Short Description of Research Group

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.

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

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

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).

HER is mainly financed 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 Dibiasti, Kirstin Eckstein, Judith Engleder, Victoria Englmair*, Nora Haag, Robert Juehlke, Andrea Kulihanek, Nina Schubert, Berta Terzieva, Bianca Thaler*, Angela Wroblewski, Sarah Zaussinger*  
*Doctoral Candidates

Student Assistants: Johanna Dau, Philipp Droll, Patrick Mathä, Christina Meyer, Verena Mrazky

Research Fellow: Katharina Posch

Selected Projects

- EUROSTUDENT is a project that collates comparable data on the social dimension of European HE: 27 countries participate in the current project round (E-VII). 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.

- 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 and data analysis in all 8 pilot countries.

- 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.

- Student Tracking (STUDMON) is a project in close co-operation with nine universities in Austria. HER analyses different administrative data sources to develop a monitoring of students trajectories through their studies.

- 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.

Selected Publications


