With funding from the:

Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space

eurostudent.eu

Call for Contributions

EUROSTUDENT 9 Conference, Berlin, Germany, 9-10 June 2027

Living Well, Studying Well: Foundations of the Social Dimension in European Higher Education

Scope: The purpose of this call is to collect evidence-based research and policy proposals that support the social dimension of European higher education and good study conditions.

Key points

What: EUROSTUDENT 9 Conference — final conference of the ninth round (2024–2027), launching the round's reports and key findings

When: 9 June (full day) – 10 June (half day) 2027, welcome reception 8 June (evening)

Where: BMFTR, Kapelle-Ufer 1, 10117 Berlin, Germany

Abstract deadline: 1 February 2027

Submit to: eurostudent@dzhw.eu

Focus: Student housing and student mental health data and policy, within the European Higher Education Area's broader social dimension agenda

Hosted by the German Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR), the EUROSTUDENT 9 conference marks the close of the ninth round of the EUROSTUDENT project (2024-2027) and brings together the evolving evidence on the social and economic conditions of students in European higher education. It offers an opportunity both to take stock of what has been learned since 2024 and to look ahead to the challenges that will shape the next phase of European higher education policy. The conference will also integrate the perspective of students as future skilled professionals as outlined in the German High Tech Agenda. As the final conference of this round, the event also marks the launch of EUROSTUDENT's reports and data for the ninth round, offering participants the first opportunity to hear key findings.

As this round of EUROSTUDENT draws to a close, EUROSTUDENT and the BMFTR have chosen to focus on the perspective of students and to place two issues at the center of debate: the availability and affordability of student housing, and the state of student mental health and well-being — and, in particular, how policy is responding to both. These headline

concerns sit alongside the full range of topics that make up EUROSTUDENT's social dimension focus.

Ministries, researchers, and stakeholders, as well as other scholars, policymakers, practitioners, and students involved in (comparative) higher education research and policy are invited to contribute to a deeper understanding of the student situation in Europe and to discuss strategies for strengthening the social dimension of higher education.

We especially welcome contributions that explore student housing, mental health and policy responses to it, while also encouraging contributions addressing other relevant areas.

This conference serves as a platform for:

- Researchers engaged in the EUROSTUDENT project and the analysis of student survey data,
- Scholars examining the student experience using the EUROSTUDENT Scientific Use Files,
- Academics focusing on comparative research in higher education with a strong emphasis on the student perspective and drawing on comparative data,
- Policymakers involved in higher education policy, particularly the social dimension of higher education, including housing and mental health,
- Students/student representatives, and
- Intermediaries (student service organisations, student housing organisations, etc.) wishing to share and learn more about best practices related to the student experience.

Key Topics

Contributions related to all EUROSTUDENT topics are welcome, with particular interest in student housing and mental health policy. Contributions should focus on one of the following areas:

1. EUROSTUDENT project insights

- National and comparative data analyses and interpretations related to EUROSTUDENT topics (see point 4)
- Policy implications from EUROSTUDENT data

2. Student housing

- Housing cost burden, availability, and quality
- Housing as a driver of access, retention, and equity
- National and institutional policy responses to student housing shortages

3. Student mental health

- Student mental health status, models of student mental health
- Mental health as a driver of study success
- National policy approaches to student mental health
- Counselling and support service models

4. The social dimension of higher education

- Findings related to topics relevant for the social dimension of higher education, especially from a comparative analytical standpoint. This includes, but is not limited to:
    - Students' backgrounds
        - Inequalities in access and success
        - Changing student profiles, new types of students
    - Study conditions and experiences
        - Access and transition
        - Study conditions and quality
        - Time budget
        - Mobility
    - Living conditions of students
        - Housing (see above)
        - Student resources and expenses
        - Employment
    - Discrimination and inclusive educational environments
    - Future plans and transitions beyond higher education

5. Policy initiatives and impact studies

- Presentations of policy initiatives related to housing, mental health, and the social dimension more broadly
- Assessments of legislative and regulatory impacts
- Comparative analyses of policy approaches

Submission Guidelines

- Formats for contributions:
    - **Individual presentations** (will be grouped into thematic sessions by the organisers).
    - **Panels** should consist of 3-4 presenters discussing interconnected topics (a mix of policy and research-focused presentations within one panel is particularly welcome).

  - **Roundtables:** This format provides space for focused exchange on current and emerging policy issues in higher education as well as strategies, reforms, or policy initiatives to address them. Contributions should briefly introduce the issue or initiative at hand and use it as a starting point for an interactive discussion among participants, with an emphasis on exchanging experiences, good practice and perspectives, and implications for policy and practice.
  - **Innovative Formats:** We encourage creative and unconventional presentation ideas. If you have a unique format or concept for your contribution, please don't hesitate to propose it!
- Submission information
  - **Abstracts**: Up to 500 words for one of the mentioned formats.
  - **File format**: PDF (preferred) or DOCX
  - **Language**: English
  - **Individual contribution**: Include the presentation title, author(s) information, and a brief description of author(s) (around 100 additional words).
  - **Panels**: In addition to individual abstracts, submit a panel summary (up to 500 words) outlining the overall theme and objectives. Indicate a designated panel chair or moderator.
  - **Roundtable:** A roundtable proposal should outline the policy issue, strategy, reform, or initiative to be discussed, its relevance, and the key questions for discussion. Indicate a designated chair or moderator and, where applicable, the intended contributors or stakeholder perspectives. Include a brief description of the chair(s).
  - Submissions should be sent to eurostudent@dzhw.eu.
- Important Dates
  - Abstract Submission deadline: 1 February 2027
  - Notification of acceptance: 1 April 2027
  - Conference dates: 9 June (full day) – 10 June (half day) 2027. A welcome reception will take place on 8 June in the evening and will focus on the perspective of students as future skilled professionals.

Practical Information

The conference will be held at the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR), Kapelle-Ufer 1, 10117 Berlin, Germany. The ministry's Berlin premises are located in a building on the Spree, in the heart of Berlin's government district, close to Berlin main

station (Hauptbahnhof). The venue is easily reachable from the city's airport (direct regional trains reach Berlin Hauptbahnhof in ≈ 30 minutes, after which the conference site is a 5-minute walk).

The conference language is English.

The venue is fully accessible. Please contact us with any specific accessibility requirements.

EUROSTUDENT invites all accepted contributors by covering the costs for conference participation (meals and coffee breaks during the event, not: travel and accommodation costs).

We look forward to seeing you in Berlin!

Contact

In case of questions, please contact:

EUROSTUDENT team at DZHW:

eurostudent@dzhw.eu

Project coordinator Kristina Hauschildt:
hauschildt@dzhw.eu

BMFTR:

Anna Wieser
anna.wieser@bmftr.bund.de

Data Protection

The personal data provided in connection with the submission of an abstract will be stored by the DZHW and the BMFTR as a register of participants and of those who have expressed an interest in the 2027 final conference. By submitting an abstract for this conference, the data subjects consent to the following:

- The use of personal data to be contacted by email, post or telephone and for the provision of information about this conference as well as future conferences and meetings.
- The use of personal data in the relevant conference materials, such as the book of abstracts, the scientific programme (online and/or in printed form), and/or in overviews of abstracts (presentations and posters).

All personal data will be used exclusively in accordance with the applicable EU data protection regulations (GDPR) and will not be disclosed to third parties without the participant's written consent.

Funded with the support of the participating countries.
Co-funded by the European Union
With funding from the:
Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space
The funders are not responsible for the content.