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Mapping mobility – pathways, institutions and structural effects of youth mobility

Deliverable N° D6.5 – International preconference and conference report

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1. Introduction

At the end of the MOVE project, the consortium organised a preconference and final conference to disseminate the results to stakeholders in the field, meaning not only scientists, but also policy makers, youth practitioners and the young people themselves. Having the final conference as a scientific event, the pre-conference put the focus more on the young people and practitioners.

The pre-conference took place on March 7, 2018, the day before the final conference. Almost 80 participants came to Luxembourg to learn more and discuss the MOVE results. After the presentation of the final project results, a panel discussion took place with invited speakers from different youth organisations, the European Commission and the partnership between the EC and CoA in the field of youth. In the second part, group discussions were organised and the participants looked deeper into results found in the different mobility types.

The final conference of the MOVE project took place in M35: 08-09.03.2018. It was entitled: “Keep on Moving? Pathways, Institutions and Structural Effects of Youth Mobility in Europe”. The conference aimed to offer a platform for exchange and discussion on youth mobility in Europe from different perspectives, thus, reflecting the challenges, risks and benefits of youth mobility in Europe. 76 people from 17 countries, including researchers, practitioners and policy makers participated in the conference.
2. Preconference

2.1 Introduction

The MOVE pre-conference began with an introduction from moderator Imre Simon, Members’ Service Manager at ERYICA. The first invited speaker was Kerstin Wilde, who opened the pre-conference through video conference. Ms. Wilde highlighted that geographic mobility fosters flexibility in thinking and the adaptation to different environments, and that once people are geographically mobile, they are more likely to be mobile in their careers and in different sectors throughout their lifetime. This is beneficial both for the employee and employer. Ms. Wilde also highlighted that mobility helps vulnerable young people gain access to the labour market.

She then presented the Research Executive Agency (REA), which is ultimately the interface for feeding Horizon 2020 project results into policies of the European Commission.

Ms. Wilde then discussed EU policies regarding employment and mobility. As every EU member State has very diverse living and working conditions, the EU initiatives and programmes have to serve very different needs, which is why most employment and mobility related policies are primarily the responsibility of EU members states.

She then highlighted the concrete programmes that exist at EU level in relation to the EU 2020 Growth Strategy concerning employment and mobility of young people, such as:

- The Youth Guarantee;
- The Youth Employment Initiative;
- The European Alliance for Apprenticeships, which now has a focus on mobility;
- The European Solidarity Corps, which between 2018 – 2020 will receive 341.5 million euros, and for 2021-2027 6 billion euros; and
- Erasmus+, for which the Key Action on the learning mobility of individuals and transnational mobility activities received 54% of total budget.

Plans for the future:

- Install border focal points, which will improve access to jobs and services, such as public transport and health, and facilitate business across borders (there are currently 2 million people commuting daily or weekly across borders).
- Proposal for the European Labour Authority (published 13 March).

Ms. Wilde concluded her introduction with a current call for proposals, which aims to flank policies to tackle barriers and obstacles to short-term mobility and longer-term integration.

Claire CONLON, Governing Board member of ERYICA and European and International Affairs Manager at the Centre d'information et de documentation jeunesse (CIDJ), France, then welcomed the participants on behalf of ERYICA, highlighting the importance of the project research results for the youth sector, as well as the important role of youth information in young people’s mobility experience, and the impact that mobility can have on a young person. Ms. Conlon also highlighted the information needs of young people at different stages of their mobility experience, and the tools and resources that are necessary for this.
2.2 Research results

Birte NIENABER, coordinator of the MOVE project, University of Luxembourg, then presented the MOVE project and some of the results. She highlighted the research methodology, which can be found on the MOVE website: http://move-project.eu/

Initial question:

How can the mobility of young people be “good” both for socio-economic development and for individual development of young people, and what are the factors that foster/hinder such beneficial mobility?

Patterns of mobility
- Peers as mobility incubators;
- Learning something through mobility;
- Institutionalised work and education;
- Organisational membership;
- Wish to become independent and ‘go out’; and
- Leaving home with the wish to ‘break out.’

The major obstacles were lack of sufficient language skills, lack of support or information and lack of financial resources to move abroad.

The research showed that each mobility type comes with its own dilemma, and that there are both positive and negative sides to mobility.

Positive effects included:
- Positive evaluation of personal agency;
- Mobility and professional success;
- Language acquisition;
- Transnational activities (transnational space);
- Civic and political participation (cultural);
- Movement precipitating more movement; and
- Identity affinity (European Identity)
  - Young women: identification with the world
  - Spanish and Romanian had shown higher cosmopolitan identity.

Negative effects include:
- National differences are still there;
  - Self-evaluation: 74.7 percent evaluate their mobility experience positively but...
  - Countries reveal differences:
    - Luxembourg shows high national identification
    - Hungary and Romania – face Brain drain
    - German respondents were mostly negative, but more positive on vocational education and training mobility programmes
  - Employment prospects: entrepreneurship and university education clash; and
- Socio-economic status still matters a lot despite funds from the EU.
2.3 Panel discussion

The following speakers partook in a panel discussion regarding the research results of the project:

Marc KUSTER: Head of sector "Youth Communities Management and Support", Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission
Reinhard SCHWALBACH: President Eurodesk and MOVE Advisory Board member
João PINTO: President of Erasmus Student Network
Davide CAPECCHI: Research and Youth Policy Officer, Partnership between the EC and the CoE in the field of youth

Youth mobility in times of economic crisis and beyond: has youth mobility changed post-economic crisis in Europe?

João PINTO highlighted that there are different regions of the EU and that different populations have behaved differently in the times of crisis. After the economic crisis, there was a big investment in youth mobility – it was used by several entities to combat societal issues. In terms of higher education, numbers show that it did not suffer; there are more students, but not necessarily diverse students.

Marc KUSTER stressed that youth mobility does have a positive impact for young people in the labour market; language skills improve, young people become more independent and better team players (in terms of EVS), and they become aware of cultural differences. Erasmus+ has not been cut financially, and this is not foreseen.

