



An agenda for modernising higher education in Europe

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An EU agenda for the modernisation of higher education



- **Quantity**: Europe needs more graduates
- **Quality**, relevance and employability
- Higher education's contribution to **social and economic growth**



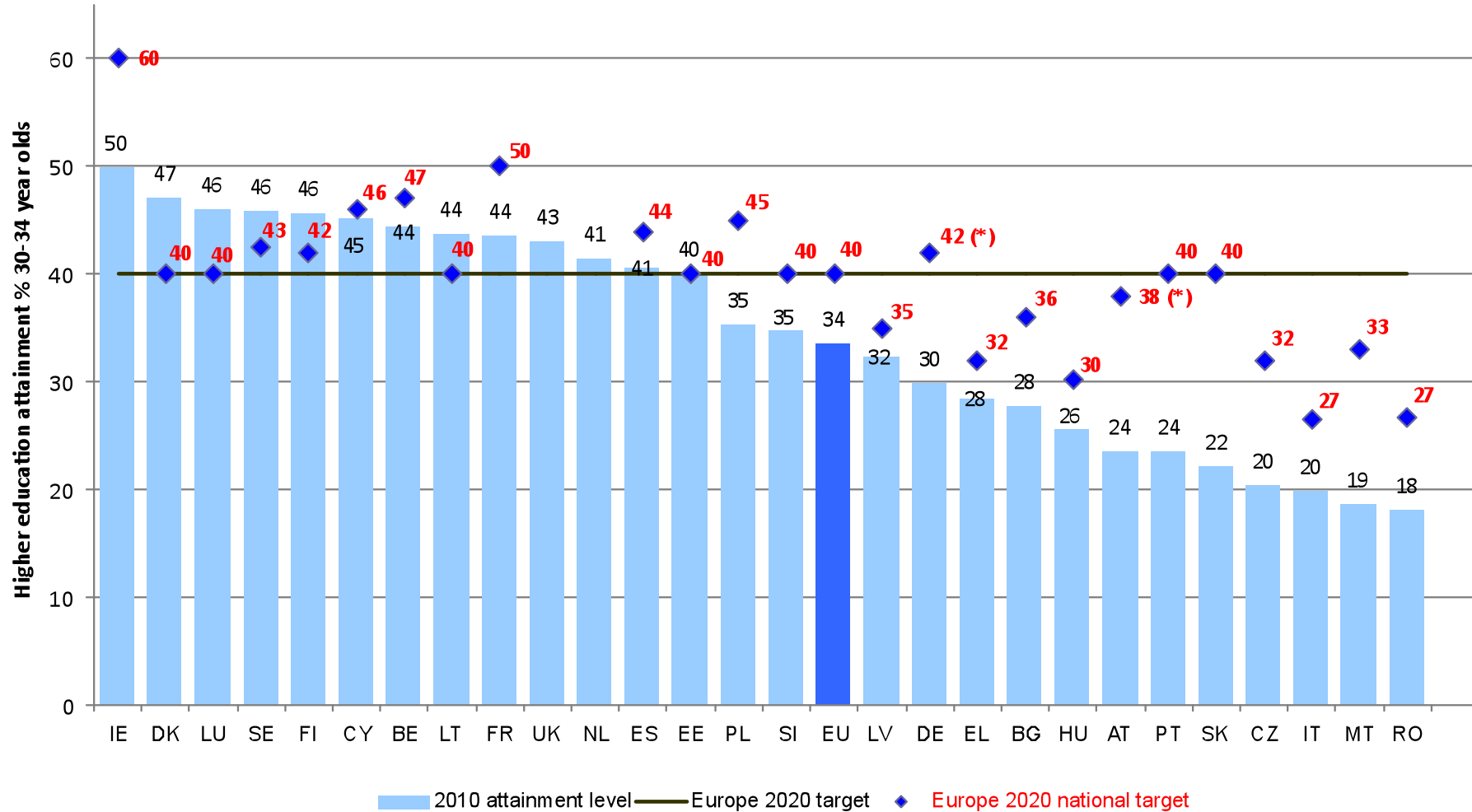
QUANTITY

Increasing attainment (40%)

