Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Lifelong Learning Programme

THE ERASMUS PROGRAMME

2009/2010

A Statistical Overview

December 2011

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Acronyms used in this report

Terminology

ECTS – European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
EILC – Erasmus Intensive Language Courses
EUR32 – the 32 participating countries in Erasmus in 2009/10
EUC – Erasmus University Charter
HEI – Higher education institution/s
LLP – Lifelong Learning Programme
LWUTL – Less widely used and taught languages
OM grant – Organisation of mobility grant
IP – Intensive Programmes

Country acronyms

ISO Code	Country Name
AT	Austria
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
CY	Cyprus
CZ	Czech Republic
DE	Germany
DK	Denmark
EE	Estonia
ES	Spain
FI	Finland
FR	France
GR	Greece
HU	Hungary
IE	Ireland
IS	Iceland
IT	Italy
LI	Liechtenstein
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxembourg
LV	Latvia
MT	Malta
NL	Netherlands
NO	Norway
PL	Poland
PT	Portugal
RO	Romania
SE	Sweden
SI	Slovenia
SK	Slovakia
UK	United Kingdom
TR	Turkey

Erasmus Key Figures for the Academic Year 2009/2010

213 266 Erasmus student mobilities of which

177 705 students studying abroad

35 561 students doing traineeships (placements) abroad

37 776 Erasmus staff mobilities of which

29 031 teaching assignments abroad

8 745 staff training periods abroad

2 982 Higher Education Institutions sent students and staff on Erasmus mobility

384 Erasmus Intensive Programmes for 12 606 students and 4378 teachers

361 Erasmus Intensive Language Courses for 5 386 Erasmus students

Disclaimer

The source of the data used in this report are the statistical reports of the National Agencies of the 32 countries participating in the Erasmus Programme and data provided by Education Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency. The national agency reports contain the statistical results of the Erasmus decentralised actions in the academic year 2009/10. The European Commission cannot guarantee the correctness of the data despite its best efforts to ensure its accuracy.

More information on the Erasmus Programme, this report and its annexes can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus

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Introduction

Encouraging students to go abroad as part of their studies (student mobility) has been at the heart of European Union's education programmes since the launch of the Erasmus Programme in 1987. Nearly a quarter of a century later, student mobility remains high on the EU's political agenda, featuring prominently in the Europe 2020 Strategy for growth and jobs and is a central part of its flagship initiative "Youth on the Move." Learning mobility has also always been a key element of the Bologna Process, the cooperation process towards creating a European Higher Education Area (EHEA) which began in 1999.

As Europe's best-known mobility programme, Erasmus not only caters for students and higher education staff, but also enables higher education institutions to work together through funding transnational projects and networks. This report provides a statistical analysis of the implementation of the Erasmus Programme decentralised mobility actions in the 32 participating European countries in the academic year 2009/10 and the centralised university cooperation action from 2007 to 2010. Since 2007 Erasmus is a sub-programme of EU's Lifelong Learning Programme and covers activities of stakeholders involved in higher education in Europe.

The report analyses the overall performance of all the different types of actions funded by the Erasmus Programme (student and staff mobility, Intensive Programmes, Erasmus Intensive Language Courses, and Erasmus University Cooperation Projects) in the academic year 2009/10 and compares this year's results with the results in the previous years. Furthermore, the report provides an overview of the total budget allocation and actual spending in the same academic year.

Erasmus: Results for the Academic Year 2009/10

Erasmus Student Mobility (for Studies and Placements)

- The total number of Erasmus student mobilities for studies and placements combined in 2009/10 was 213 266, an annual increase of 7.4%. From 1987 – when the programme was established – to 2009/10 almost 2.3 million students have benefited from the Erasmus programme.
- 61.1% of Erasmus students in the 2009/10 academic year were women. This percentage is somewhat higher than the proportion of female students of the total student population in the 32 participating countries in 2009 which was 54%.
- About 0.94 % of the total higher education student population in the 32 participating countries participated in Erasmus student mobility in 2009/10. Assuming that the average study duration in higher education institution is still 4-5 years, it can be estimated that around 4.5 % of all European students participate in the Erasmus mobility at some stage during their higher education studies.
- The largest number of outgoing Erasmus students was from Spain 31 158 (14.61% share), followed by France 30 213 (14.17%), and Germany with 28 854 (13.53%).
- Almost all the participating countries experienced growth in outgoing student mobility. The annual growth rate was highest in Cyprus (37.6%), followed by Malta (25.2%), Estonia (23.9%), and Bulgaria (18.8%). Norway experienced a decrease of 3.8%, while the Czech Republic and Portugal experienced a stagnation.
- Spain remained the most popular destination for Erasmus students in 2009/10 with 35 389 incoming students (16.6% share), followed by France with 26 141 incoming students (12.3%) and then the UK with 22 650 students (10.6%). Overall, the incoming mobility has doubled since 2000/01 in the 32 participating countries.
- Almost all the 32 participating countries experienced an annual growth in the number of incoming students for studies and placements. Exceptions to this were Liechtenstein, Ireland, and Finland.
- The imbalance between incoming and outgoing students is significant in many countries. A total of 18 countries sent more students abroad than they received. The numbers of incoming and outgoing students were most balanced in Austria, Greece and Slovenia.
- The average duration of Erasmus student mobility was 6 months. The average duration of student mobility has changed little in the last 15 years.
- The average monthly EU grant, both types of student mobility taken together, decreased from EUR 272 per month the previous year to EUR 254 per month.
- 257 students with special needs grants participated in Erasmus mobility in 2009/10, which was about 0.12% of all Erasmus students.
- The total number of Erasmus zero-grant students was 7053 in 2009/10, an annual increase of 56.6%. Zero-grant students constituted a 3.3% of the total number of Erasmus student mobilities.
- A total of 2853 higher education institutions holding an Erasmus University Charter (EUC) sent students on Erasmus student mobility (73.7% of all EUC holders).

Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies

- The total number of Erasmus students studying abroad was 177 705, an annual increase of 5.7%. During the 23 year period of activity, over 2.152 million European students have benefited from the Erasmus Programme studying in another country.
- 60.9% of participating Erasmus students studying abroad were women.
- Most outgoing students studying abroad originated from Spain, or 27 448 (15.45% share), followed by France with 24 426 students (13.75%), and then Germany with 24 029 (13.52%).
- Nine participating countries had a decrease in outgoing student numbers. The biggest decline was in Malta (by 14.1%), Lithuania (by 6.1%) and Liechtenstein (by 5%). However, many of the countries experiencing a decline in 2008/09 saw an increase in outgoing student numbers again in 2009/10.
- The annual growth rate was highest in Cyprus 38.2%, followed by Estonia 31.6% and Turkey 15.8%.
- Spain remained the most popular destination for Erasmus student mobility for studies with 29 328 incoming students (16.5% share), followed by France with 22 033 students (12.4 %) and Germany with 17 927 (10.1 %).
- Most of the participating countries (28 out of 32) saw a growth in the number of incoming Erasmus students for studies. The highest growth rate was in Cyprus (26.9%), followed by Malta (26.2%) and then Turkey (22.8%).
- A number of participating countries had a substantial imbalance in terms of incoming and outgoing student numbers for studies. The greatest imbalance was found in Malta, Sweden, and Denmark where there were about three times as many incoming students as outgoing. The level of incoming and outgoing student mobility for studies was most balanced in Austria and Slovenia.
- "Social sciences, business and law" were the most popular subject areas (34.6% share), followed by “humanities and arts” (32.9%) and then “engineering, manufacturing and construction” (12.5%).
- The average duration of an Erasmus study period was 6.4 months, which is identical to the previous year. The average duration ranged from 4.2 months in Malta to 8 months in Spain.
- The average monthly EU grant for mobility for studies was EUR 236, which represents an annual decrease of 6.7% (EUR 253 in the previous year).
- 230 students with special need grants went on a study mobility in 2009/10 (0.14% of all student mobility for studies), compared to 203 students in 2008/09.
- Students without an EU grant, 'zero-grant' students accounted for 3.4% of all Erasmus student mobility for studies. While the number of zero-grant students has been gradually declining over the last decade, there was an increase in total numbers in 2009/10 from 4138 to 6114 (47.8%).
- A total of 636 students combined a period of study with a placement period - integrated placement period. This represents about 0.3% of all Erasmus students studying abroad (down from 0.46% in the previous year).

Erasmus Student Mobility for Placements

- A total of 35 561 students undertook placements (traineeships) abroad (up from 30 330 students in 2008/09). This is an increase of 17.2% between academic years. On average, student mobility for placements represented 16.7% of all Erasmus student mobilities (up from 15.4% in the previous year).
- 62.1% of those who participated in the Erasmus placement action were women.
- France had the highest number of outgoing students on Erasmus placements (5787) followed by Germany (4825), Spain (3710) and the UK (3670).
- Spain received the highest number of incoming placement mobility (6061 - 17% share), followed by the UK with 5827 (16.4%), Germany with 4582 (12.9%), and then France with 4108 (11.6%).
- A considerable imbalance between incoming and outgoing placement students remains in many countries but the most balance in 2009/10 was achieved in Bulgaria and Germany, followed by Portugal, Austria and Italy.
- A total of 26 968 enterprises received Erasmus placement students, which represents a 24.5 % year-on-year growth (up from 21 670 in the previous year). The enterprises varied greatly in type and size. Around 45.5% of the enterprises were small, 34.8 % medium-sized and 19.7% were large.
- The most popular placement sector was "education" with 5691 placements (16%), followed by "professional, scientific and technical activities" with 5054 mobilities (14%).
- The average duration of Erasmus student mobility for placements was 4 months (compared to 6.4 months for studies). 3564 placements (10%) were shorter than three months (up from 2454 in the previous year).
- The average of anticipated ECTS credits for an Erasmus placement period abroad was 18.6.
- Students received on average a monthly EU grant for placements of EUR 386, down from EUR 433 in the previous academic year. The average monthly EU grant ranged from EUR 225 for students from Austria to EUR 1140 for students coming from Luxembourg.
- 27 students with special needs grants participated in Erasmus student mobility for placements (up from 10 in the previous year), which represents a 0.08% share of all Erasmus placements this year.
- A total of 939 Erasmus placement students did not receive an EU grant. This is a considerable increase of 167% from the previous year when total 'zero-grant' Erasmus placements were 352.
- A total of 73 Erasmus placement consortia organised student placements in twelve out of the 32 participating countries. Spain had the highest number of consortia (21), followed by France with 15, and then Germany with 14. German consortia managed the highest average number of placements per consortium (147 placements). Spanish consortia had the highest number of active higher education institutions/organisations participating in each consortium.

Erasmus Staff Mobility (Teaching Assignments and Staff Training)

- Erasmus supported a total of 37 776 mobility periods for teaching and non-teaching staff from higher education institutions, and staff from enterprises. This represents an annual increase of 3.8% from the previous academic year.
- 76.9% of the staff mobilities supported was teaching assignments.
- The country with the highest number of outgoing staff mobilities was Poland with 4443 (11.8% share), followed by Spain with 3797 (10.1%), and then Germany with 3385 (9%).
- The most popular destinations for Erasmus staff mobility was Germany with 3775 staff mobilities (10%), followed by Spain with 3613 (9.6%) and Italy with 3368 (8.9%).

Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments

- A total of 29 031 Erasmus staff mobilities for teaching assignments were funded in 2009/10. This represents an annual growth rate of 1.5 % which is considerably lower than in the previous academic year (5.4%).
- As in the previous year, in 2009/10 more men than women participated in Erasmus teaching assignments or 59.4%.
- 259 mobilities out of the 29 031 mobilities for teaching assignments were undertaken by staff from enterprises who were invited to come and teach at a higher education institution abroad.
- Poland had the highest number of outgoing Erasmus teaching assignments with 2967 (10.2%), followed by Spain with 2914 (10%) and Germany with 2850 (9.8%).
- About half of the 32 participating countries experienced a decrease or stagnation in the number of outgoing Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments. The highest relative increase in outgoing teaching assignments was in Turkey (17.3%), Romania (15.3%) and Norway (14.6%).
- The correlation between staff mobility for teaching assignments and student mobility for studies does not appear to be simple, and in 16 of the 32 participating countries, student mobility and teacher mobility in growing in opposite directions.
- Germany was the most popular destination for teaching assignments with 2947 mobilities (10.2% share), followed by Italy with 2698 (9.3%), Spain with 2686 (9.3%), and then France with 2598 (8.9%).
- Luxembourg experienced the highest relative increase (40%) in incoming teaching assignments among the 32 participating countries between years, followed by Liechtenstein (25%) and Belgium (13.7%). Nine countries experienced a decrease in incoming teaching assignments.
- There was considerable imbalance in the flow of outgoing and incoming Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments in the 32 participating countries. 13 countries received more teachers than they sent out on assignments. 8 countries were most balanced: Cyprus, Spain, Greece, Lithuania, Malta, Romania and Sweden.
- Teachers were most mobile in the following subject areas: "humanities and arts," "social sciences, business and law," and "engineering, manufacturing and construction."
- On average teachers spent 5.6 days abroad on teaching assignments (same as in the previous year). The average duration ranged from 3.5 days for teachers from Austria to 9.5 days for teachers from Iceland.
- The average EU grant for a teaching assignment mobility was EUR 654 (down from EUR 666 in the previous year). There were, however, large differences in grant amounts between countries, ranging from EUR 189 for Czech teachers to EUR 1376 for Turkish teachers.
- 377 zero-grant teachers took part in Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments (1.3% of the total number of teaching assignments) which is four times higher than the number of zero-grant teaching assignments in 2008/09.
- Eight teachers with special needs participated in Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments. This is doubling the numbers from the previous year.

Erasmus Staff Mobility for Staff Training

- 8745 training periods abroad were undertaken by teaching and non-teaching staff of higher education institutions in 2009/10, with an increase of 12.5% from the previous year (7774 training periods).
- Female participants (5934 – 67.85%) outnumbered men (2811). This relative balance is almost identical with the situation in 2008/09.
- 1835 higher education institution staff went on training to enterprises abroad, which represents a decrease of 2.7% compared to the previous year (down from 1886). Training in enterprises constituted 21% of all staff mobility for staff training.
- Academic staff made up the largest part of staff participating in Erasmus staff mobility for staff training again, or 37%, followed by staff from general administration (24%) and staff in international offices (20%).
- The highest number of participants in Erasmus staff training – 4065 - participated in training (46.5% share), followed by job shadowing with 2157 mobilities (24.7%) and participation in workshops with 1553 mobilities (17.8%).
- The highest number of outgoing staff mobilities for training was from Poland or 1476 (16.9% share), followed by Spain with 883 (10.1%) and then Finland with 656 (7.5%).
- The United Kingdom continued to be the most popular destination for Erasmus staff training mobility with 969 incoming staff for training, (11.1% share), followed by Spain with 927 mobilities (10.6%), and Germany with 828 mobilities (9.5%).
- 11 countries sent more staff on Erasmus staff training than they received. On the other hand, 13 countries received more staff for staff training than they sent out. The remaining 8 countries were rather balanced in number of outgoing and incoming mobilities for staff training: Cyprus, Spain, Greece, Croatia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania, and Sweden.
- The average duration of Erasmus staff training was 6.4 days (down from 6.5 in the previous year). This is slightly higher than the Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments (5.6 days). The duration varied between countries. Staff from the Netherlands stayed the longest (on average 10.3 days), followed by staff from Iceland (8.5 days), and Romania and Malta (8.1 days each).
- The average EU grant per staff training mobility was EUR 735 (down from EUR 751 in the previous year), or EUR 115 per day. The average EU grants vary greatly between countries, ranging from 1569€ for staff from Liechtenstein to 256€ grant for staff from the Czech Republic.
- Out of the total number of staff participating in staff training, 136 (1.7% of the total number of mobility for staff training) were zero-grant staff (up from 32 in the previous year). This constitutes an increase of 425% between years.

Erasmus Intensive Language Courses (EILCs)

- Since 1999, a total of 39 460 Erasmus students have benefited from participation in EILC.
- 361 EILC courses were organised in 2009/10 in 23 participating countries, a year-on-year increase of 10.74%.
- 5386 Erasmus students participated in EILC courses in 2009/10, a year-on-year increase of 3.4%.
- On average 7.2% of Erasmus students going to countries with less widely spoken languages participated in an EILC course, up from a 5.8 % in the previous year. This rate was above 10% in four countries: Slovenia (20.4%), Estonia (14.6%), Iceland (12.8%), and Romania (12.2%).
- In spite of the significant decrease in number of participants, Italy still received the highest number of students (960 - 17.8%). The Flemish speaking community in Belgium received the second highest number of students (578, 10.7% share), followed by Portugal with 449 students (8.3% share). This order of countries is identical with the previous year. The highest annual increase was in Estonia (60%), followed by Cyprus (52%) and Sweden (47%).
- German students were the most active participants in the EILC action in 2009/10, with 922 students participating.
- In 2009/10 students earned from two to nine ECTS credits during an EILC course depending on the workload and the number of contact hours.

Erasmus Intensive Programmes (IPs)

- 384 Intensive Programmes were organised in 2009/10, an increase of 20.4% between years (319 IPs were funded in 2008/09).
- Intensive Programmes were organised in 29 countries. The highest number of courses were organised in Italy (47 – 12.2%); followed by Germany (37 – 9.6%) and then France (31 – 8.1%).
- 16 984 students and teachers participated in Intensive Programmes in 2009/10 (up from 13 560 in 2008/09). 12 606 students (74.2% of the total) participated in Intensive Programmes while teachers were 4378 (or 25.8% of participants).
- The highest number of students participating in an IP came from Germany, or 905, then Poland with 713 students, followed by Spain with 696. The highest number of participating teachers came from Germany, or 291, followed by Italian teachers (235) and then teachers from the UK (227).
- The most popular subject area for Intensive Programmes was "social sciences, business and law" (78 courses): "science, mathematics and computing" (55) and "engineering, manufacturing and construction (52). IPs can have more than one subject area and the trends for the second subject area are very similar.
- The average duration of an Intensive Programme was 12.2 days, same as last year.
- On average the Intensive Programmes awarded 5.25 ECTS credits (down from 6 ECTS in 2008/09).
- The average age of Intensive Programme students was higher than that of Erasmus mobility students, or 24.7 years.

Erasmus Preparatory Visits

- 309 Erasmus preparatory visit grants were awarded in 2009/10, a 54.5% increase between years (up from 200 in 2008/09).
- 26 countries out of the 32 participating countries used preparatory visit grants in 2009/10.
- Germany supported the highest number of people on preparatory visit grants (61), followed by Lithuania (26) and France (22).
- Turkey hosted the highest number of preparatory visits with 56 visits (18.3% share), followed by the UK with 30 (9.8% share), and Malta with 27 (8.8%). Preparatory visit grants recipients visited 28 countries.
- The average duration of a preparatory visit in 2009/10 was 3.8 days.
- The average EU grant per visit was EUR 962 or EUR 253 per day.

Erasmus University Cooperation Projects 2007 – 2010

- The total budget granted to Erasmus University Cooperation Projects for the application years 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 was EUR 75 220 049
- The total number of received applications for Erasmus centralised actions increased from 153 in 2007 to 194 in the 2010 application year.
- The total number of proposals approved was relatively stable with 63 successful applications on average each application year.
- Until 2010, UK submitted annually the highest number of proposals with the highest number of partners as well in other proposals. In 2010, however, Belgium submitted the highest number of proposals (23), followed by Spain (18) and then Italy, the Netherlands and the UK (17 each).
- The highest number of applications in the period 2007-2010 was received within the Curriculum Development action (82) which is also the action with the highest budget available.
- The average success rate for proposals from coordinating countries for the four year period went from 41.8% in 2007 to 34% in 2010 (from 41.8% in 2007).

1 Erasmus Student Mobility

1.1 General overview of student mobility

1.1.1 Introduction and forecast

The Erasmus Programme was established in 1987. From its beginning in the academic year 1987/88, the programme has provided 2.3 million European students with the opportunity to go abroad and study at a higher education institution or train in a company. Student mobility accounts for around 85% of the annual Erasmus budget, with around 4.5% of students receiving Erasmus grants at some stage during their higher education. Since the programme's inception, France has moved the highest number of students, or 227 140 (14.77 % share), followed by Germany with 224 861 (14.62 %), and then Spain with 222 432 Erasmus student participants (14.46 %).

The hallmark of the Erasmus Programme is student mobility from which it has earned its good reputation but Erasmus also supports other activities for stakeholders in higher education. During its lifetime, the Erasmus Programme has gone through several phases:

1. Erasmus 1987/88 – 1989/90 (3 years) with 32 614 mobile students
2. Erasmus 1990/91 – 1994/95 (5 years) with 251 683 mobile students
3. Socrates I – Erasmus 1995/96 – 1999/00 (5 years) with 455 782 mobile students
4. Socrates II – Erasmus 2000/01 – 2006/07 (7 years) with 943 849 mobile students
5. LL Programme – Erasmus 2007/08 – 2009/10 (3 years) with 594 486 mobile students

The academic year 2009/10 was the third operation year the Lifelong Learning Programme of which Erasmus is a sub-programme. This year, 213 266 Erasmus students went abroad on a mobility to study or train in one of the 32 countries that participated in the Erasmus Programme this year (EU27, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey and Croatia). This represents an annual increase of 7.4% compared to the previous academic year (198 523 in 2008/09). A total of 2853 higher education institutions participated in the Erasmus student mobility actions in 2009/10 out of a total of 3873 Erasmus Charter Holders (EUC holders) as senders

There has been a steady increase in the number of student mobility periods every year since the beginning of the Erasmus Programme in 1987, with the exception of 1996/97[1] when the number of mobility periods decreased from the previous year. The growth rate within Erasmus was highest in the beginning (see Chart 1) but annual increases have also been high in recent years. The first year of the Lifelong Learning programme saw a very steep increase in mobility numbers, or 14.7%, which can partly be explained by the introduction of a new Erasmus action student mobility for placements that year. It is more difficult to explain this year's growth rate as there was a slight decrease in the Erasmus budget for decentralised actions between years (-0.27%). More zero-grant students participated this year than in the previous year and national and institutional co-financing for mobility activities in many of the participating countries is increasing.