Reinhard SCHWALBACH stated that in Germany, very few young people have mobility experiences. Mobility programmes must be adapted to every country’s complex reality (some countries face brain drain, others are much more balanced for example).

Davide CAPECCHI emphasised that the focus should not just be on how mobility has changed, but how the lives of young people have changed. Complexity is the key word. Becoming an adult is complex, young people have less and less jobs, and face increasing anxiety and performance pressure. Mobility can also reinforce inequality. Mr. Capecchi stated that mobility programmes should focus on quality not quantity – numbers do not show the impact of mobility. He summed up mobility in 3 key words: complexity, inequality, quality.

A major challenge for youth mobility is young people’s lack of information. What is the role of Youth Information in addressing the negative effects of mobility and boosting the positive ones?

- **Personalised support** to young people is crucial, and they must be educated in formal and non-formal ways.
- Before information comes **basic awareness that this is a life choice**. In higher education it is a given, but for other mobility types (such as VET), young people are not even aware that this is a possibility for them. Therefore, 15-17 year olds should be offered a **diverse range of exchanges**, so that they are aware of the possibility of going abroad later on.
- **European-level partnerships** are crucial to reach out to those that are excluded, as not all young people are part of the ‘European bubble.’ There should be funding from many sectors.

- The European Solidarity Corps has proposed 25% more than the funding for EVS (they are currently waiting for final outcome). Erasmus+ budget will not be cut in face of budgetary crisis.

- **Long-term investment** is necessary, invest in organisations that can ensure a better impact and a multiplier effect, as well as in information and guidance. This must follow a knowledge-based approach. The higher the quality, the higher the cost and the smaller the numbers, but the greater the impact.

- Regarding higher education, the goal is to have as many young people as possible going abroad and to open mobility opportunities up to more young people, however quantity is not the aim. Universities are understaffed, and cannot ensure real guidance.

- Support is very different in different countries, it is necessary to look at national programmes as well as European programmes, because the opportunities are not the same.

**How can different sectors work together in addressing the challenges facing youth mobility?**

- Part of the problem is that often different sectors are trying to solve separately the same problem. **Strategic partnerships** should be established: private funding can be an interesting partner. Everyone agrees with this but the question is **how** these partnerships can be formed.

- Part of the quality of the MOVE project is that it looks at **different mobility types** and works closely with the youth sector (in particular ERYICA). This should be expanded to organisations such as Eurodesk and EURES. It is very complementary to have **practitioners and researchers** look at these issues together.

The panelists discussed the connection between inequality and immobility. Finances play a big role: there is a big connection between social class and immobility.

- According to panelist João PINTO, regarding higher education, in 2014, 25% of short-term exchanges (between 7 and 10 days) came from disadvantaged backgrounds. With longer exchanges (1 semester) only 5% came from disadvantaged backgrounds.

- 70% of young British people did not vote for Brexit. Those that had carried out a mobility experience felt more European than their peers who had not been abroad (88% against 62%). Only 0.66% of British young people go abroad on average (in higher education).

The floor was then opened up to the audience, and Elisa BRIGA, from the European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL), pointed out that the only research that is carried out in depth about mobility is Erasmus+, but there is mobility outside of this. How can we put the data together to see who we are reaching through multiple mobility programmes? Ms. Briga also raised the possibility of giving people from disadvantaged backgrounds more funding, which is the case for some Erasmus+ grants for people with fewer opportunities.
2.4 European Platform on Learning Mobility

Soren KRISTENSEN, Researcher for the European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM), presented the platform, an initiative in the framework of the Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth, to the participants.

The EPLM is a platform that brings together practitioners, researchers and policy makers engaged with learning mobility. It works on quality improvement, knowledge-sharing, visibility and recognition of learning mobility and covers EU and CoE countries. More information can be found on the EPLM website: [https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/european-platform-on-learning-mobility](https://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/european-platform-on-learning-mobility)

2.5 Results

Recommendations from the discussions from the MOVE pre-conference

Throughout the afternoon, the participants were split into 6 ‘working groups’, each group looking at the different mobility types that have been analysed in the MOVE research. After a brief presentation from a researcher who had been looking at that topic, the participants discussed the issues regarding the mobility type and came up with recommendations, which are listed below.

Pupil’s Exchange

- **Create a cross-sectorial systemised collection of data** to be used across Europe, so different sectors are not carrying out the same research;
- **Ensure connection/cooperation between research projects on the same topic.** This could be coordinated by the EU institutions, there could be exchange events, the EPLM could be involved;
- Use/learn from non-formal education practices
  - Teacher training/intercultural learning;
  - Community impact;
  - Tools/resources;
  - Individual/group facilitated learning.
- **Ensure flexible formats of pupil’s exchange, so that they are more inclusive.** Ensure different choices are available to students, which fit the needs of all young people;
- **Increase intercultural competences** for young people, teachers and families, creating a welcoming culture with strategies such as host families;
- **Ensure recognition of the study period abroad**, so that the young people do not have to repeat a year; and
- Reciprocal programmes/funding and individual/community interaction should exist.

Voluntary mobility

- Allow **more flexibility** within and across programmes, to match the flexibility with which young people approach mobility: "concatenated mobility";
• Connect schools, municipalities, families and youth organisations, for a **community-based approach** to youth mobility;

• Offer **funding (loans or grants) at a local level**: through the municipality, youth would be able to cover the costs for their mobility, as often they have to pay for their travel or even for the whole period abroad in advance, but might not be able to;

• Criteria for selection for EU youth mobility programmes needs to be **more inclusive**, including youth with psychological issues, disadvantaged youth, youth in trouble with the law. Currently, it is particularly difficult for such young people to become mobile, because the necessity for the mobility to be "successful" leads organisations to choose those who have already been "successful" (e.g. in their education);

• Create **possibilities for youth to connect to the place they are staying**, e.g. work at a local youth club;

• Alternative forms and **more experimental programmes** are needed;

• **Institutional harmonisation between the organisations managing youth mobility** would lead to smoother processes; and

• Create spaces for youth to share their mobility experiences with non-mobiles: this would show appreciation for the young mobile youth, it would offer non-mobiles an insight into mobility processes and allow the mobiles to reflect upon their experience. It would also lessen the pressure on youth to become mobile at all costs, since many do not want to or cannot be mobile.