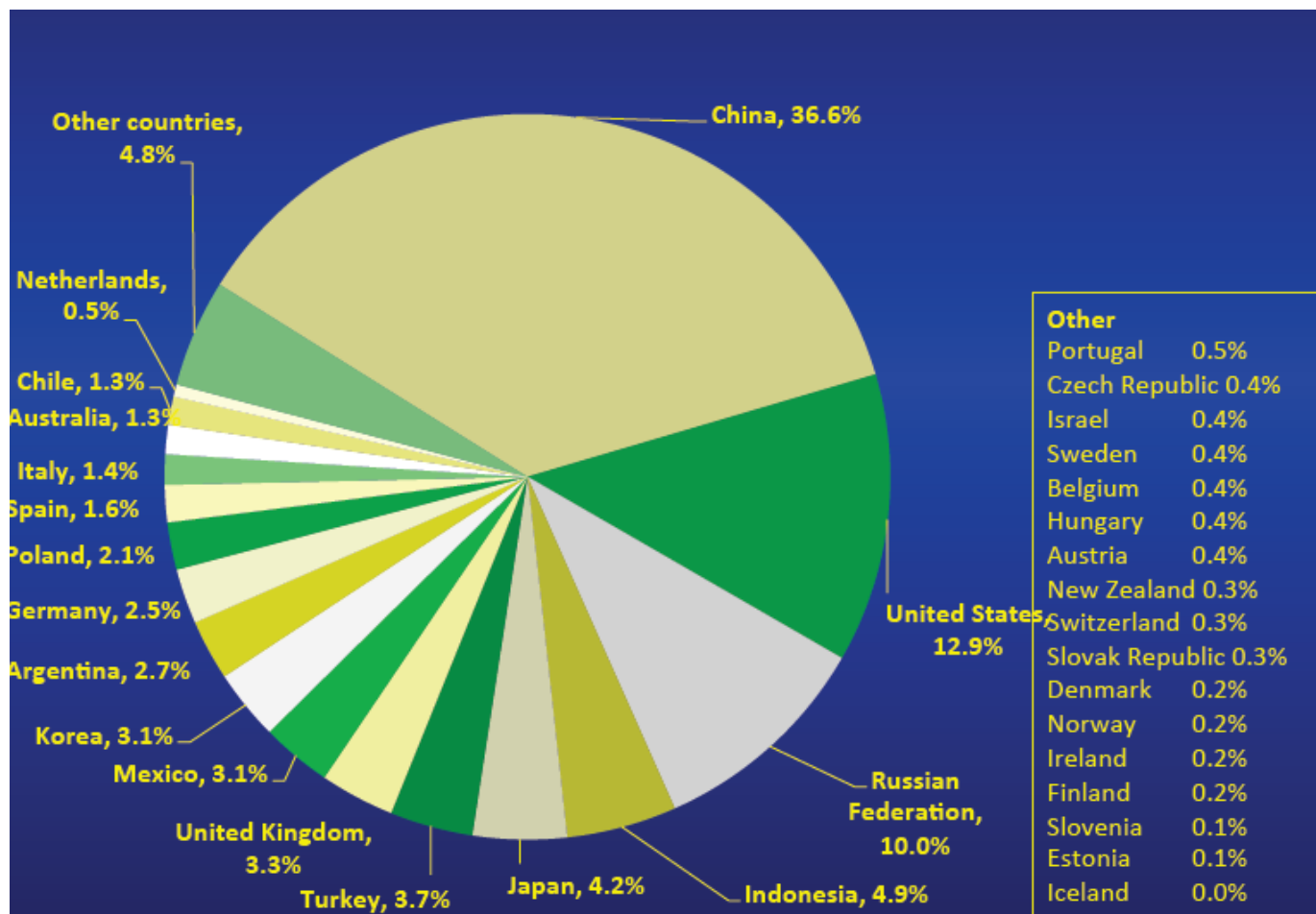
- **Increase participation**, incl. by widening access
- **Reduce drop-out**



Progress towards the 40% target



Share of new entrants to tertiary education (2009)



Source: OECD



The changing demographics of HE

Massification: +22.3% in last 10yrs (19.4m students)

but still lagging behind other regions (EU = 26%, Australia = 37%, US and Japan = 40%, Canada = 50%)

