

Which Psychological Quality of Life must have the Newly-Registered Students from three European Universities to acquire Employability Skills?

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Introduction

Modern universities are competitive environments that must enable students to meet occupational requirements. Our survey assesses the associations between psychological quality of life and employability skills and others factors among newly-registered students from social sciences faculties in Luxembourg, Belgium and Romania.

Materials and methods

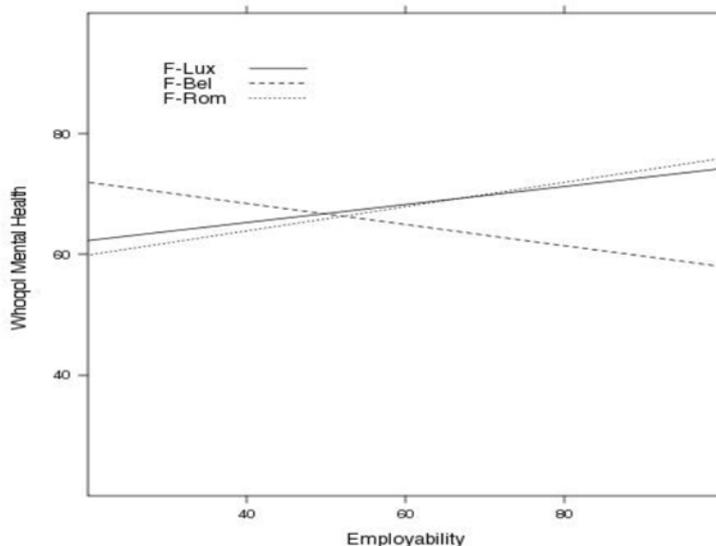
The population of the study was constituted of 260 newly registered students of social sciences faculties: 102 Luxembourgers, 89 from Belgians, 69 Romanians. They completed an online questionnaire.

- Quality of Life was assessed through Whoqol-Bref concerning psychological domains (P.D.), and social relations (RS.D.), environment (E.D.).
- Employability Skills (ES) using a 6-item scale, covering communication, interpersonal relations, and capacity of innovation.

Results

Female respondents were predominantly (90% Romanian, 75% Luxembourg, and 67% Belgian students). Belgian students were the youngest (18.5 years vs 19.1 Rom and 21.2 Lux). The Luxembourg students entered university one year later. ES score was higher among Luxembourg and Romania students than Belgium students (77,8 vs 71,3 vs 68,2). Psychological Whoqol-bref was also highest among Luxembourg and Romania students, Belgian students had the lowest (74.6 vs 65.3 vs 64.0). It was correlated positively with both social relations and environment Whoqol-bref domains, and with the ES score for Luxembourg and Romanian students, but negatively for Belgian students.

Figure 1. Predicted relations between psychological WHOQoL and Employability Skills (linear multiple regression).



Conclusion

Employability skills related to psychological health among students enrolled into vocational courses from Luxembourg and Romania faculties, but not among Belgian counterparts. University is a natural setting to promote programmes geared to psychological counselling, improvement of the social environment, and assistance services for learn to organise university work.

	Age	ES	RS.D.	E.D.
Lux.				
M	21,4	76,8	77,0	73,1
(SD)	(4,2)	(12,1)	(20,2)	(13,5)
Rho	0.083	0.314**	0.577***	0.451***
p.	0.417	0.002	<0.001	<0.001
Bel.				
M	18,6	64,8	70,6	68,1
(SD)	(1,1)	(11,9)	(17,3)	(12,8)
Rho	-	0.110	0.316***	0.455***
p	0.216*	0.310	<0.001	<0.001
	0.044			
Rom.				
M	19,1	75.6	67.0	56.3
(SD)	(0,4)	(14.8)	(22.5)	(16.0)
Rho	0.068	0.471***	0.632***	0.516***
p	0.576	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

Table 1. Correlations between psychological WHOQoL-bref and Employability Skills (separated régression).

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