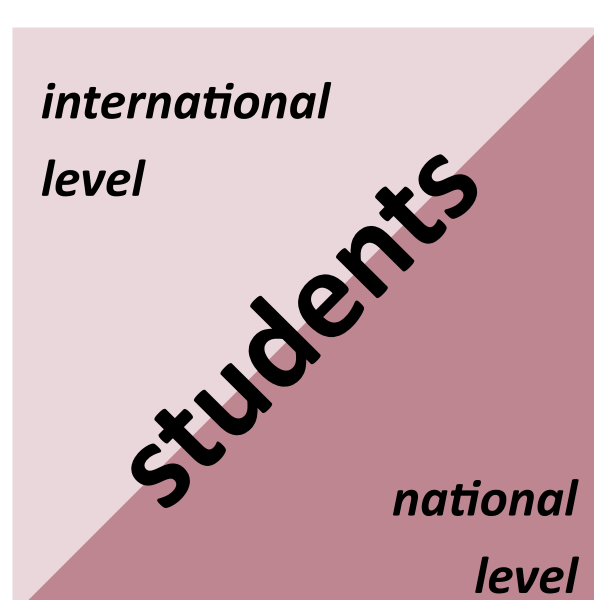




## What We Do

HER is the largest research group in the field of higher education research in Austria.  
We focus on ...

... **social and economic situation of students and graduates** in Austria and Europe, particularly on underrepresented student groups



... monitoring and analysis of **labour market integration of graduates** in Austria („tracking“)

... analysis and evaluation of **gender policy** in science and education at national and international level



... analysis of **national higher education governance and funding policy**

We **collaborate with** Austrian and European **ministries, fellow researchers and other stakeholders** to provide expertise and contribute to developing evidence-based higher education strategies in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA).

So far, the group has been **financed** almost entirely **by third-party-funded research projects** and plans to maintain its leading position in the field of higher education research in Austria as well as to expand its well-established Europe-wide networks.

## Methods

Our research **combines quantitative and qualitative methods**.

We are specialized in **online-surveys** (in-house developed software) and analysis of **registry data** (HE database, social insurance data).

Using **qualitative research methods** (interviews, focus groups etc.), we deepen insight into developments in HE at national and international level.

## People

**Head of Research Group:** Martin Unger

**Researchers:** David Binder, Anna Dibiasi, Angelika Grabher-Wusche, Andrea Kulhanek, Sigrid Maurer, Angelika Striedinger, Berta Terzieva, Bianca Thaler, Angela Wroblewski, Sarah Zaussinger

**Student Assistants:** Roland Bildsteiner, Victoria Englmaier, Patrick Mathä

**Research Fellow:** Katharina Posch

## Selected Projects

- **TARGET** is a Horizon 2020 research program coordinated by HER. It aims at developing and implementing reflexive gender equality policies in science and research in the Mediterranean area. TARGET is a cooperation project involving seven gender equality innovating institutions.
- **EUROGRADUATE** is a European pilot graduate survey. As a leading member of the consortium, HER is responsible for the field phase in all 6+ pilot countries.

**GENDER ACTION**

► **GENDER ACTION** is a Horizon 2020 funded project. It aims to create an innovative policy community for the implementation of the gender priority in the European Research Area.

- **Dropouts ≠ Dropouts. Pathways after Leaving University:** An analysis of the paths of students after dropping out of university, using registry data from the social insurance system.
- **BEST 2** is the second wave of a nation-wide survey in Germany on the situation of students with health impairments and the difficulties and barriers they face in their studies. HER is in charge of the questionnaire development, the data collection and preparation.



## Studierendensozialerhebung

The Student Social Survey is a periodic nation-wide large-scale survey of students in Austria. It covers a wide spectrum of topics relating to the social and economic situation of students and is one of the most important sources of information and a key decision basis for higher education policy in Austria.

Core topics are: admission, study motives, employment, funding, international mobility, first-year students, Doctorate/PhD students, students with children, students with health impairments etc.



## eurostudent.eu



The EUROSTUDENT project collates comparable data on the social dimension of European HE. 28 countries participated in the most recent project round (E:VI).

HER is a leading member of the consortium and responsible for the questionnaire development, the field phase and the data quality together with local research partners from all countries. We also developed the E:VI online-database.