**Entrepreneurship**

• **Create trainings and possibilities for exchange on business creation abroad**;

• Make **funding possibilities** and procedures more **transparent**;

• **Ensure equal opportunities** to people of different regions of same country;

• Establish **mentor-mentee relationships/ peer networks**;

• Different narratives on success between young people and institutions: institutional design of programmes should take youth narrative into consideration; and

• **Design support programmes according to the needs of young people** – not according to the need of institutions.

**Higher Education**

• **Role of pupil mobility**: secondary school students should experience more mobility and more inclusive mobility. Mobility produces mobility – awareness should be raised from an early age, **language skills should be more developed** and also inequalities should be taken into consideration, with virtual mobility programmes and other means of helping students to experience smooth mobility;

• **Sources of information**: coordination and support structures in sending and host universities should be improved. Often different departments are not in contact with the international offices, there is a big problem in accrediting the subjects and sometimes international students cannot access classes in host universities;

• **Role of peers**: peer-to-peer knowledge transfer: peer information is a very efficient way of spreading information, but it is not so common as there is no concrete system in place. When students come back, there should be a system of spreading the knowledge, which is a mixture of peer-to-peer and coordination at the university level;
• **Difficulties in funding**: funding is a big problem, especially in periphery countries. Scholarships are **not enough to cover the costs**, increasing funding for disadvantaged students should be introduced, so that mobility does not increase inequalities but decreases them. Other types of mobility could also be increased (shorter-term mobility for those that do not have the means to go for a longer period of time); and

• **Decrease the excessive institutional demands.**

**Employment**

Employment mobility is a transition from youth to adulthood, from education to work, from unemployment to employment. However, this transition is not always direct. Once youth become mobile, they are vaguer about their return. Employment mobility is **not as structured as other mobility types**. Entering the labour market is problematic for youth in the destination countries.

• **Information** - Information is available for young people, but it is difficult to filter all of the different sources. It is therefore crucial to have centres & programmes, which can help young people to reach the **information about employment opportunities**. This should be for all young people;

• Formal information is available if you can find it. However **informal information sources** are missing, such as: a bridging person, the significant person, peer-to-peer communication, active youth organisations, etc.;

• There is a need to **invest in youth workers and youth organisations**, which can guide youngsters before mobility experiences, or they can be the first ones to plant the idea of “being mobile” at an early age;

• Many young people get stuck in the lower segment of labour market in the destination countries, and have no assistance in climbing the job ladder. Some of them do not know their rights and opportunities in the destination countries. They need **job consulting**;

• **Language support** is crucial;

• EURES have to put efforts on **quality**, not just quantity. **Placement instead of recruitment**; and

• Research should be shared with all those working in the youth sector (the European commission, national organisations, local authorities, public national services, employment organisations, companies, universities etc.) to develop their way of working within youth mobility with evidence-based research.

**Vocational training**

1. **Funding – more flexibility**, especially if the National Agencies can be more autonomous in managing their funds;

2. **Raising awareness among young people**, and **companies**;

3. **Language – compulsory language training before mobility**; and

A database of European companies and employers willing to take mobile students on.
2.6 Discussion and Conclusion

Inviting a wide variety of stakeholders from different sectors to the MOVE pre-conference meant that the discussions that were held were very enriching for all involved, allowing participants to exchange and discuss with other participants coming from a different perspective and professional background. The recommendations that have come out of the discussions come from experienced professionals who are familiar with European (and international) youth mobility, and should be seriously considered at both European and national levels.
3. Final Conference

The MOVE project invited researchers, practitioners involved in youth work and youth information, and policy makers in the fields of migration/mobility, youth, learning and employment to participate in the conference in the Call of Paper, published in M30 through extensive professional networks of the consortium members.

The framing of the conference referred to the Europe 2020 strategy that sees the young generation as a driving force for smart, sustainable and economic growth. Young people are most likely to take the risk to move abroad for educational or work-related reasons and to contribute to social and economic development with innovative business strategies. However, in view of the large number of young unemployed people in Europe some designate the 16-29 years old as the “lost generation”, excluded from or disadvantaged at the labour market. In times of crisis it is especially young people who are addressed by intra-EU mobility programmes as mobility is seen as a measure to raise employability, to match better the needs of the labour markets in different (EU) countries and to offer new opportunities for young people. However, the numbers of mobile young people are not as high as expected. Therefore, the following central questions were addressed during the conference with regard to young people’s mobility:

- Who are the mobiles, and why and in which ways are they mobile?
- What are fostering and hindering factors of youth mobility?
- What makes mobility a “good experience”, what are the needs of young people nowadays?
- How do specific types of mobility differ from each other?
- How are the transitions to adulthood linked with different forms of mobility?
- How do patterns of mobility reflect social inequality (gender, impairment, country of origin)?
- What are the economic effects of EU mobility, with a particular focus on the regional level, and for the regions left behind?

The Call for Paper and the conference itself foresaw the following six streams (for more details please see “Annex III”), for which both oral paper presentations and symposia for research groups and networks were organised:

- Stream 1 – Mobility policies and politics
- Stream 2 – Youth mobility and agency
- Stream 3 – Social inequality and youth mobility
- Stream 4 – Regional aspects of youth mobility (focus on post-socialist countries)
- Stream 5 – Economy and youth mobility
- Stream 6 – Culture and youth mobility

The conference consisted of 4 keynotes, one panel discussion and 41 presentations from researchers from 33 institutions, including 16 presentations on the MOVE project.