Feminisation: >50% of student body in most MS

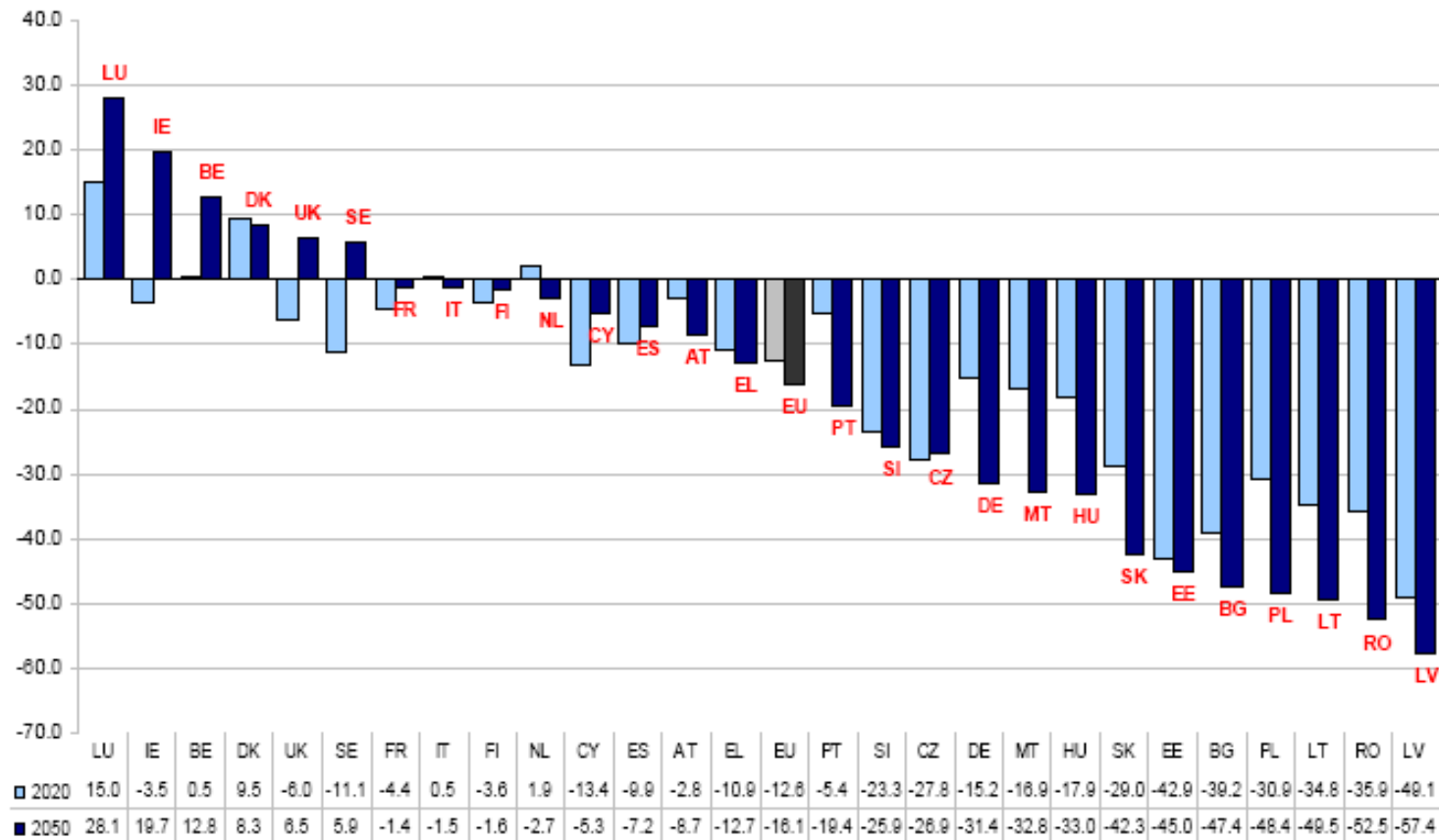
wide differences by discipline: humanities, law – engineering, science

Social background: students from disadvantaged backgrounds still underrepresented

