



The European Council of Doctoral  
Candidates and Junior Researchers

# Eurodoc Questionnaire 2010

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

▪ **Deadline for submission of answers: 15/12/2010 17:00 CET**

▪ **Email address for submission:**

[administration@council.eurodoc.net](mailto:administration@council.eurodoc.net)

Specify in the title of your email: QUESTIONNAIRE and please add the NAME OF YOUR COUNTRY

Answer as many of the questions as possible and contact the board if anything is unclear.

The results will be compiled and made available for the associations before the next AGM

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*In case you represent a country where there is no national association, whenever asked for its opinion, try and provide the general opinion in your country (rather than your personal one).*

**Part I Present Status - General Questions**

- I.1 Have there been any changes in the status and/or conditions of doctoral candidates and/or junior researchers (i.e. postdoctoral researchers) in the past year? No**
- I.2 Have there been any major changes in Higher Education or Research policies in your country the past year? Yes  No  please describe**
- I.3 In general, what are the major topics (in Higher Education and Research & Development) under discussion in your country, in particular affecting young researchers? Specify a maximum of five of these.  
A major topic has been the use of temporal labour in the research and education sector in Norway, which the Government now agrees is too high. This may be seen as a response of the Governmental report SiN participating in writing (see 2009 questionnaire).**
- I.4 What are the major concerns of doctoral candidates and young researchers in your country?  
Temporal labour, career paths, combining family and an academic career, treatment of foreign researchers.**
- I.5 How is your association trying to address them?  
By contributing to Governmental reports, and by circulating information between our member organizations.**
- I.6 Which actions or activities has your national association been involved in during 2009/2010?  
Seminar: PhD education in Norway towards 2020. SiN arranged a seminar to discuss the how the PhD education in Norway will evolve towards 2020. Among the speakers where the Ministry of higher education, the labour unions and the Vice of the Univ. of Oslo.  
  
Social events: SiN arranged for the author of PhD comics to give three talks at universities in Norway. The talks were very well attended.  
SiN has sent out a questionnaire to all institutions that offer the PhD grade, asking how PhD candidates are included in democratic structures within their local institutions.  
  
SiN is in the process of being accepted as part of the research board of the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR).  
  
In addition SiN has answered to hearings, given talks at various symposiums and seminars where young researchers have been an issue.**
- I.7 Does your association feel that being a part of Eurodoc has been fruitful this past year? Yes  No**
- I.8 For the newly designated delegates, did you have any interaction with the previous delegates of your organisation? Yes  No**
- I.9 Have you been briefed by anyone in your organisation on your role in Eurodoc? Yes  No**

**Part II Thematic questions: Lisbon Declaration & Bologna Process**
**Promotion of Mobility**

- II.1** Which actions have been taken to promote any kind of mobility of doctoral candidates and/or young researchers on the national level in the last year (2009/2010)? None
- II.2** Which actions have been taken in policy making in the areas of social security, finances/pensions, immigration (including visas, residence and work permits) on the national level in the last years?  
There have been initiatives to simplify the process of work permits for academic work.

**Degree Structure**

- II.3** Which actions have been taken to reform the curricula of doctoral education (improving employability, connected to learning outcomes, etc.) on the national level in the last years?  
The outcome of introducing Bachelor/Master/PhD grades is under consideration. National guide lines for doctoral education are under preparation, and will be ready next year.

**Quality Assurance**

- II.4** Which actions have been taken to measure quality of doctoral education on the national level in the last years?  
None, but (1) work is in progress to implement doctoral education to the quality assurance framework, and (2) a national evaluation of doctoral education will start (most likely) next year

**Employability & Transferable Skills**

- II.5** Which actions have been taken to develop concepts regarding employability of doctoral candidates on the national level in the last years? None

**Gender and funding**

- II.6** Which actions have been taken to give incentives for more women to stay in science after the doctoral education on the national level in the last years?  
At institution level there are mentoring projects for female doctoral candidates and Postdoc's, and possibilities for extra funding for women being employed as associate professors.

**Part III Thematic questions: Charter & Code**

- III.1** Has your association heard of The European Charter and Code of Conduct? Yes  No   
 If yes – has it affected anything with regards to the condition of ESR's in your country?  
A national committee has been working with how to implement C&C at Norwegian universities and university colleges. Some of the universities are working on how to implement it.
- III.2** Has your association done anything to promote it or are you planning a promotion campaign on the Charter and Code? Yes  No  If yes – please give details – If no explain why  
No - SiN has not prioritised this, partly due to not enough capacity within the organisation, and partly because the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR), and some universities are already addressing it.