The MOVE researchers presented the results throughout the conference in different formats: not only in the sessions, but also as infographics, as well as in vivid discussions with other participants during coffee breaks and social event. Additionally to this, MOVE researchers presented an animated film aimed at young people (http://move-project.eu/clip), to show that the research was done not only about young people but also for young people.
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## Friday 9th March – Maison du savoir (3rd floor)

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3.2 Keynotes

To raise the attractiveness of the conference, MOVE consortium invited scholars to stimulate the discussions on youth migration/mobility related topics. The main aim was to show that youth research is situated at the cross-road of several disciplines including youth studies, migration studies, educational studies, economics and others.

BRIDGET ANDERSON – Professor of Migration, Mobilities and Citizenship at the University of Bristol

In her talk, Prof. Anderson focused on young people in precarious work in Europe. As young people are seen in transition, they are offered often underpaid jobs, 0-hour-contracts asking for extrem flexibility while at the same time exploiting young people. Linked with this is also a segregation of young people at the labour market, with non-nationals taking more low-skilled jobs, which counteracts the integration, as being isolated with other non-natives, they do not have chances for improving languages or widening networks with nationals (also professional networks). That all channels young people into precarity.

Furthermore, Prof. Anderson challenged the notions of mobility and migration, as some cases of intra-EU mobility rather follow patterns of international migration (push-pull aspects, economic reasons). While mobility is being facilitated by the political actors (EU), migration follows strict laws and regulations. The picture of mobile people is often idealistic: single, happy, healthy and motivated. Mobility is perceived as cost-free to the state, while migration is imagined to be linked with social expenditures. The conceptualisation and differences between the two terms also varies between social groups: e.g. “expats” are people who leave the UK for another country, while “second and third generation” of migrants when referring to the people residing in the UK. Prof. Anderson also paid attention to the topic Brexit and hostility persisting in receiving countries (not only the UK); people from other countries (also the EU) are seen often as outsiders that compete with the natives on the labour market or for social benefits, even if “the outsiders” are already settled in the receiving country.

VALENTINA CUZZOCREA – Assistant Professor in Sociology at the Università di Cagliari

Dr. Cuzzocrea started with showing pictures of mobile youth that were generated by an image search engine with regard to “youth” – almost all of them had an air of sadness. Then she proceeded to the presentation of the research on the labour market policies discourse and youth mobility policies of the EU. In regard to webpages related to mobility programs she pointed out at the overpresence of strong labour market on the one hand and career orientation on the other. Following, she asked the question: “When does mobility stop for young people?”. The question was provocative in nature as young people continue their experiences, virtually or in another mobility. She also focused on mobility as tourism, linked with the market oriented and consumerism side of youth mobility, where mobility becomes a commodity. She then mentioned, based on her empirical work, that mobility has become a reality for many youngsters in the EU – as mobility is a common narration about potential future plans of many of them.
Three pillars of Dr. Cuzzocrea’s speech can be summarized as such: 1) EU policies and young people’s dreams might not match because of enforcement of mobility and missing an ultimate goal in mobility; 2) young people want to come back at first to the sending country but they continue to be mobile for various reasons (they discover better opportunities or they are mobile till they discover these new opportunities); 3) return migration and transfer of skills might not be realised if mobility continues, thus, this policy gap should be taken into consideration in the development of youth mobility policies.

MARTIN KAHANEC – Professor and Acting Head of the School of Public Policy at the Central European University in Budapest

In his talk Prof. Kahanec presented economic perspectives on migration and mobility. The talk started with a sketch of the demographic change in the EU countries: aging population, lacking (highly) skilled workers, innovation deficits and challenges in social security systems. From this point of view mobility and migration are needed to replace and emerge (highly) skilled jobs and to fill in shortages and skill deficits. An IZA Expert Survey on High-Skilled Labor Immigration showed that almost 90% of labour markets in Europe stated that EU needs at least as many migrants as it has now. However, negative attitudes toward immigration (also from “new” EU countries) have been observed, strengthened by the recent economic crisis in the EU. The natives fear that jobs and social benefits would be taken from them, contrary to the evidence obtained by the research, which shows that the migrants rather contribute to public finances.

Prof. Kahanec stated that, in comparison to other entities (e.g. USA), the EU has a low ratio of intra-mobility (ca. 1%). However, Eastern enlargements increased intra-EU movements and it may be seen as one of the means to counteract labour market shortages in other European countries. Prof. Kahanec concluded by saying that measured economic/labour market influence in the EU is rather neutral or positive and that the receiving countries adjust well to these movements. Thus, the main challenge is to provide a framework where the civil society of receiving countries accept migrants (as it is in their own interests).

RUBÉN HERNÁNDEZ-LEÓN – Professor of Sociology at UCLA, Director of the UCLA Center for Mexican Studies

Prof. Hernández-León gave insights on “Youth, migration and mobility in the Mexico-US context”. He pointed out that much of the international migration takes place during childhood, adolescence and young adulthood. However, migration studies have rather been focusing on the adult perspective, and mobile children and youngsters have been conceptualised as dependent movers. Prof. Hernández-León mentioned that non-economic forms of migration have been less in focus. Additionally, “adventure” as a main driver of migration has been neglected, this is especially puzzling as this reason is acknowledged as the main driver of mobility – a phenomenon reserved though for middle and upper class “in the North”.

One of the focusses of the talk was the network perspective. While migrating with parents or for employment purposes young people rely more on the family network, but while do it “for fun” they
organise themselves, thus slip from the social control. Another focus was the culture of migration. As the migration is a very common pattern in some societies, it often even becomes a “rite of passage”, a transition into adulthood, as young men and women are pre-socialised into migration. Prof. Hernández-León also discussed circular migration/mobility that does not fit into rigid categories (i.e. migrant / native).

In his talk, Prof. Hernández-León showed a complexity of the pheonomenon in discussion on migration/mobility as those two concepts overlap. He also pointed out at the transcontinental differentiation in the terms: in the EU mobility is more in focus, while in North America, a region with a rich migration history, mobility is more oftern used, and as such mobility frameworks are overlooked.