Demographic ageing: decline in ‘student-age’ cohort



Evolution in population aged 20-24 in the EU – 2020 and 2050



Source: Eurostat



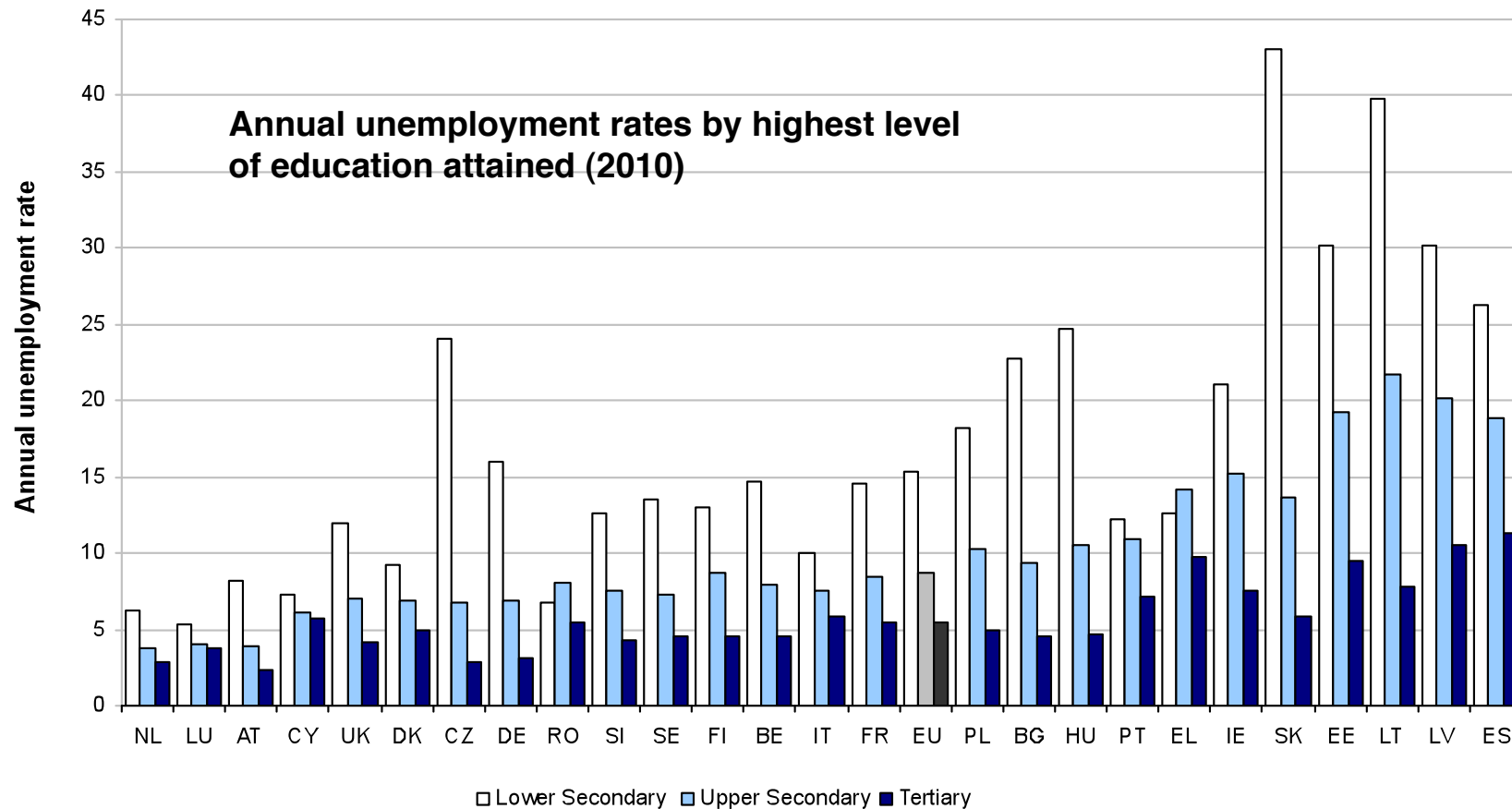
QUALITY

Improving quality and relevance

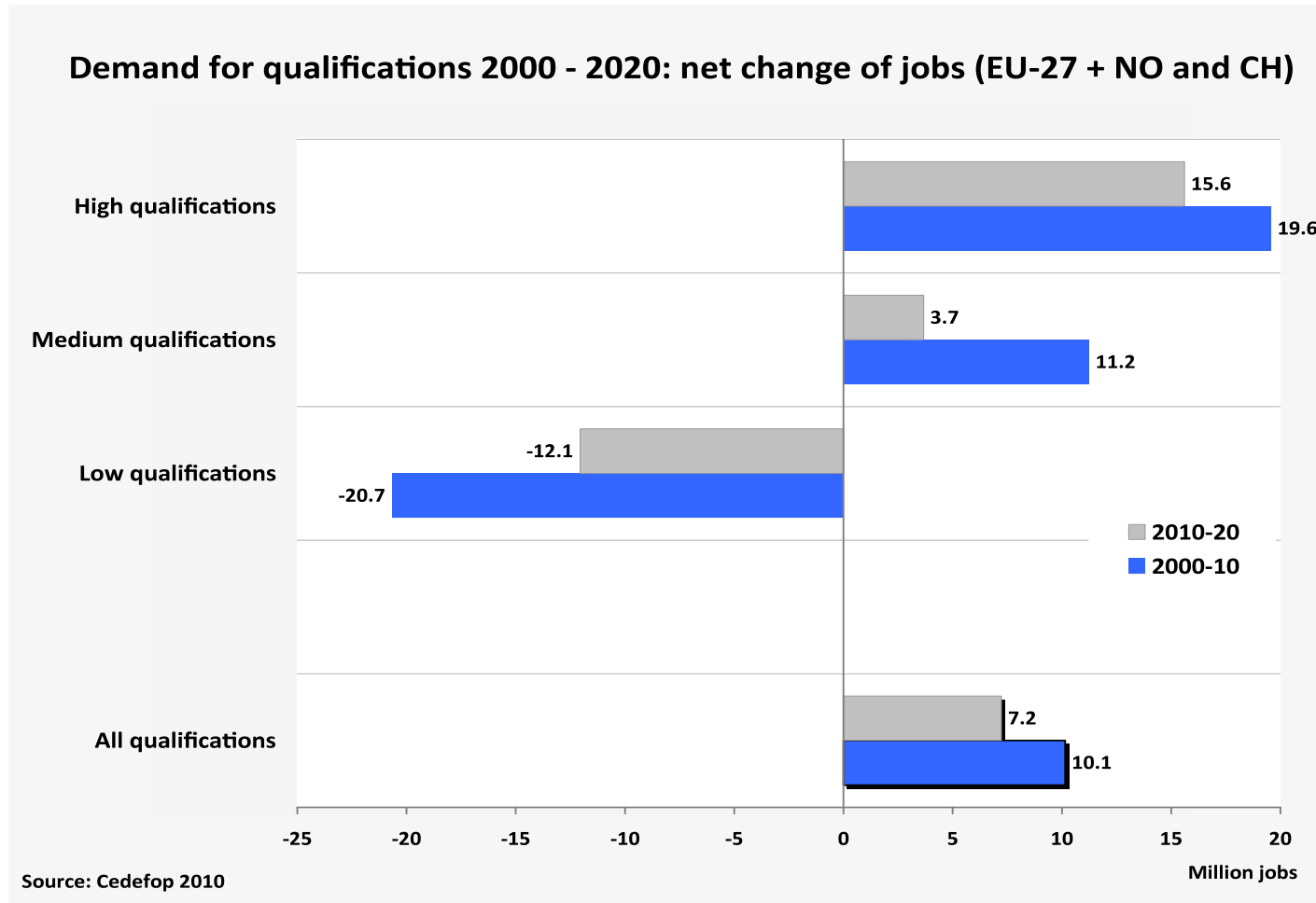
- **graduate employability** - adapting to labour market trends
- **student-centred** learning
- competent and motivated **teachers**
- quality through **mobility & international co-operation**



Higher education shields against unemployment



By 2020, 35% of all jobs in the EU will require HE level qualifications



LEARNING MOBILITY



Target: **20% by 2020** (currently 10-15%)

