# Higher Education and Graduate Employment in Europe

## Survey of Graduates in ... [NatCat]

(Revised Master Questionnaire, 29.10.1998)

[NatCat = where national adaptations are needed]

Dear Graduates, [NatCat the whole cover page is optional]

As heads of the research group, we request your participation in a representative survey of persons graduating in 1994 or 1995 from institutions of higher education in 11 European countries and in Japan.

In reporting the experiences you personally made in the course of your study and after graduation you might contribute to a representative feedback most valuable for those responsible in higher education and as well for those setting the framework conditions for employment and other life spheres.

The survey is undertaken in Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Norway, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands, and in the United Kingdom. In your country, researchers from the Open University [NatCat] are responsible for the data collection and analysis. The project is financially supported by the European Commission, Directorate General XII through the Targeted Socio-Economic Research Programme.

We assure you that your replies will be used only in the framework of this research project. The results will be published in such a way that identification of individual persons is excluded.

#### YOUR INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED STRICTLY CONFIDENTIALLY.

If you wish, we will send you a summary of the most important results. Please return the completed questionnaire as soon as possible to the address mentioned below.

Thank you very much for your kind support.

Signature

John Brennan [NatCat]

Signature

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Teichler

Send the questionnaire to:

[NatCat]John Brennan

The Open University, Quality Support Centre 344-354 Gray's Inn Road, WCIX 3BP London

**☎** 0171.447.2506 - Fax 0171.837.0290 email j.l.brennan@open.ac.uk [NatCat]

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Teichler Project Co-ordinator University of Kassel, Germany

### **Explanatory Notes [NatCat this notes are optional]**

#### How long does it take to fill in the questionnaire?

Most of you will need about one hour – less than a movie. It depends of course on the kind of experiences you have made during the last years.

We have developed a high standardized questionnnaire, which mainly expect from you to mark boxes which refer to relevant answers. With this approach we hope that we have made it easy for you to answer the questions.

#### How to answer the questions?

Please answer <u>all questions applicable to you</u>. In some cases, you will note that the questionnaire suggests you to disregard some questions not applicable to you (e.g.  $\rightarrow$  GO TO QUESTION...).

Since the questionnaire will be <u>captured</u> with the help of a scanner, please fill it in readable.

If questions are itemised, please mark the most appropriate answer like this  $\rightarrow$   $\boxtimes$ .

In some questions we have employed answer scales from 1 to 5 (e.g 1 = very good to 5 = very bad).

## J2 Looking back, if you were free to choose again, how likely would you ...

Very Not likely likely at all 1 2 3 4 5

a. choose the same course of study?

b. choose the same institution of higher education?

Example of a 5-point-scale:

mark <u>one</u> box for each item (row)

If you would like to <u>correct</u> your answer, make the wrong one black and mark and underscore the right one.

In some cases we ask you for numbers only, e.g.  $\boxed{2}/\boxed{98}$  and in others we leave space for you to write an answer (.............).

If you are asked for numbers, please fill in OO, if your answer would be "zero".

*If the space for your replies is not sufficient, please include an additional sheet of paper.* 

#### Your comments and additional information are welcome

This questionnaire is used in more than 12 countries with a wide range of different fields of study and different institutions of higher education. We could not take into consideration every specific detail of study and work, which might be relevant for the survey. Therefore we would appriciate your comments and additional information.

A.	Educational Background Prior to Study
	ase provide information on your educational development and your work experiences before your first olment in higher education.
A1	What were your entry qualifications when you entered higher education (full or part-time) for the first time? [NatCat]
	School-type qualifications (e.g. A Levels, Highers) [Use national categories, examples here are from UK ]
	Vocational/professional qualifications (e.g. ONC)
	Other qualifications (e.g. access course, entry exam)
	Course was "open entry" $\rightarrow$ GO TO QUESTION A6
	How would you rate your grades? [NatCat]  NATIONAL CATEGORIES, EXAMPLES HERE ARE FROM UK, REVISE THE HEADLINE OF A2 CORESSPONDINGLY]  High  Medium
	Low
A3	When did you get your entry qualification?[NatCat]
Ш	Month 19 Year
A4	How many years of (primary plus secondary) schooling did you spend altogether up to acquiring the entry qualification to higher education (include years of repeating classes)? [NatCat]
	quantication to migner education (include years of repeating classes). [Nation]
Ш	Years of schooling altogether
	How many months did you spend on the following activities between obtaining the entry qualification (see A1) [NatCat] and your first enrolment in higher education? Please state only the major activities.
	Months  Other education/training/apprenticeship:
Ш	Employment/self-employment
	Child rearing, family care
	Military or civilian service [NatCat]
	Not employed, seeking employment
	Other (please specify):
A6	Prior to your first enrolment in higher education, have you been employed abroad or have you received any education/training/apprenticeship abroad? <i>Multiple reply possible</i>
	$N_0 \rightarrow GO \ TO \ QUESTION \ B1$
	Yes, I have been employed abroad:  Years  Years  Months  Country:
	Yes, I received education/training/apprenticeship abroad: Years Months Country:

<b>∢</b>					•
В	. Higher Educa	ation Courses	Taken		
В1	graduate, and courses r more than one degree, p	ation about all higher enter the completed [NatCat]). The completed [NatCat]) and the completes fill in more than order for, please add a shee	If you changed the in ne row. If you studied i	stitution, the field of st	udy or if you took
	A. Begin – End (month/year)	B. Major(s) studied (please specify)	C. Name of institution (please specify)	D. Kind of degree earned (please fill in the number from the list A below) [NatCat]	E. Class of degree/grade (if applicable) [NatCat]
1.	Begin / L			No degree	First Upper second Lower second Third Unclassified
2.	Begin / / L   / End   Not finished (yet)			No degree	First Upper second Lower second Third Unclassified
3.	Begin			No degree	First Upper second Lower second Third Unclassified
4.	Begin			No degree	First Upper second Lower second Third Unclassified
Li	ist A: Kind of degree NatCa	i tl			Officiassifica
1 H 2 H 3 H 4 H	BA Hons	6 Master of Arts (I 7 Master of Science 8 Master of Educa 9 Other Master's	ce (MSc)	10 PhD 11 Other (please specify in	n column D)
B2	Did you spend time about No → GO TO QUESTICE Yes		your study (in order to	o work or to study)?	
В3	If you stayed abroad: p duration and the activi	•	iod abroad, if you have	e spent more than one)	the countries, the
	A. Country	B. Duration		C. Major activity	
	(please specify)	(months)	Study (classes	(multiple reply possible) , self-study, work on thesis	(etc.)
1		months	Work placeme	•	

A. Country
(please specify)

B. Duration
(months)

C. Major activity
(multiple reply possible)

Study (classes, self-study, work on thesis etc.)

Work placements/internships
Other (please specify):

Study (classes, self-study, work on thesis etc.)

Work placements/internships
Other (please specify):

Other (please specify):

D4 H	Cost consistent in	
high	many months between first enrolment in er education and graduation 1994 or 1995 ou spend predominantly on:	B. Outside lecture period (approx. hours per week) [NatCat]
Duration	ou spenu <u>preuommantry</u> on.	Attending lectures (e.g. summer school) and other study activities (inc. self-studies, etc.)
(months)	Employment/work <u>not related to study</u> or possible	Employment/work (excluding work placements/internships)
	future work  Employment/work <u>related to study</u> or possible future work	Other (please specify):
	Work placement, internship (as part of your degree course) [NatCat]	
	Child rearing, family care	B7 To what extent did your work experiences (employment, internships etc.) during study tie up with the content of your studies (you graduated
	Military or civilian service [NatCat]	from in 1994 or 1995)?  To a very  Not at all  Not applicable, no
	Not employed, seeking employment	high extent work experiences  1 2 3 4 5 6
	Other: (please specify)	
1995 norn requ high of w studi	ing the degree you were awarded in 1994 or (see Question B1) and what period is nally/by law required (including eventually ired lower level diplomas and degrees in er education and including mandatory periods ork placements/internships; excluding other es, periods of other activities, etc.)? [NatCat s or semester]	graduated from in 1994 or 1995: to what extent were the following modes of teaching and learning emphasised by your institution of higher education and its teachers? Please rate each of the applicable options on a 5-point scale  To a very Not at high extent 1 2 3 4 5
I actually studied Years Months		a. Facts and instrumental knowledge
Normally/	by law	b. Theories, concepts or paradigms c. Attitudes and socio-
required a [NatCat]	Years Months	communicative skills
	e, notice: The following questions B6 to B9	d. Independent learning
	ONLY to the course of study that you attention at the attention attention at the attention	e. Regular class attendance
B6 How	many hours per week during your study	f. Teacher as the main source of information and understanding
	you graduated from in 1994 or 1995) did you d on average on each of the following	g. Freedom to choose courses and areas of specialisation
	rities? Please estimate	h. Project and problem-based learning
A. During	lecture period (approx. hours per week) [NatCat]	i. Direct acquisition of work
	Major subjects: attending lectures	j. Out-of-class communication between students and staff
	Major subjects: other study activities (inc. self-studies, etc.)	k. Writing a thesis [NatCat; Thesis or other substantial academic
	Other subjects	assignment]  1. Detailed regular assessment of
	Extra-curricular activities (e.g. societies, drama, sport, student union)	academic progress
	Employment/work (excluding work placements/internships)	
	Other (please specify):	