[1] 1996/97 was a year of preparation for the Institutional Contract – the successor of the Inter-University Cooperation Programmes (ICP) which may have contributed to a decrease in mobility that year.

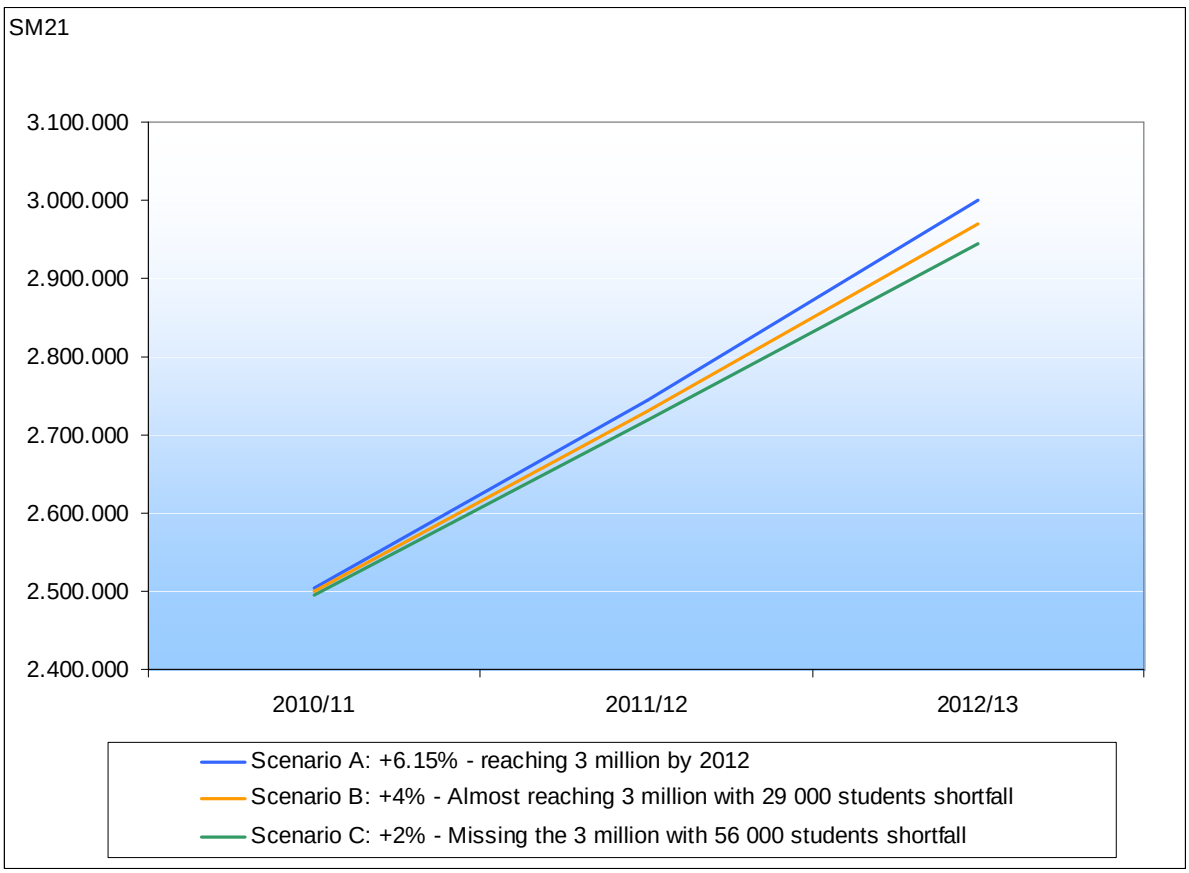
Chart 1: Erasmus Student Mobility from 1987/88 – 2009/10

	1987/88	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Total number	3244	9914	19456	27906	36104	51694	62362	73407	84642	79874	85999	97601	107666	111092	115432	123957	135586	144037	154421	159324	182697	198523	213266

In 2002, Erasmus reached one million mobile students and two million students were reached at the end of the academic year 2008/2009. The aim set out in the 2006 Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council for the Lifelong Learning Programme is to reach at least three million student mobility periods under the Erasmus Programme and its predecessor programmes by 2012[2] (in fact in the academic year 2012/13 which is funded by the budget of 2012).

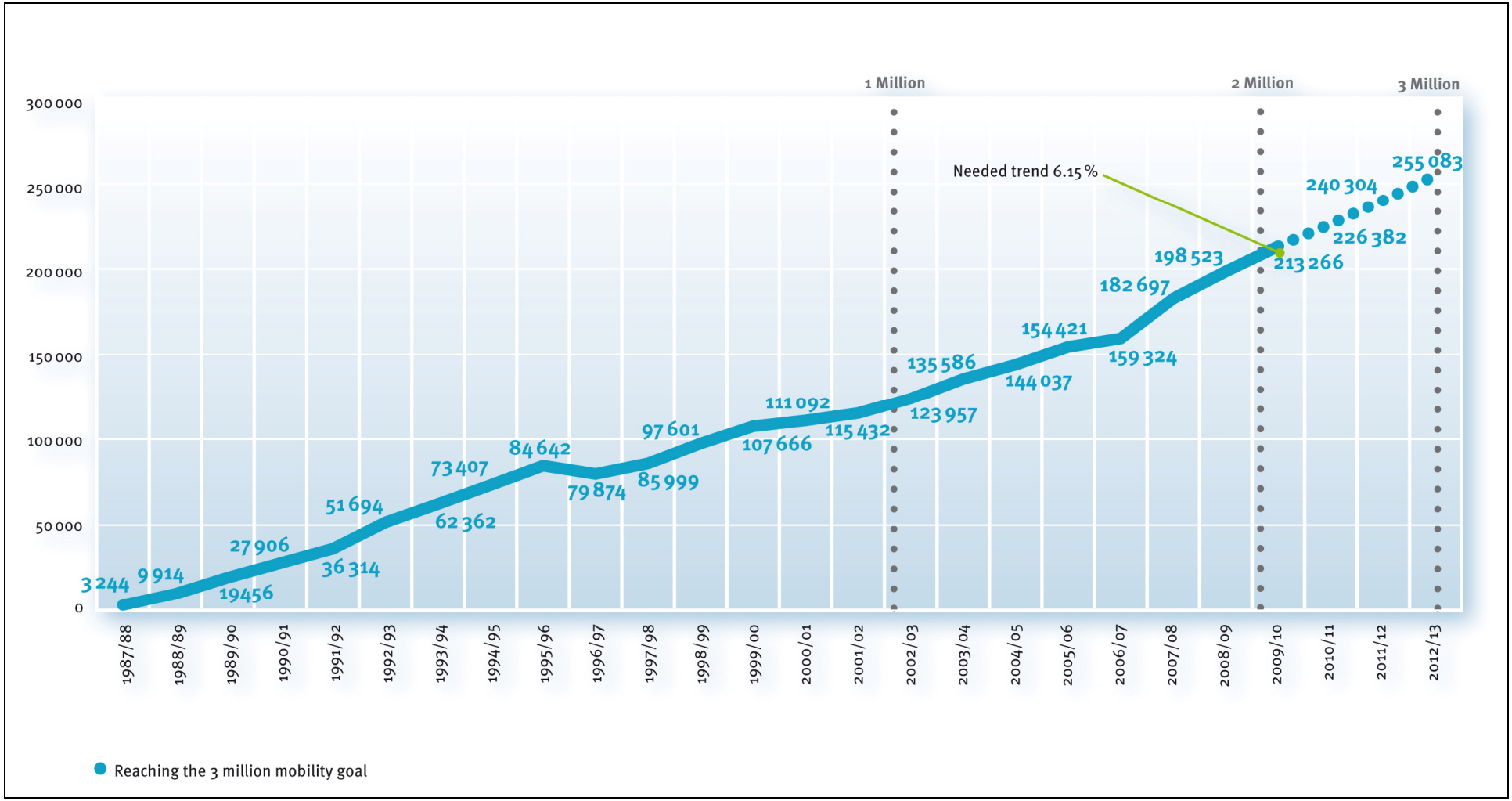
Charts 2 and 3 below show a projected trend for Erasmus student mobility for the next few years. With an annual growth of 2% in terms of the number of mobile Erasmus students, there will be a shortfall of almost 56 000 students - reaching 2.94 million at the target date and three million one semester later, very early in 2014. With an average annual growth rate of 4% there will, however, only be a shortfall of 29 000 students- reaching 2.97 million at the target date and three million a trimester later at the end of 2013. According to projections, an annual increase of about 6.15 % is needed in order to reach the three million target by the academic year 2012/13. The annual growth rate in 2009/10 was 7.4% despite a slight decrease in the budget between years. Given that there are budgetary increases in the consecutive years, it can be estimated that the required 6.15% average annual growth rate for reaching the three million target will be reached. Slower annual growth rates could, however, be countered by increased national co-funding of Erasmus student mobility by the respective participating countries.

Chart 2: Reaching the three million target; three possible scenarios



[2] Decision No 1720/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2006 establishing an action programme in the field of lifelong learning, Article 21a.

Chart 3: Erasmus Student Mobility projected annual trends until 2012/2013



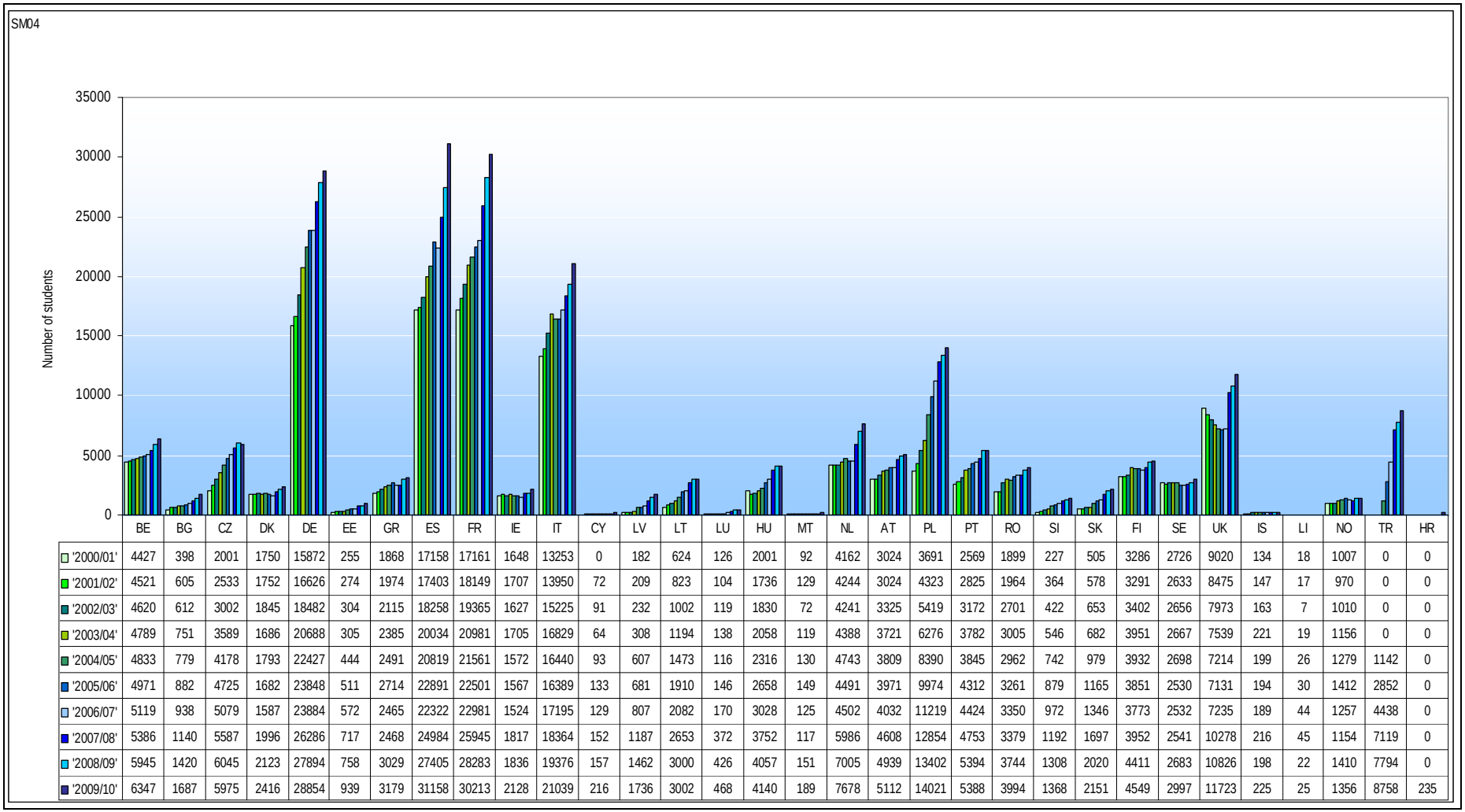
1.1.2 Outgoing Erasmus Student Mobility (studies and placements)

In the academic year 2009/10, a total of 213 266 students went to another European country to study or train, which represents a year-on-year increase of 7.4%. Spain sent the most students abroad with 31 158 students leaving for another country (14.61% share). It overtakes France which was the top sending country the previous year. France supported the second highest number of students going abroad, or 30 213 (14.17%), followed by Germany with 28 854 outgoing students (13.53%). The total flows of outgoing/incoming student mobility per country since 1987/88 until 2009/10 can be found in Annex 1 while Annex 2 gives an overview of the total outgoing and incoming student flows per country in 2009/10.

When the Erasmus student mobility numbers for 2009/10 (see Chart 4) for each of the participating country is compared with Erasmus mobility numbers from 2008/09, the annual growth rate between years was highest in Cyprus (37.6%), followed by Malta (25.2%), Estonia (23.9%), and Bulgaria (18.8%). The annual growth rate in the 12 Member States that joined the EU in 2004 and 2007 respectively was 12.3%.

The number of outgoing students for studies and placements increased in all of the participating countries, except in Norway, where the numbers decreased by 3.8% and in the Czech Republic and Portugal where there was stagnation in numbers (+/- one percent).

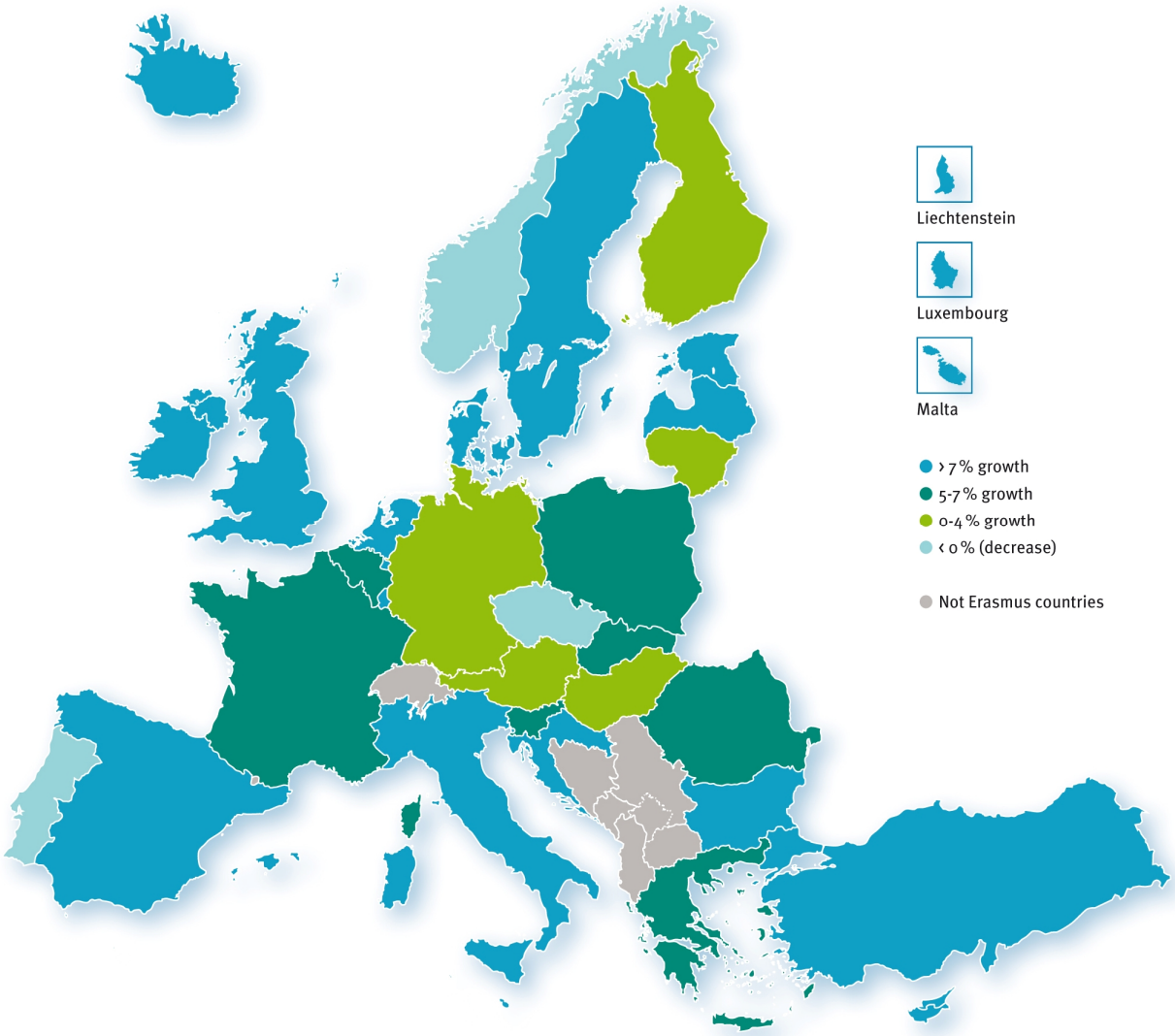
Chart 4: Outgoing Erasmus Students per home country: 2000/01 - 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2000/01'	4427	398	2001	1750	15872	255	1868	17158	17161	1648	13253	0	182	624	126	2001	92	4162	3024	3691	2569	1899	227	505	3286	2726	9020	134	18	1007	0	0
'2001/02'	4521	605	2533	1752	16626	274	1974	17403	18149	1707	13950	72	209	823	104	1736	129	4244	3024	4323	2825	1964	364	578	3291	2633	8475	147	17	970	0	0
'2002/03'	4620	612	3002	1845	18482	304	2115	18258	19365	1627	15225	91	232	1002	119	1830	72	4241	3325	5419	3172	2701	422	653	3402	2656	7973	163	7	1010	0	0
'2003/04'	4789	751	3589	1686	20688	305	2385	20034	20981	1705	16829	64	308	1194	138	2058	119	4388	3721	6276	3782	3005	546	682	3951	2667	7539	221	19	1156	0	0
'2004/05'	4833	779	4178	1793	22427	444	2491	20819	21561	1572	16440	93	607	1473	116	2316	130	4743	3809	8390	3845	2962	742	979	3932	2698	7214	199	26	1279	1142	0
'2005/06'	4971	882	4725	1682	23848	511	2714	22891	22501	1567	16389	133	681	1910	146	2658	149	4491	3971	9974	4312	3261	879	1165	3851	2530	7131	194	30	1412	2852	0
'2006/07'	5119	938	5079	1587	23884	572	2465	22322	22981	1524	17195	129	807	2082	170	3028	125	4502	4032	11219	4424	3350	972	1346	3773	2532	7235	189	44	1257	4438	0
'2007/08'	5386	1140	5587	1996	26286	717	2468	24984	25945	1817	18364	152	1187	2653	372	3752	117	5986	4608	12854	4753	3379	1192	1697	3952	2541	10278	216	45	1154	7119	0
'2008/09'	5945	1420	6045	2123	27894	758	3029	27405	28283	1836	19376	157	1462	3000	426	4057	151	7005	4939	13402	5394	3744	1308	2020	4411	2683	10826	198	22	1410	7794	0
'2009/10'	6347	1687	5975	2416	28854	939	3179	31158	30213	2128	21039	216	1736	3002	468	4140	189	7678	5112	14021	5388	3994	1368	2151	4549	2997	11723	225	25	1356	8758	235

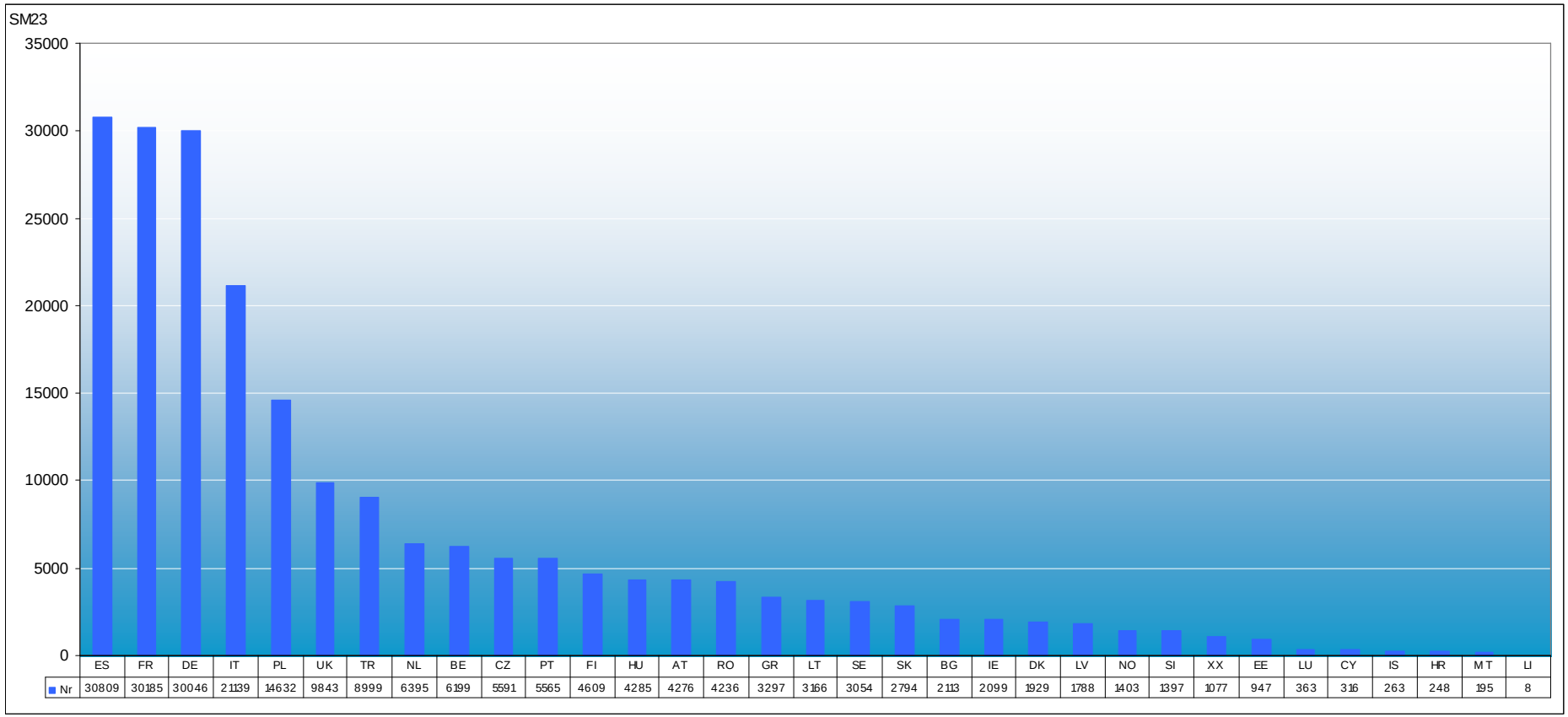
The map below shows the growth rates of Erasmus student mobility per country in the academic year 2009/10. As noted above, only Norway experienced a decrease in outgoing Erasmus student mobility this year, while the Czech Republic and Portugal experienced stagnation in outgoing numbers. A total of sixteen countries experienced higher growth rates than the EUR32 average of 7.4%:

Map 1: Growth rates of Erasmus student mobility (studies and placements) in 2009/10



Spanish nationals were the most mobile in 2009/10 (30 809), followed by French nationals (30 185), and then German (30 046).

