



The European Council of Doctoral
Candidates and Junior Researchers

Eurodoc Questionnaire 2012/2013

04.04.2013 DRAFT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Deadline for submission of answers: 03/04/2013 17:00 CET**
- **Email address for submission:**
board@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.

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<i>In case you represent a country where there is no national association, whenever asked for</i>	

its opinion, try and provide the general opinion in your country (rather than your personal one).

Introduction: Questions about National Associations (NAs)

- 1. Please write down the full name of your organization in your own language and in English too.** Stipendiatororganisasjonene i Norge (SiN) / Association of doctoral organizations in Norway
- 2. Please write down the accurate address of the association, its website and official email-address.** www.stipendiat.no; leder@stipendiat.no; styret@stipendiat.no
- 3. Name of the President of your NA and his/her email-address.** Melania Borit, leder@stipendiat.no, melania.borit@uit.no
- 4. Name of the Eurodoc delegate(s), and their position/duty in the NA.** Julien S. Bourrelle (member of the NA Board), Ahmet Oguz Tezel (member of one of the NA member organizations).
- 5. Please announce the list of activities (conferences/workshops/General Meetings) that your NA organized in the past two years.** May 2012: One-day seminar: Challenges during doctoral education (in collaboration with Tromsø Doctoral Students, University of Tromsø); one AGM per year; around 7 events as participant
- 6. Please announce what you are willing to organize/co-organize regarding conferences etc. in the near future, and would Eurodoc be able to help at any level? If yes, please write down shortly.** There are some plans in this area but nothing is decided on yet.

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?** No, but now there are discussions around changing a little bit the PhD education by, for example, introducing a better integration of transferable skills in the educational component.
- 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.** employment after finishing the PhD program; acquisition of transferable skills during the PhD; improving supervision; providing better disciplinary training.
- I.4. **On the level of Doctoral Candidates and Young Researchers what should be improved in your country?** Better access on the job market after finishing the PhD; improvement of supervision; development of transferable skills
- I.5. **How is your association trying to address these issues?** Lobbying the decision factors like for example the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions and the Ministry of Education and Research
- I.6. **Which actions or activities has your National Association been involved in during 2012/2013?** Participating in events organized by The Norwegian Association of Researchers; being interviewed by journalists from Forskerforum (the Research Forum); giving input to hearings organized by the Ministry of Education and Research
- I.7. **Does your Association feel that being a part of Eurodoc has been fruitful this past year?** On a scale from 0 to 5, the answer is 3.5.
- I.8. **For the newly designated delegates, did you have any interaction with the previous delegates of your organisation? Yes X No**
- I.9. **Have you been briefed by anyone in your organisation on your role in Eurodoc? Yes X No**

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 (2011/2012)?** Discussing this issue at May 2012: Seminar: Challenges during doctoral education (in collaboration with Tromsø Doctoral Students, University of Tromsø)
- 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?** These issues are not a problem for PhD candidates in Norway.

Degree Structure & Quality Assurance

- II.3. **What actions have been taken to reform the curricula of doctoral education to perform a measurably better quality on the national level?** National evaluation of the PhD education: NIFU Report 25/2012, "PhD education in a knowledge society. An evaluation of the PhD education in Norway"

Employability & Transferable Skills

- II.4. **Which actions have been taken to help the Doctoral Candidates / Young Researchers / Postdoctorates to find a well/better funding job?** There are discussions in the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions about including education in these skills in the PhD program and SiN is lobbying for it.

Gender and funding

- II.5. **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 national level,** none that I know of in the past year. Nevertheless, there are some initiatives at local level.

III. Thematic questions: Charter & Code

- III.1. **Has your association heard of The European Charter and Code of Conduct? Yes X No**
If yes – has it affected anything with regards to the condition of ESR's in your country? Yes, by bringing focus on for example training in transferable skills.
- III.2. **Has your association done anything to promote it or are you planning a promotion campaign on the Charter and Code? Yes X No** **If yes – please give details** Lobbying through the member organization for implementation and following up of this implementation.
– If no explain why
- III.3. **Are you aware of any institution in your country that has implemented the Charter and Code? Please mention the name.** There are 20 Norwegian institutions that endorsed the Charter and the Code. Five of these institutions are acknowledged with the HR-Excellence in Research logo: Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU); University of Oslo; University of Tromsø; Vestfold University College; Research Council of Norway.
- III.4. **Are you aware of the Charter and Code guidelines? If not, what could EURODOC do to raise the awareness, in your opinion?** Yes.

IV. The future and objectives

- IV.1. **What major goal(s) does your association hope to reach within the next year or two?** * Get a better financial scheme. * Recruit new member organization. * Strengthen the relationship with the nowbeing members.
- IV.2. **What should be the role of Eurodoc in your opinion?** In connection with the NA or in general? If the former, it would be good if Eurodoc could make itself more visible in Norway through maybe organising a common event with the NA.
- IV.3. **What would be the major goal(s) you would like Eurodoc to focus on over the next years?** Improve the status of doctoral candidates across Europe. Find ways to make sure that doctoral candidates are properly financed during their programme.
- IV.4. **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.** The inclusion of transferable skills courses in the program of both categories of researchers.
- IV.5. **Are interdisciplinary PhD projects promoted / supported in your country?** Yes.
- IV.6. **Are doctoral candidates provided with interdisciplinary training in your country?** More or less.