#### **Part IV The future**

**IV.1 What major goal(s) does your association hope to reach within the next year or two?**

**A major goal is to make the Government and academy come up with real plans on career paths for young researchers. In addition we hope to be able to increase the activity level of our local organizations at universities and university colleges.**

**IV.2 What should be the role of Eurodoc in your opinion?**

**IV.3 What would be the major goal(s) you would like Eurodoc to focus on over the next years?**

**Promoting cooperation between the national organizations, promoting circulation of information concerning doctoral candidates and Postdocs.**

**IV.4 How do you see your association contributing to reach these goals?**

**By circulating the information concerning young researchers at a national level and by informing Eurodoc if relevant information surfaces at the national level.**

**IV.5 What expectations does your association have from Eurodoc?**

**That Eurodoc is aware of and circulates information concerning doctoral candidates and Postdocs.**

**IV.6 What would your association like Eurodoc to address at a European level to improve the conditions of doctoral candidates and junior researchers in your country?**

**For instance in these fields: mobility, social security, status of doctoral candidates and/or junior researchers, career development. Please, write separately actions required for doctoral candidates and junior researchers**

#### **Part V Research 2010**

**V.1 Are there any special centres of doctoral candidates and/or junior researchers or cooperation networks of doctoral candidates and/or junior researchers in your country? (as a special workplace to organize their work, support their cooperation and offering special services to the companies)**

yes  no  not sure

**V.2 If the answer to the previous question is yes, what's the name and the nature of this centre(s)?**

**V.3 How are the activities of these centres financed?**

by state  universities  from their own profit  other

**V.4 Are these centres part of the university and its hierarchy or independent (e.g. civil association)?**

part of the university  independent (continue 3.1)  other (continue 3.2)

**If they are independent, please describe:**

**If other organisation, please describe the organisation:**

**V.5 What are the main activities of these centres? (please describe)**

**V.6 What services do they offer to institutions? (please describe)**

**V.7 What services do they offer to companies? (please describe)**

**V.8 What services do they offer to doctoral candidates? (please describe)**

**V.9 How does the cooperation of these centres and companies look like?**

*Do companies (multiple answers possible)*

- buy solutions to their problems from these centres
- suggest the topics of thesis or research projects
- enable stages for candidates
- pay them scholarships
- offer employment after graduation

**V.10 How do you evaluate the existence of these centres? (please describe)**

**V.10.1 What are their advantages?**

**What are their disadvantages?**

**What are the plans for future development?**

## **Part VI Statistical Information**

(PLEASE, state the source for the statistical data and if possible an internet link. If this is not possible, make an estimation of the number and state that it is an estimation –writing *est*–)

Statistics are taken from NIFU STEP, <http://www.nifustep.no/English/Pages/default.aspx>

## **A Your Association**

**VI.1 How long has your association existed? *Number of years: 7***

**VI.2 How long has your association been part of Eurodoc? *Number of years: 7***

**VI.3 How many people are working in your association?**

*Number of people with payment: 0*

*Number of people without payment: 6 in the board, 4 active organizations.*

**VI.4 Does your association get regular financial support from your state?**

Yes  No

The amount per month:

**VI.5 A. Our association is an**

- Association only for doctoral candidates  
 Association for students  
 Association for postgraduates  
 Association for junior researchers (research staff)  
 Association for doctoral candidates and junior researchers  
 Other (please specify in this field )

**B System of doctoral education in your country****NUMBERS****VI.6 What is the approximate number of doctoral candidates in your country? What has been the trend in the past five years? (Please fill in the table)**

Year	Number of doctoral candidates			
	<i>National</i>		<i>Foreign</i>	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
2005/2006	1677	1983	1190	1370
2006/2007	1789	2000	1349	1366
2007/2008	2260	2061	1573	1543
2008/2009	2479	1903	1380	2121
2009/2010	3625	3375	541	836

**VI.7 How many institutions in your country offer doctoral degrees?**

Type of Institution	Number	%
Research Institution	0	0
University	7	39

College	11	61
Other (define please)		
Total $\Sigma$	18	100

**Define other:**

**VI.8 What is the average age of candidates entering doctoral programmes in your country? There doesn't seem to be any data on this, but age at defence of thesis was on average 38.4 (median = 35.0) years in 2009**

