



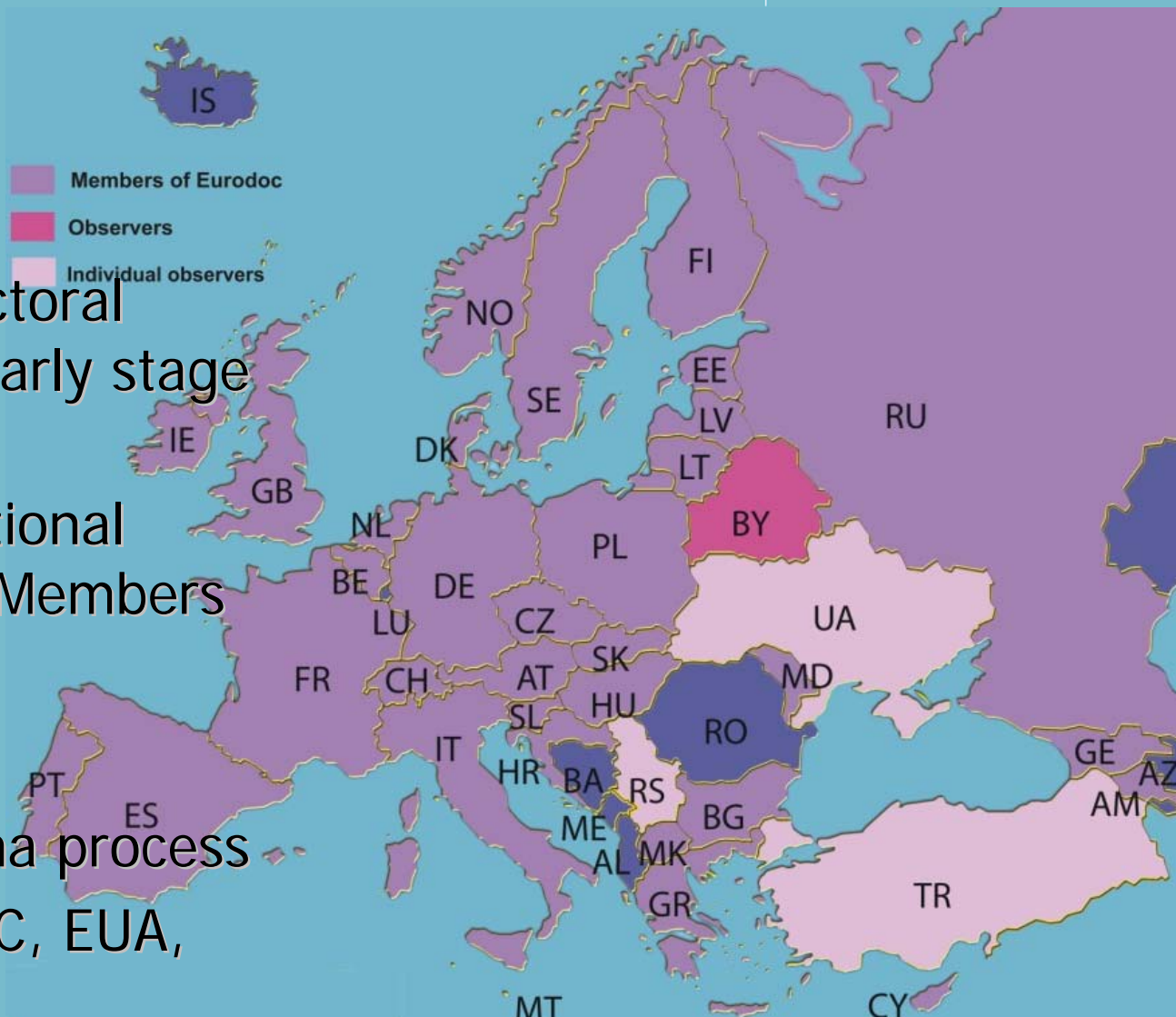
*The European Council of
Doctoral Candidates and
Junior Researchers*

UKCGE European Conference 2008
Impact of Bologna on Doctoral Education in Europe

Mobility – Opportunity vs. Reality

Karoline Holländer
President of EURODOC

- Representing doctoral candidates and early stage researchers
- Federation of national associations: 32 Members
- 6 Workgroups
- Partner in Bologna process
- Consultancy to EC, EUA, etc...



Contents

- Basics of mobility
- Chances for mobility
- Obstacles to mobility
- Perspectives

Basics of Mobility

- Aim of creating a knowledge based economy
- Aim of creating the European Research Area (ERA)
- Discussion on the Lisbon Agenda

**Growing public awareness
of research as the heart of Europe's
future competitiveness**

Basics of Mobility

- Basic needs to reach this:
 - **Attractive working conditions**
 - **Possibility of unlimited mobility**

Basics of Mobility

Dimensions of Mobility:

- regions, countries
- sectors (academia-industry, public private)
- domains, research disciplines

→ Mobility across multiple dimensions

Chances for Mobility

- Charter & Code (2005)
- Introduction of the „Researcher’s Visa“ in 2005
- EU initiatives for strengthening the mobility of researchers in the ERA

Chances for Mobility

Charter and Code (cont'd)

(<http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/rights>)

- Promoting the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers
 - Doctoral candidates are considered as professionals
 - Researchers receive a salary and social benefits, including parental leave and pension rights
 - Selection process is transparent and fair (among other things)

Chances for Mobility

Collections of information and on the “to do’s”:

- ERA-Portal EurAXESS
- ERA green paper (2008): “Realising a single labour market for researchers”
 - Collection of information and ideas by public consultation (input from member states and stakeholders)
- Use of the shared supervision co-tutelle model

Obstacles to Mobility

- Lack of Charta & Code only recognition: “Fair and attractive conditions for funding and/or salaries with social security only in a few countries”
- Pension not transferable in between all countries due to differences in pension & retirement systems
- Portability of social security, pension funds and research grants
- Research institutes do not like to see their best researchers leave
- Leaving a research institute can risk career opportunities

Obstacles to Mobility

- “a lack of resources to support the direct and indirect costs of mobility
- an insufficient weight given to mobility as a valuable component of the researcher CV;
- the persisting reluctance to move between the public and the private sector;
- the lack of a strategic approach to the accumulated” (ERA green paper, 2008, p.7)

Obstacles to Mobility

- “lack of awareness of social security and supplementary pensions rules and rights;
- the need to improve cooperation between national administrations, research authorities and institutions both in social security and supplementary pension areas;
- relatively little tailoring of social security rules of Regulation 1408/71 (883/2004) to individual researcher profiles (whether EU citizens or third-country nationals);
- need to exploit potentialities of current instruments to set up (a) pan-European Pension Fund(s) for researchers;
- the need to encourage the use of tax incentives to facilitate the participation in supplementary pension schemes” (ERA green paper, 2008, p.8)

Perspectives

- Corner-stones (suggestions) in the ERA green paper (2008)
- Indirect information: Information system on transferability of pensions in between the systems (widening of the ERA-portal → <http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/>)
- Direct information: Training staff at Universities who are “first contact points”
- Integrate information in job adverts
- Mobility Fund for pensions
- Develop a more responsive culture towards the mobile researchers
- **Focus on certain areas of the ERA green paper and/or the C&C**

Upcoming EURODOC events

2008-07: Eurodoc Workshop & board meeting at ESOF

2008-11: Eurodoc Workshop in Rennes

2009-03: Eurodoc 2009 Annual Conference

- ▶ For more information:
www.eurodoc.net
- ▶ Contact the board:
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Thank you!