



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Introduction

This online survey is conducted by the EU-funded Erasmus+ project called [UniWells](#) (*Supporting internationalisation of higher education through professionalising services for mobile academic staff*). Coordinated by the Slovak Academic Information Agency, UniWells brings together the Academic Cooperation Association, the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange, the University of Nis, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and Comenius University in Bratislava.

This survey aims to collect evidence on mobility experiences and support needs of international researchers, lecturers and PhD students in Central and South Eastern Europe. The results of this study will prepare the design of practical tools supporting the successful integration of international academics in these countries. They will be beneficial for future mobile academics and will help improve academic staff mobility opportunities and services in the target region.

The survey targets the following groups of respondents:

- **Target group 1:** International PhD researchers/students who currently work or study at a higher education institution in Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia or Slovakia to earn a PhD degree, or who studied or worked there for the same purpose in the past five years.
- **Target group 2:** International researchers, lecturers and PhD students who are currently on a three-month or longer academic visit to a higher education institution in Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia or Slovakia or who were on such a visit in the past five years.
- **Target group 3:** International researchers and lecturers who are currently employed by a higher education institution in Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia or Slovakia on a permanent or temporary (three-month or longer) contract or who had such an employment contract with an institution from this region in the past five years.

The questionnaire consists of three parts:

- Part 1: Mobility experience
- Part 2: Support services and needs
- Part 3: Profile and contact

It takes approx. 25 minutes to complete the questionnaire. Your feedback is of utmost importance for helping to remove the existing barriers to academic staff mobility and to further improve personalised assistance to mobile academics in the region.

All personal data mentioned in this form will be processed according to the [UniWells](#) privacy policy in compliance with Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18

**December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the European Union institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data.**

**For further questions, please contact Veronika Kupriyanova ([veronika.kupriyanova\(at\)aca-secretariat.be](mailto:veronika.kupriyanova@aca-secretariat.be)).**



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Mobility experience

**This section contains a series of questions about your current or past mobility experience to one of the following countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Slovakia.**

**If you have worked or studied in several countries, please report on your current mobility (visiting, employment or study) experience. If you are not mobile at the moment, please choose the longest mobility experience that you had in the past five years.**

\* 1. Are you currently mobile (studying, hosted or employed for 3 months or longer) at a higher education institution in one of the above-listed countries?

Yes

No



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Mobility experience

\* 2. Please choose the country of your current mobility (study, visit or employment).



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Mobility experience

\* 3. Please choose the country of your longest mobility (study, visit or employment) experience in the past five years on which you would like to report.

\* 4. Please indicate the purpose of your mobility (study, visit or employment).

- To earn a PhD degree
- To exchange experience in research or teaching
- To undertake a new employment
- Other (please specify)

5. Please indicate the name of your mobility (study, host or employing) institution.

\* 6. How long did you stay / are you planning to stay at your mobility (study, host or employing) institution?

- 3-5 months
- 6-11 months
- 12 months or longer

7. Did you move to this country together with your family?

- No, I moved there on my own
- Yes, I moved there with my partner
- Yes, I moved there with my partner and my child / children (under 6 years old)
- Yes, I moved there with my partner and my child / children (over 6 years old)
- Other (please specify)

8. How did you learn about this mobility (study, visit or employment) opportunity?

- From my past employer
- From my current employer or host institution
- From recruitment advertisements in media
- From a national or European web portal
- Through my network of professional contacts (at a conference, via social media, etc.)
- Other (please specify)

9. What funding did you get for your mobility (study, visit or employment)?

	Remuneration / living allowance	Travel expenses
National grant or scholarship of my country of citizenship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National grant or scholarship of my country of current residence (if different from country of citizenship or host country)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National grant or scholarship of my host country / country of employment or study	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
European grant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding from my host institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Funding from my home institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have used my own means to fund my mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

10. How do/did you carry out your mobility (study, visit or employment)?

- Physically (by relocating to my study, host or employment country/institution)
- Virtually (by following my study, host or employment institution from a distance)
- In a hybrid form (partly physically/virtually)

