Employment and higher education related mobilities: The case of Luxembourg

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Outline

• Mobility to / from Luxembourg in general
• Qualitative results regarding employment
• Qualitative results regarding higher education
• Final conference
MOBILITY
FROM / TO LUXEMBOURG
IN GENERAL
Luxembourg in the Greater Region

- Luxembourg is a **mobility utiliser**

Les sources sont :
Insee, IGSS, Statec, Iweps, Statistisches Amt Saarland, Statistisches Landesamt Rheinland-Pfalz.
Future Plans

- Move to another country
- Move to the home country
- Move to another part of the current residence
- Learn a new language
- Obtain a higher qualification
- Become unemployed
- Get training to work in a different domain

Mobiles, from LU, in %
N=628 (390 female, 238 male)
Motivations

Previous knowledge of the language
To learn / improve languages
Family related reasons
Personal relationships in the chosen country
Study related reasons
improve working conditions
be unable to find a job in my own country
The financial situation in my own country
The political situation in my own country
Personal health reasons
In order to improve opportunities for personal /...
Feeling attracted to culture/country
Having been there before
For love, getting together with parents
No interest

Female
Male

mobiles, from LU, in %
N=628 (390 female, 238 male)
Obstacles

- Lack of sufficient language skills
- Lack of support or information
- Difficulties to register in education / training
- Obstacles or difference in recognition
- Difficulties finding a job abroad
- A worse welfare system
- My partner is not willing to move
- Psychological well-being
- Financial commitments current place o.r.
- I did not experience any barrier/difficulties

Mobiles, from LU, in %
N=628 (390 female, 238 male)
Qualitative results regarding employment
Fostering factors for Incoming EU citizens (employment)

- Pull and push factors (Greece, Poland and Romania)
- Friends or colleagues as examples and job facilitators
- International state of mind, universal man, global skills
  - Curiousness for other cultures and other people
  - Multiculturalism
- Language (mainly English)
- Positive view of the Luxembourgish
  - Friendly, open, cheerful, helpful, etc.
- Transitory place – life stage
Hindering Factors before employment mobility (into Luxembourg)

*Reasons for not doing Erasmus*
*(3 different interviews)*

- Institutional and individual: they did not have sufficient level of English to do Erasmus
- Institutional: Or either at their time there were not enough universities involved in Erasmus programmes
- Individual: Personal reasons (not to leave relationships)
Motivations of Mobility

Micro level:
• “Wanted something different”
• Feeling of the need to grow up or to achieve something by oneself
• Taking risks (I am young I can do that)

Meso level:
• International parents, international childhood with travels, previous experience with Erasmus etc.

Macro level:
• In Luxembourg finding and contacting companies is fairly easy
• Global competences
Positive Results

• Save money for return
• Enjoy multiculturalism
• Mobility facilitates more mobility (*positive or negative?*)
• Deciding via agency, deciding by oneself
  – Feeling like an adult
  – Growing more self confident and “learning to love oneself”
• Studying languages and gaining intercultural and professional skills
Some interesting quotes

• “Luxembourg helped me move to Germany” (outgoing female)

• “Have never talked so much about travels in my life as I have done here” (incoming male)

• “For sure not UK, as there are too many Polish there” (incoming female)

• “Romanian community does not have such a great effect on me staying or leaving” (incoming female)
Common patterns between Incoming and Outgoing

- Safety: feeling safe in Luxembourg (both for Luxembourgish and non Luxembourgish)
- Temporariness (contracts and necessity of being mobile)
- Feeling more free
- Family envisioning and support
- Return becomes sometimes problematic for both since they see the things that are not “right” in their home countries
- Feeling young to take risks (for incoming)
- Feeling young to stay in Luxembourg (for outgoing)
Qualitative results regarding higher education
Student mobility in Luxembourg

2003 foundation of the University of Luxembourg

degree mobility from LU
• 75 % of all enrolled in tertiary education study abroad
• Degree mobility from LU: mainly DE, FR, BE

degree mobility into LU
• + 50% of students enrolled have no LU nationality
• mainly other EU-countries

credit mobility from LU
• an obligatory semester abroad for undergraduates
Peers

-> romantic relationship “in danger” and as responsibility (rather credit mobility)

“If I hadn’t a boyfriend, I would even maybe have gone to Finland”
(I8, 269-270, credit in Germany)

-> friends at home

“Because it was easier to stay here in the country and because all my friends stayed here I hadn’t the courage to go abroad, despite the fact that I was accepted “ (I7, 20-22, not realised degree in Germany, credit France)
The self

> negative experiences before

“Because I was sceptical (...) I was very nervous already one year before. I thought: Nooooo, how should it work?” (I5, 51-54, degree in Belgium and credit in Germany)

> for others: sometimes they are scared but they go
OBSTACLES IN TRANSFER TO NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET

1. Transparent information
2. Competences/knowledge transfer
3. Limited labour market at home
FOSTERING FACTORS

1. Normality / obligation
2. Financial aspects
3. Peers
4. Parents
5. Strive for independence
Final Conference

08./09. March 2018
Final Conference in Esch-Belval, Luxembourg

- Dr. Valentina Cuzzocrea
  - Youth and Mobility
- Prof. Dr. Bridget Anderson
  - Youth migration and precarious employment of young people
- Prof. Dr. Martin Kahanec
  - Economic perspectives on migration and mobility
- Prof. Dr. Rubén Hernandez-Leon
  - Cross border US/Mexico in comparison to third country immigration EU