C. Job Search and Sequence of Professional Activities The following questions refer to the period after graduation in 1994 or 1995. C1 Did you ever seek a job since graduation 1994 or C5 Which method was the most important one for 1995? Exclude applications for casual and getting your first job after graduation in 1994 or 1995? Please fill in the item number from question vacation jobs. Yes → PLEASE GO TO QUESTION C2 No, I set up my own business/self-employment ☐ Most important method No, I continued the job I have had before graduation Not applicable, I have not found a job after graduation No, I continued to study → PLEASE GO TO QUESTION C9 No, I obtained work without actually searching PLEASE GO TO QUESTION C8 C6 How many employers did you contact (by e.g. letter) before you took up your first job after Other (please specify): graduation in 1994 or 1995? → IF YOU HAVE NOT SOUGHT A JOB PLEASE GO TO QUESTION C9 Approx. \_\_\_\_\_number of employers contacted C2 When did you start looking for a job? Exclude search for casual and vacation jobs. C7 How many months have you sought all-together (before or after graduation) for your first job Prior to graduation, \_\_\_\_\_ months earlier after graduation in 1994 or 1995, which you consider not to be a casual job? Around the time of graduation After graduation, \_\_\_\_\_ months later Months of job seeking C3 Did you intend any of the following during your job search period after graduation in 1994 or C8 How important, according to your perception, 1995? Multiple reply possible were the following aspects for your employer in recruiting you for your initial employment after a. Part-time employment graduation, if applicable? b. To be self-employed (own business, contract work Not at all important 1 2 3 4 etc.) important 5 c. To work abroad a. Field of study d. To be employed/self-employed in the region of my b. Main subject/specialisation partner/spouse/parents e. None of the above c. Exam results [NatCat] d. Practical/work experience C4 How did you try to find the first job after acquired during course of study graduation? Multiple reply possible e. Practical/work experience 1. I applied for an advertised vacancy acquired prior to course of study 2. I contacted employers without knowing about a f. Reputation of the institution of higher education 3. I launched advertisements by myself g. Experience abroad 4. I was approached by an employer h. Foreign language proficiency 5. I contacted a public employment agency [NatCat] i. Computer skills 6. I contacted a commercial employment agency j. Recommendations/references 7. I enlisted the help of the careers/placement office from third persons [NatCat] of my institution of higher education k. Personality 8. I enlisted the help of teaching staff of the institution of higher education 1. Other: ..... (please specify) 9. I established contacts while working during the course of study 10. I used other personal connections/contacts (e.g. parents, relatives, friends) 11. I started my own business/self-employment