\* 11. What were the most important reasons for selecting your study, host or employment country and institution? Please select top 3 reasons from the list.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> To acquire knowledge and specific know-how from good practice         | <input type="checkbox"/> To benefit from better working conditions or remuneration                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To work with outstanding scientists or lecturers in the field         | <input type="checkbox"/> To increase knowledge of social, linguistic or cultural matters               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To build up new contacts /expand professional network                 | <input type="checkbox"/> To take a suitable position / advance in my career                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To reinforce the cooperation with a partner institution               | <input type="checkbox"/> To enhance future employment and career opportunities                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To get access to research facilities and equipment                    | <input type="checkbox"/> To receive a grant / benefit from available funding for teaching and research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To experiment and develop new learning practices and teaching methods | <input type="checkbox"/> To find a better balance between teaching and research time                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To experiment and develop new research methods and approaches         | <input type="checkbox"/> To improve foreign language skills  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To get access to training and education opportunities                 | <input type="checkbox"/> To follow the partner or (re-)unite with the family                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)  |  |



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Support needs and services

**This section contains a series of questions about various support services or personalised assistance offered and/or received at different stages of your mobility in the host country and areas for further improvement.**

\* 12. Did you receive any kind of information guidance or personalised assistance in the context of your mobility (study, visit or employment)?

	Prior to my mobility (study, visit or employment)	During my mobility (study, visit or employment)	Upon departure & after my mobility (study, visit or employment)
Information guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personalised assistance/support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. What kind of information have you received prior to your mobility (study, visit or employment) and from which sources?

	Home institution (e.g. international office)	Host country (national web portal, funding agency, host country representative office/embassy)	Host institution central or faculty services (e.g. international office, welcome center)	Host institution department or supervisor	Other
Funding opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Host institution and its facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visa / residence / work permit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social and healthcare insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing and accommodation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National work regulations, pension plans and taxation rules	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recognition of qualifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Childcare (preschool and school) and parental benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dual career opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for leisure activities, socialising and networking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

14. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: "The information provided to me prior to my mobility (study, visit or employment) have met my needs and expectations". If necessary, please briefly comment on the reasoning behind your choice.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A
Funding opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Host institution and its facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Visa/residence/work permit	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social and healthcare insurance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Housing and accommodation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
National work regulations, pension plans and taxation rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Childcare (preschool and school) and parental benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dual career opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opportunities for leisure activities, socialising and networking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment

15. What kind of support (personalised assistance) have you received prior to your mobility (stay, visit or employment) and at which level?

	National or regional funding agency	Host institution central or faculty services (e.g. international office, welcome center)	Host institution department or supervisor	Other
Support with a mobility/employment agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support with visa/residence/work permit (e.g. issuing support documents or official translations; contacting an embassy/consulate; accompanying to offices)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	National or regional funding agency	Host institution central or faculty services (e.g. international office, welcome center)	Host institution department or supervisor	Other
Support with finding housing (e.g. offering temporary accommodation, quarantine facility)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support with registering for social and healthcare insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support with finding childcare (preschool and school) opportunities (e.g. offering a place in a university daycare or contacting local providers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Language support / translation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support for incoming travel bookings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information seminar / programme / welcome package	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recognition of qualifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pickup service upon arrival	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>			

16. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: "The support provided to me prior to my mobility (study, visit or employment) have met my needs and expectations". If necessary, please briefly comment on the reasoning behind your choice.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A
Support with a mobility/employment agreement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A
Support with visa/residence/work permit (e.g. providing supporting documents; official translation of documents; contacting an embassy / consulate; accompanying to offices)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support with finding housing including quarantine facility (e.g. offering temporary accommodation)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support with registering for social and healthcare insurance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support with finding childcare (preschool and school) opportunities (e.g. offering a place in a university daycare or contacting local providers)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language support / translation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pickup service upon arrival	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information seminar / programme / welcome package	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recognition of qualifications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Comment	<input type="text"/>					

17. What kind of support (personalised assistance) have you received during your mobility (stay, visit or employment) and at which level?

	Host institution central or faculty services (e.g. international office or welcome center)	Host institution department or supervisor	Other
Advice on institutional administrative matters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support with professional networking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Career advice and guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training in teaching and research	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other training (e.g. language, intercultural communication)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support with family matters (e.g. access to healthcare, job opportunities for partner)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social activities (including those for the whole family)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

18. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: "The support provided to me during my mobility (study, visit or employment) have met my needs and expectations". If necessary, please briefly comment on the reasoning behind your choice.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A
Advice on institutional administrative matters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professional networking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career advice and guidance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Training in teaching and research	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other training (e.g. language, intercultural communication)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support with family matters (e.g. access to healthcare, job opportunities for partner)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social activities (including those for the whole family)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment

19. What kind of support (personalised assistance) have you received upon departure or after your mobility (stay, visit or employment) and at which level?

