

# Contents

Preface	7
1. Objectives and Methods of the Survey	9
1.1 Context and Rationale of the ECTS Scheme	9
1.2 Evaluation of the ERASMUS Programme and the ECTS Student Survey	12
1.3 Research Design, Methods, and Procedures	13
2. The Participating Students	19
2.1 Basic Profile Data	19
2.2 Select Biographical Information	22
2.3 Motives	26
3. Academic and Administrative Support	29
3.1 Ways and Areas of Preparation	29
3.2 Assessment of Preparatory Provisions	36
3.3 Assistance and Advice Provided by Home and Host Institution	38
4. Life and Study Abroad	49
4.1 Cultural and Social Activities in the Host Country	49
4.2 Accommodation in the Host Country	51
4.3 Study at the Host University	58
4.4 Problems Faced During the Study Period Abroad	66
4.5 Integration into the Academic and Social Life of Students at the Host Institution	69

5.	Costs and Financing of the Study Period Abroad	73
5.1	Monthly Expenses Abroad and at Home	73
5.2	Resources of Funding Study Abroad and at Home	74
5.3	Ratio of Supplementary Grant to Additional Costs	80
5.4	Financial Problems Abroad	81
6.	Formal Mechanisms of the ECTS System	83
6.1	Expected Procedures	83
6.2	Transition from the Home to the Host Institution	84
6.3	Course Selection	88
6.4	Procedures upon Completion of the Study Period Abroad	92
6.5	Problems Students Face Regarding Credit Transfer	94
7.	Credit Transfer, Recognition and Academic Impacts	95
7.1	Credits Awarded by Home and Host Institution	95
7.2	Degree of Credit Transfer, Correspondence of Achievements and Prolongation	98
7.3	Impact of Formal Mechanisms on Prolongation	102
7.4	Self-Rating of Academic Progress	103
8.	Achievements and Assessment of the Study Period Abroad	105
8.1	Improvement of Foreign Language Proficiency	105
8.2	Knowledge about the Host Country	108
8.3	Opinions of Culture and Society	112
8.4	Personal Value of Study Abroad	115
8.5	Desired Duration of the ERASMUS Supported Period	118
9.	Summary	119