	Begin - End	Kind of major activity		rmation rega	rding employment
	(month/year)	(use a new section for each new activity or for activities at the same time)	Full-time or part-time?	Type of contract?	Job title and position (please specify)
	A	В	C	D	E E
2.	Begin  L   / L   L	Employed Self-employed  Not employed, seeking employment  Professional training	Full-time Part-time	Permanent Temporary	Job title: (e.g. primary school teacher, production engineer)
	Activity not finished yet	Advanced academic study Child rearing, family care Other (please specify):		TO NEXT TIVITY	Position: (e.g. assistant, team leader, head of department)
	Begin	Employed Self-employed } →	Full-time Part-time	Permanent Temporary	Job title: (e.g. primary school teacher, production engineer)
3.	End  Activity not finished yet	Not employed, seeking employment Professional training Advanced academic study Child rearing, family care Other (please specify):		O TO NEXT TIVITY	Position: (e.g. assistant, team leader, head of department)
4.	Begin  End  Activity not finished yet	Employed Self-employed  Not employed, seeking employment Professional training Advanced academic study Child rearing, family care Other (please specify):		Permanent Temporary  TO NEXT	Job title: (e.g. primary school teacher, production engineer)  Position: (e.g. assistant, team leader, head of department)
5.	Begin  End  Activity not	Employed Self-employed  Not employed, seeking employment Professional training Advanced academic study Child rearing, family care Other (please specify):		Permanent Temporary  TO NEXT	Job title: (e.g. primary school teacher, production engineer)  Position: (e.g. assistant, team leader, head of department)

•				•
D.	Current Activities, Employme	ent	and	Work
D1	If you are at current employed/self-employed: How would you describe your current pro- fessional situation? Multiple reply possible	D6	assigni teachin	is your current major area of workment (e.g. R&D, data processing, sales of g) and what are your additional area(s) of tes, if applicable?
	I have a regular employment/I am self-employed	Ma	jor area (	of work (please specify)
	I have casual jobs <u>related</u> to my study			
	I have casual jobs <u>not related</u> to my study			
	I have more than one job		ditional a	rea(s) of work (please specify)
	I am currently doing military or civilian service			(-)
	Other: (please specify)			
D2	Have you actively tried to obtain (other) paid work in the past 4 weeks?	D7		nany hours per week are you working or e? Multiple reply possible
	No → PLEASE GO TO QUESTION D3	Wo	averag orking hou	
	No, but I am awaiting the results of earlier job applications		per week	Contract hours of my major assignment
	Yes, and I could start working within the next two weeks	L		
	Yes, but I could not start working within the next two	L		Additional working hours of my major assignment (paid and unpaid overtime)
	weeks		1 1	Working hours on other assignments (second occupation, side jobs, etc.)
D3	How many employers (including self-employment) have you worked for in the period after graduation in 1994 or 1995 (including your present employer)?			Total working hours (incl. self-employment)
	present employer).	D8	•	work in a (big) organisation comprising
	Number of employers		branch	
	YOU ARE NOT EMPLOYED/SELF-EMPLOYED GO TO QUESTION D15			working in a branch working in the head office/central unit of an
	YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE JOB PLEASE			ation comprising branches
RE	FER TO YOUR <u>MAJOR JOB</u> .		No, I'm branche	working in an organization comprising no
D4	Please state the kind of your current emplo-			s licable, I am self-employed
	yer/institution (if several, please refer to main employer)? Please mark one single item only	D9		estimate, to the best of your ability, the
	Public employer			cimate number of people who are working
	Non-profit organization			a. the location where you
	Private employer	appro	ox.	currently work.
	Self employed Other:(please specify)	appro	эх. 🔲	b. the entire organisation if there is more than one
I		I		location.

D5 In which economic sector are you currently working? Please state in a specific term (e.g. car manufacturing, primary school, hospital, theatre).

(please specify)

D10		D13 To what extent do you communicate (oral and	
D10	If you are self-employed: Which of the following characteristics are applicable to you?	written communication) with clients/external partners	
	Multiple reply possible  a. I am serving a single contractor	To a Not very high at all	
	b. I took over an existing firm/office etc.	extent 1 2 3 4 5	
	c. I established a new firm/office etc.	a. in a <u>foreign</u> language?	
	d. I was asked by my former employer to work self- employed	b. with <u>foreigners</u> in <u>your language</u> ?	
	e. I am working at home	D14 What percentage of your work time do you	
	f. I have no employees	consider to have an international context?	
	g. I have a partnership with friends/relatives	Percentage of work time (%)	
	e. Other: (please specify)		_
D11	What is your approximate annual gross	D15 Have you, since graduation (multiple reply possible)	
TI	income?[NatCat local currency]:	a. considered working abroad?	
Thou	sand [NatCat]	b. sought employment abroad?	
	a. from your current major job         (excluding overtime and extra)	c. actually received an offer to work abroad?	
	payments)?	d. actually had regular employment abroad since	
	b. from overtime and extra payments in your major job?	graduation?  e. actually been sent abroad by your employer on	
	c. from other jobs?	work assignments?  f. None → GO TO QUESTION E1	
		D16 If you have worked abroad: In which	
D12	Did you undertake business/professional jour-	country(ies) and how many months (each)?	
	neys abroad within the last 12 months?	Duration Country (please specify)	
	No	***	
	Yes, altogether weeks	1 L months	
		2months	
		3	
		3 L months	