Chart 5: Number of Erasmus Students by Nationality in 2009/10[3]



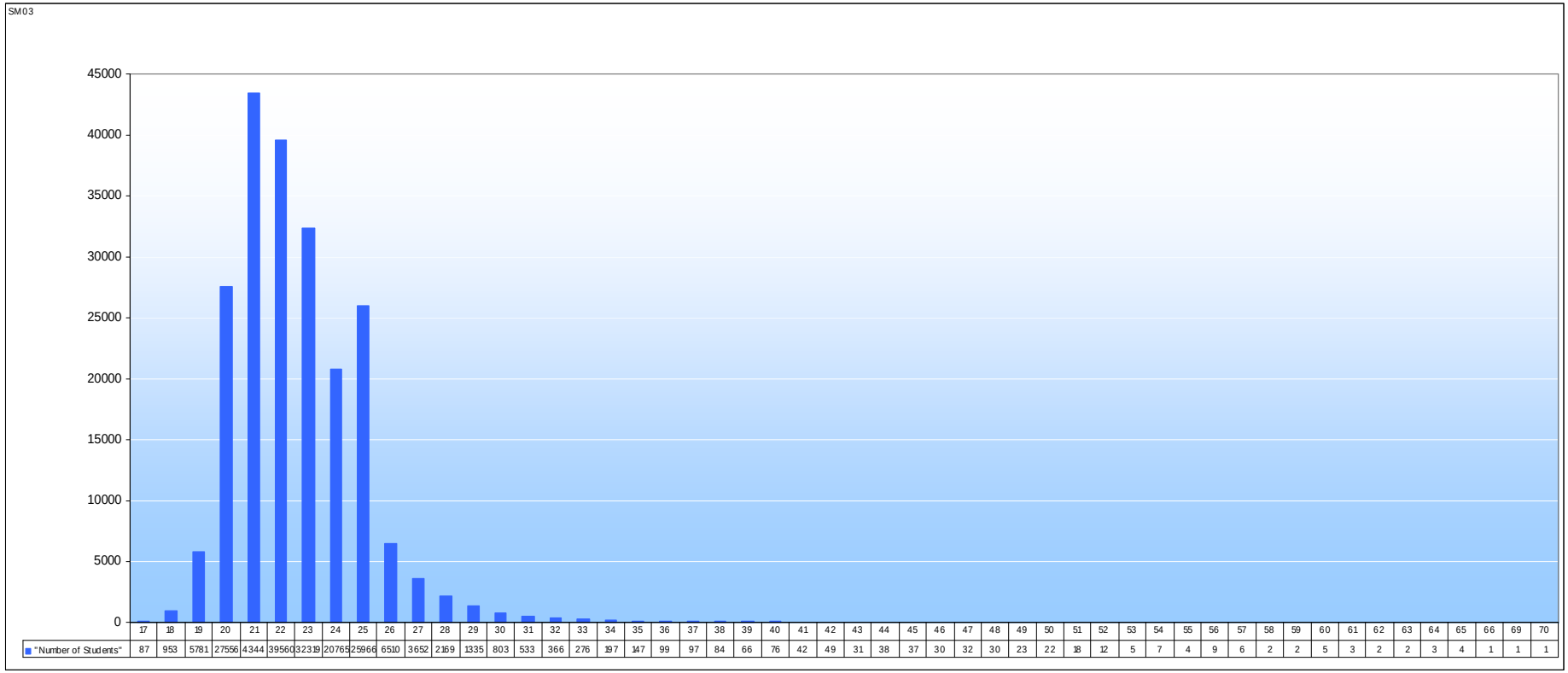
Approximately 61.1% of Erasmus students in the academic year 2009/10 were female. This percentage is somewhat higher than the proportion of female students of the total student population in the 32 participating countries in 2009 which was 54%[4].

[3] The XX in the chart refer to students who participated in the Erasmus Programme who hold a nationality outside of the EU32 participating countries

[4] Eurostat 2009 data. Out of a total student population of 22 773 647 in the EUR32 (data for Luxembourg and Greece from 2008), 12 298 177 are female.

The average age of Erasmus students in 2009/10 was 23.5 years at the beginning of the year 2009, the youngest participant being 17 years and the oldest 70 years old. Chart 6 shows the age distribution of Erasmus students in the academic year 2009/10.

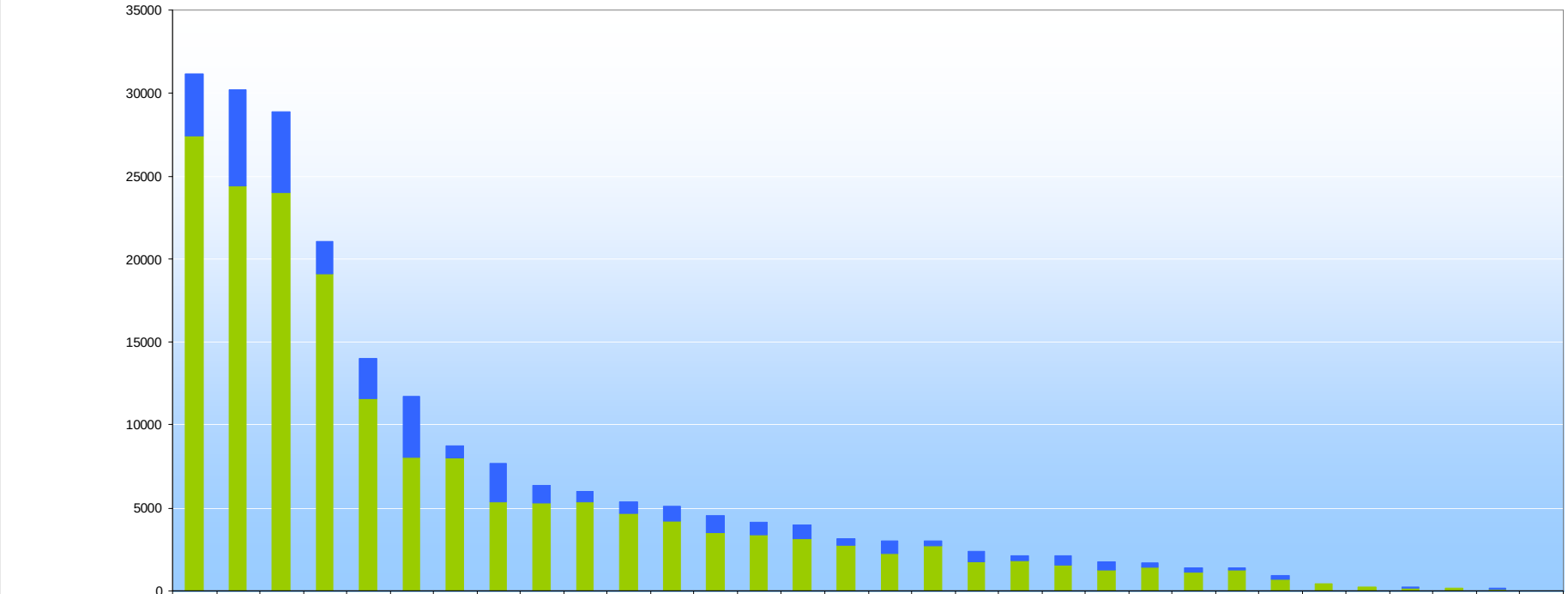
Chart 6: Age distribution of Erasmus Students in 2009/10



	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	69	70
"Number of Students"	87	953	5781	27556	43444	39560	32319	20765	25966	6510	3652	2169	1335	803	533	366	276	197	147	99	97	84	66	76	42	49	31	38	37	30	32	30	23	22	18	12	5	7	4	9	6	2	2	5	3	2	2	3	4	1	1	1

Chart 7 below shows the share of Erasmus student mobility for studies versus placements in the 32 participating countries in 2009/10. The countries with the highest share of placement students were Malta (35.5%) followed by the UK (31.3%) and the Netherlands (30.2%). On average, student mobility for placements represented 16.7% of all Erasmus student mobility in 2009/10 (up from 15.3% in the previous year).

Chart 7: Share of Erasmus Mobility for Studies versus Mobility for Placements per home country in 2009/10



	ES	FR	DE	IT	PL	UK	TR	NL	BE	CZ	PT	AT	FI	HU	RO	GR	LT	SE	DK	SK	IE	LV	BG	SI	NO	EE	LU	HR	IS	CY	MT	LI
mobility for placements	3710	5787	4825	1921	2408	3670	742	2320	1078	637	711	878	1020	719	865	389	725	269	622	353	528	467	236	250	94	214	23	0	10	17	67	6
mobility for studies	27448	24426	24029	19118	11613	8053	8016	5358	5269	5338	4677	4234	3529	3421	3129	2790	2277	2728	1794	1798	1600	1269	1451	1118	1262	725	445	235	215	199	122	19

Chart 8 below compares the 2009/10 Erasmus data with Eurostat student population data in the 32 participating countries[5] and shows that the number of Erasmus students as a proportion of the whole student population in the participating countries in the academic year 2009/10 was on average 0.94%,[6] up from an average of 0.91% in the previous year. Some of the very small countries, i.e. Luxembourg and Liechtenstein, have much higher mobility rates due to the fact that there is only one university in those countries which does not offer provisions in all subject areas..

Assuming that the average study duration at a higher education institution is still 4-5 years, it can be estimated that 4% of European students will participate in the Erasmus Programme at some stage during their higher education studies.

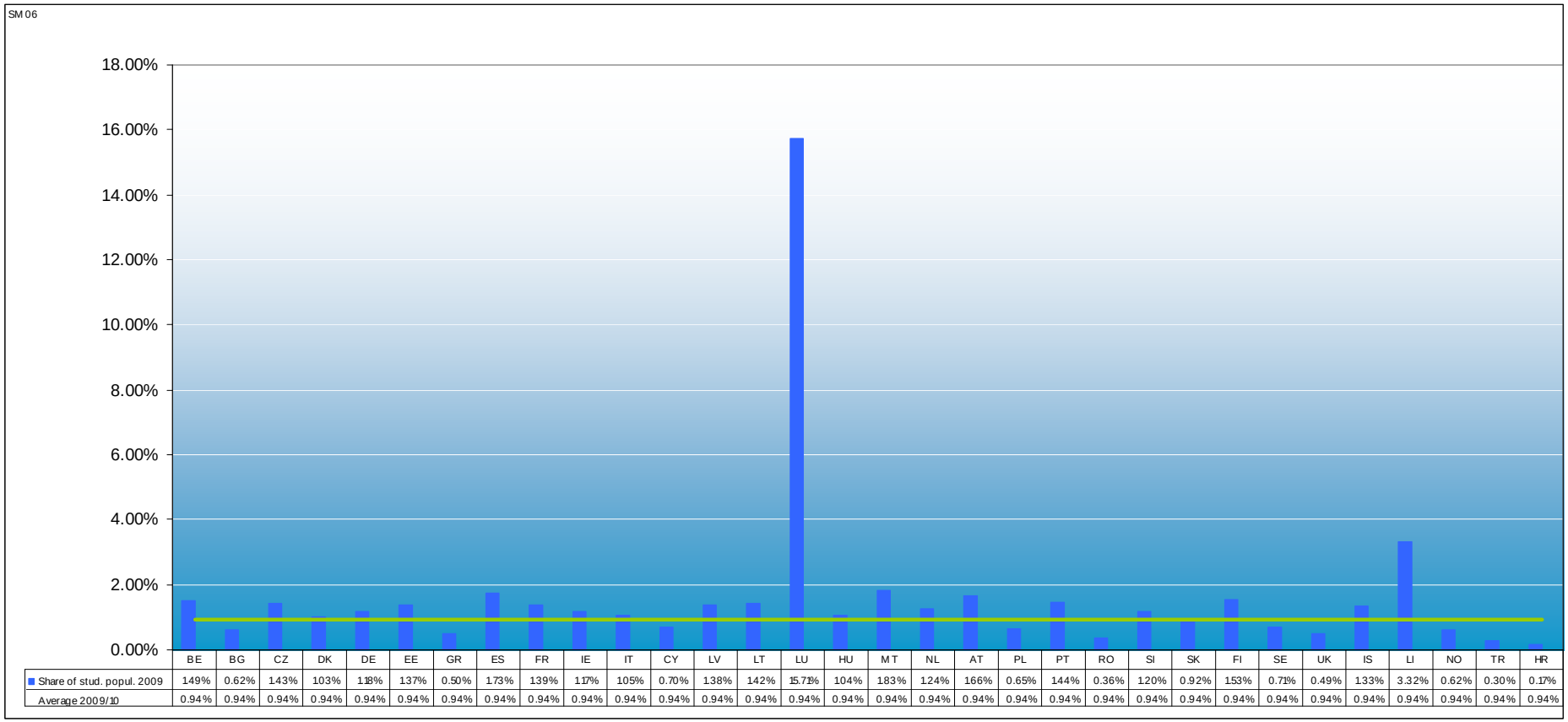
Apart from Luxembourg and Liechtenstein which have only one higher education institution each, Malta was the best performing country in terms of outgoing Erasmus student mobility as a proportion of the total student population (1,83%), followed by Spain (1.73%), and then Austria (1,66%) and Finland (1,53%). Out of the 32 participating countries, 21 reached or were above the average participation rate and only 11 countries below it. The lowest average participation rate was in Croatia as a new participating country (0.17%), Turkey (0.3%), Romania (0.36%), and the UK (0.49%).

Another method to determine the relative position of a country is to compare Erasmus students to the number of higher education graduates at bachelor and master levels or equivalent. According to Eurostat data, higher education graduates in 2009 accounted for over 4.72 million persons[7] in the 32 participating countries. If the total number of graduates is compared with the number of Erasmus students in the academic year 2009/10, then Erasmus students accounted for 4.51% of all graduates, a slightly higher proportion than in the previous year (up from 4.44 % in the previous year).

Chart 9 then shows that out of the 32 participating countries 23 were above the average while the following nine were below: Bulgaria, Ireland, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, UK, Norway, Turkey and Croatia[8]. When compared to Chart 8 (Erasmus students as a proportion of the student population) some countries are performing better than when the Erasmus student participation is compared with the number of graduates in the same year.

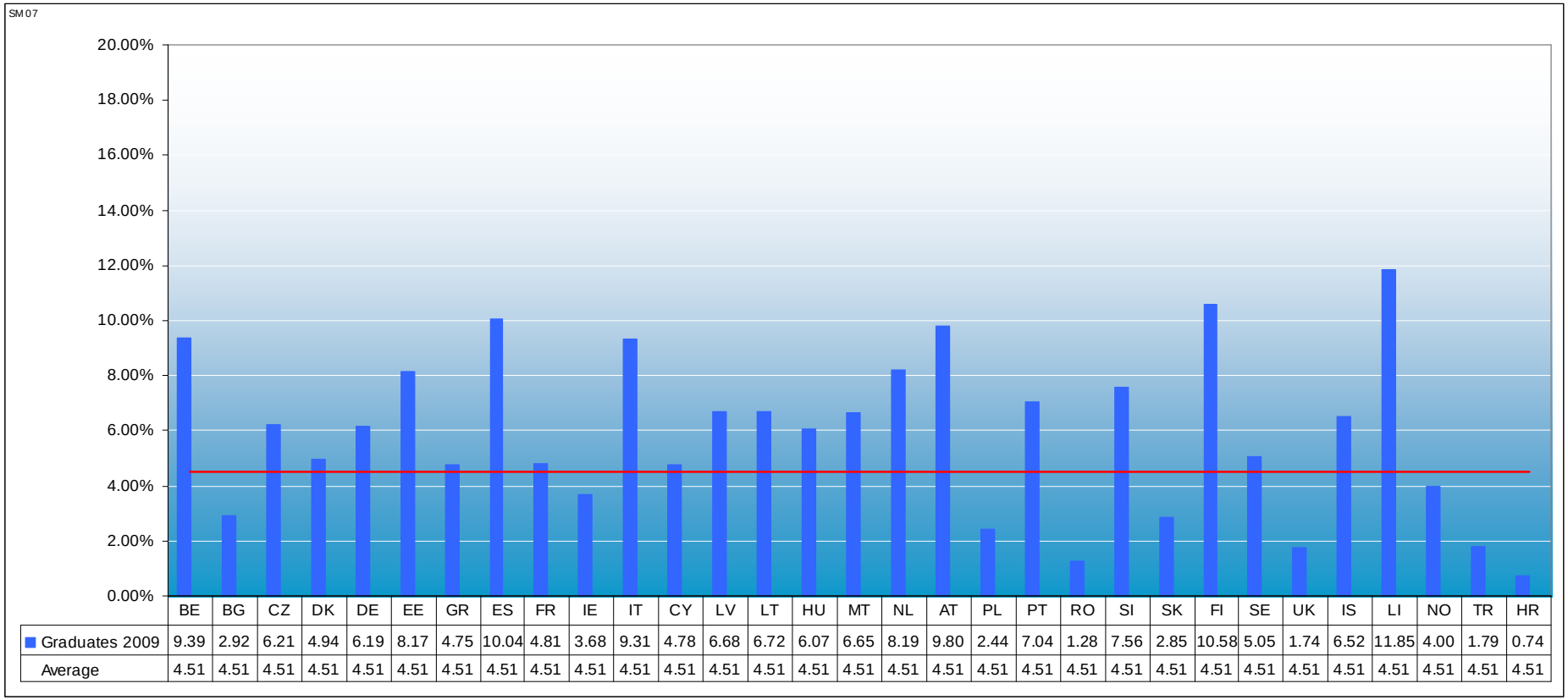
[5] Eurostat 2009 data.
[6] Proportion is calculated as a proportion of the number of Erasmus students on the total student population in each country. The total student population in the 32 participating countries was around 22.8 million students according to Eurostat 2009 data (data for Greece and Luxembourg are from 2008)
[7] The data from Greece and Luxembourg are from 2008
[8] Croatia could only send out students on Erasmus mobility for studies in 2009/10 but not on placements.

