

Introduction

This research document goes together with the blog *'Seeks education – will travel; or how changing tuition fees could impact the European Higher Education dream of free exchange of students'* posted on www.azorus.com on May 27th, 2011.

The blog discusses the proposed changes in tuition fees in the United Kingdom and the effects this new pricing policy will have on the behaviour of British students. Many assume a good number of them will travel to the mainland to get their degrees. However, at the same time little seemed to be known about the options and possibilities of attending university on the continent. The goal of this research document was to give an overview of these options. We chose to only look at European countries in which there is a fair chance the local population has a decent command of English, making it easy and attractive for international students to go there. As a result not all European countries are included.

Universities

In each country mentioned the total number of universities is presented. This number only comprises the universities themselves, and does not include universities of applied sciences or other higher education institutions. Of the total number of universities, only the ones ranked in the Times Higher Education World Universities Ranking (THE) and/or in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) are presented.

Tuition fees

Finally the tuition fees for all these universities are given. They are for the year 2012-2013.

Conclusion

In most of the continental European countries, students can go to university either for free or for a relatively small amount of money. In December 2010 the British government decided to allow UK universities to triple their tuition fees to £9.000 (€10.500) per year as of 2012. The universities in England and Wales have decided to do so.

In 1999 the European Union started the so-called 'Bologna process', a joint endeavour of the EU member states (including the UK) to create a European Higher Education Area stimulating free exchange of students and academics. In accordance with that, European legislation sees to it that all European students will pay the same level of tuition fees as local students do.

In our blog article we conclude that this legislation in combination with the proposed increase of tuition fees in England and Wales threatens this very ideal of free student exchange. In theory all EU students are able and allowed to go study in England and Wales, the same way English and Welsh students are able and allowed to study anywhere in the EU, but in reality no EU student will pay up to £9.000 a year (£27.000 pounds for a Bachelor's degree) they can get for much less or even for free in their own countries or one of the other member states of the European Union. In that case the free and equal exchange will become one-way traffic benefitting only the English and Welsh students who will see their education paid for by continental European tax payers.

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European Higher Education options for British students

THE = Times Higher Education World University Rankings

ARWU = Academic Ranking of World Universities by the Institute of Higher Education of Shanghai Jiao Tong University

AUSTRIA

Number of universities: 25

Number of universities in THE/ARWU rankings: 6

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 2

Number of Master programmes in English: 51

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>2012-2013 fees EU/EEA student for Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• University of Vienna	195	151-200	free
• Medical University of Vienna		201-300	free
• University of Innsbruck	187	201-300	free
• Medical University of Graz		301-400	free
• Medical University of Innsbruck		301-400	free
• Vienna University of Technology		401-500	free

All students have to pay a mandatory fee of €32 a year to the student union.

BELGIUM

Number of universities: 14

Number of universities in THE/ARWU rankings: 7

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 5

Number of Master programmes in English: 141

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>2012-2013 fees EU/EEA student for Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• Ghent University	124	90	€580
• Catholic University of Leuven	119	101-150	€580
• Catholic University of Louvain		101-150	€580
• University Libre Bruxelles		101-150	€580
• University of Antwerp		201-300	€580
• University Liege		201-300	€580
• Vrije Universiteit Brussel		401-500	€580

DENMARK

Number of universities: 9

Number of universities in rankings: 4

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 35

Number of Master programmes in English: 117

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>2012-2013 fees EU/EEA student for Ba and Ma programmes</i>
University of Copenhagen	177	40	free
Aarhus University	167	98	free
Technical University of Denmark	122	151-200	free
University of Southern Denmark		301-400	free

FINLAND

Number of universities: 16

Number of universities in rankings: 6

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 105

Number of Master programmes in English: 226

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>2012-2013 fees EU/EEA student for Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• University of Helsinki	102	72	free
• University of Oulu		301-400	free
• University of Turku		301-400	free
• Aalto University		401-500	free
• University of Eastern Finland		401-500	free
• University of Jyväskylä		401-500	free

GERMANY

Number of universities: 80

Number of universities in rankings: 41

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 112

Number of Master programmes in English: 601

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>2012-2013 fees EU/EEA student for Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• University of Munich	61	52	€1.000
• Technical University Munich	101	56	€1.000
• University of Heidelberg	83	63	€1.000
• University of Bonn	178	93	free
• Humboldt University Berlin	178		free
• University of Goettingen	43	93	€1.000
• University of Frankfurt	172	101-150	free
• University of Freiburg	132	101-150	€1.000
• University of Muenster		101-150	free
• University of Tuebingen	189	101-150	€1.000
• University of Wuerzburg	168	101-150	€1.000
• University of Hamburg		101-150	free
• University of Kiel		101-150	free
• University of Koeln		101-150	free
• University of Mainz		101-150	free
• RWTH Aachen	182	201-300	free
• Technical University of Berlin		201-300	free
• University of Bochum		201-300	free
• University of Duesseldorf		201-300	free
• University of Erlangen-Nuremberg		201-300	€1.000
• University of Halle-Wittenberg		201-300	free
• University of Leipzig		201-300	free
• University of Marburg		201-300	free
• University of Stuttgart		201-300	€1.000
• Technical University Darmstadt		301-400	free
• Dresden University of Technology		301-400	free
• University of Bielefeld	173	301-400	free
• University of Bremen		301-400	free