## **E. Competencies and Their Application**

E1 Please, state the extent to which you had the following competencies at the time of graduation in 1994 or 1995 and to what extent they are required in your current work. If you are not employed please answer only (A).

(A). A. Possessed at time of graduation 1994 or 1995	Knowledge, skills and competencies	B. Work requirements
To a very Not at high extent all		To a very Not at high extent all
1 2 3 4 5	a. Broad general knowledge	1 2 3 4 5
	b. Cross-disciplinary thinking/knowledge	
	c. Field-specific theoretical knowledge	
	d. Field-specific knowledge of methods	
	e. Foreign language proficiency	
	f. Computer skills	
	g. Understanding complex social, organisational and technical systems	
	h. Planning, co-ordinating and organising	
	i. Applying rules and regulations	
	j. Economic reasoning	
	k. Documenting ideas and information	
	a. Problem-solving ability	
	b. Analytical competencies	
	d. Learning abilities	
	e. Reflective thinking, assessing one's own work	
	f. Creativity	
	g. Working under pressure	
	h. Accuracy, attention to detail	
	i. Time management	
	j. Negotiating	
	k. Fitness for work	
	1. Manual skills	
	m. Working independently	
	n. Working in a team	
	a. Initiative	
	b. Adaptability	
	c. Assertiveness, decisiveness, persistence	
	d. Power of concentration	
	e. Getting personally involved	
	f. Loyalty, integrity	
	g. Critical thinking	<del> </del>
	h. Oral communication skills	
	i. Written communication skills	
	j. Tolerance, appreciating of different points of view	<del> </del>
	k. Leadership	
	Taking responsibilities, decisions	
	i. rading responsionness, decisions	

E2 To what extent has your study (you graduated from	1994 or 1995) been useful for?
To a very Not at all high extent 1 2 3 4 5	
a. preparing you for your present work	tasks?
b. preparing you for tasks in other spher	
> IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY NOT PROFESSIONA	L ACTIVE, GO TO QUESTION G2
E3 How important do you consider the following comp	etencies for doing your current work?
Very Not at all important important	
1 2 3 4 5	
-	untries (e.g. economical, sociological, legal knowledge) utional differences in culture and society, modes of behaviour, life
styles, etc.	tional differences in culture and society, modes of behaviour, me
c. Working with people from different	cultural backgrounds
d. Communicating in foreign languages	s
F. Relationships Between High	er Education and Work
F1 If you take into consideration your current work tasks altogether: To what extent do you use the knowledge and skills acquired in the course of study (you graduated from 1994 or 1995)?	F4 If you consider your employment and work as hardly appropriate and not linked to your education: why did you take it up? Multiple reply possible
To a very Not high extent at all	a. I have not (yet) been able to find a job more appropriate
1 2 3 4 5	b. In doing this job I have better career prospects
	c. I prefer an occupation which is not closely connected
F2 How would you characterise the relationship between your <u>field of study</u> and your <u>area of</u>	to my studies d. I was promoted to a position less linked to my studies
work?	than my previous position(s)
My field of study is the only possible/by far the best field	e. I can get a higher income in my current job
Some other fields could prepare for the area of work as well	f. My current job offers me more security
Another field would have been more useful	g. My current job is more interesting
The field of study does not matter very much  Higher education studies are not at all related to my area	<ul> <li>My current job provides the opportunity for part- time/flexible schedules etc.</li> </ul>
of work	i. My current job enables me to work in a locality,
Others (please specify):	which I prefer
F3 If you consider all dimensions of your	<ul> <li>My current job allows me to take into account family needs</li> </ul>
employment and work (status, position, income, work tasks, etc.):	k. At the beginning of the career envisaged I have to accept work hardly linked to my study
a. To what extent is your employment and work	l. Other:(please specify)
appropriate to your level of education?  Completely  Not at all	m. Not applicable, I consider my job closely linked to
appropriate appropriate	my studies
1 2 3 4 5	F5 Taking all aspects into account, to what extended does your current work situation meet the ex-
b. What is the most appropriate <u>level of course of</u>	pectations you had when you started your
study/degree for your employment and work in comparison to that which you graduated from in	study?
1994 or 1995?	Much Much Not applicable, I better than worse than have had no
A higher level than the one I graduated from	expected expectations 1 2 3 4 5
The same level	
A lower level of higher/tertiary education	
No higher/tertiary education at all	
Others (please specify):	I

