



**European Tertiary Education Register**  
[Contract No. EAC-2015-0280]

**The European Tertiary Education Register**  
**Design and methodology**



## What is ETER?



- ETER = European Tertiary Education Register
  - Creating an official list of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Europe
  - Including a set of data for their characterization
- Builds on the EUMIDA feasibility study
  - Largely adopting its approach and methodology
- A service contract of DG EAC (together with DG RTD and Eurostat)
  - Five core partners
  - A network of national experts and close cooperation with National Statistical Authorities
- Timeframe: 2013 –2017

## Key ideas



- Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) as relevant units for strategy and analysis
  - Need to collect data at this level and not only national aggregates
  - No data at the subunit level
- HEIs as multiple input and output organizations
  - Analyze profiles and differences in orientations, beyond unidimensional rankings
- A focus on national statistical sources, largely associated with educational statistics
  - Providing basic data which can be combined with other sources (publications)

## HEIs



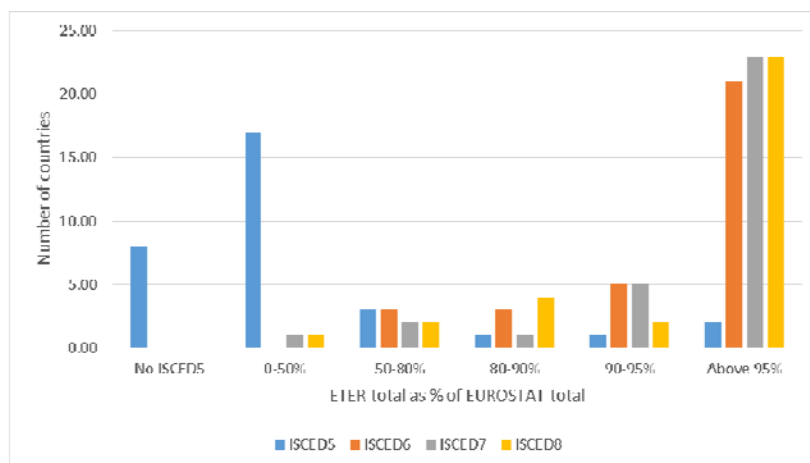
- These are defined as entities
  - which are recognizable as distinct organizations,
  - which are nationally recognized as HEIs, and
  - whose major activity is providing education at the tertiary level (ISCED 2011 level 5, 6, 7 and/or 8). R&D activities might be present, but are not a necessary condition for inclusion.
- In practice: Universities, colleges, school of arts, etc.
- Excluded
  - RPOs (no educational mission, even if some PhDs)
  - Organizations for which education is a collateral activity (professional associations)
  - HEIs with less than 200 students or 30 units of staff

## Coverage



- About 2300 HEIs (depending on years)
  - 17 mio students at the tertiary level
  - Stable IDs and tracking of demography (mergers, etc.)
- ERA countries
  - 32 countries provided data
  - Belgium (French), Slovenia, Romania, Montenegro and Turkey currently missing (only lists of HEIs).
- Data for 2011, 2012, 2013 (to be published in June 2016) and 2014
  - Data for 2008 available in EUMIDA
- ETER covers almost the whole of HEIs graduating at least at the level ISCED 6 (bachelor)
  - 85% of tertiary education students overall
  - Almost all students at bachelor, master and PhD (>90% coverage)
  - Low coverage of ISCED 5 (short diplomas) and of the professional sector at ISCED6 level (Germany, France, Switzerland)

## Coverage by ISCED level

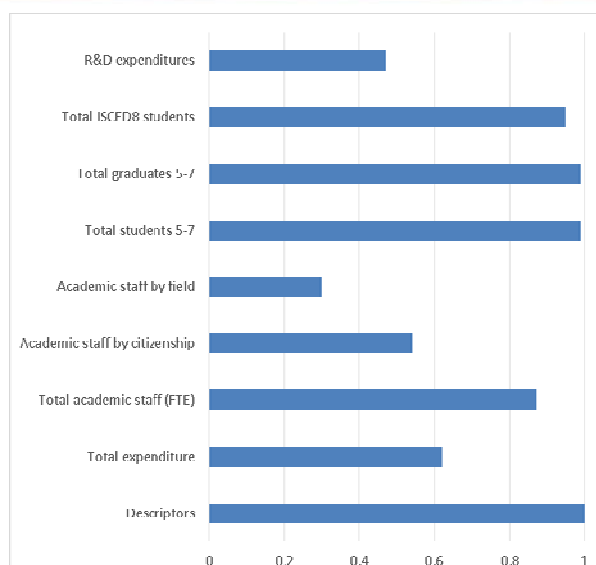


## Variables



- Descriptors
  - Legal status, institutional type of HEI, foundation year
- Geographical information
  - NUTS2 and 3, postcode, city, geogr. coordinates
- Staff
  - Total and academic (HC/FTEs), by gender, nationality (limited), FOE (limited), professors
- Expenditures and revenues
  - Core, third-party and fees
  - Personnel, non-personnel, capital
- Students and graduates ISCED 5 to 8
  - By ISCED-2011 level, gender, citizenship, mobility, FOE
  - Erasmus students mobility
- Research
  - Research-active, PhD, R&D exp. (limited)

