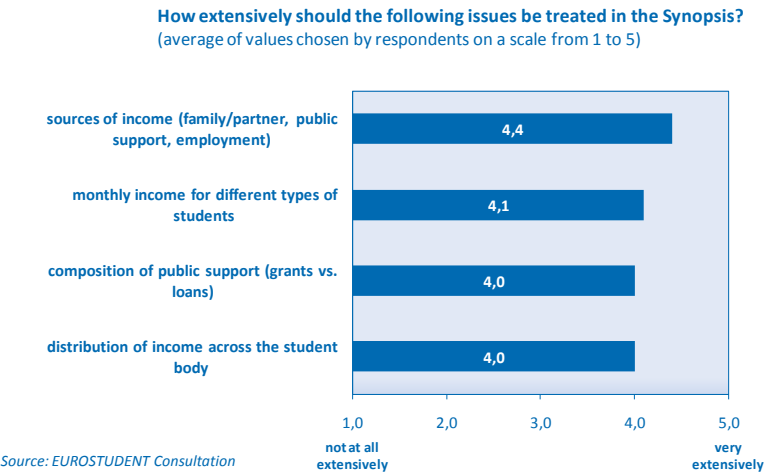
Results: Demographic characteristics



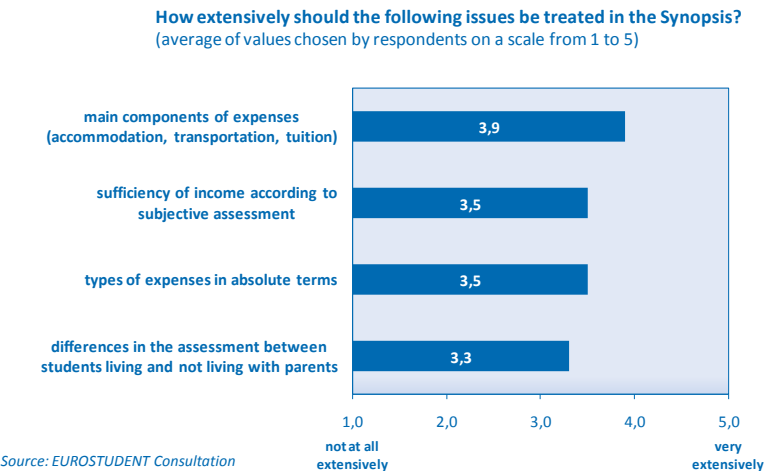
Results: Time budget & employment



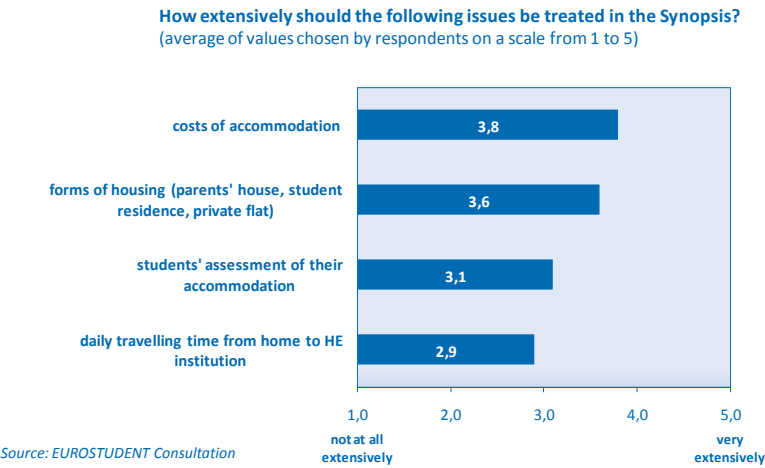
Results: Funding & state assistance



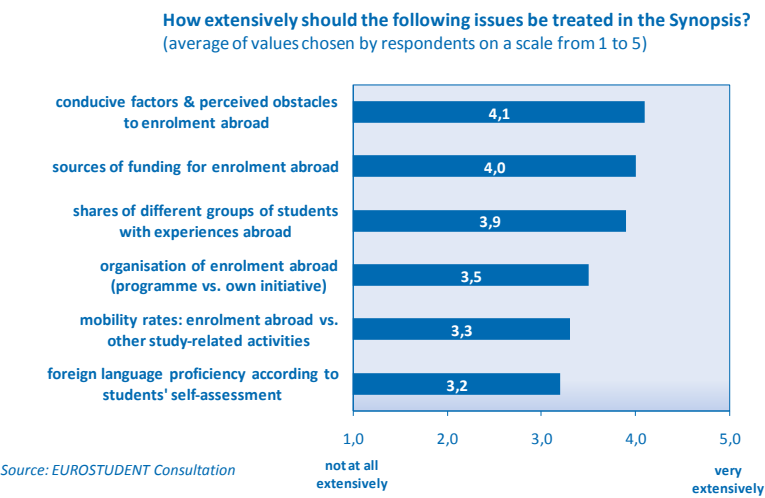
Results: Living costs



Results: Accommodation



Results: Internationalisation & mobility



Results: Assessment of studies & future plans