### **G. Work Orientations and Job Satisfaction**

#### G1 Altogether, to what extent are you satisfied with your current work?

Very satisfied Very dissatisfied 1 2 3 4 5

#### G2 Please indicate the importance you placed on each of the following life goals - in the past and now.

A. At time of graduation 1994 or 1995		B. Now
Very         Not at all important           1         2         3         4         5		Very         Not at all important           1         2         3         4         5
	a. Social prestige	
	b. Personal development	
	c. Varied social life	
	d. Home/family	
	e. Making money	
	f. Academic inquiry	
	g. Work	

## G3 How important are the following characteristics of an occupation for you personally (A) and to what extent do they apply to your current professional situation (B)? If you are not employed please answer only (A).

A.		B.
Importance           Very         Not at all		Apply to current situation To a very Not at
important important 1 2 3 4 5		high extent all
	a. Largely independent disposition of work	1 2 3 1 3
	b. Opportunity of undertaking scientific/scholarly work	
	c. Clear and well-ordered tasks	
	d. Possibilities of using acquired knowledge and skills	
	e. Job security	
	f. Social recognition and status	
	g. Opportunity of pursuing own ideas	
	h. Good social climate	
	i. Opportunity of pursuing continuous learning	
	j. High income	
	k. Chances of (political) influence	
	l. Challenging tasks	
	m. Good career prospects	
	n. Enough time for leisure activities	
	o. Co-ordinating and management tasks	
	p. Possibility of working in a team	
	q. Chance of doing something useful for society	
	r. Variety	
	s. Good chances of combining employment with family tasks	

H.	Further Education and Train	ning	
	ase provide us with some more information regar luding doctoral study or other additional study ye		
H1	Did you undertake further education and train qualification or another longer professional tr		
	traineeship, Referendariat, Praktikum, "Registered A		
	No → GO TO QUESTION H2		
	Yes, please specify:	••••	
	A. Name/kind of training (e.g. traineeship, Referendariat, Voluntariat, Praktikum)[NatCat])	B. Duration (please specify the number of months)	C. Kind of certification earned (if applicable) [NatCat]
1.		☐☐☐ Months	
		Not finished yet	
2.		☐☐ Months	
		Not finished yet	
3.		☐☐ Months	
		Not finished yet	
Н3	might pursue? Exclude professional training	eer.	
113	teaching/learning).		
	Name and type of the course/activity (please specify)		Duration (hours)
1		1 to 10 hours 11 to	50 hours 51 and more hours
2		1 to 10 hours 11 to	50 hours 51 and more hours
3		1 to 10 hours 11 to	50 hours 51 and more hours
<b>→</b>	The following questions H4 to H9 apply to your f	further education activiti	ies in general mentioned in H3.
H4	Who is (was) responsible for providing this course/these courses? Multiple reply possible	this course/thes	e costs for your participation in se courses (fees, transportation
	a. A higher education institution	etc.)?  a. There were n	no costs
	<ul><li>b. Private institute offering seminar/training</li><li>c. In-company or in-service training</li></ul>	b. Mainly my e	
	d. Distance education/written course [NatCat]	c. Mainly myse	elf
	e. Other	d. Mainly publi	ic funds
	(please specify)	e. I don't know	7

f. Other .....(please specify)

## H6 Did you attend the course(s) during your paid working time?

Yes, completely during paid working time

Yes, partly during paid working time

No, completely outside paid working time

Not applicable, I was not employed

## H7 Which of the following topics were covered in the course(s)? Multiple reply possible

- a. New scholarly knowledge in your discipline
- Cross-disciplinary scholarly knowledge of various fields
- c. Methodological competencies
- d. Manual skills
- e. Foreign language proficiency
- f. Computer skills
- g. Social/political or philosophical topics
- h. Competencies in business administration
- Management/leadership competencies
- j. Legal topics
- k. Human ecology/environmental matters
- Oral or written communication and presentation skills
- m. Relationships with customers/clients

n.	Other:	
		(nlease specify)