Chart 8: Erasmus Students in 2009/10 as proportion of the Student Population in the 32 participating countries



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
Share of stud. popul. 2009	1.49%	0.62%	1.43%	1.03%	1.18%	1.37%	0.50%	1.73%	1.39%	1.17%	1.05%	0.70%	1.38%	1.42%	15.71%	1.04%	1.83%	1.24%	1.66%	0.65%	1.44%	0.36%	1.20%	0.92%	1.53%	0.71%	0.49%	1.33%	3.32%	0.62%	0.30%	0.17%
Average 2009/10	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%	0.94%

Chart 9: Erasmus Students as proportion of university graduates in 2009 in the 32 participating countries



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
Graduates 2009	9.39	2.92	6.21	4.94	6.19	8.17	4.75	10.04	4.81	3.68	9.31	4.78	6.68	6.72	6.07	6.65	8.19	9.80	2.44	7.04	1.28	7.56	2.85	10.58	5.05	1.74	6.52	11.85	4.00	1.79	0.74
Average	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51	4.51

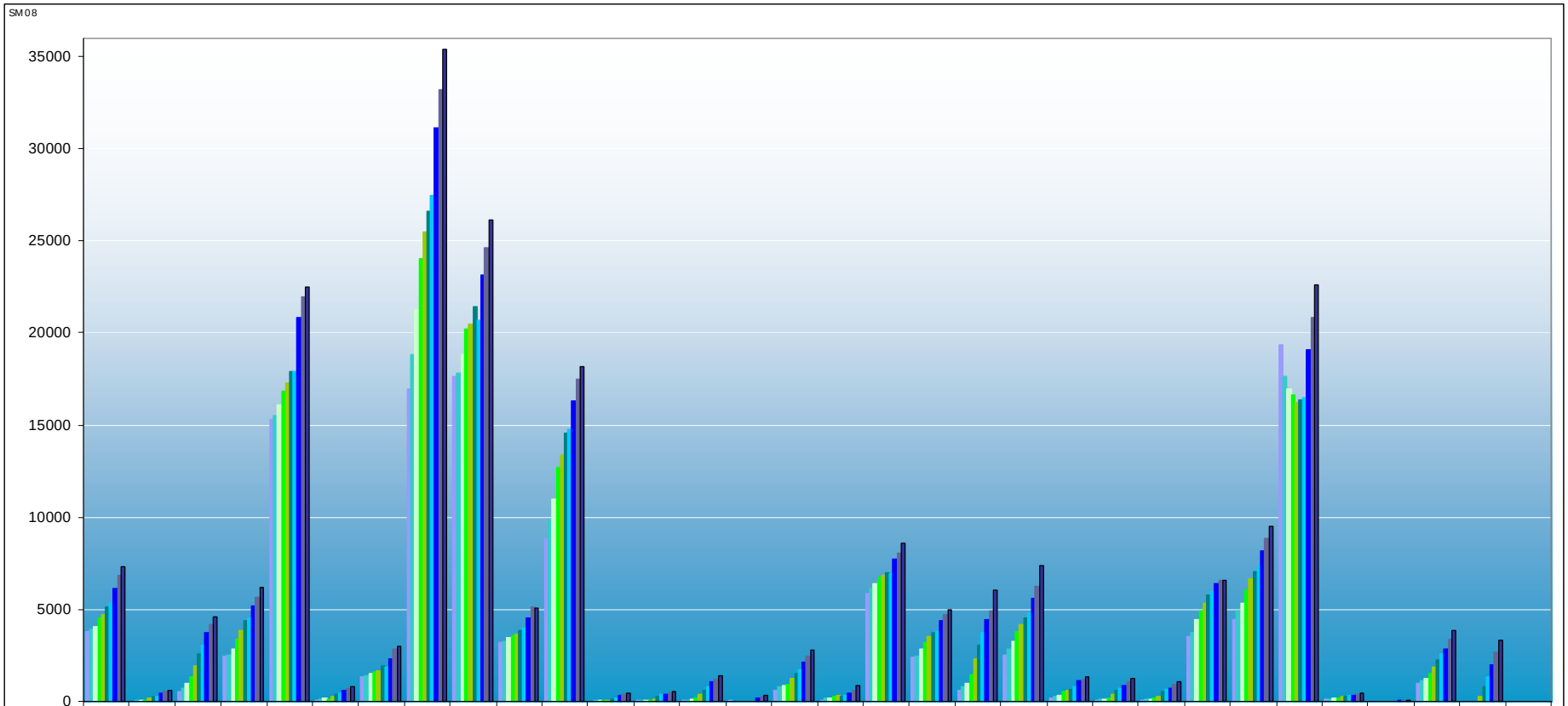
1.1.3 Incoming student mobility

As in previous years, Spain remained the most popular destination for European students during the academic year 2009/10 with 35 389 incoming students (16.6% share), followed by France with 26 141 incoming students (12.3%) and then the UK with 22 650 students (10.6%).

In 2009/10, almost all the participating countries experienced an annual growth in the number of incoming Erasmus students for studies and placements as compared to the previous year. Exceptions to this was Liechtenstein (a decrease of 2.1%), Ireland (a decrease of 1.5%), and Finland (a stagnation of 0.4%). The highest annual growth was in Malta (42.7%) followed by Turkey (25.5%) and then Poland (23.3%).

Chart 10 shows the trends in the incoming Erasmus student numbers since the academic year 2000/01. Overall, incoming student mobility has doubled since 2000/01. Since then the increase has been steady in every participating country except in the UK where the growth resumed in 2004/5. The growth rate in incoming student mobility in the twelve Member States that joined the European Union in 2004 and 2007 respectively, is considerably higher than in the older Member States during this period. The average growth rate from the previous year in these countries was 17% compared to 6.5% in the old Member States in 2009/10. The highest annual growth rate of incoming students among the new Member States in 2009/10 was in Malta, followed by Poland, Bulgaria and Slovakia.

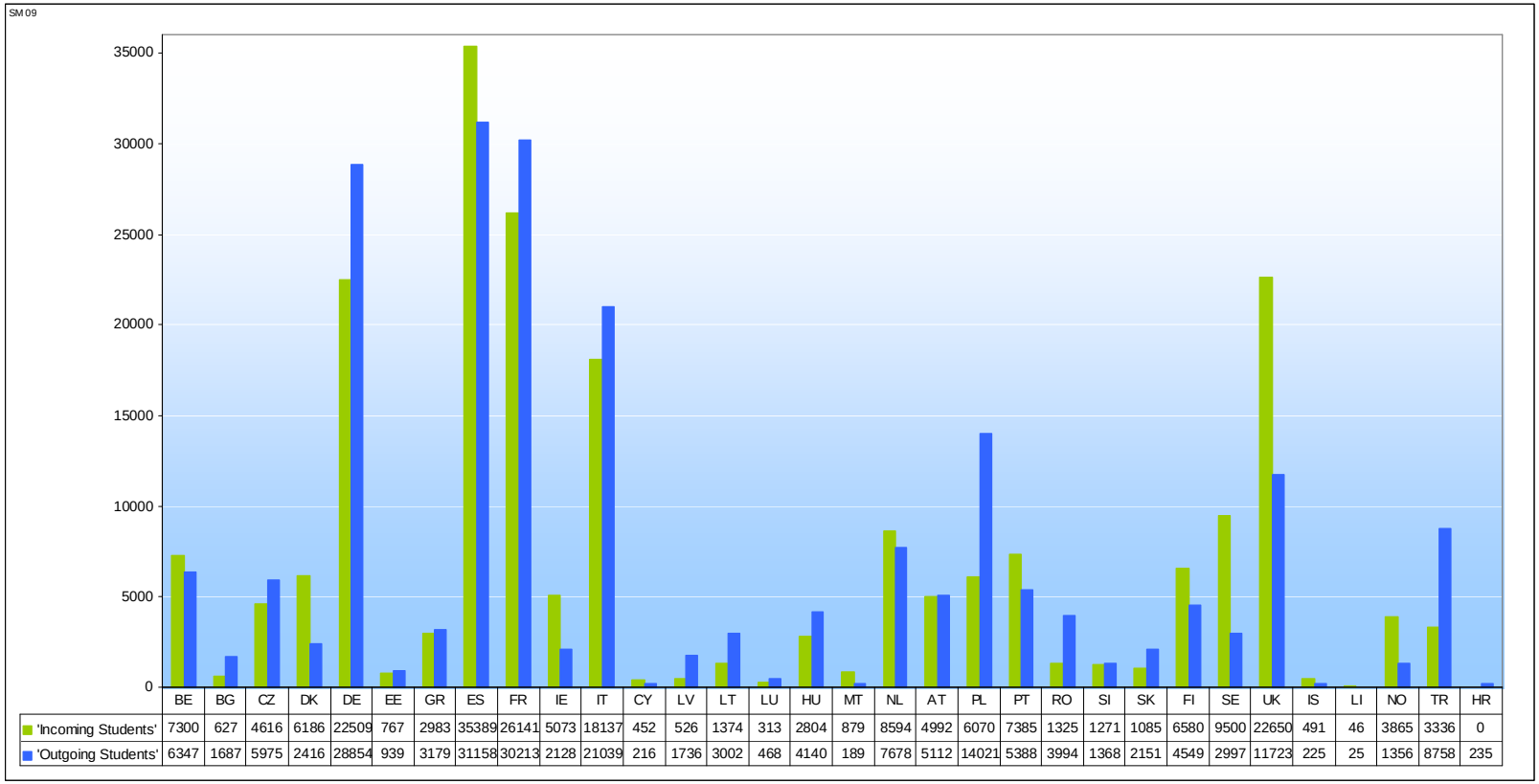
Chart 10: Number of incoming Erasmus Students from 2000/01 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2000/01'	3765	26	552	2435	15275	84	1302	16979	17642	3166	8836	0	41	56	34	623	67	5839	2425	614	2560	199	62	58	3555	4438	19339	127	3	980	0	0
'2001/02'	3895	51	732	2555	15503	115	1413	18826	17807	3232	9863	37	48	91	22	769	173	6141	2483	792	2883	275	108	111	3755	4898	17619	132	3	1100	0	0
'2002/03'	4053	67	971	2887	16106	170	1545	21302	18833	3473	10982	63	45	132	13	856	202	6355	2836	996	3280	355	129	131	4433	5326	16994	171	7	1244	0	0
'2003/04'	4504	89	1298	3393	16863	166	1593	24049	20260	3584	12713	62	65	216	14	951	250	6724	3161	1456	3766	536	201	181	4929	6080	16621	199	11	1518	0	0
'2004/05'	4728	179	1946	3880	17273	275	1658	25511	20519	3649	13370	95	150	388	16	1297	310	6842	3536	2332	4166	602	378	284	5351	6626	16266	253	17	1841	299	0
'2005/06'	5103	250	2613	4366	17889	372	1903	26625	21436	3871	14591	125	258	628	15	1554	297	6965	3744	3063	4542	657	589	508	5757	7062	16395	256	31	2260	828	0
'2006/07'	5308	296	3059	4545	17878	489	1841	27464	20673	4012	14779	211	373	808	24	1708	331	6914	3776	3730	4787	792	752	655	5998	7359	16508	327	31	2575	1321	0
'2007/08'	6155	445	3719	5209	20822	619	2299	31129	23172	4522	16277	314	392	1053	208	2160	468	7712	4419	4446	5583	1103	876	745	6374	8162	19120	323	42	2847	1982	0
'2008/09'	6846	514	4171	5637	21932	708	2849	33172	24614	5151	17492	394	480	1217	277	2476	616	8081	4728	4923	6232	1206	1078	913	6605	8840	20850	414	47	3402	2658	0
'2009/10'	7300	627	4616	6186	22509	767	2983	35389	26141	5073	18137	452	526	1374	313	2804	879	8594	4992	6070	7385	1325	1271	1085	6580	9500	22650	491	46	3865	3336	0

Chart 11 shows the balance in the different participating countries in terms of incoming and outgoing Erasmus students. A number of countries still have a significant imbalance in terms of incoming and outgoing students. Malta had four incoming students for every outgoing and Sweden three incoming for every outgoing one. The imbalance is also significant in Denmark, Ireland, Norway, and the UK. A total of eighteen countries sent more students abroad than they received in 2009/10. Latvia, Romania and Bulgaria sent about three times more students abroad than they received. Out of the twelve new Member States, Cyprus and Malta are the only countries that continually receive more students than they send out. The best balance between incoming and outgoing students was, however, in Austria (2%), Greece (6%) and Slovenia (7%).

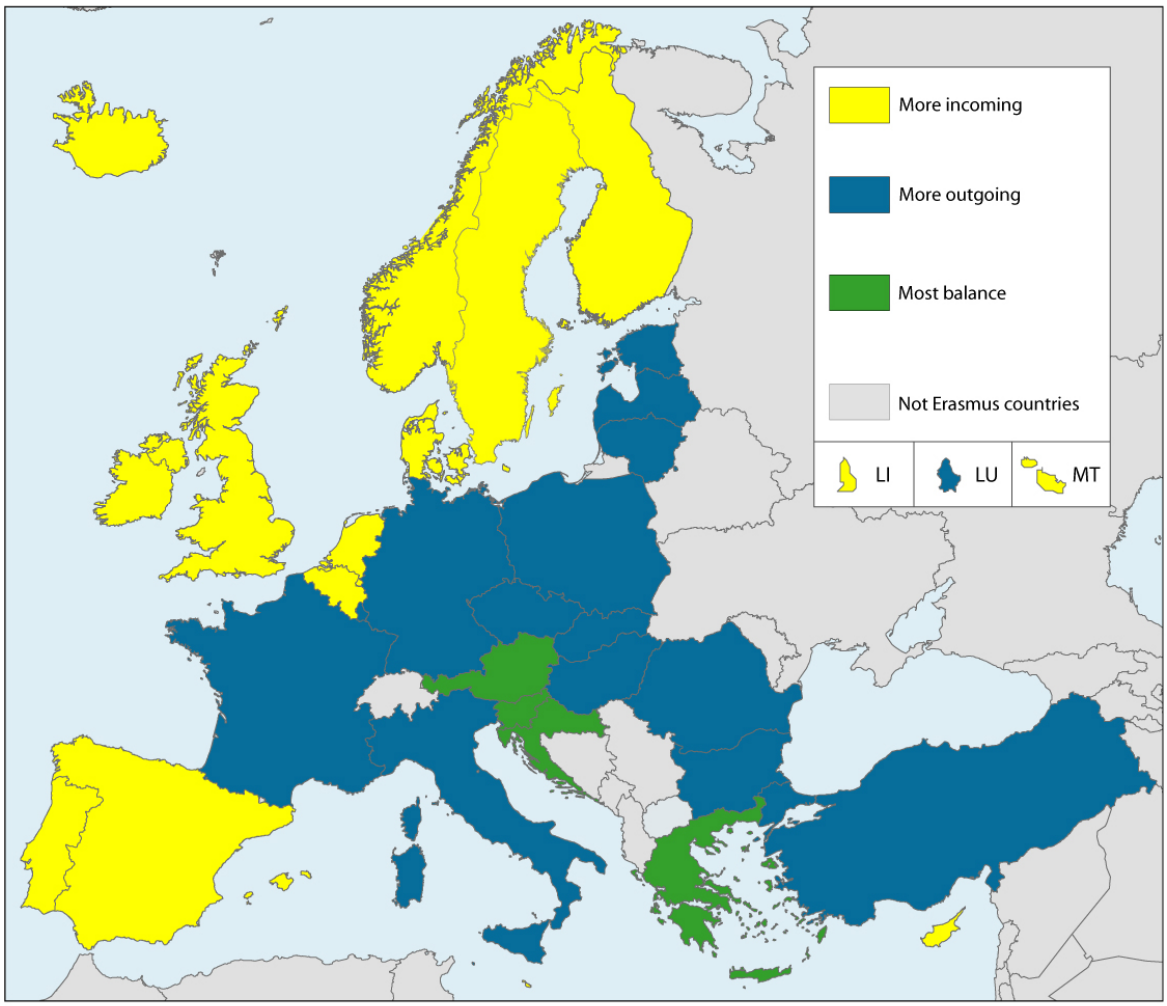
Chart 11: The balance of outgoing vs. incoming Erasmus Students participating in student mobility in 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'Incoming Students'	7300	627	4616	6186	22509	767	2983	35389	26141	5073	18137	452	526	1374	313	2804	879	8594	4992	6070	7385	1325	1271	1085	6580	9500	22650	491	46	3865	3336	0
'Outgoing Students'	6347	1687	5975	2416	28854	939	3179	31158	30213	2128	21039	216	1736	3002	468	4140	189	7678	5112	14021	5388	3994	1368	2151	4549	2997	11723	225	25	1356	8758	235

The map below shows the balance (+/- 25%) between incoming and outgoing Erasmus students per country in the academic year 2009/10. A total flow of outgoing/incoming students per country in 2009/10 can be found in Annex 2.

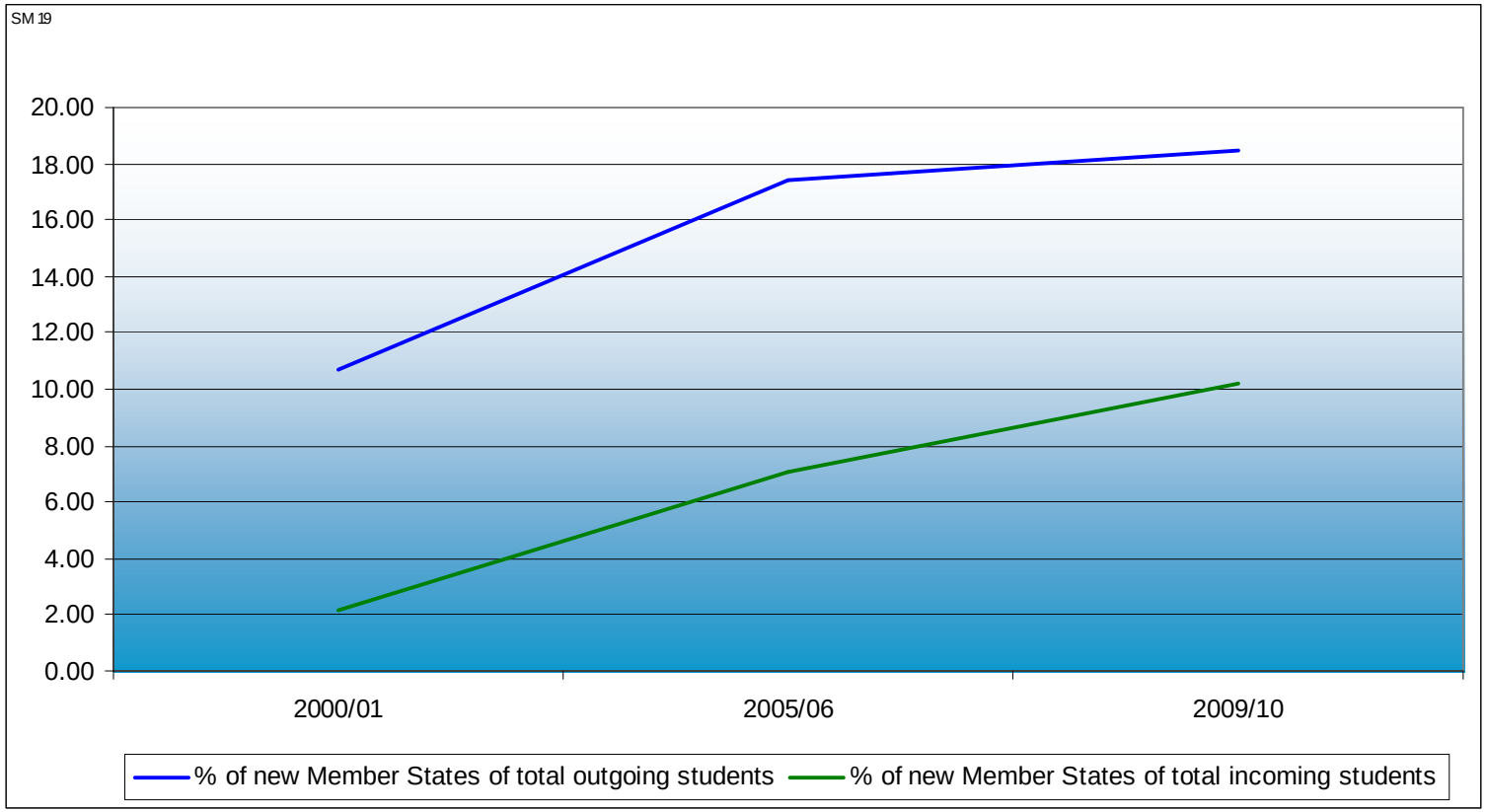
Map 2: Balance between incoming and outgoing Erasmus Students per country in 2009/10



Yellow: (more incoming): CY, DK, FI, ES, IE, MT, PT, SE, UK, IS, LI, NO
Blue: (more outgoing): BG, HU, LV, LT, LU, PL, RO, SK, TR, HR* (* only outgoing in 2009/10)
Green: (most balance): AT, BE, CZ, DE, EE, FR, GR, IT, NL, SI

Chart 12 shows the share of the twelve new Member States in Erasmus student mobility over a nine year period, from 2000/01 to 2009/10. As the chart shows, the gap between the number of incoming and outgoing students in these countries has narrowed again after widening five years ago. Whereas both the number of outgoing and incoming students has increased in the new Member States, growth in incoming students was greater (nine-fold) than the growth in outgoing numbers (three-fold).