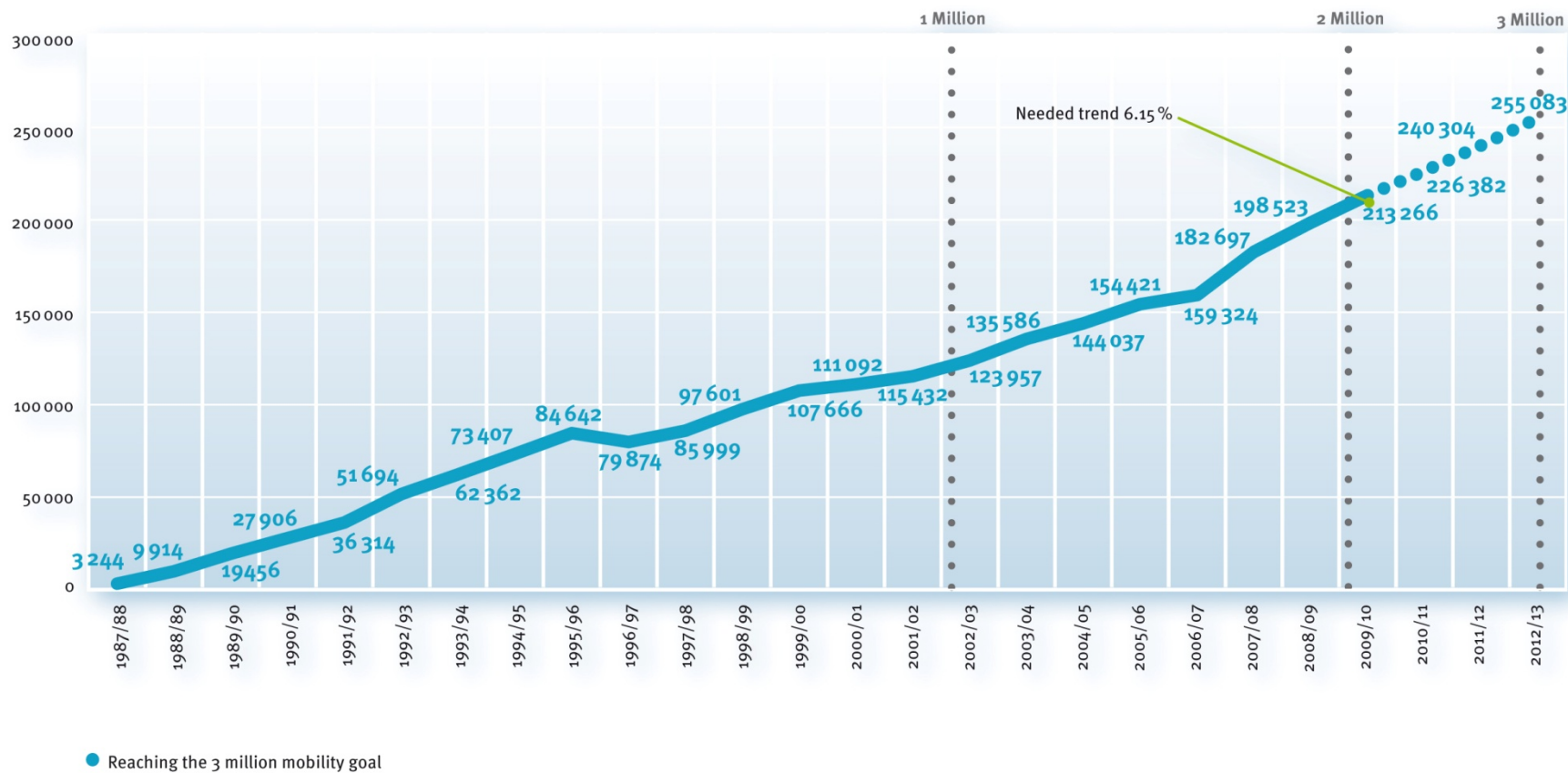
- **Long-term/degree mobility** = +/- 5%
- **Short-term credit mobility** = +/- 7%
Erasmus reaches 0.8% students in a given year/
4.5% over a 5yr period.
- **>3 months** or 15 ECTS