### 3.3 Panel discussion

CHAIR: Tabea Schlimbach (German Youth Institute)

Panelists:

- Laura Diaz (Ilustre Colegio Nacional de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Politicas y Sociología)
- Josiane Entringer (Luxembourgish Ministry of Education and Research)
- Nathalie Keipes (Luxembourgish Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth)
- Sanja Vuković-Čović (Executive director at PRONI Center)

Summary of the discussion:

It has been emphasised that mobility is good on the individual level as a way to make new experiences during transition into following life phase, adulthood. Besides that, the economic aspect has been mentioned, as mobility boosts employability of young people. However, to go abroad young people need financial resources. Thus, mobility can reinforce the social inequalities as those who can afford it (those who are better off) gain an additional surplus while being mobile.

The dark side of mobility was also discussed. Sanja Vukovic Covic from Proni Centre stated that most of the young people from Croatia do not come back to their countries. She said that return migration is not common and there is a risk of brain drain. She drew attention to the fact that the policy makers should also take care of this aspect when devising policies regarding youth mobility.

The gender dimension in mobility has been addressed as well, including role models in regard to caring and family (usually taken over by women) that have an influence on mobility patterns of young men and women. Moreover, most of the youth mobility policies do not take gender mainstreaming into consideration, both qualitatively and quantitatively. That is why it is important that gender and youth mobility policies go hand in hand regarding the overall EU regulations and
national regulations. In some mobility types heterogeneous groups can be promoted, such as in VET and in entrepreneurship. More has to be done to allow women becoming entrepreneurs.

Regarding the gender case, Josiane Entringer from the Ministry of Higher Education and Research of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg underlined the problem of gender inequalities in the research sector. She said that amongst the university students in Luxembourg 51% are females, amongst the researchers only 35% are females. She further continued by showing that in Luxembourg more can be achieved to provide equal conditions for all genders and drew attention to the fact that most of the time family and caring are seen as female jobs. Policy makers should raise awareness and change it by providing conditions where tasks are equally divided within the household so that the future goals and careers of women are not negatively affected by this traditional understanding of gender roles.

Nathalie Keipes from the Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg underlined the fact that mobility policies change according to the learnt lessons. One of such examples is a formulation of the need to build a more solidar society after the terroristic attacks. Therefore, a need for European Solidarity Corps came to the fore. She underlined that these programs are important to make new experiences for the young people. Another learnt lesson has been underlined with regard to the empowerment of young people during the transition to the labour market.

Intrinsic value of mobility was discussed. It has been mentioned that people who experience mobility appreciate it. Therefore, inclusion of everyone in a mobility program is highly desirable. Mobility will bring more social capital and trust in all other aspects within a stronger international identity. Broader aspects of values are attained via mobility. Laura Diaz from the Illustré Collegio Nacional de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Políticas y Sociología (ICN) drew attention to the fact that most of the employers require soft skills and positive evaluation of mobility is seen at every aspect of life. During her brief presentation on Youth Wiki, she also emphasised that Youth Wiki aims at showing all the youth mobility related policies and practices in different EU member states (Youth Wiki is “Europe's online resource in the area of national youth policies. The platform is a comprehensive database of national structures, policies and actions supporting young people”; retrieved from: www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/youthwiki).

The next point of the discussion focused on the inclusive aspect of mobility programmes; inclusion is meant on a different level but first of all it means social inclusion, where a dialogue between the individual and societal structures takes place. The inclusion does not only mean financial resources for everyone but also for those who are culturally excluded, who have impairments or who are excluded because of geographical inequalities. Inclusion of everyone in a mobility program carries great importance. A lot of practical tools in the context of youth mobility (also Erasmus+) exist: best practice seminars and handbooks. It would be advisable that practitioners get back to those resources. For this, the role of information has been stressed (also among young people), but also a stronger connection between research and field-work, as well as between policy and field work should be reinforced. Evidence-based decisions have been in focus, and those can be built only in a dialogue between research policy and practice.
3.4 Summary of discussions during streams, keynotes and panel

The keynote speeches, panel discussions and presentations in the respective streams of the conference gave food for thought, on the professional level provided new networks and gave new opportunities for research. They also gave an opportunity for a reflection and not to stay locked in own theoretical boxes. The conference offered a comparative perspective on mobility/migration research on youth. Although a lot of insights were presented by different research teams, a lack of available data was stressed, which makes the presented contributions even more valuable.

Researchers presented multidisciplinary approaches to mobility and migration. The focus on mobility took place at different levels. On the economic level, demographic issues, skills and the labour market have been analysed. On the social level, the main topics were inequality and social justice. On the political level, national and EU interests in mobility have been revealed by the means of policy research. The dialogue at the panel discussion of the conference has shown different approaches of practitioners and researchers: to researchers, knowledge is not fixed, whereas to practitioners law is fixed. It therefore has an influence on how different movements are perceived: as mobility or as migration.

Discussions also oscillated around main motivations of young people for being mobile based on the six different mobility types in MOVE research. Researchers presented the evidence-based knowledge and stressed that peer groups, family and institutions play a big role in youth’s mobility decision and experience.

Presentations have shown that youth has changed, it is a new social reality and we can find convincing arguments showing that it has become more complex over time. It is a new generation, formed by significant economic, social and political changes. The young people of this generation take mobility and migration both in a positive, but also in a negative way. To many of them, mobility is voluntary – referring to this dimension, we have also used the term of “consuming mobility”. However, to many others, mobility is inevitable. This has been highlighted by the examples of mobility/migration in the regions of Sardinia in Italy and Morocco, where boys see no other choice to their future than migration and have to leave for Europe as irregular migrants. In other presentations we saw that mobility helps change socio-economic conditions of young people by means of mobility programmes and improve their conditions. But we have also discussed that mobility can increase inequality.

