



# Eurodoc 2006 Questionnaire

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- **Country:** NORWAY
  - **Organisation:** Association of doctoral organizations in Norway, SiN
  - **Delegates:** Yes
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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Deadline for submission of answers:** 06/03/2006 16:00 CET
- **Email address for submission:** [bologna2006@eurodoc.net](mailto:bologna2006@eurodoc.net)  
Specify in the title of your email: QUESTIONNAIRE and please add the NAME OF YOUR COUNTRY
- **Answers to previous questionnaires may be of help:**
  - 2005: [www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=295](http://www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=295)
  - 2004: [www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=53](http://www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=53)
  - 2003: [www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=38](http://www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=38)

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## Part One: opinion and prospective

### General Discussion (will be published on www)

1. *What are the hottest topics in Higher Education and Research in your country for young researchers in 2006? Specify a maximum of 3. Are there any connections to the European reforms of the Bologna process and the Lisbon agenda? Are there significant changes in the situation of young researchers in your country as compared to last year? Specify whether your organisation considers those changes an improvement or a deterioration.*

YOUR ANSWER ☛ 1. Duration of PhD study (Four years) is considered to be an important issue, but its implementation has some flexibilities or there are different ways of handling it at different departments. And this will be an issue of discussion in the universities in Norway in the coming months. 2. Quality control. It came into action but still there is no implementation. 3. Issues of rights, right of temporary employees, including quota-students, the right to vote, social benefits, similar benefits of all PhD students including international students, etc.

2. *Which actions or activities has your national organisation been involved in this year? What are your organisation's future planned activities? What main improvement would your organisation like to see in the situation of young researchers? Which are the ideas your organisation would like to put forward as objectives for EURODOC in 2006?*

YOUR ANSWER ☛ Discussions with the leaders of the Universities to improve information flow between all PhD students and concerned bodies and most importantly to discuss on the implementation issue of the current policies and academic regulations such as the quality control..

### Internal Discussion (will NOT be published on www)

3. *Broadly speaking, in a mid-term view, what does your organisation expect from Eurodoc in terms of services and in terms of concrete achievements? What does/can your organisation bring to help Eurodoc in terms of special expertise, network/connections (with political stakeholders, the media, industries/companies...), funding, communication, computing, management, organisational needs?*

YOUR ANSWER ☛ To work closely with the EURODOC so that contribute our share to the success of the objectives of the association. And work for the implementations of the suggestions that can be made from EURODOC taking into consideration the local conditions.

4. *For the newly designated delegates, did you have any interaction with the previous delegates of your organisation? Have you been briefed by anyone in your organisation on your role in Eurodoc? Are the previous delegates doing any follow-up, are they still involved in your organisation?*

YOUR ANSWER ☛ No

**Part Two: facts (will be published on www)****Labour Conditions**

The aim of these questions is not to provide a definitive answer but to begin addressing them in 2006 and refining the calculations every year.

5. *To the best of your knowledge, provide figures to estimate the proportion of non-funded PhD candidates in your country in 2006. If this data is not available as such, an easy way to start assessing that proportion is to deduct from the total number of new PhDs the numbers of new PhD funded by the major programmes that you know of. Please provide the details for your calculation. Also, give a rough idea of what you have not been able to investigate like in the example below.*

e.g. Total Number new PhD candidates: 10000  
 Government funded PhDs: 4000  
 Well known national PhD funder 1: 300  
 Well known European programme: 250  
 Well known national PhD funder 2: 200  
 Well known regional PhD funder 1: 100  
 Well known regional PhD funder 2: 50

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 Current estimate:  $(10000-4900)/10000 \times 100 = 51\%$

Missing: At least 10 other funders (no data available), see list below.

- Name 1
- Name 2
- Name 3
- etc.

YOUR ANSWER ☒ I have no information

6. *To the best of your knowledge, provide figures to estimate the proportion of young researchers who do not benefit from all Social Benefits. Please, distinguish between Health Care and Pension rights. If this data is not available as such, an easy way to start assessing that proportion is to deduct from the total number of young researchers the numbers of young researchers benefiting from all Social Benefits for the major funding sources that you know of. Please provide the details for your calculation and give an idea of what is missing as in the example below.*

e.g. Total Number young researchers: 15000  
 Government funded: 6000 Health: yes Pension: yes  
 Well known national PhD funder 1: 400 Health: yes Pension: no  
 Well known national PhD funder 2: 400 Health: yes Pension: yes  
 Well known regional PhD funder 1: 200 Health: no Pension: no

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 Current estimate:  $(15000-6000-400)/15000 \times 100 = 57.3\%$

Missing: At least 20 other funders (no data available), see list below.