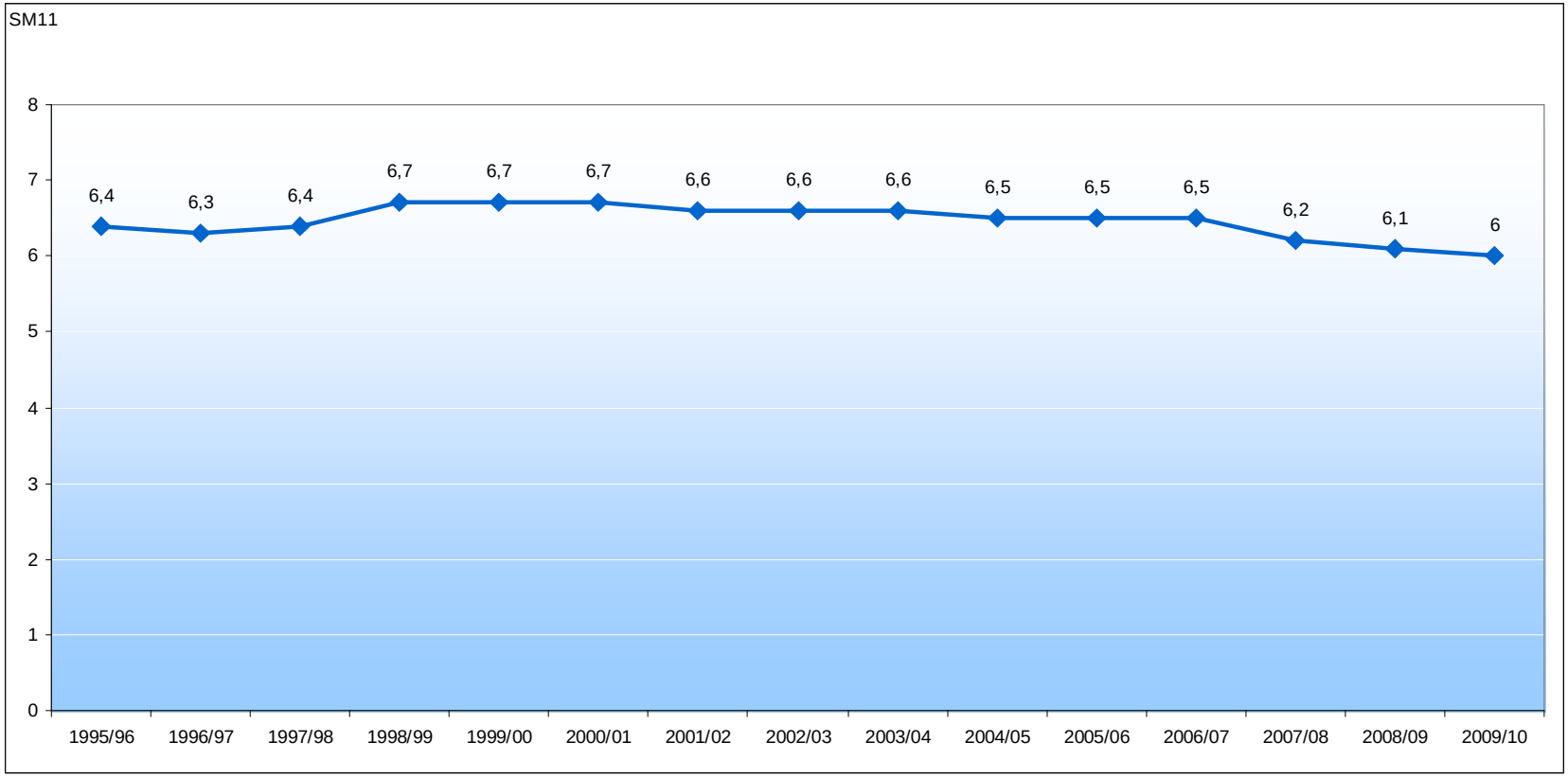
Chart 12: Share of new Member States in Erasmus Student Mobility from 2000/01 – 2009/10



1.1.4 Duration

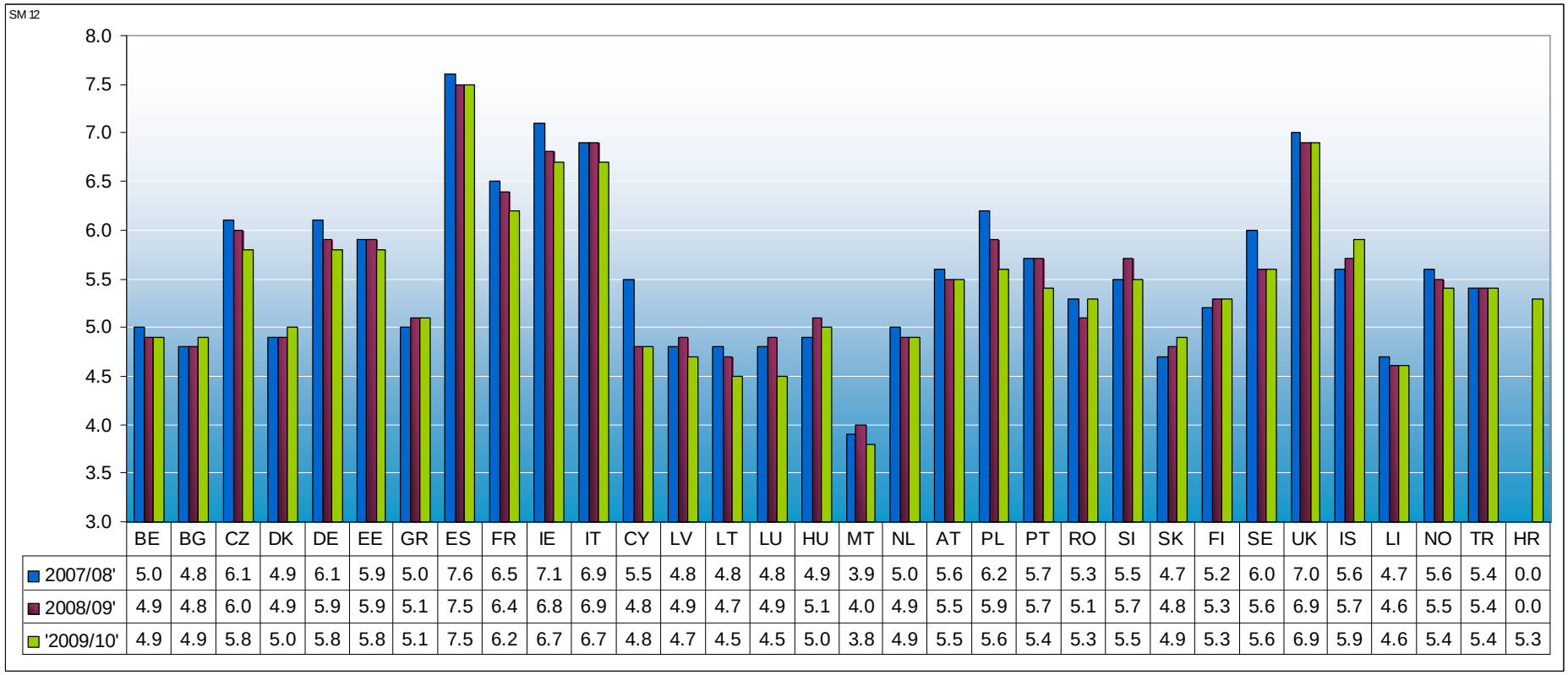
The overall average duration of Erasmus student mobility has changed very little in the last fifteen years. In the academic year 2009/10 it was 6 months (down from 6.1 months in 2008/09). The average duration of Erasmus student mobility per participating country from 1994/95 to 2009/10 can be found in Annex 3.

Chart 13: Average duration in months of Erasmus Student Mobility: 1994/95 – 2009/10



As Chart 14 below shows, there was a considerable variation between countries of the average duration of their Erasmus student mobility, ranging from 3.8 months for Maltese students to 7.5 months for outgoing Spanish students in 2009/10. The chart also gives a comparative view on the average duration per home country since 2007/8 until 2009/10.

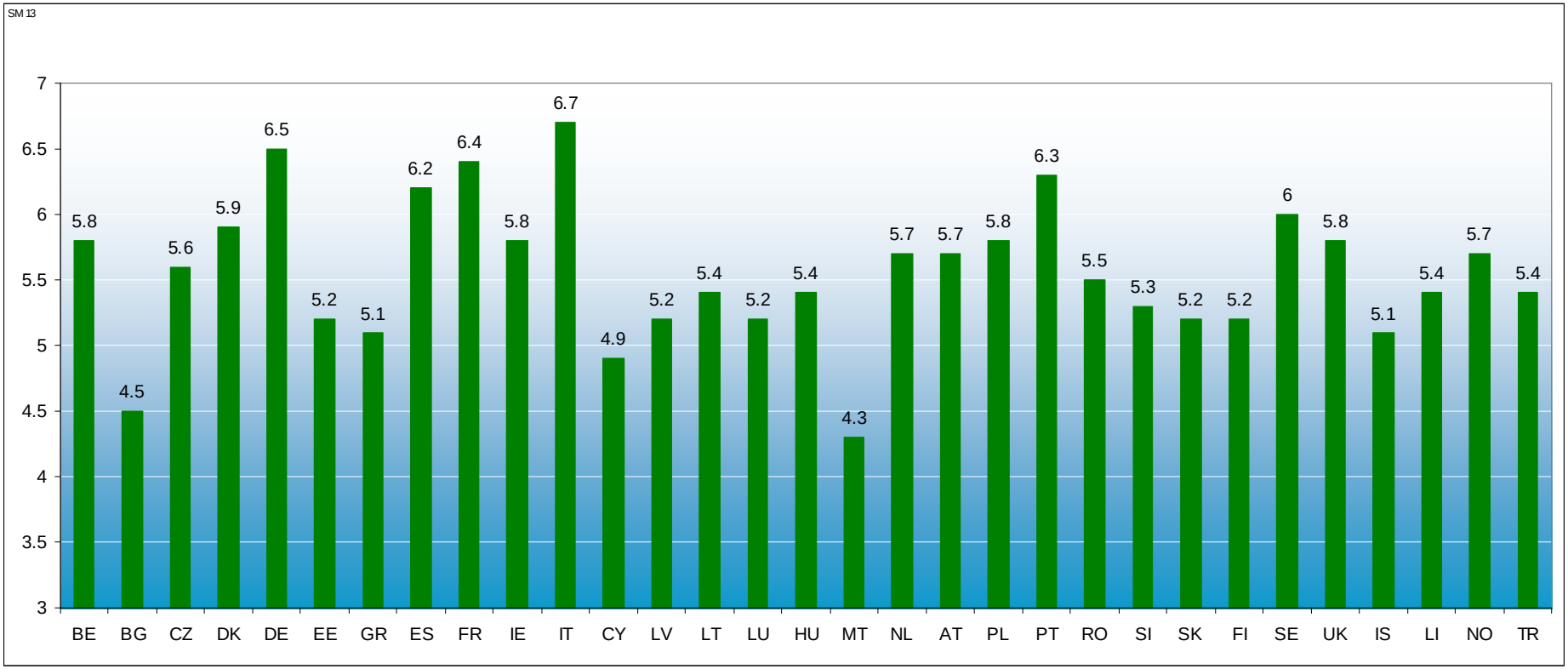
Chart 14: Average duration in months per home country from 2007/08 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2007/08'	5.0	4.8	6.1	4.9	6.1	5.9	5.0	7.6	6.5	7.1	6.9	5.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	3.9	5.0	5.6	6.2	5.7	5.3	5.5	4.7	5.2	6.0	7.0	5.6	4.7	5.6	5.4	0.0
2008/09'	4.9	4.8	6.0	4.9	5.9	5.9	5.1	7.5	6.4	6.8	6.9	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.9	5.1	4.0	4.9	5.5	5.9	5.7	5.1	5.7	4.8	5.3	5.6	6.9	5.7	4.6	5.5	5.4	0.0
'2009/10'	4.9	4.9	5.8	5.0	5.8	5.8	5.1	7.5	6.2	6.7	6.7	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.5	5.0	3.8	4.9	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.5	4.9	5.3	5.6	6.9	5.9	4.6	5.4	5.4	5.3

Chart 15 on the other hand shows the duration of stays in individual host countries in the academic year 2009/10. On average Erasmus students stayed the longest in Italy (6.7 months) and the shortest in Malta (4.3 months).

Chart 15: Average duration in months per host country in 2009/10



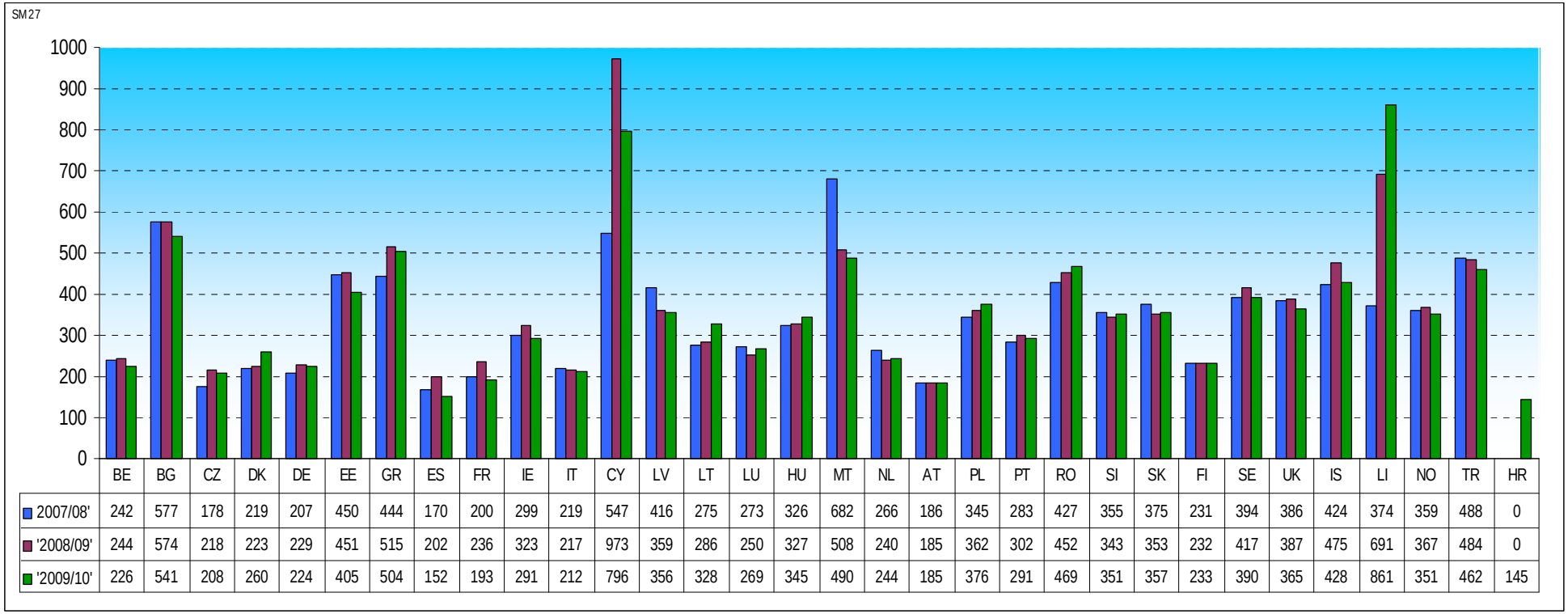
1.1.5 Grants

In 2009/10 the average EU monthly grant received by students (including both studies and company placements) was EUR 254 - a 6.7% decrease on the previous year when the EU monthly grant was EUR 272. Annex 4 shows the average EU monthly grants per country from 1994/95 to 2009/10.

The total grant amounts students receive depend very much on their home country. The average EU monthly Erasmus student mobility grant in 2009/10 ranged from EUR 145 in Croatia to EUR 861 in Liechtenstein. The Erasmus budget is allocated to countries using a transparent method with criteria such as the size of the student population in the country, cost of living, ones travel distance, past performance etc. Each National Agency sets its grant allocation policy but the European Commission stipulates the maximum monthly grant for each host country. In Austria, for example, all Erasmus students receive an additional grant from national sources which explains, at least partly, the low EU average monthly grant. Grant amounts for Spanish students, who received on average an EU monthly grant of EUR 202 in 2008/09, decreased to EUR 152 in 2009/10. It should be noted that Spanish students also receive complementary grants from national sources. One of the aims of the Lifelong Learning Programme (2007-2013) is to maintain an average EU monthly grant of EUR 200 throughout the programme.

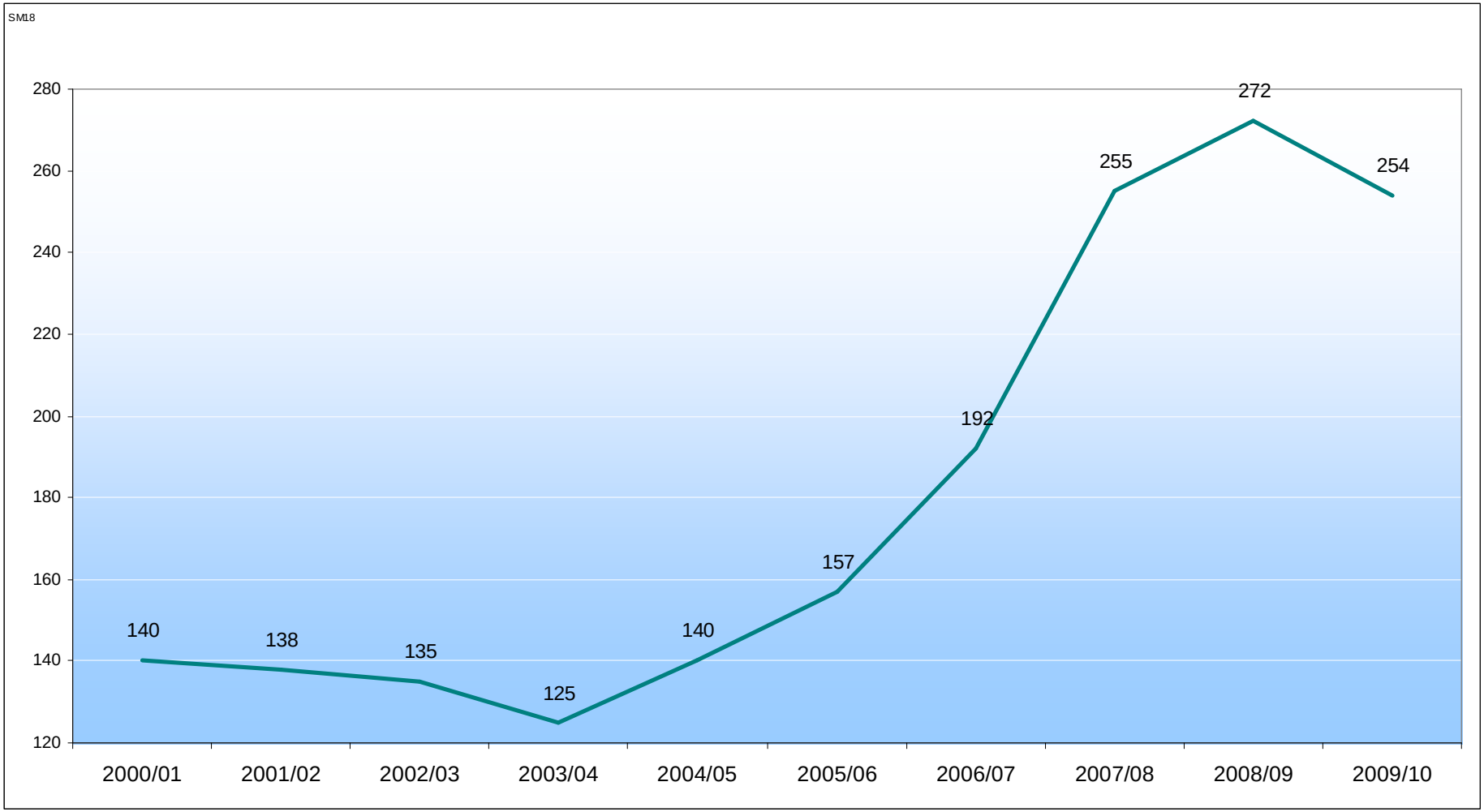
Chart 16 shows the average EU monthly grant per home country from 2007/8 to 2009/10. As can be seen in the chart the grant levels per month vary greatly between countries. Chart 17 shows on the other hand the development of the average EU monthly grant since academic year 2000/01.

Chart 16: Average EU monthly grant of Erasmus Student Mobility per home country from 2007/08 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2007/08'	242	577	178	219	207	450	444	170	200	299	219	547	416	275	273	326	682	266	186	345	283	427	355	375	231	394	386	424	374	359	488	0
'2008/09'	244	574	218	223	229	451	515	202	236	323	217	973	359	286	250	327	508	240	185	362	302	452	343	353	232	417	387	475	691	367	484	0
'2009/10'	226	541	208	260	224	405	504	152	193	291	212	796	356	328	269	345	490	244	185	376	291	469	351	357	233	390	365	428	861	351	462	145

Chart 17: Average EU monthly grant per Erasmus Student from 2000/01 to 2009/10



1.1.6 Students with special needs grants

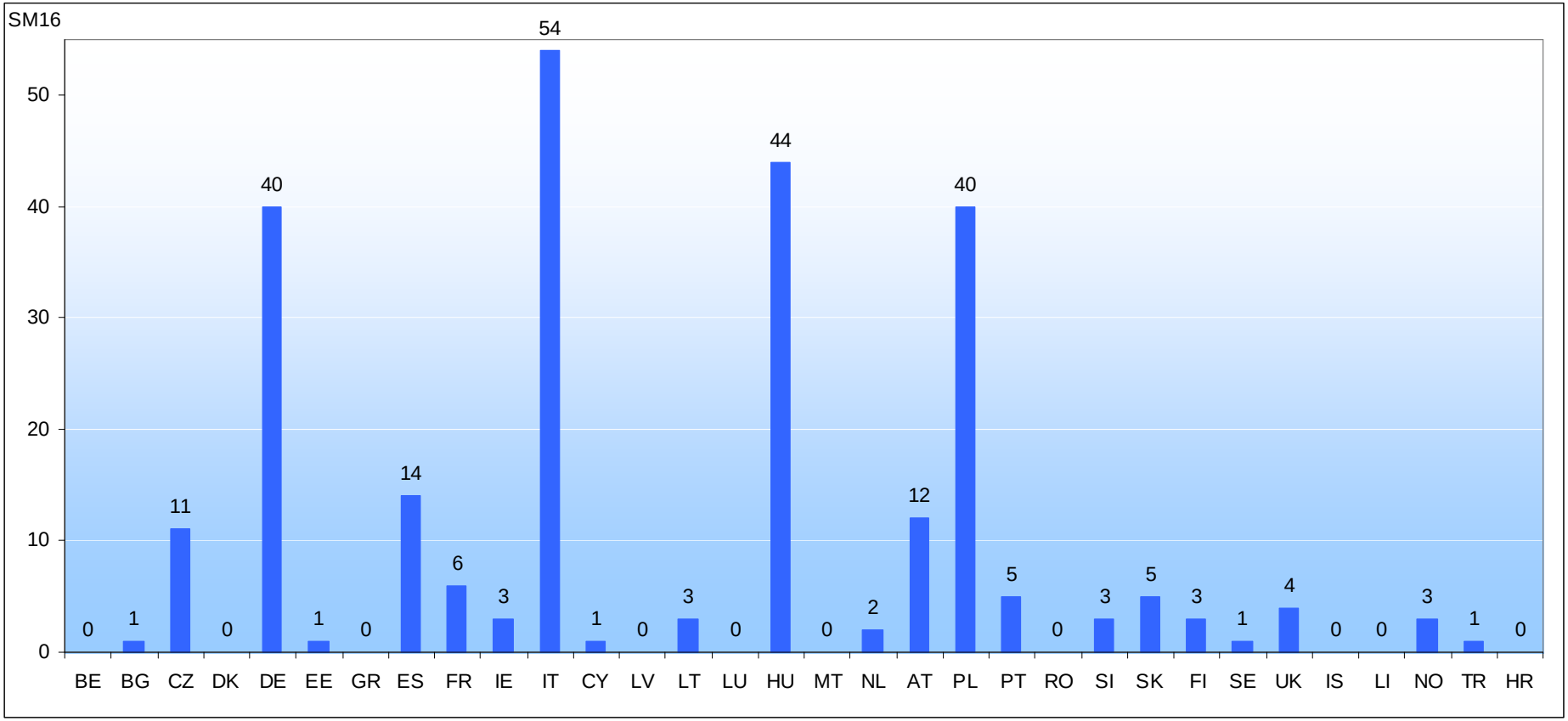
Erasmus also actively supports the participation of students with special needs by offering a supplementary grant. The number of students with special needs taking part has increased considerably in the last few years. In 2009/10 257 students with special needs received supplementary funding, compared to 213 students in 2008/09. Despite the increase in numbers between years, students with special needs represented only 0.12% of the total number of Erasmus student mobility in 2009/10. Although this is a low figure in absolute terms, it reflects the limited participation of people with special needs in higher education in general, and represents a year-on-year increase of 20.6%. Annex 5 shows the number of outgoing and incoming Erasmus students per country who received supplementary grants in 2009/10.