Erasmus student mobility



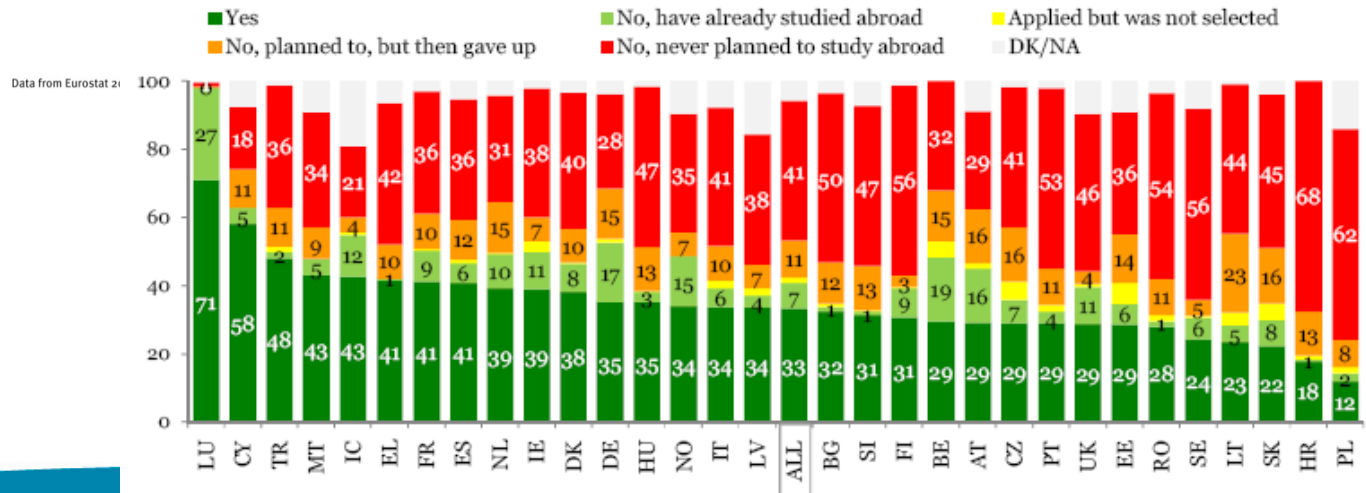
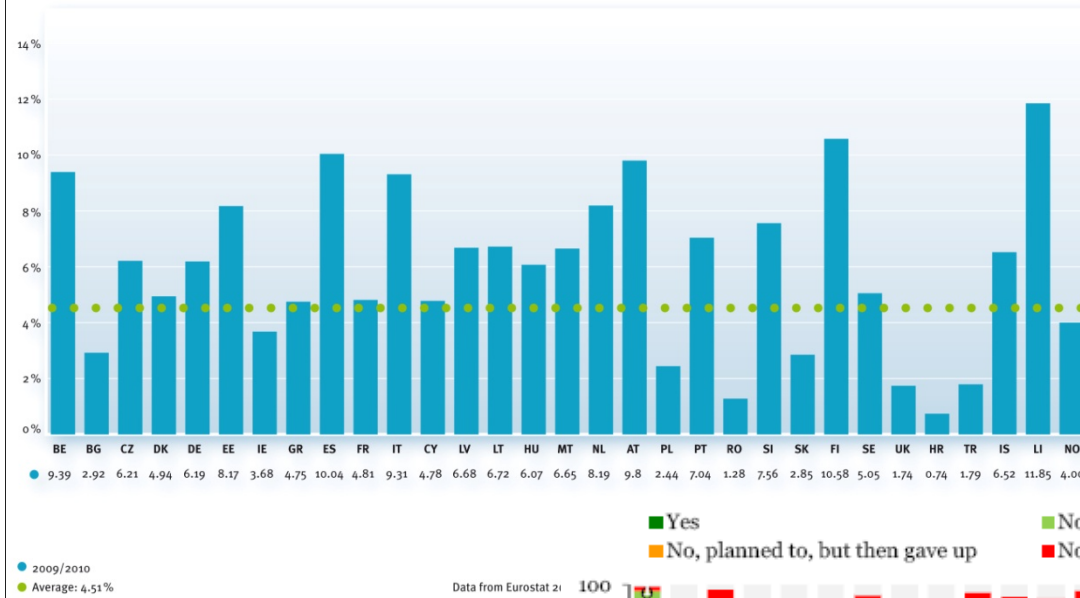
Progress to achieving the 3 million student mobility target