# H8 What was the most important personal purpose of additional/further education/training when you started it? Please mark only one

Enhancing career, getting promoted, etc

Updating your knowledge

Re-training (i.e. preparation for other occupations/careers)

## H9 To what extent did your additional/further education or training actually help you afterwards ...?

To a very high			Not all	
extent			an	
1 2	2	4	5	

- a. to get employed?
- b. to get along with the work tasks?
- c. to enrich the job (e.g. more interesting tasks)?
- d. to raise the status (e.g. promotion, higher income)
- e. to cope with requirements from other life spheres than employment and work

# H10 To what extent do you feel at present a need to update or develop your competencies further through additional/further education or training?

To a very				Not at
high extent				all
1	2	3	4	5

# H11 To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the need of additional/ further education or training?

Com	1-		Com-			
pletely			pletely			
agre	e		d	isagree		
1	2	3	4	5		

Additional/further education or training is necessary ...

- a. ... in order to cope with tasks which could not be envisaged at the time of initial education
- b. ... because of shortcomings in initial first study
- c. ... in order to acquire knowledge which can be learned better on the job
- d. Initial first study provides a sufficient training in relevant skill acquisition
- e. Initial first study constitutes a good basis for continuous updating of knowledge and skills

# H12 How often did you read subject related professional/scientific journals during the last 12 months?

At least	Monthly	About	Seldom	Never
once a		every three		
week		months		

# H13 How often did you attend professional relevant meetings/conferences during the last 12 months?

4 times and more 1 to 3 times Never

# H14 How often did you use the internet sources for professional relevant information gathering during the last 12 months?

At least	Monthly	About every	Seldom	Never
once a		three		
week		months		

	<b>•</b>
I. Socio-Biographic data	
Please provide details about yourself in order to ena as possible	ble us to interpret your work biography as accurately
I1 Gender	I6 <b>Did/do you live</b> ? Multiple reply possible
Male Female	Immediately prior Currently to graduation in 1994 or 1995
I2 Year of birth	with a partner?
12 Tear of birth	with parents?
19 Year	with other persons?
I3 Please, provide some information about your	as single?
citizenship and your country of schooling, study and work	I7 Are there children in your household?
X Other, please specify	No → GO TO QUESTION 18
a. Current citizenship	Yes How many?
b. Citizenship at birth	How old are they:
c. Country where you completed secondary education	1.
d. Country of first employment after graduation	4 5 6
e. Country of current employment/work	I8 How many hours per week are you (and eventually your partner) working in your
f. Country of current residence	household (cleaning, cooking, child care, etc.)?
<pre></pre>	Hours per week myself
I4 In which region have you studied and where do you live today? Please specify the postal code [NatCat]	Hours per week my partner
Postal code	19 What is the <u>major activity</u> of your partner, if applicable? Please tick only one
(Main) region during time of studies	Not applicable, I don't have a partner
D. C. J. II	Employed
Region of current residence	Self-employed
Region of employment, if applicable	Not employed, seeking employment
✓ [National adaptation of boxes for	Professional training

partner

Compulsory school or less

Parental and partner highest education

Advanced academic study Child rearing, family care

Other (please specify):

postal codes or regions]

Mother Partner

Father

# J Retrospective Assessment of Your Studies (you finished 1994 or 1995)

J1	To	what	extent	did	vour	studies	help	vou	

To a Not a very high extent 1 2 3 4 5

- a. finding a satisfying job after finishing your studies?
- b. for your long-term career prospects?
- c. for the development of your personality?

#### J2 Looking back, if you were free to choose again, how likely would you ...

Very Not likely at all 1 2 3 4 5

- a. choose the same course of study?
- b. choose the same institution of higher education?
- c. choose a higher degree level of higher education? [NatCat]
- d. choose a lower degree level of higher education? [NatCat]
- e. decide not to study at all?

J3	What kind of improvements in higher education would you suggest according to your experiences?

Thank you very much for completing the questionnaire.