GERMANY - continued

• University of Duisburg-Essen		301-400	free
• University of Jena		301-400	free
• University of Karlsruhe		301-400	€1.000
• University of Konstanz	186	301-400	€1.000
• Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	187		€1.000
• University of Regensburg		301-400	€1.000
• University of Ulm		301-400	€1.000
• Hannover Medical School		401-500	€1.000
• Technical University of Braunschweig		401-500	€1.000
• University of Bayreuth		401-500	€1.000
• University of Giessen		401-500	free
• University of Greifswald		401-500	free
• University of Hannover		401-500	free

IRELAND

Number of universities: 7

Number of universities in rankings: 3

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>fees EU/EEA student*</i> <i>Only for undergraduate programmes (Ba)</i>
• Trinity College Dublin	76	201-300	no tuition; mandatory student services fee of €1.500
• University College Dublin	94	301-400	no tuition; mandatory contribution fee of €1.500
• University College Cork		401-500	no tuition; mandatory contribution fee of €2.150

* EU/EEA students or those with a refugee status in Ireland are exempted from paying tuition fees if:

- they have resided in an EU state for at least 3-5 years before applying for higher education studies;
- it is the first time they apply for an undergraduate course at a university or college and
- will enrol in a full-time undergraduate course of at least 2 years' duration.

Exemption of tuition fees only goes for the undergraduate programmes; tuition fees for post graduate courses range between €5.000 and €20.000.

NETHERLANDS

Number of universities: 13

Number of universities in rankings: 12

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 35

Number of Master programmes in English: 593

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>fees EU/EEA student per year Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• Utrecht University	143	50	€1.713
• Leiden University	124	70	€1.713
• University of Amsterdam	165	101-150	€1.713
• University of Groningen	170	101-150	€1.713
• University of Wageningen	144	101-150	€1.713
• VU University of Amsterdam	139	101-150	€1.713
• Delft University of Technology	151	151-200	€1.713
• Erasmus University	159	151-200	€1.713
• Radboud University Nijmegen		151-200	€1.713
• University of Maastricht		151-200	€1.713
• University of Twente	185	151-200	€1.713
• Eindhoven University of Technology	114	151-200	€1.713

NORWAY

Number of universities: 17

Number of universities in rankings: 4

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 4

Number of Master programmes in English: 220

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>fees EU/EEA student per year Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• University of Oslo		75	free
• Norwegian University of Science & Technology		201-300	free
• University of Bergen	135	201-300	free
• University of Tromsø		301-400	free

SWEDEN

Number of universities: 17

Number of universities in rankings: 11

Number of Bachelor programmes in English: 41

Number of Master programmes in English: 696

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>fees EU/EEA student per year Ba and Ma programmes</i>
• Karolinska Institute		42	free
• Uppsala University	147	66	free
• Stockholm University	129	79	free
• Lund University	89	101-150	free
• Chalmers University of Technology		201-300	free
• Royal Institute of Technology	193	201-300	free
• Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	199	201-300	free
• Umea University		201-300	free
• University of Gothenburg		201-300	free
• Stockholm School of Economics		301-400	free
• Linköping University		401-500	free

UNITED KINGDOM

Number of universities: 109

Number of universities in rankings: 38

	<i>THE top 200</i>	<i>ARWU top 500</i>	<i>fees EU/EEA student per year Ba and Ma programmes*</i>
• University of Cambridge	6	5	£9.000 (€10.500)
• University of Oxford	6	10	£9.000
• University College London	22	21	£9.000
• Imperial College	9	26	£9.000
• University of Manchester	87	44	£9.000
• University of Edinburgh	40	54	£1.820/free**
• King's College London	77	63	£9.000
• University of Bristol	68	66	£9.000
• University of Nottingham	174	84	£9.000
• University of Sheffield	137	88	£9.000

UNITED KINGDOM - continued

• University of Birmingham	145	99	£9.000
• University of Leeds	168	101-150	£9.000
• University of Liverpool	165	101-150	£9.000
• University of Sussex	79	101-150	£9.000
• Cardiff University		151-200	£9.000
• University of Glasgow	128	151-200	£1.820/free**
• Durham University	85	151-200	£9.000
• University of Southampton	90	151-200	£9.000
• University of Warwick		151-200	£9.000
• Lancaster University	124	201-300	£9.000
• London School of Economics	86	201-300	£8.500 (€10.000)
• Newcastle University	152	201-300	£9.000
• Queen Mary University London	120	201-300	£9.000
• Queen's University Belfast		201-300	not yet decided
• University of Reading		201-300	£9.000
• University of Aberdeen	149	201-300	£1.820/free**
• University of East Anglia	174	201-300	£9.000
• University of Leicester		201-300	£9.000
• University of St Andrews	103	201-300	£1.820/free**
• University of York	81	201-300	not yet published
• London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine		301-400	£9.000
• The Open University		301-400	£9.000
• University of Dundee	140	301-400	£1.820/free**
• University of Bath		301-400	£9.000
• University of Exeter	184	301-400	£9.000
• Brunel University		401-500	£9.000
• University of Essex		401-500	£9.000
• University of Surrey		401-500	£9.000
• Royal Holloway, University of London	88		£9.000
• Birckbeck University of London	152		£6.000-£9.000

*Tuition fees are intentional. Final tuition fees will be made public after July 11th 2011.

** Scottish and first degree EU students can apply to have their tuition fee paid for by the Scottish government through the Student Award Agency Scotland (SAAS). The mentioned fees are for 2011-2012. The Scottish government has yet to agree on the tuition fee and student finance model for 2012.

Sources:

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