One of the discussion’s outcome was that there is plenty of information for young people and there are many available programs (such as Erasmus+) for easy youth’s mobility decision and experience. However, it is not easy for them to filter all the information and there is a need of harmonization of the programs. Information is necessary through the mobility experience, not just before the mobility decision.

The vulnerable youth was one of the discussion topics as in particular for young people it is difficult to get the information and be able to participate in available programs fostering the youth mobility. The importance of the education system was discussed in this context.

Regional differences within Europe and between the countries were highlighted at many points. The first aspect is an uneven access to information. Thus, it has to be secured that all the youngsters have
a chance to choose to be mobile or not be mobile. The other aspect is an unequal distribution of the resources across the countries and the regions. Thus, while for some young people it is easy to engage into mobility as they have means for that, the others are not granted this opportunity and are rather forced into migration to secure the economic stability.

Researchers pointed out that during the mobility experience, young people “become someone”, they develop and transform themselves; by exerting their agency young people actively engage with mobility framing contexts.

However, mobility/migration may be problematic from the perspective of the sending country, e.g in Poland young scientists are encouraged to become mobile to widen the horizon, on the other hand it is also crucial that they come back. A Bulgarian presentation from the ongoing research about “Return migration and life course decisions” showed that young mobile Bulgarian students develop various forms of social and cultural capital during their mobility, which can be valorised upon their return to their own country.

Coming back to the initial question of the MOVE project, “How can mobility be good to the social-economic development and the individual growth of young people?”, we can further precise by asking: “Should it be good?” and “Good for what?”. In considering this, one can have a look at different levels such as the micro level of the individual, the meso level of social networks or the macro level that can be analysed using the GDP. Trying to get a bigger picture on mobility/migration, we see migration as a key element to the development and economic growth in the European Union. Moreover, this statement is not exclusively linked to youth migration. We need mobility which faces towards the future, an EU mobility that, speaking the words of MOVE theoretical perspective, has an agentic orientation and an imaginative dimension. We therefore need a youth mobility which faces towards the realisation of the youth’s dreams, goals and affections.
Annex I – Programme of the Preconference

PROGRAMME MOVE PRECONFERENCE
7 March 2018, 10:30-16:00
Université du Luxembourg
Belval Campus
Maison du Savoir
2, avenue de l’Université
L-4365 Esch-sur-Alzette

Moderator: Imre Simon
10:00-10:45 Registration & Welcoming Coffee

10:45-11:00: Welcoming Words
Claire CONLON, Governing Board member of ERYICA and European and International Affairs Manager, Centre d’information et de documentation jeunesse (CIDJ), France

Presentation of MOVE final results
11:00-11:45 MOVE: Mapping mobility pathways, institutions and structural effects of youth mobility in Europe - Horizon 2020 project
Birte NIENABER, Coordinator of the MOVE project, University of Luxembourg

11:45-12:45 Discussion with invited speakers – How to make use of results
Marc KUSTER: Head of sector “Youth Communities Management and Support”, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission
Jacques SPELKENS: Head of CSR Benelux at ENGIE and member of the Board of CSR Europe
Reinhard SCHWALBACH: President Eurodesk and MOVE Advisory Board member
João PINTO: President of Erasmus Student Network
Davide CAPECCHI: Research and Youth Policy Officer, Partnership between the EC and the CoE in the field of youth

12:45 – 13:00 Input of the European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM)
Søren KRISTENSEN: Researcher, European Platform on Learning Mobility

13:00-14:00 Networking lunch

14:00-15:30 Thematic discussion groups
Groups discussions looking at different mobility types:

1) Employment
Moderated by: Stefan JAHNKE, Senior Policy Officer, European University Foundation (EUF)
Contribution: Volha VYSOTSKAYA, MOVE researcher, University of Luxembourg
2) Voluntary
   **Moderated by:** Rares CRAIUT, European Confederation of Youth Clubs (ECYC)
   **Contribution:** Monica ROMAN, MOVE researcher, Academia de Studii Economice din Bucuresti, Romania
   **Rapporteur:** Alice ALTISSIMO, University of Hildesheim, Germany

3) Entrepreneurship
   **Moderated by:** Corina PIRVULESCU, Project Manager, European Youth Card Association (EYCA)
   **Contribution:** Laura MURESAN, Academia De Studii Economice Din Bucuresti, Romania
   **Rapporteur:** Andreas HERZ, University of Hildesheim, Germany

4) Higher Education
   **Moderated by:** Karin GRANEVI, Stockholm University
   **Contribution:** Emilia KMIOTEK-MEIEN, MOVE researcher, University of Luxembourg
   **Rapporteur:** Julianna KISS, MOVE researcher, Miskolci Egyetem, Hungary

5) Pupil's Exchange
   **Moderated by:** Susannah NICODEMI, Winchester International Network UK
   **Contribution:** Irina PAVLOVA, MOVE researcher, Høgskulen på Vestlandet (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences), Norway
   **Rapporteur:** Jan SKRONAREK, MOVE researcher, Høgskulen på Vestlandet (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences), Norway

6) Vocational Training
   **Moderated by:** Jon HARDING, Bridgewater & Taunton College UK
   **Contribution:** Tabea SCHLIMBACH, MOVE researcher, Deutsches Jugendinstitut EV, Germany
   **Rapporteur:** Clemens SCHMIDT, Deutsches Jugendinstitut EV, Germany

15:30-16:00 Summary of group findings and conclusions

16:00 Closure
Annex II - Graphic recording of the preconference
Annex III - Session overview - Conference


SLOT 1 – 8th of March 2018, 10:45 am – 12:30 pm

STREAM 1: Mobility policies and politics – Session 1.1

CHAIR: Lucas Oesch (University of Luxembourg)

The agenda for now and the future: The centrality of international student mobility in Luxembourg’s higher education policy discourse. 
(Emilia Kmiotek- Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Ute Karl, University of Luxembourg (until 2017)/ Justin Powell, University of Luxembourg)