The average duration of their stay abroad was 7.9 months which is considerably longer than for other Erasmus students and the average EU supplementary grant per student was EUR 2 561 or around EUR 423 per month (down from EUR 522 last year). As in the previous year Italy sent out the highest number of students with special needs or 54 (a 21% share), followed by Hungary with 44 (17%), and Poland and Germany, which both sent 40 students (15.6%).

Spain received the highest number of student with special needs or 62 (24.1 % share) followed by Germany with 40 (15.6 %), UK with 23 (8.9%) and France with 21 (8.1%). This year, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Romania, Slovakia and Croatia received no Erasmus students with special needs.

As noted above, the share of students with special needs participating in Erasmus student mobility is still rather low in absolute terms. As can be seen in chart 18 below ten countries; Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Latvia, Luxemburg, Malta, Romania, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Croatia, did not send out any Erasmus students with special needs in 2009/10.

Chart 18: Number of Erasmus Students with special needs grants by home country in 2009/10

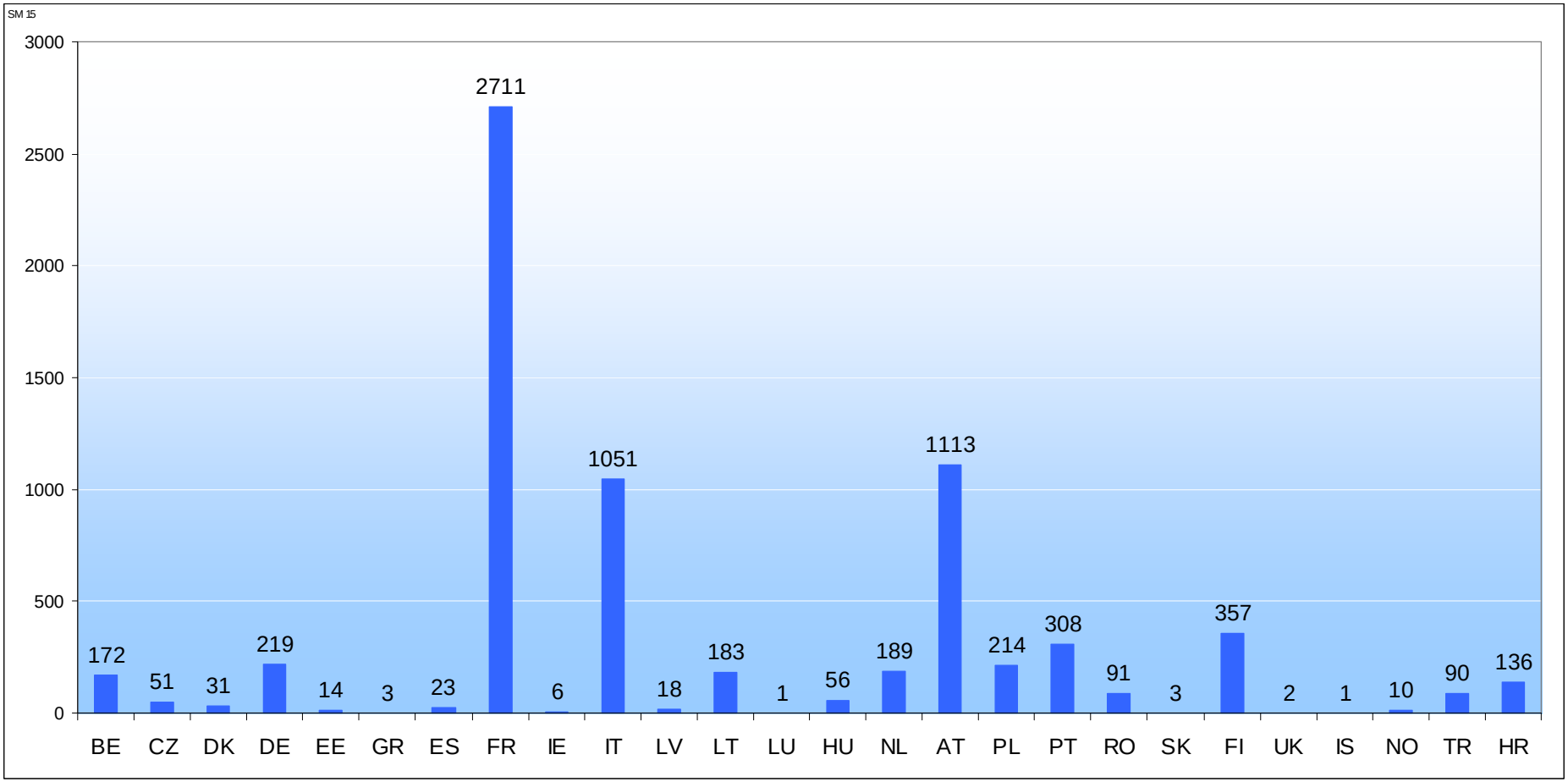


1.1.7 Zero-grant students

Every year, a number of students take part in Erasmus mobility without receiving an EU grant. These students are called "zero-grant" students which entails that they have the status of an Erasmus student without receiving an EU grant[9]. In 2009/10 the total number of zero-grant Erasmus students was 7053. A majority of the participating countries send out zero-grant students but the proportion of zero-grant students out of the total annual Erasmus student population is gradually declining. In 1997/98 students without an EU grant made up 8.8 % of all Erasmus students while in 2009/10 they accounted for 3.3 % (up from 2.3% in the previous year). In 2009/10 the total number of zero-grant students was 7053, which represents a 57% increase from the previous year (4502 in 2008/09). Zero-grant students came mainly from France 2711 (38.4% share), Austria with 1113 (15.8% share) and Italy with 1051 (15% share). The majority of zero-grant students, or 1454, went to Spain (20.6% share), 915 to the UK (13%) and 757 to France (10.7%). Annex 6 gives an overview of the number of outgoing and incoming zero-grant students per country in 2009/10.

[9] In some countries, for instance in Austria, Erasmus students who are national grant holders get a national Erasmus grant instead of the EU grant at least at the same level and they are reported as zero-grant students.

Chart 19: Number of “zero-grant” Erasmus Students per home country in 2009/10



1.1.8 Participating Higher Education Institutions

Some 2853 higher educations institutions sent students abroad through Erasmus student mobility in 2009/10, out of a total of 3873 institutions holding an Erasmus University Charter (EUC). This entails that 73.7% of all EUC holders participated in Erasmus student mobility in 2009/10. Examinations of individual National Agencies indicate that although many higher education institutions are very active in the Erasmus Programme many institutions have a low number of participants every year. This issue should be analysed in a more comprehensive way across the participating countries.

The top sending institution in absolute numbers was the University of Granada in Spain which sent 1851 students abroad in 2009/10. A list of top 100 institutions sending students on Erasmus mobility can be found in Annex 7.

1.1.9 Recognition of Student Mobility

One of the fundamental principles of the Erasmus Programme is full recognition of credits achieved for activities completed in a satisfactory manner in the host country. This is based on the compulsory tripartite "Learning Agreement" and "Training Agreement" which is signed by the student beneficiary and the home and host institutions/organisations prior to the student's departure on his/her mobility.

The National Agencies' statistical reports only include information on expected ECTS credits for each individual student participating in the programme but not credits earned and recognised. The data received is not very reliable as many higher education institutions do not report the expected ECTS credits systematically. The data gives therefore only an indication of the credits a student might receive when returning to his/her home institution after a study or placement period abroad.

1.2 Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies

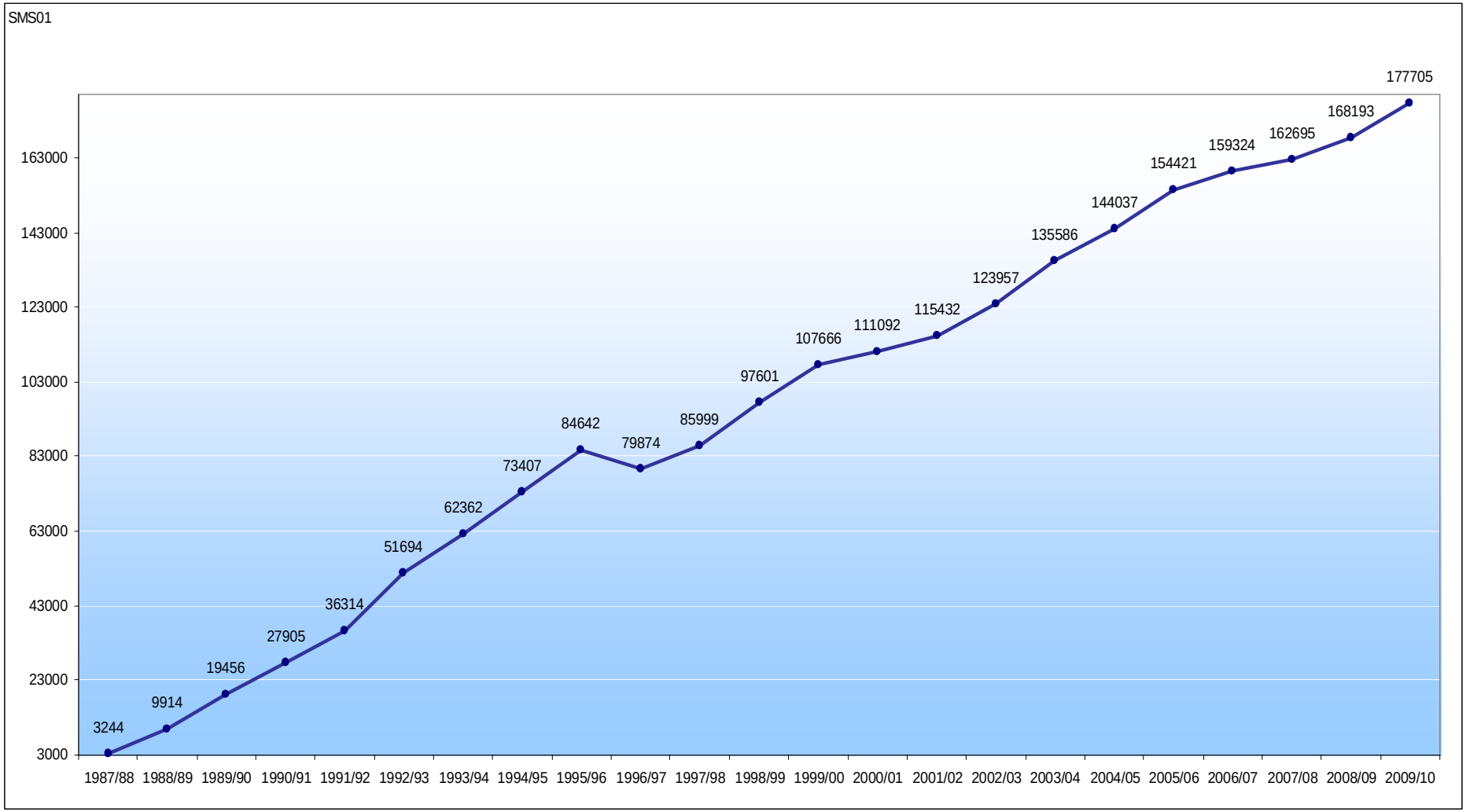
1.2.1 Introduction

Erasmus offers students the possibility of studying at another higher education institution. Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies, which is the most common actions, enables students to spend a study period of three and twelve months abroad. It aims to provide students with the opportunity of studying in another country, to promote cooperation between institutions and help enrich their educational environment, and to contribute to building a pool of well-qualified, open-minded and internationally experienced young people. Until the end of the academic year 2009/10 2.192 million students had studied in another country with an Erasmus grant. Chart 20 below shows the growth in Erasmus student mobility for studies from 1987 to 2009/10.

Since the beginning of the Erasmus Programme in 1987 the number of students going on study mobility has increased every year, with the exception of the academic year 1996/97[10]. The growth rate was highest in the beginning of the programme as can be seen in chart 20.

[10] 1996/97 was the year of preparation for the Institutional Contract – the successor of the Inter-University Cooperation Programmes (ICP) which may have contributed to a decrease in mobility for studies that year.

Chart 20: Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies from 1987/88 to 2009/10



1.2.2 Outgoing student mobility for studies

In 1987/88 just over 3000 students went abroad to study with an Erasmus grant. Out of the 213 266 Erasmus students, 177 705 students studying abroad were supported in 2009/10. This means that on average a student left to study abroad as part of Erasmus every three minutes. This represents a growth rate of 5.7% between 2008/09 and 2009/10. In comparison, the 2008/09 saw only a 3.4% year-on-year increase. The strong year-on-year increase in 2009/10 can partly be explained by lower EU average monthly grants. Another likely explanation is an increase in availability of national grant sources which is a very positive development.

The biggest number of outgoing students originated from Spain, or 27 448 (15.45% share), followed by France with 24 426 students (13.75%), and then Germany with 24 029 (13.52%).

The annual growth rate was highest in Cyprus or 38.2%, followed by Estonia with 31.6% and Turkey with 15.8%. The annual growth rate of outgoing students was above 10% in nine countries: Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Spain, Ireland, Latvia, Sweden, Iceland and Turkey. Countries experiencing 5-10% growth were: the Netherlands, Denmark, the UK, Italy and Slovakia. Other countries experienced more moderate growth.

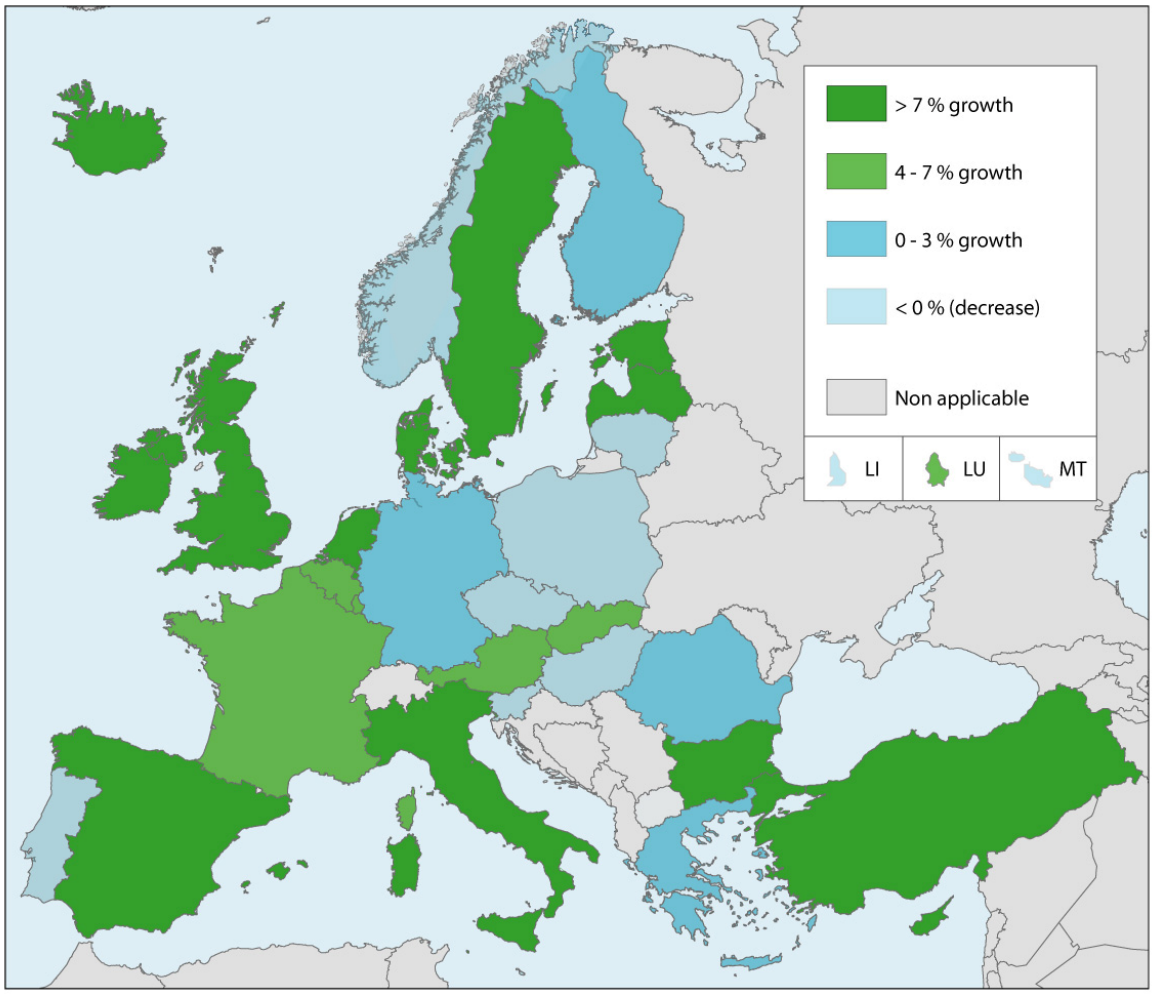
Out of the 32 participating countries, nine had a decrease in outgoing student numbers for study mobility. The biggest decline was in Malta (by 14.1%), Lithuania (by 6.1%) and Liechtenstein (by 5%). Overall the decline in outgoing numbers was lower than in previous years and many of the countries experiencing a decline in 2008/09 saw again an increase in outgoing student numbers in 2009/10.

68.7% of students participating in Erasmus mobility for studies in 2009/10 were 1st cycle students (up from 66.2% in 2008/09). Students enrolled in 2nd cycle programmes (masters) constituted 30% of participants (down from 32.1%), and 3rd cycle students (doctoral) were 0.9% (1.1% previous year), and 0.4% of participants were registered in education institutions offering short-cycle higher vocational education courses (0.6% in the previous year).

60.9% of Erasmus students doing studies abroad in 2009/10 were female and the average age of was 22.6 years (down from 23.5 years in the previous year). Students ranged from 17 to 75 years in age.

Map 3 below shows the growth rates of outgoing Erasmus student mobility for studies in 2009/10.