	Host institution central or faculty services (e.g. international office or welcome center)	Host institution department or supervisor	Other
Support with reporting on the results of my mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information about funding opportunities (e.g. return grants)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Administrative support (e.g. cancelling housing and insurance contracts; immigration duties)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support with professional networking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Career advice and guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

20. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: “The support provided to me after my mobility (study, visit or employment) have met my needs and expectations”. If necessary, please briefly comment on the reasoning behind your choice.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	N/A
Support with reporting on the results of your mobility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Information about funding opportunities (e.g. return grants)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administrative support (e.g. cancelling housing and insurance contracts; immigration duties)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Support with professional networking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Career advice and guidance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment

\* 21. Assistance on what matters do you consider most important?



Immigration matters (e.g. visa/residence/work permit)



Social and healthcare insurance



Accommodation



Travel arrangements



Language support / translation



Recognition of qualifications



Career advice and guidance



Funding opportunities (e.g. search for grant funding)



Welcome programme (e.g. information seminar, induction training)



Training (e.g. in teaching, research)



Professional networking



Family matters (e.g. childcare, job opportunities for partner)



Social life



Other

22. What major challenges have you experienced in the context of your mobility and what practices do you suggest to overcome these challenges?

\* 23. Has your mobility (study, visit or employment) experience been affected by Covid-19 pandemic circumstances?

Yes

No



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Support needs and services

24. Please specify how it was affected.



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Support needs and services

25. Based on your reported mobility (study, visit or employment) experience, how likely would you be to pursue it again?

	Very unlikely	Unlikely	Neutral	Likely	Very likely
Another mobility to your study, host or employment country	<input type="radio"/>				
Another mobility to your study, host or employment institution	<input type="radio"/>				

26. Please provide any final comments on your mobility (study, visit or employment) experience, suggest any further improvements, or report on any good practice(s) you have encountered in the context of your mobility.



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Profile and contact

**This section contains a series of questions about your personal, educational and professional background.**

27. Please indicate your first name and last name (optional).

28. Please indicate your gender.

- Female
- Male
- Other

29. What is/are your country/countries of citizenship?

30. What is the highest level of education you have achieved?

- Bachelor's degree (or equivalent)
- Master's degree (or equivalent)
- Doctoral degree

31. In which country did you earn your highest qualification (degree)?

32. What is/are your institution(s) of current employment or study?

33. What is your field of research, teaching or study? (for more details, see [International Standard Classification of Education: Fields of Education and Training 2013: ISCED-F 2013](#))

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Education                                    | <input type="radio"/> Information and Communication Technologies      |
| <input type="radio"/> Arts and humanities                          | <input type="radio"/> Engineering, manufacturing and construction     |
| <input type="radio"/> Social sciences, journalism and information  | <input type="radio"/> Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary |
| <input type="radio"/> Business, administration and law             | <input type="radio"/> Health and welfare                              |
| <input type="radio"/> Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics | <input type="radio"/> Services  |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify)                       |   |

\* 34. What is your principal activity?

- Teaching
- Research
- Doctoral training
- Other (please specify)



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Profile and contact

35. What is your career stage? (for more detailed description, see [EURAXESS classification](#))

- First Stage Researcher (up to the point of PhD)
- Recognised Researcher (PhD holders or equivalent who are not yet fully independent, e.g. post-docs or assistant professors)
- Established Researcher (researchers who have developed a level of independence)
- Leading Researcher (researchers leading their research area or field, e.g. leading large-scale scientific projects or offering scientific advice to policy makers and funders)



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Profile and contact

36. How many years of experience do you have (calculated from obtaining your highest degree)?

- 1-5
- 6-9
- 10-20
- More than 20

\* 37. Would you be interested in an interview on your mobility experience and on possible ways to further improve support services for mobile academics in the region?

- Yes
- No



## Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Profile and contact

38. Please share your contact details.

**Email Address**



Support services for mobile academics in Central and South Eastern Europe

### Submission

**Please click the "Submit" button to send your responses.**