The Economic (ir)rationales behind Swedish tuition fees for third country students 
(André Bryntesson, Uppsala University/ Ashley Haru, Uppsala University)

Gender and mobility: hindering and fostering factors of women’s mobility within the EU
(Sahizer Samuk, University of Luxembourg/ Birte Nienaber, University of Luxembourg/ Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Markus Däubler, University of Luxembourg/ Tabea Schlimbach, German Youth Institute/ Monica Roman, Academia De Studii Economice Din Bucuresti/ Ioana Manafi, Academia De Studii Economice Din Bucuresti)

STREAM 2: Youth mobility and agency – Session 2.1

CHAIR: Wolfgang Schröer (University of Hildesheim)

Return migration and social innovation - The example of returning graduates to Bulgaria 
(Birgit Glorius, TU Chemnitz/ Yuliana Lazova, TU Chemnitz)

Capturing agency in youth mobility processes
(Tabea Schlimbach, German Youth Institute/ Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Volha Vysotskaya, University of Luxembourg)

How to measure agency? An explorative analysis in the context of Emirbayer and Mische’s agency-theory
(Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg)
STREAM 3: Social inequality and youth mobility—Session 3.1

CHAIR: Irina Pavlova (Western Norway University of Applied Science)

Does international student mobility foster the reproduction of social inequalities?  
(Nicolai Netz, DZHW/ Michael Grüttnner, DZHW)

Mobility, family and the importance of education  
(Tuba Ardic, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Roger Hestholm, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Irina Pavlova, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen)

Relational inequalities in youth mobility  
(Andreas Herz, University of Hildesheim, University of Marburg/ Alice Altissimo, University of Hildesheim/ Agnetha Bartels, University of Hildesheim/ Wolfgang Schröer, University of Hildesheim)

Equal access to mobility? The “resistant” young Portuguese workers  
(Sandra Mateus, Instituto Universitário de Lisboa)

STREAM 4: Regional aspects of youth mobility—Session 4.1

CHAIR: Laura Muresan (Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies)

The characteristics of youth mobility in post-socialist countries  
(Zsuzsanna Dabasi-Halász, University of Miskolc/ Julianna Kiss, University of Miskolc/ Katalin Lipták, University of Miskolc/ Ioana Manafi, Bucharest University of Economic Studies/ Daniela Elena Marinescu, Bucharest University of Economic Studies/ Monica Roman, Bucharest University of Economic Studies/ Javier Lorenzo-Rodriguez, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)

Stop, attract or encourage to return? Actions directed to young people as a component of regional demographic policy in Poland  
(Kamil Matuszczyk, Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw)

Peer groups and migration from middle towns in Poland: The sequences of transitions from education to domestic and foreign labour markets  
(Izabela Grabowska, Youth Research Center, SWPS University, and Center of Migration Research/ Justyna Sarnowska, Youth Research Center, SWPS University, and Center of Migration Research/ Dominika Winogrodzka, Youth Research Center, SWPS University, and Center of Migration Research)

Developmental potential of youth migration in the Danube region: establishing a harmonized system of indicators  
(Ekaterina Skoglund, Institut for East and Southeast European Studies)
STREAM 6: Culture and youth mobility—Session 6.1

CHAIR: Ruzhena Voynova (University of Luxembourg)

Research on 'Erasmus+: Youth in Action' projects: the variety of learning effects on participants
(Christiane Meyers, University of Luxembourg/ Martin Mayerl, Austrian Institute for Research on Vocational Training)

Understanding and conceptualizing youth mobility. A perspective of young people at the threshold to employment
(Volha Vysotskaya, University of Luxembourg/ Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Karen Hemming, German Youth Institute/ Tabea Schlimbach, German Youth Institute/ Birte Nienaber, University of Luxembourg/ Zsuzsanna Dabasi-Halász, University of Miskolc/ Klaudia Horváth, University of Miskolc/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Tuba Ardic, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Irina Pavlova, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences)

The determinants of youth transnational political and civic engagement: An inquiry into its simultaneous nature
(Laura Diaz, Ilustre Colegio Nacional de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Políticas y Sociología/ Javier Lorenzo, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid/ Lorenzo Navarrete, Universidad Complutense de Madrid/ Celia Diaz, Ilustre Colegio Nacional de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Políticas y Sociología/ Adolfo de Luxan, Ilustre Colegio Nacional de Doctores y Licenciados en Ciencias Políticas y Sociología)

SLOT 2 – 8th of March 2018, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

STREAM 1: Mobility policies and politics – Session 1.2

CHAIR: Markus Hesse (University of Luxembourg)

How to support scientific mobility of Polish scientists?
(Michal Wierzchoń, Jagiellonian University)

Erasmus Plus and its transformation from cultural integration to social inclusion: Policy gaps and policy suggestion for the future
(Sahizer Samuk, University of Luxembourg/ Birte Nienaber, University of Luxembourg/ Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Markus Däubler, University of Luxembourg/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Tuba Ardic, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Irina Pavlova, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Daniela Elena Marinescu, Academia De Studii Economice Din Bucuresti/ Laura Muresan, Academia De Studii Economice Din Bucuresti)
STREAM 3: Social inequality and youth mobility – Session 3.2

CHAIR: Jan Skrobanek (University of Bergen)

The selectiveness of temporary mobilities: the case of young adults in Switzerland
(Lucas Haldimann, University of Lausanne/ Marieke Heers, FORS/ Patrick Rérat, University of Lausanne)

Characteristics of the intensifying emigration process of the Hungarian youth and their consequences on socio-spatial inequalities
(Beáta Siskáné Szilasi, University of Miskolc/ Levente Halász, University of Miskolc)