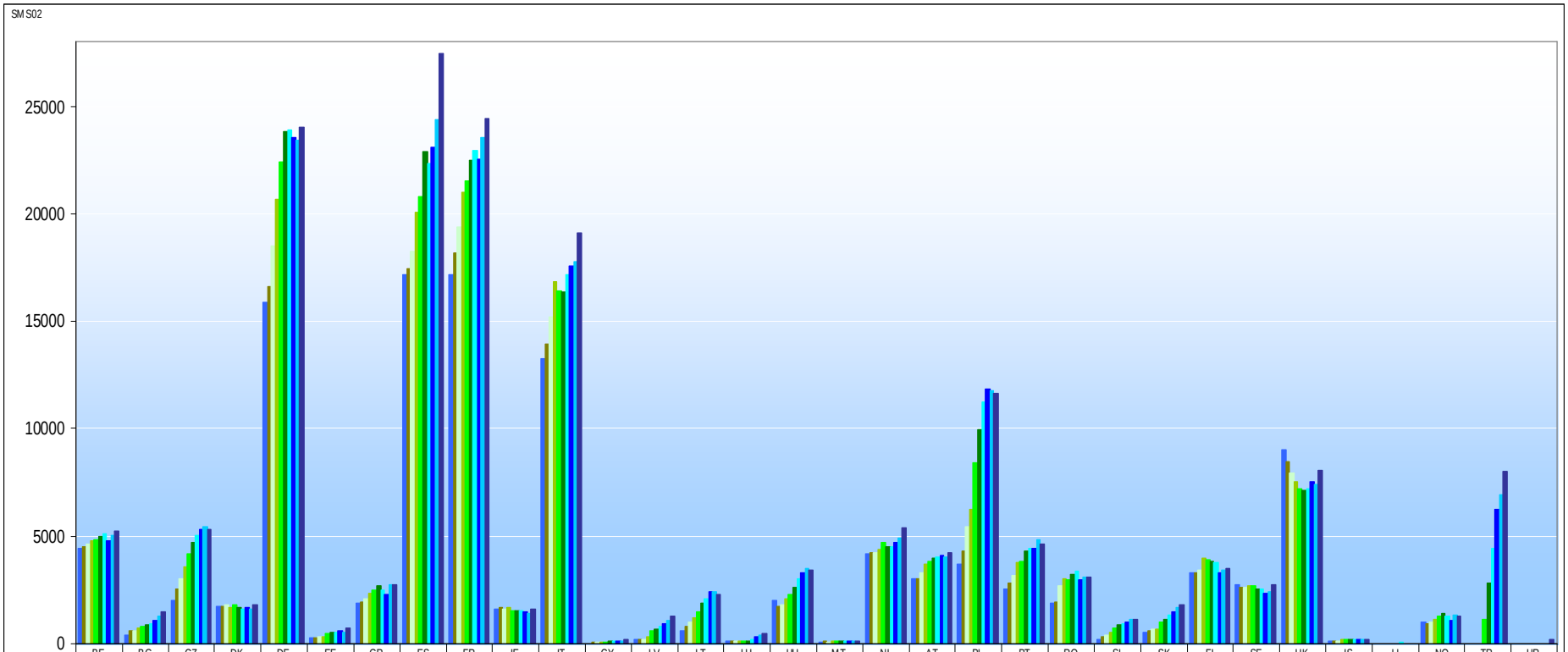
Map 3: Growth rates of outgoing Erasmus student mobility for studies in 2009/10



Dark Green	(> 7 % growth): BG, DK, EE, ES, IE, IT, CY, LV, NL, SE, UK, IS, TR
Light Green	(4-7% growth): BE, LU, AT, SK
Dark Blue	(0-3% growth): FR, FI, RO,
Light Blue	(<0% decrease): CZ, LT, HU, MT,PL, PT, SI, LI, NO
Light brown	(countries which did not participate in Erasmus in 2009/10)

Chart 21 below shows the trend since academic year 2000/01 of outgoing Erasmus student mobility for studies per participating country. Annex 8 shows, however, outgoing flows for mobility for studies since 1987/88 until 2009/10

Chart 21: Outgoing Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies per home country: 2000/01- 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2000/01	4427	398	2001	1750	15872	255	1868	17158	17161	1648	13253	0	182	624	126	2001	92	4162	3024	3691	2569	1899	227	505	3286	2726	9020	134	18	1007	0	0
2001/02	4521	605	2533	1752	16626	274	1974	17403	18149	1707	13950	72	209	823	104	1736	129	4244	3024	4323	2825	1964	364	578	3291	2633	8475	147	17	970	0	0
2002/03	4620	612	3002	1845	18482	304	2115	18258	19365	1627	15225	91	232	1002	119	1830	72	4241	3325	5419	3172	2701	422	653	3402	2656	7973	163	7	1010	0	0
2003/04	4789	751	3589	1686	20688	305	2385	20034	20981	1705	16829	64	308	1194	138	2058	119	4388	3721	6276	3782	3005	546	682	3951	2667	7539	221	19	1156	0	0
2004/05	4833	779	4178	1793	22427	444	2491	20819	21561	1572	16440	93	607	1473	116	2316	130	4743	3809	8390	3845	2962	742	979	3932	2698	7214	199	26	1279	1142	0
2005/06	4971	882	4725	1682	23848	511	2714	22891	22501	1567	16389	133	681	1910	146	2658	149	4491	3971	9974	4312	3261	879	1165	3851	2530	7131	194	30	1412	2852	0
2006/07	5119	938	5079	1587	23884	572	2465	22322	22981	1524	17195	129	807	2082	170	3028	125	4502	4032	11219	4424	3350	972	1346	3773	2532	7235	189	44	1257	4438	0
2007/08	4781	1078	5335	1674	23553	595	2308	23107	22556	1514	17562	148	968	2392	367	3292	107	4699	4133	11879	4471	2953	1018	1452	3265	2348	7523	210	30	1103	6274	0
'2008/09'	5041	1283	5440	1648	23407	551	2737	24399	23560	1421	17754	144	1104	2425	426	3518	142	4902	4053	11784	4834	3064	1132	1703	3436	2413	7429	186	20	1317	6920	0
'2009/10'	5269	1451	5338	1794	24029	725	2790	27448	24426	1600	19118	199	1269	2277	445	3421	122	5358	4234	11613	4677	3129	1118	1798	3529	2728	8053	215	19	1262	8016	235

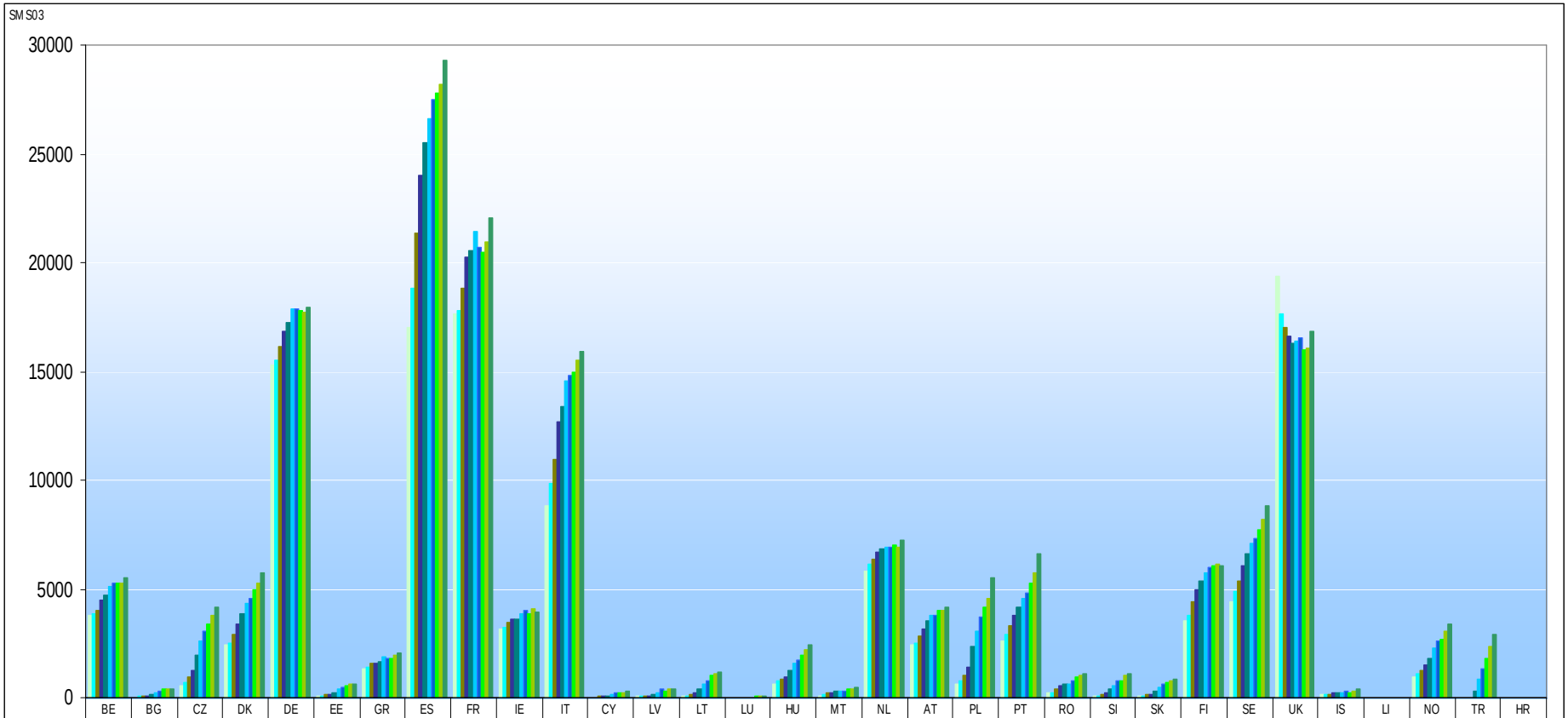
1.2.3 Incoming student mobility for studies

Spain remained the most popular destination for studies in 2009/10 with 29 328 incoming students, a 16.5% share of the total number of Erasmus students this year. The second most popular destination was France with 22 033 students (12.4 %) and Germany with 17 927 (10.1 %).

As could be expected with growth in outgoing numbers between years, most of the participating countries (a total of 28) saw an increase in the number of incoming Erasmus students for studies. The highest growth rate was in Cyprus (26.9%), followed by Malta (26.2%) and then Turkey (22.8%). Several countries saw a minimal increase in incoming numbers and three countries saw a stagnation or decrease in the number of incoming Erasmus students for studies, including Finland (-0.4%), Ireland (-2.5%), and Liechtenstein (-5.9%).

Chart 22 shows the trends in the incoming numbers since the 2000/01 academic year. The average growth in mobility for studies during this period is 60% - up from 11 082 students in 2000/01 to 177 705 in 2009/10. All countries except one, the UK, experienced an increase in incoming students during this period. There incoming numbers decreased by 13%. The twelve Member States that joined the EU in 2004 and 2007 respectively are attracting more incoming students for studies in relative terms than the older Member States having an average annual growth of 13.4% in 2009/10 versus an annual growth of 6.2% in the other participating countries. If only the old Member States are taken into account the average annual growth in incoming student mobility for studies was 4.9% between 2008/09 and 2009/10.

Chart 22: Incoming Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies per home country from 2000/01 to 2009/10



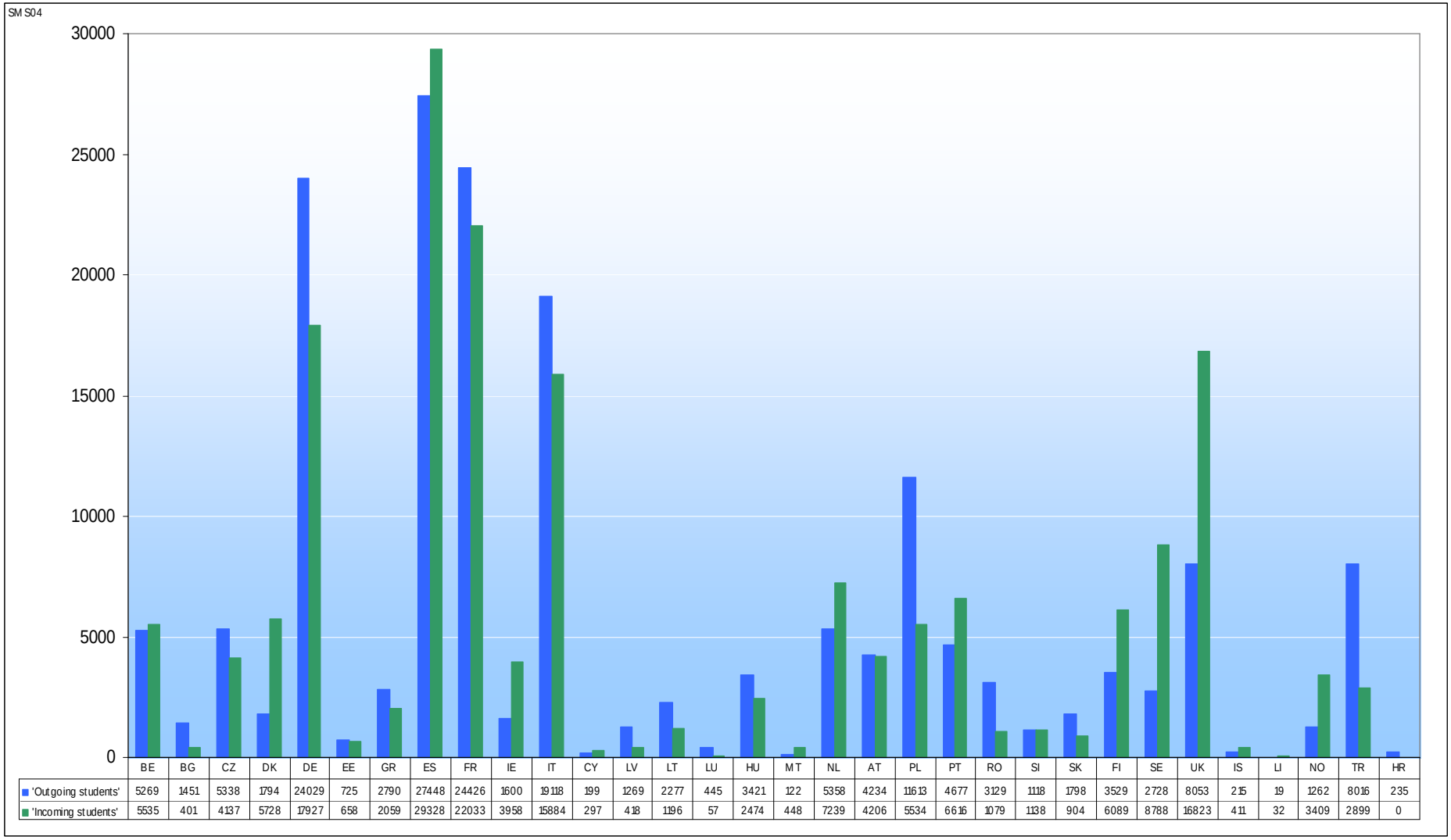
	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2000/01'	3765	26	552	2435	15275	84	1302	16979	17642	3166	8836	0	41	56	34	623	67	5839	2425	614	2560	199	62	58	3555	4438	19339	127	3	980	0	0
'2001/02'	3895	51	732	2555	15503	115	1413	18826	17807	3232	9863	37	48	91	22	769	173	6141	2483	792	2883	275	108	111	3755	4898	17619	132	3	1100	0	0
'2002/03'	4053	67	971	2887	16106	170	1545	21302	18833	3473	10982	63	45	132	13	856	202	6355	2836	996	3280	355	129	131	4433	5326	16994	171	7	1244	0	0
'2003/04'	4504	89	1298	3393	16863	166	1593	24049	20260	3584	12713	62	65	216	14	951	250	6724	3161	1456	3766	536	201	181	4929	6080	16621	199	11	1518	0	0
'2004/05'	4728	179	1946	3880	17273	275	1658	25511	20519	3649	13370	95	150	388	16	1297	310	6842	3536	2332	4166	602	378	284	5351	6626	16266	253	17	1841	299	0
'2005/06'	5103	250	2613	4366	17889	372	1903	26625	21436	3871	14591	125	258	628	15	1554	297	6965	3744	3063	4542	657	589	508	5757	7062	16395	256	31	2260	828	0
'2006/07'	5308	296	3059	4545	17878	489	1841	27464	20673	4012	14779	211	373	808	24	1708	331	6914	3776	3730	4787	792	752	655	5998	7359	16508	327	31	2575	1321	0
'2007/08'	5254	367	3408	4966	17801	546	1811	27831	20503	3877	14982	228	354	989	45	1980	367	7002	3983	4135	5267	934	825	693	6064	7751	15975	274	36	2648	1799	0
'2008/09'	5283	393	3764	5273	17722	591	1946	28175	20955	4061	15530	234	401	1117	53	2205	355	6894	4039	4528	5732	990	991	787	6115	8206	16065	353	34	3041	2360	0
'2009/10'	5535	401	4137	5728	17927	658	2059	29328	22033	3958	15884	297	418	1196	57	2474	448	7239	4206	5534	6616	1079	1138	904	6089	8788	16823	411	32	3409	2899	0

Chart 23 below shows the balance between incoming and outgoing Erasmus students for studies in individual countries. A number of participating countries had a substantial imbalance in terms of incoming and outgoing Erasmus student numbers for studies in 2009/10. The greatest imbalances were found in Malta, Sweden, and Denmark where there were about three times as many incoming students as outgoing. The imbalance was also high in Ireland, Norway and the UK. Fifteen countries had higher numbers of incoming students than outgoing. Of the twelve Member States that joined the EU in 2004 and 2007, Cyprus, Malta and Slovenia received more incoming students than they sent out.

Seventeen countries had higher numbers of outgoing Erasmus students for studies than incoming (Croatia only had outgoing students in 2009/10). The greatest imbalance was found in Luxembourg which received 57 students but sent out 445, an imbalance of almost one to eight. A very high imbalance was also found in almost all of the new Member States. In Bulgaria, Latvia, Romania and Turkey the ratio was three outgoing students for every incoming.

The level of incoming and outgoing Erasmus student mobility for studies was best balanced in 2009/10 in Austria and Slovenia, with 4234 outgoing Austrian Erasmus students for studies compared to 4206 incoming, and 1118 outgoing Slovenian students compared to 1138 incoming. Belgium, Estonia, France and Spain also had a high level of balance. For more information on the outbound and inbound flows of mobility for studies in 2009/10 see Annex 9.

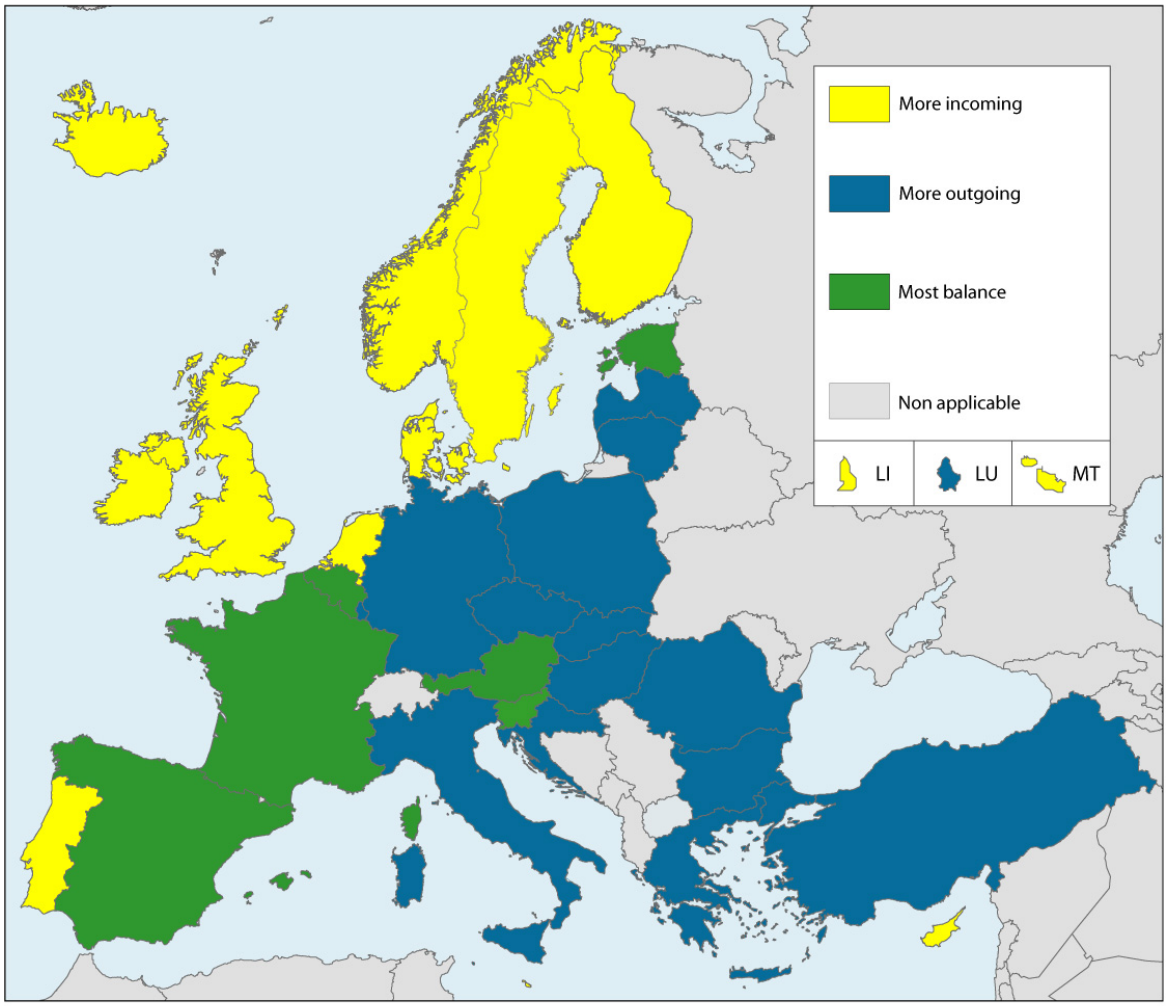
Chart 23: Incoming vs. outgoing Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies per home country in 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'Outgoing students'	5269	1451	5338	1794	24029	725	2790	27448	24426	1600	19118	199	1269	2277	445	3421	122	5358	4234	11613	4677	3129	1118	1798	3529	2728	8053	215	19	1262	8016	235
'Incoming students'	5535	401	4137	5728	17927	658	2059	29328	22033	3958	15884	297	418	1196	57	2474	448	7239	4206	5534	6616	1079	1138	904	6089	8788	16823	411	32	3409	2899	0

Map four below shows the balance between incoming and outgoing student mobility for studies (+/- 10%). As noted above, fifteen countries had more incoming students than outgoing: Similarly, seventeen had more outgoing students than incoming. Countries with less than 10% imbalance in incoming versus outgoing numbers are shown in green.