- Name 1
- Name 2
- Name 3
- etc.

YOUR ANSWER ☒ I have no information

## Supervision and Training

7. *What awareness do you have of the European Researchers Charter<sup>1</sup> being promoted and implemented at the national and institutional level in your country? Has your association had involvement in that implementation? Please summarise here with comments.*

YOUR ANSWER ☺ A national committee has been established for implementation and defining the Charter. Our association is also invited to contribute its share and I hope it will do so.

*Please give a brief grading as to how your organisation rates provisions for the following aspects of the European Researchers Charter regarding ESRs (1 = bad, to 5 = good). ESRs (Early Stage Researchers<sup>2</sup>) are PhD candidates with less than 4 years experience of research.*

- 8.
- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| a. <i>Provision to ensure established and active relations with supervisors.</i>                           | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |
| b. <i>Encouragement of publication of ESRs' work.</i>  | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |
| c. <i>Training of supervisors to meet the needs of their ESRs.</i>   | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |
| d. <i>Provision of continuing professional development via training etc.</i>                               | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |
| e. <i>Access to appropriate research environment with other peers in their research.</i>                   | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |
| f. <i>Structured review mechanisms to monitor ESRs progress.</i>   | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |
| g. <i>Easy access to a complaints procedure should an ESR experience difficulty with their supervisor.</i> | <i>Select grade</i> |
| ANY COMMENTS? ☺  |                     |

Since the European Research Charter was not discussed yet, it was not possible to rate the above points.

## Mobility

9. *How many centres does the Mobility Network ERA-MORE provide in your country? What services do they offer? Do they interact with your organisation?*

YOUR ANSWER ☺ I have no information

10. *Regarding the possible preparation of a "Charter for the International Mobility of Early Stage and Experienced Researchers" by the EURODOC mobility working group - a document gathering recommendations to higher education and research institutions, funding bodies and researchers, aimed at facilitating mobility of PhD candidates and post-docs:*

<sup>1</sup> <http://europa.eu.int/eracareers/europeancharter/> (page 9-23)

<sup>2</sup> <http://europa.eu.int/eracareers/europeancharter/> (page 28-30)

a. *Would your organisation support such an initiative by Eurodoc?*

YOUR ANSWER  Yes

b. *Does your organisation have a similar document that could be used?*

YOUR ANSWER  No

c. *Can you list a maximum of 10 items that should be tackled by such a document and that would be relevant to avoid mobility problems of foreign researchers in your country and of national researchers abroad?*

YOUR ANSWER  Language problems should have to resolved before mobility. Most importantly, fund should be available.

### Professional Future

11. *In which way has the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers<sup>3</sup> been promoted and implemented at the national and institutional level in your country? Are you able to monitor that implementation (explain why or how)?*

YOUR ANSWER  I think the flexibility on the document that allows different departments to handle it differently should be solved and there should be follow up on its implementation so that manage when problems are incountered.

12. *Does your organisation support a tenure track model to be applied in public research institutions? At what level of experience does your organisation think that a researcher should be promoted to a stable position such as a tenureship (use the approved Eurodoc career path in academia document to define the level of research experience<sup>4</sup>)? How does your organisation think the positions should be funded: by the research institute/university, by external funding such as governmental research councils, charities, etc.? Are both systems compatible?*

YOUR ANSWER  This was not discussed.

13. *What is the level of private funding in your country (industry, funding bodies, etc)? Is this private funding only applied in the industry or is there any private funded research performed in academic/public institutions? Could you specify what sort of programmes/private organisations support research in public institutions in your country? Does your organisation envisage the collaboration between the public and the private sector as something positive? Could you provide examples of what you consider good and/or bad practice in this respect?*

YOUR ANSWER  In Norway there are different forms of funding and the private funding is one of them and it contributes about 50%. There is a tendency of contributing a big share of the funds by the big companies especially from the oil industry.

<sup>3</sup> <http://europa.eu.int/eracareers/europeancharter/> (page 24-27)

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.eurodoc.net/articles.php?lng=en&pg=290>