## Completeness



- Very good for descriptors, students and graduates
- Good for staff, except for breakdowns
- Lower for financial data (and many comparability problems)

## Sources and quality

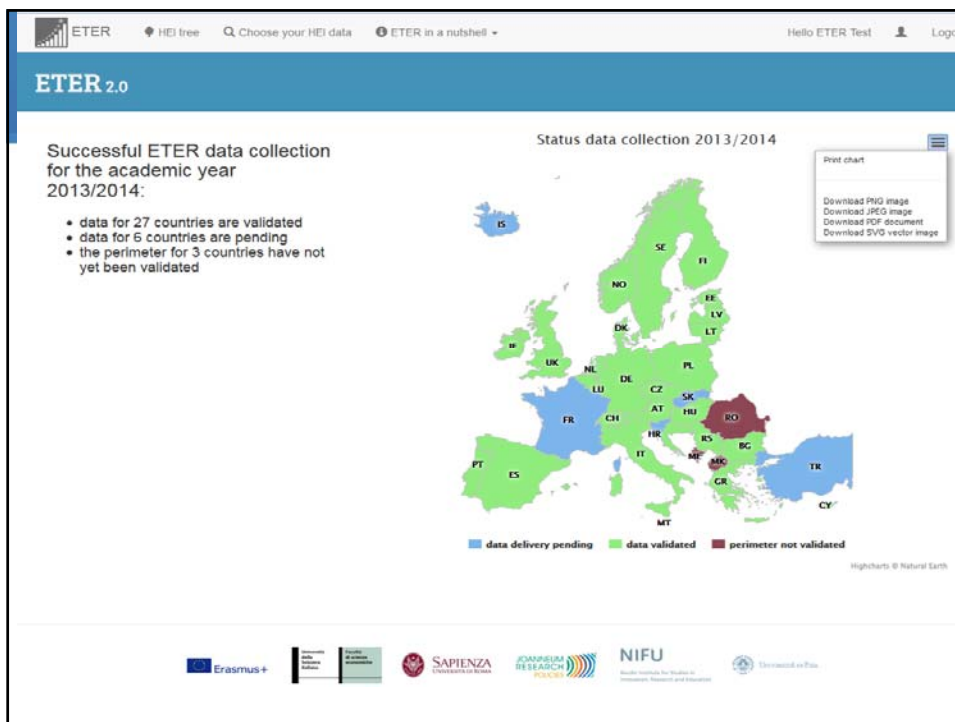


- All data come from national statistical authorities (NSAs)
  - Except some descriptors
- Extensive checks for format accuracy and consistency
  - Outlier detection
  - Multi-annual checks
  - Cross-check with other sources (e.g. EUROSTAT)
- Data flags and metadata
  - Inform users on problems with the data
- Despite comparability problems ETER data provides meaningful results
  - Especially for comparative analyses at the level of the whole sample

## Access to data



- Most data available on a public website
  - [www.eter-project.com](http://www.eter-project.com)
  - Can be downloaded and used for analysis purposes without limitations
  - New interface (mid-june 2016) will allow customized extractions and production of charts directly on-line
- Few restricted data
  - Delivered only after signature of a non-disclosure agreement
  - Individual data cannot be published



**Choose your HEI data**

Year: 2013 X Country: Belgium X

Search text: Your search expression (minimum 4 characters)...

1. Search HEI data | 2. Select your variables | 3. Display and export settings | 4a. Tables and Visualizations | 4b. Export data

Your search returned 23 results.

5. Export or visualize your data

ETER ID	Year	ETER ID	National identifier	Institution Name	English Institution Name	Reference year	Country Code
BE0055	2013	BE0055	a	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	KU Leuven	2013	BE
BE0057	2013	BE0057	a	Transnationale Universiteit Limburg	Transnationale Unive...	2013	BE
BE0058	2013	BE0058	a	Universiteit Hasselt	Hasselt University	2013	BE
BE0059	2013	BE0059	a	Universiteit Antwerpen	University of Antwerp	2013	BE
BE0060	2013	BE0060	a	Universiteit van Leuven	University of Leuven	2013	BE
BE0061	2013	BE0061	a	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	The Vrije Universiteit...	2013	BE
BE0062	2013	BE0062	a	Artesis Hogeschool	University college A...	2013	BE
BE0064	2013	BE0064	a	Erasmushogeschool Brussel	Erasmus University B...	2013	BE
BE0065	2013	BE0065	a	Groep T - Internatio...	Group T-internatio...	2013	BE
BE0066	2013	BE0066	a	Hogere Zeevaartsch...	Antwerp maritime a...	2013	BE
BE0068	2013	BE0068	a	Hogeschool Gent	University College G...	2013	BE

## Additional data



- ETER is designed as an open system which can be matched with other data sources in order to perform more analyses
  - Having a reference list makes the correspondence much easier
- Examples of data which could be matched
  - Scientific publications (WOS and Scopus)
  - Participations to EU-FP programs
  - Patents
  - Regional information
- Additional data particularly on research output matched with ETER:
  - Number of publications (WOS) and PPTOP10%
  - Participations to EU-FP programs
  - Patent data from PATSTAT (on-going)
- EUMIDA data 2008
  - Standardized with ETER for the purposes of longitudinal analyses
- Some data are available on request from the RISIS project
  - <http://datasets.risis.eu/>