**VI.9 What is/are the entry qualifications for getting into a Doctoral programme**

- Bachelor's degree
- Honours
- Master's degree
- other (specify)

**VI.10 What is the percentage of Doctoral candidates who complete their Doctorate?  
About 76%**

**VI.11 Among those, what is the proportion of those who complete it within the allotted time period and what is this time period?**

**VI.12 Are there interim qualifications for those who do not complete their doctorates (M. phil degree or other)? No**

## FUNDING

**VI.13 What is the proportion of doctoral candidates who get funding for their research activity? Close to 100%. Specify the different types of funding and their ratio. Research council (47%), funding from university/university college (26%), other research institutes (4%), industry (7%), funding by medical associations (4%), other (11%).**

**VI.14 What is the average amount of salary or bursary of the Doctoral candidates? A PhD candidate's yearly salary is 353 200 NOK (ltr. 45) as of 1 may 2008 before tax. No formal minimum wage in Norway. Average salary is 3730 Euro per month from google search. Please give references (see below). How is the proportion of doctoral candidates funded by this model?**

	Amount of Money per Month in Euro		% of people funded by:
	By University	By other funding bodies	
Average salary (per month in Euro)	3400		
Average bursary (per month in Euro)			
National minimum salary:	No formal minimum		
National average salary:	3730		

**VI.15 What is the proportion of doctoral candidates having workers rights and duties? Specify the rights and duties provided.**

	Provided to which groups of doctoral candidates	%

	Bursary holders	Employees	Other (pls describe)	...	
Social rights		Yes			
Unemployment insurance					
Health insurance		Yes			
Compulsory long term care insurance					
Pension funds		Yes			
Tax liabilities		Yes			
Other (specify)					

**VI.16 What is the proportion of doctoral candidates that practice teaching during their Doctoral programme? There is an option to do 25% duty work including teaching on top of a 3 year PhD. Payment for extra duties comes in addition to PhD salary for 3 years. Are they paid separately for their teaching duties? Yes/No/I don't know No**

**VI.17 What is the amount of time spent on this activity (formally and informally)? Formally 25%, informally it depends on the conscience of the candidate (15%-50%)**

## MOBILITY

### VI.18 Mobility of Doctoral Candidates

Year	Number of candidates coming to your country to pursue a doctorate	Number of candidates leaving your country to pursue a doctorate abroad
2008/2009		
2009/2010		

## STATUS

**VI.19 Are doctoral candidates considered students? Yes  no**

**VI.20 What status does your association prefer for doctoral candidates and why? Employees, as in Norway employees have much better social rights (maternal leave, vacation, pension fund etc.) than what students have.**

**VI.21 Do doctoral candidates have to pay fees? Yes  no  partly  (describe)**

**VI.22 How much is it?**

**VI.23 Does this apply equally to foreigners (EU/non-EU)? Yes  no**

**VI.24 What proportion of doctoral candidates are involved in collaboration between academia and industry during their doctorate? Very few, although there is a new**



doctoral program where the candidate is financed by industry and HEI together, and works at both places.

## C Postdoctoral situation in your country

### NUMBERS

**VI.25 What is the approximate number of postdoctoral researchers in your country? What has been the trend in the past five years? (Please fill in the table)**

Year	Number of postdoctoral researchers			
	<i>National</i>		<i>Foreign</i>	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
2005/2006	N/A	N/A	158	237
2006/2007	306	430	231	346
2007/2008	343	467	220	330
2008/2009	424	509	185	277
2009/2010	447	525	137	206

**VI.26 What kind of funding do postdoctoral researchers get in your country?**

- Scholarship
- Fellowship
- Fixed contract
- Indefinite/Open contract
- Other (specify)

**VI.27 What is the average salary of the postdoctoral researchers in your country (average per month in Euro)? 4660**

### MOBILITY

**VI.28 Mobility of Postdoctoral Researchers**

Year	Number of postdoctoral researchers coming to your country	Number of postdoctoral researchers leaving your country to go abroad
2008/2009		

2009/2010		
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**D Representation****VI.29 Your association represents:**

**VI.29.1 How many doctoral candidates? 8377**

**VI.29.2 How many junior researchers? 1590**

**VI.29.3 Does your association represent any other kind of students and/or researchers? No If so, please, write which ones and how many**