Why is it so hard? And for whom? Obstacles in the intra-EU mobility: Mobility fields in comparison
(Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Tuba Ardic, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Zsuzsanna Dabasi-Halász, University of Miskolc/ Markus Däubler, University of Luxembourg/ Celia Díaz, Colegio de Sociólogos y Polítólogos de Madrid, Universidad Complutense de Madrid/ Karen Hemming, German Youth Institute/ Julianna Kiss, University of Miskolc/ Katalin Lipták, University of Miskolc/ Birte Nienaber, University of Luxembourg/ Irina Pavlova, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Sahizer Samuk, University of Luxembourg/ Tabea Schlimbach, German Youth Institute/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Ana Maria Ewert, University of Luxembourg/ Alison Adams, University of Luxembourg)

STREAM 5: Economy and youth mobility – Session 5.1

CHAIR: Monica Roman (Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies)

“To study” or “To improve working conditions”? Motivations for becoming mobile as micro-macro-level approach for different European country-types
(Karen Hemming, German Youth Institute/ Cristina Cuenca García, Colegio de Sociólogos y Polítólogos de Madrid and Universidad Complutense de Madrid/ Zsuzsanna Dabasi-Halász, University of Miskolc/ Emilia Kmiotek-Meier, University of Luxembourg/ Birte Nienaber, University of Luxembourg/ Monica Roman, The Bucharest University of Economic Studies/ Tabea Schlimbach, German Youth Institute/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Víctor Suárez-Lledó, Colegio de Sociólogos y Polítólogos de Madrid and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid/ Frank Tillmann, German Youth Institute)

Which mechanisms explain monetary returns to international student mobility?
(Fabian Kratz, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München/ Nicolai Netz, DZHW)
Title: Youth migration and its implications for local governance in the Danube Region - the YOUMIG project
Dr. Béla Soltész (Hungarian Central Statistical Office)

Presentations of the Symposium:

Overview of the conceptual approach of the YOUMIG project
(Elisabeth Gruber, University of Vienna/ Heinz Fassmann, University of Vienna/ Ádám Németh, University of Vienna)

YOUMIG’s local status quo analyses: a methodological overview
(Tamás Kiss, Romanian Institute for Research on Minorities Issues)

YOUMIG’s local status quo analyses: the case of Burgas, Bulgaria
(Vesselina Dimitrova, Municipality of Burgas/ Haralan Alexandrov, Municipality of Burgas)

YOUMIG’s statistical, administrative and strategic innovations
(Béla Soltész, Hungarian Central Statistical Office)

SLOT 3 – 9th of March 2018, 10:45 am – 12:30 pm

STREAM 2: Youth mobility and agency – Session 2.2

CHAIR: Alice Altissimo/ Andreas Herz (University of Hildesheim)

Independent youth migrants from Morocco
(Nadja Dumann, Brussels School of International Studies, University of Kent)

Motivational accounts of recent Italian and Spanish emigrants to Germany and the United Kingdom
(Maricia Fischer-Souan, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid/ Giovanna Fullin, University of Milano Bicocca/ Iraklis Dimitriadis, University of Milano Bicocca)

Moving within: agency in German VET mobility
(Tabea Schlimbach, German Youth Institute/ Valentina Cuzzocrea, University of Cagliari/ Karen Hemming, German Youth Institute/ Birgit Reißig, German Youth Institute)

Young people on the move: agency in the context of young people’s cross-border mobility experiences for work
(Volha Vysotskaya, University of Luxembourg/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen/ Ute Karl, University of Luxembourg)
STREAM 4: Regional aspects of youth mobility—Session 4.2

CHAIR: Zsuzsanna Dabasi-Halász/ Julianna Kiss (University of Miskolc)

Uneven flows in Europe: Structural differences between credit and degree mobility
(Ashley Elisabeth Haru, Uppsala University/ Andre Bryntesson, Uppsala University)

Migration or mobility? The hard reality after Brexit
(Alejandra Icardo Ruiz, Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

Stay in the West or return home? The example of returning Bulgarian graduates
(Yuliana Lazova, Technical University Chemnitz/ Birgit Glorius, Technical University Chemnitz)

Youth migration aspirations in Georgia and Moldova
(Christina Diane Bastianon, German Sport University Cologne, Maastricht University)

STREAM 5: Economy and youth mobility – Session 5.2

CHAIR: Dorel Mihai Paraschiv (Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies)

Transnational youth mobility in border regions - crossing the border for vocational education in the Northern French-German border region
(Sophia Dorka, Saarland University/ Julia Frisch, TU Kaiserslautern)

Young mobile entrepreneurs' family concerns
(Laura Díaz-Chorne, ICN, UCM/ Celia Díaz-Catalán, ICN, UCM/ Víctor Suárez-Lledó, ICN/ Lorenzo Navarrete, ICN, UCM)

Effects of participation in Erasmus+ supported youth learning mobility projects
(Marti Taru, Tallinn University)

STREAM 6: Culture and youth mobility—Session 6.2

CHAIR: Sahizer Samuk (University of Luxembourg)

Being international and not being international at the same time; the challenges of peer relations under mobility
(Tuba Ardic, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Irina Pavlova, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences/ Jan Skrobanek, University of Bergen)

How will digital natives move - ICT and mobility behavior of young persons
(Dirk Wittowsky, ILS - Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development gGmbH/ Kathrin Konrad, ILS - Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development gGmbH/ Sören Groth - ILS - Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development gGmbH)
Annex IV - Conference Poster

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Move FINAL CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE STREAMS
- Mobility Policies and Politics
- Mobility and Agency
- Social Inequality and Youth Mobility
- Regional aspects of Youth Mobility
- Economy and Youth Mobility
- Culture and Youth Mobility

8 – 9 MARCH 2018
University of Luxembourg – Belval Maison du Savoir - 3rd Floor

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Prof. Dr. Bridget Anderson
Youth migration and precarious employment of young people

Dr. Valentina Cuzzocrea
Youth and Mobility

Prof. Dr. Rubén Hernandez-León
Cross border US/Mexico in comparison to third country Immigration to EU

Prof. Dr. Martin Kahanec
Economic perspectives on migration and mobility

If you want to learn more about the MOVE conference, its streams, or the project itself, please visit: www.move-project.eu/conference