V. 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–)

A. Your Association

- V.1. **How long has your association existed?** Number of years: 10
- V.2. **How long has your association been part of Eurodoc?** Number of years:
- V.3. **How many people are working in your association?** 8
 Number of people with payment: 0
 Number of people without payment: 8
- V.4. **Does your association get regular financial support from your state?**
 Yes No
 The amount per month: 0
- V.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
 X Other (please specify in this field **doctoral candidates and post-docs**)

B. System of doctoral training in your country

NUMBERS

**FOR COMPREHENSIVE STATISTICS ABOUT PHD EDUCATION IN NORWAY,
SEE NIFU REPORT 25/2012 <http://www.nifu.no/files/2012/11/NIFUrapport2012-25.pdf>**

- V.6. **What is an approximate number of doctoral candidates in your country? What has been the trend in the past five years? (Please fill in the table).** http://dbh.nsd.uib.no/statistikk/kategori_doktorgrader.action

Year	Number of doctoral candidates			
	National		Foreign	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
2007/2008				
2008/2009	3859	4024		
2009/2010	4164	4211		
2010/2011	4385	4509		
2011/2012	4534	4507		

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

Type of Institution	Number	%
Research Institution		
University		
College		
Other (define please)		
Total Σ	19	

Define other:

- V.8. **What is the average age of candidates entering doctoral programmes in your country?** 38.2 in 2010 (FoU statistikkbanken)
- V.9. **What is/are the entry qualifications for getting into a Doctoral programme**
Bachelor's degree
Honours
X Master's degree
other (specify)

V.10. What is the percentage of Doctoral candidates who complete their Doctorate?

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

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

FUNDING

V.13. What is the proportion of doctoral candidates who get funding for their research activity? 100% Nobody is taken into a PhD program without having a proper funding scheme. **Specify the different types of funding and their ratio.**

V.14. What is the average amount of salary or bursary of Doctoral candidates? Regular PhD candidate: 4000 euro/month before taxes **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)			
Average bursary (per month in Euro)			
National minimum salary:			
National average salary:			

V.15. What is the proportion of doctoral candidates having employee rights and duties? Specify the rights and duties provided. In Norway, the rule is that the PhD candidate is an employee of the institution that hired him/her to take the PhD. There are a few exceptions from this rule: the Quota (a scholarship offered by the Norwegian Government to persons coming from developing countries) PhD candidates, PhD candidates funded by other kinds of scholarships (NGOs, own governments) and self-financed PhD candidates. There is no centralized database with the number of PhD candidates in each category. The first category (the employed PhD candidates, have all the rights and duties listed under here.

	Provided to which groups of doctoral candidates				%
	Bursary holders	Employees	Other (pls describe)	...	
Social rights					
Unemployment insurance					
Health insurance					
Compulsory long term care insurance					
Pension funds					
Tax liabilities					
Other (specify)					

- V.16. **What is the proportion of doctoral candidates that do teaching during their Doctoral programme? Are they paid separately for their teaching duties? Yes/No/I don't know** The PhD candidates having compulsory teaching duties in their PhD programme are paid an extra year for fulfilling these duties (i.e. 3 years research + 1 year teaching). The PhD candidates without compulsory teaching duties but still teaching because of different reasons are paid separately.
- V.17. **What is the amount of time spent on this activity (formally and informally)?** For PhD candidates with compulsory teaching duties, these duties amount for 25% of their employment time. Informally, the time spent on teaching can vary from 10% to maybe 50% in extreme cases.

MOBILITY

VI.18. What are barriers that doctoral candidates have for international mobility in your country? Lack of information. Lack of enough funding to cover the needs of the PhD candidate (e.g. some have families and it is difficult to cover all expenses from the mobility scholarship). Personal issues (e.g. some universities offer money for stages abroad of at least 3 months, which is too long for PhD candidates with families). **How can Eurodoc contribute to overcome these problems?** Help with disseminating information about mobility opportunities.

If you have any comment or suggestion regarding this issue please write below.

VI.19. 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
2009/2010		
2010/2011		
2011/2012		

STATUS

VI.20. Are doctoral candidates considered students? yes no X

VI.21. What status does your association prefer for doctoral candidates and why?
Employees, as they have better rights and a better status in the researchers community.

V.18. Do doctoral candidates have to pay fees? yes no X partly (describe)

V.19. **How much is it?** n/a

V.20. Does this apply equally to foreigners (EU/non-EU)? yes X no

V.21. What proportion of doctoral candidates are involved in collaboration between academia and industry during their doctorate?

C. Postdoctoral situation in your country

NUMBERS

I'm sorry, but I couldn't find statistics about post-docs at national level.

V.22. What is an 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			
	National		Foreign	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
2007/2008				
2008/2009				
2009/2010				
2010/2011				
2011/2012				

V.23. What kind of funding do postdoctoral researchers get in your country?

Scholarship

Fellowship

Fixed contract

Indefinite/Open contract

Other (specify)

V.24. What is an average salary of the postdoctoral researchers in your country (average per month in Euro)? 5000 euro/month before taxes

MOBILITY

V.25. Mobility of Postdoctoral Researchers

Year	Number of postdoctoral researchers coming to your country	Number of postdoctoral researchers leaving your country to go abroad
2010/2011		
2011/2012		

D. Representation

V.26. Your association represents:

V.26.1. How many doctoral candidates? Approx. 9000

V.26.2. How many junior researchers?

V.26.3. Does your association represent any other kind of students and/or researchers? No If so, please, write which ones and how many

Thank you so much for completing Eurodoc annual questionnaire!