

# Parallel Workshop 1



“Stocktaking and Prospects: Doctoral Training and Research – The Link between EHEA and ERA”

## Mobility and Working Conditions

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The situation of doctoral candidates 5 years after the European Charter for Researchers and Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers

Focus on geographical mobility

## Beneficial effects of mobility:

- European knowledge-based society
  - Selection of talented researchers
  - Sustainable growth knowledge-based society
- Individual researcher/doctoral candidate
  - Increasing occupational and social expertise
  - Expanding network
  - Increasing career opportunities

## European Charter and Code:

- Even though Member States have made considerable efforts to overcome administrative and legal obstacles to geographical and intersectoral mobility, many of these obstacles still remain
- All forms of mobility should be encouraged as part of a comprehensive human resource policy in R&D at national, regional and institutional level
- The value of all forms of mobility needs to be fully recognised in the career appraisal and career advancement systems for researchers

## EURODOC Survey 2008-2009:

- EURODOC Survey:
  - Approximately 8900 respondents
  - More than 30 European countries
  - Mobility section

## Preliminary Survey analysis indicates that:

- About half of the doctoral candidates are mobile during their doctoral program
- Western European doctoral candidates are more mobile than Eastern European doctoral candidates
- Median duration of mobility is 11 months
- About one third of doctoral candidates receive full coverage for their stay abroad

## Most important obstacles to mobility:

- Family reasons (childcare facilities, dual career planning, other family reasons)
- Funding (low funding opportunities)
- Working conditions (transferability of social security)
- Career opportunities (lack of recognition of value of mobility experience)
- Information (lack of information)
- Administrative (visa, etc.)
- Cultural (language, etc.)

## Formulation of high priority topics and EURODOC policy recommendations:

- Increase recognition of the value of mobility in every sector and country?
- Provision of more appropriate funding opportunities for mobility?
- Improve dual career planning and childcare facilities in European countries?
- Improve transferability of social security in Europe?

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