Planning to study abroad -v- real mobility



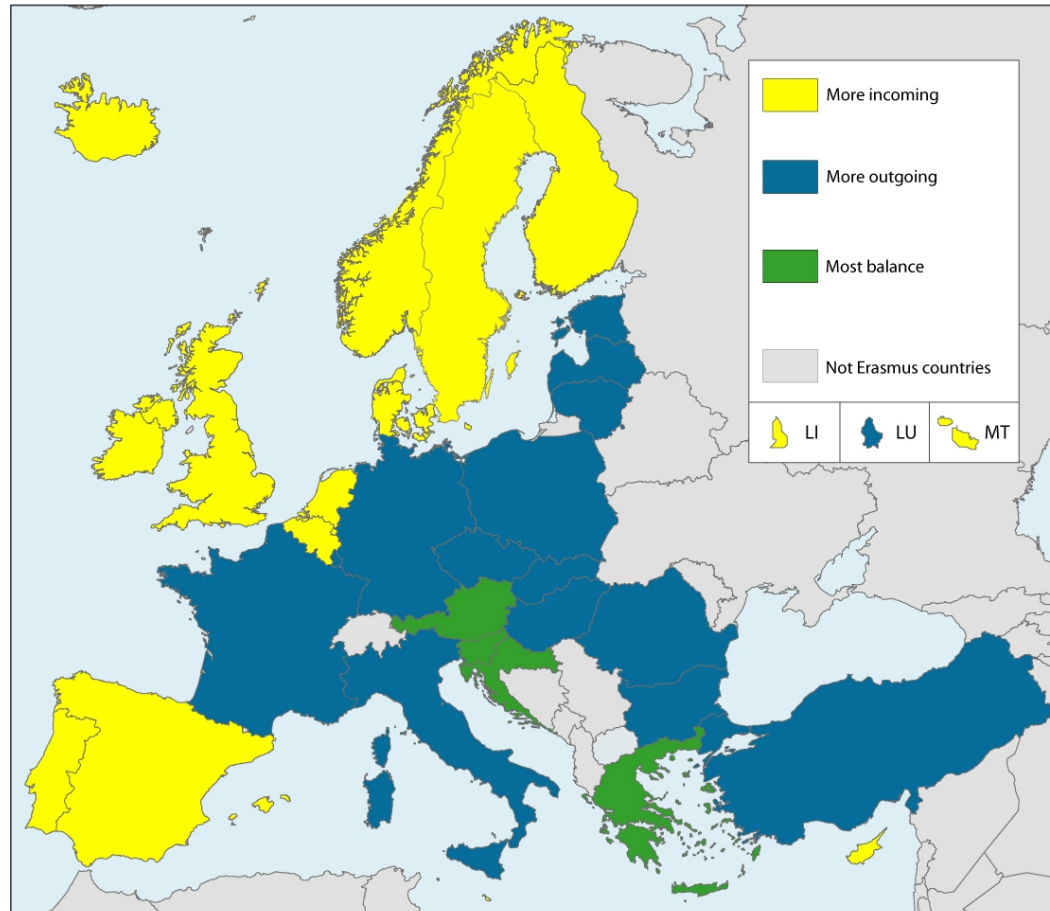
Erasmus students as proportion of the graduates in 2009 (in %)



Q4. Are you planning to pursue part of your studies in another country?
%, Base: all respondents, by country



Erasmus student mobility flows



EU-level action

- **Communication on the Modernisation of Higher Education (Sept 2011)**
- **Council Conclusions (Nov 2011)**

- **Commission proposals for 2014-20 multiannual financial framework (Jul 2011)**
- **Detailed plans post 2013 programmes (Nov 2011)**

- **Action plan to take forward specific initiatives**
 - **Supporting reform through policy evidence, analysis and transparency eg. U-multirank**
 - **Promoting mobility eg. Erasmus Masters student loan guarantee facility**



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