Map 4: Balance of incoming vs. outgoing Erasmus Students for Studies in 2009/10

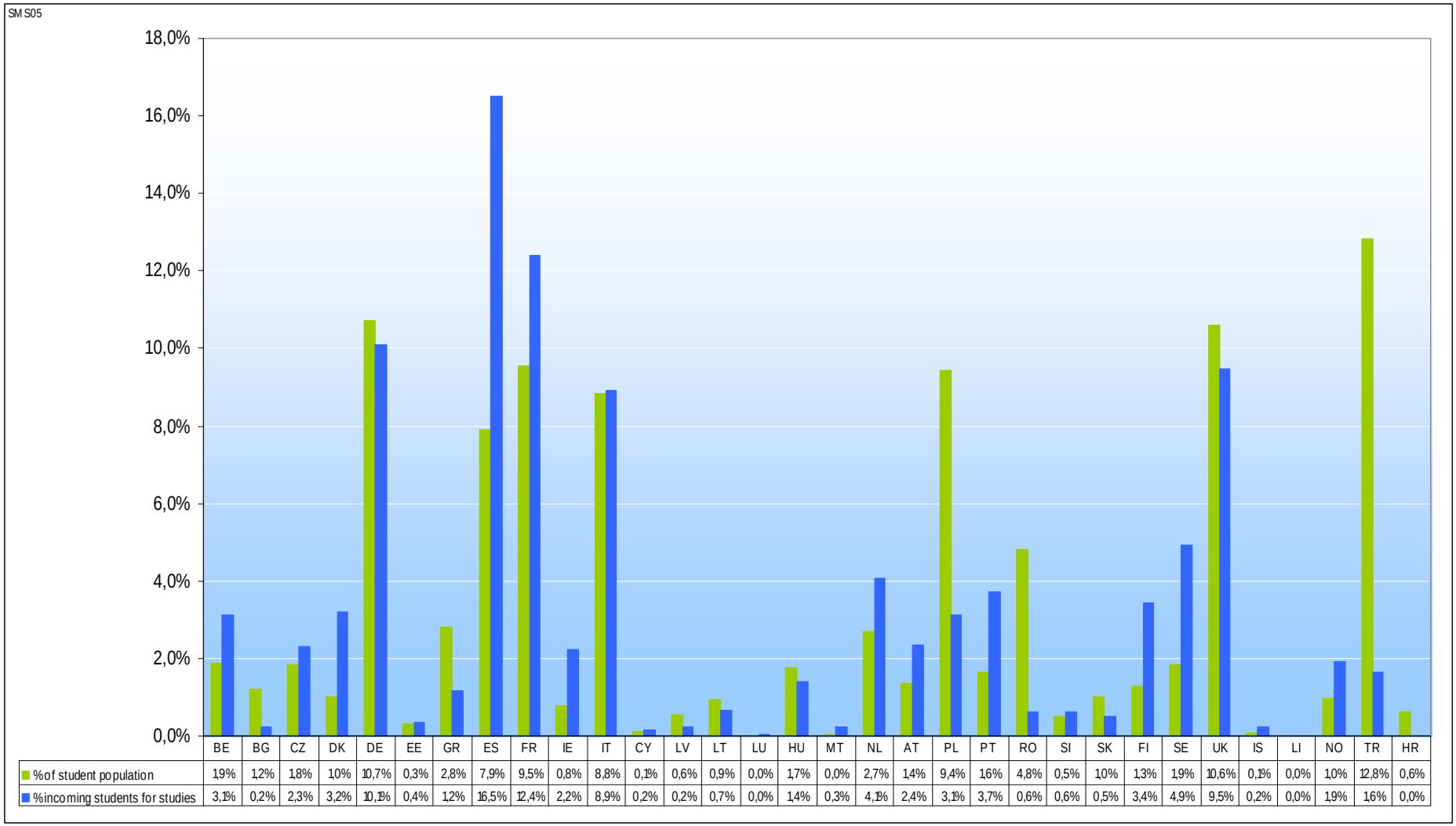


Green (most balance): BE, EE, AT, ES, FR, SI
Blue (more outgoing than incoming): BG, CZ, DE, GR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, LU, PL, RO, SK, TR
Yellow (more incoming than outgoing): DK, CY, FI, IE, IS, LI, MT, NL, NO, PT, SE, UK

Chart 24 shows the potential for the absorption capacity of higher education institutions in each of the participating country by comparing the share of incoming Erasmus students for study out of the total Erasmus mobility for studies in each of the participating country and compares it with the country's share of the higher education student population in the 32 participating countries. For each country, the chart presents: a) the country's share of the total number of incoming Erasmus students, b) the country's student population as a percentage of the total student population in the 32 participating countries.

The share of incoming students in Turkey in 2009/10 was rather low (1.6%) in comparison with the total student population in Turkey which accounts for 12.8% of the total student population. A similar situation was observed in Romania, where the share of incoming students was eight times lower than the share of the student population in Romania. This said, around nineteen countries had a higher percentage share of incoming students than their share of the student population. The highest contrasts (in relative terms) were in Malta (more than five times higher) and Liechtenstein, Denmark (three times) Most balance between the share of incoming Erasmus students and the total student population in the country was, however, found in Italy, Slovenia and Estonia.

Chart 24: Absorption capacity potential of higher education institutions in each participating country compared in 2009

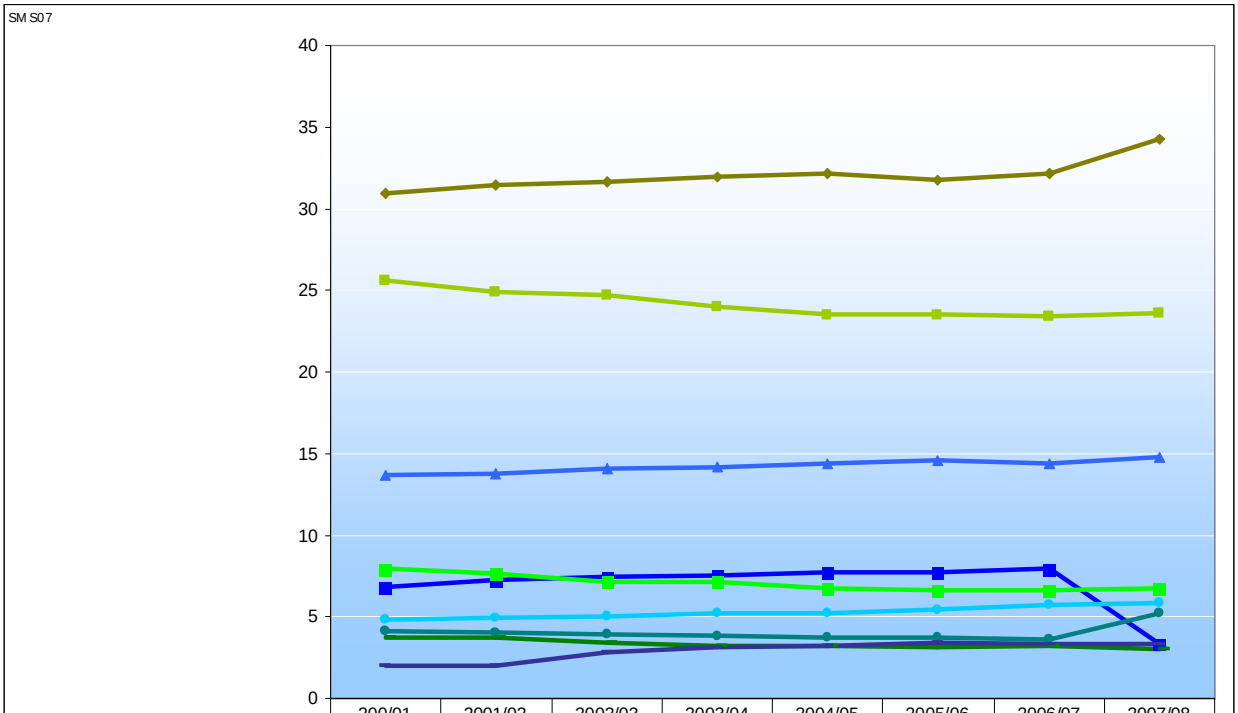


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
% of student population	1,9%	1,2%	1,8%	1,0%	10,7%	0,3%	2,8%	7,9%	9,5%	0,8%	8,8%	0,1%	0,6%	0,9%	0,0%	1,7%	0,0%	2,7%	1,4%	9,4%	1,6%	4,8%	0,5%	1,0%	1,3%	1,9%	10,6%	0,1%	0,0%	1,0%	12,8%	0,6%
% incoming students for studies	3,1%	0,2%	2,3%	3,2%	10,1%	0,4%	1,2%	16,5%	12,4%	2,2%	8,9%	0,2%	0,2%	0,7%	0,0%	1,4%	0,3%	4,1%	2,4%	3,1%	3,7%	0,6%	0,6%	0,5%	3,4%	4,9%	9,5%	0,2%	0,0%	1,9%	1,6%	0,0%

1.2.4 Subject areas

Subject areas seem very stable when it comes to student mobility for studies. Chart 25 illustrates this very clearly. During the period 2000/01 to 2007/08 there was an increase in the number of Erasmus students studying “social sciences, business and law" but a decrease in participation of those studying “humanities and arts”[11].

Chart 25: Subject areas of Erasmus Mobility for Study: increase/decrease from 2000/01 to 2007/08



	200/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Business and social sciences	31	31,5	31,7	32	32,2	31,8	32,2	34,3
Arts, humanities and languages	25,6	24,9	24,7	24	23,5	23,5	23,4	23,6
Engineering and architecture	13,7	13,8	14,1	14,2	14,4	14,6	14,4	14,8
Other subjects	6,8	7,2	7,4	7,5	7,7	7,7	7,9	3,3
Law	7,9	7,6	7,1	7,1	6,7	6,6	6,6	6,7
Medical sciences	4,8	4,9	5	5,2	5,2	5,4	5,7	5,8
Natural sciences	4,1	4	3,9	3,8	3,7	3,7	3,6	5,2
Education	3,7	3,7	3,4	3,2	3,2	3,1	3,2	3
Maths and computing	2	2	2,8	3,1	3,2	3,4	3,3	3,3

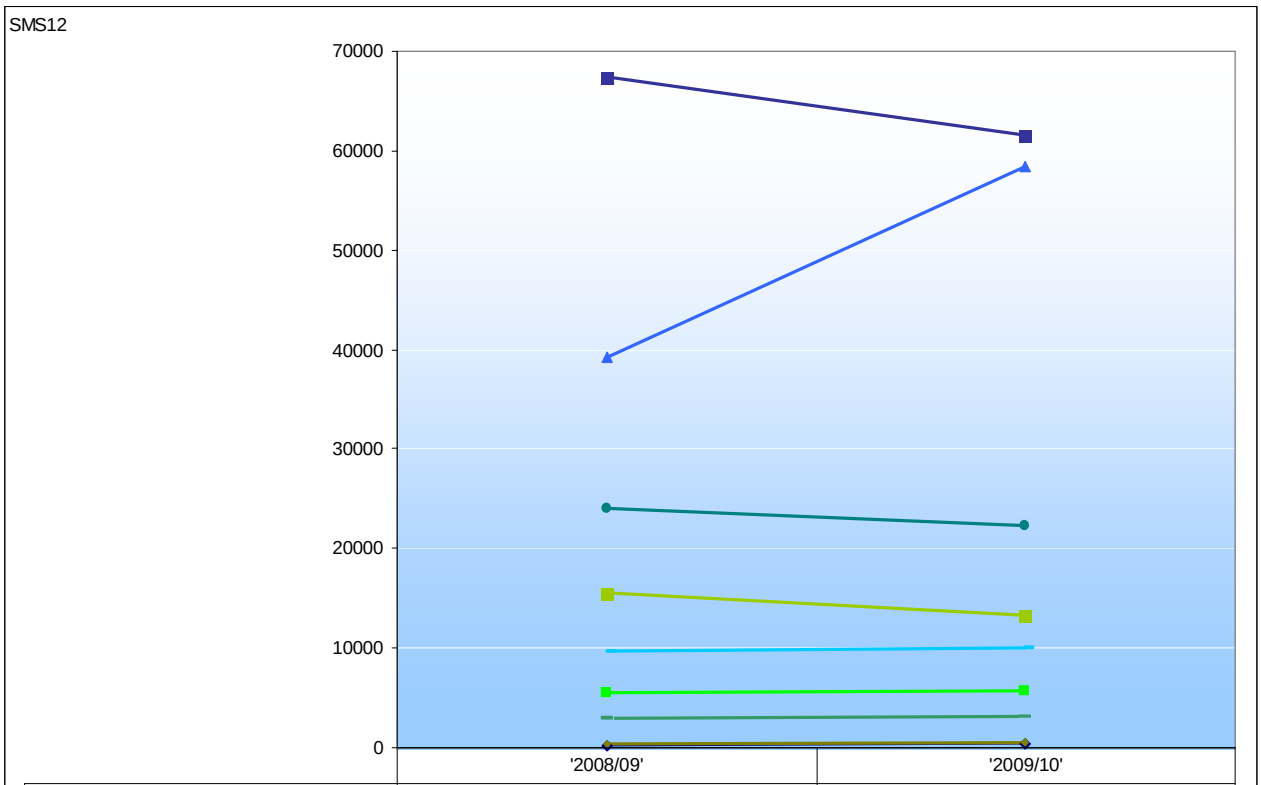
Data on subject areas for the last two academic years is not comparable with previous years as the category for subject areas was changed in the Erasmus Data Dictionary in 2008/09.

Students of “social sciences and business and law” made up the biggest share of those on exchanges in the academic year 2009/10 or 34.6%. Chart 26 below shows the increase and decrease in the

[11] Other subjects comprise "general programmes", "agricultural sciences", "personal services" and unspecified areas of study.

number of Erasmus students in different subject areas between the academic years 2008/09 and 2009/10. The number of students studying in a "general programme" and those who did not specify the subject area increased in 2009/10 compared to the previous year, increased considerably. This said, whereas students of “humanities and arts” increased in numbers between years by 49% (a 32.9% share), the number of “social sciences, business and law” students decreased by 8.7%. The number of students studying agriculture and veterinary decreased, however, the most sharply between years or by 18.3% followed by students studying "science, mathematics and computing" (a 14.6% decrease). Students of "engineering", and "education" continue to participate actively, though in proportionately lower numbers compared to the overall number of students taking these subjects.

Chart 26: Subject Areas of Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies: Increase/decrease between 2008/09 and 2009/10

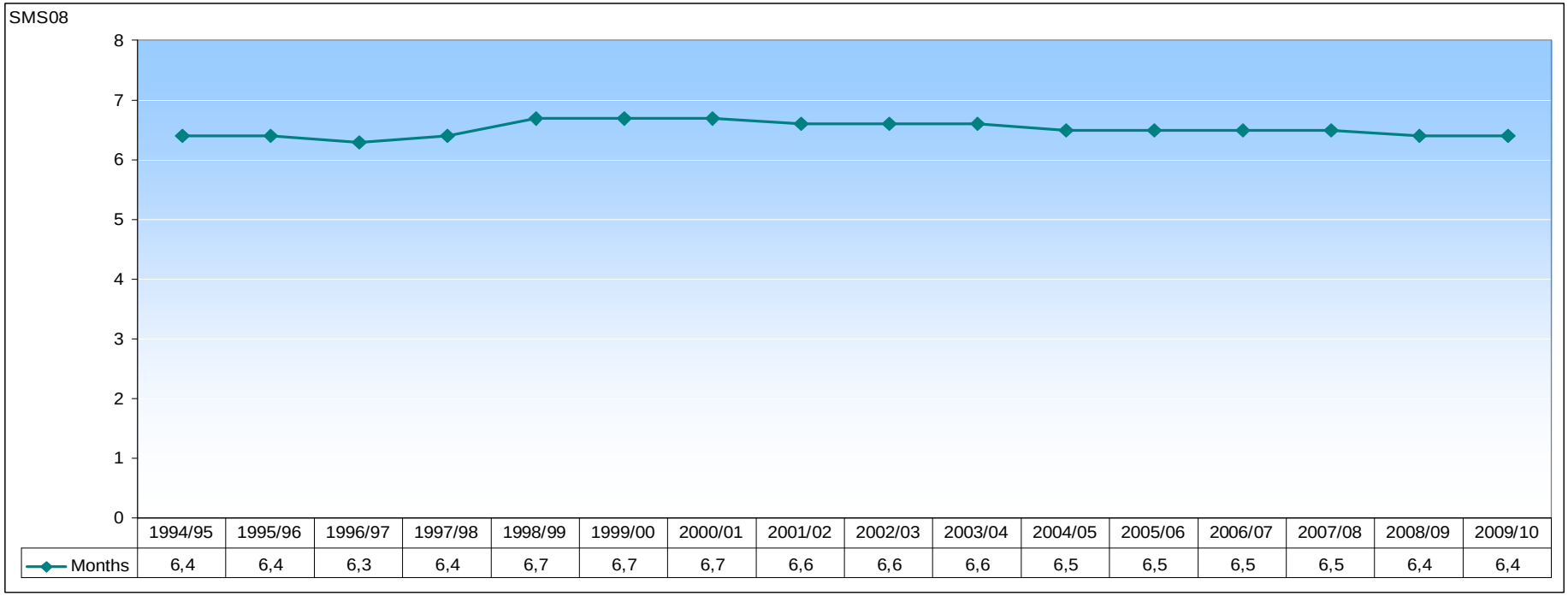


	'2008/09'	'2009/10'
General Programmes	181	275
Education	5609	5688
Humanities and Arts	39166	58454
Social sciences, Business and Law	67377	61545
Science, Mathematics and Computing	15502	13230
Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction	24035	22241
Agriculture and Veterinary	3402	2780
Health and Welfare	9756	9942
Services	2899	3066
Not known or unspecified	266	484

1.2.5 Study duration

The average length of duration of Erasmus student mobility for studies has more or less been stable since the academic year 1994/95. A student on Erasmus student mobility for studies studied on average abroad for 6.4 months in 2009/10, which is identical with the previous year. The average duration ranged from 4.2 months in Malta to 8 months in Spain.

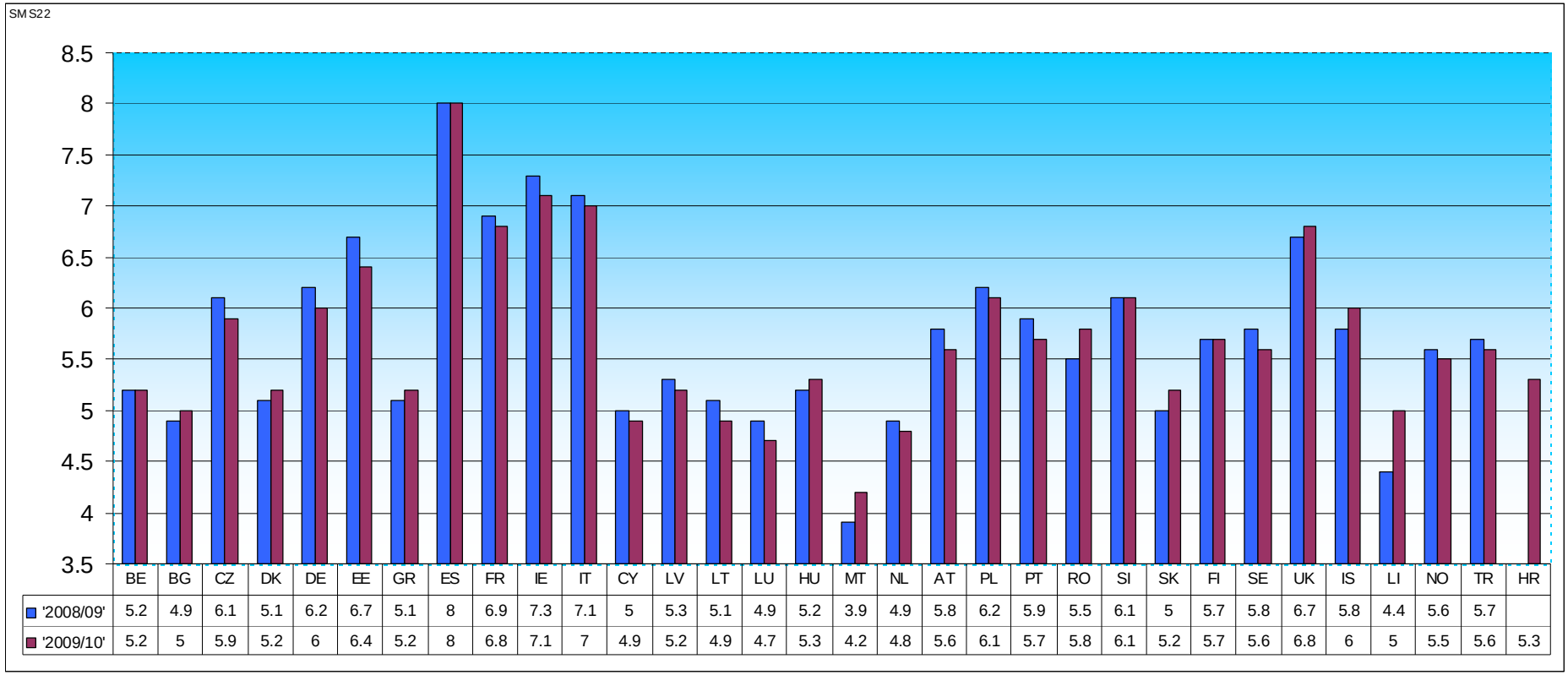
Chart 27: Average duration of Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies from 1994/95 to 2009/10



	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
Months	6,4	6,4	6,3	6,4	6,7	6,7	6,7	6,6	6,6	6,6	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,5	6,4	6,4

While the average duration of mobility for study periods has been relatively stable in the last few years, there are considerable variations between countries. Chart 28 below shows the average duration of Erasmus mobility for studies per home country in 2008/09 and 2009/10.

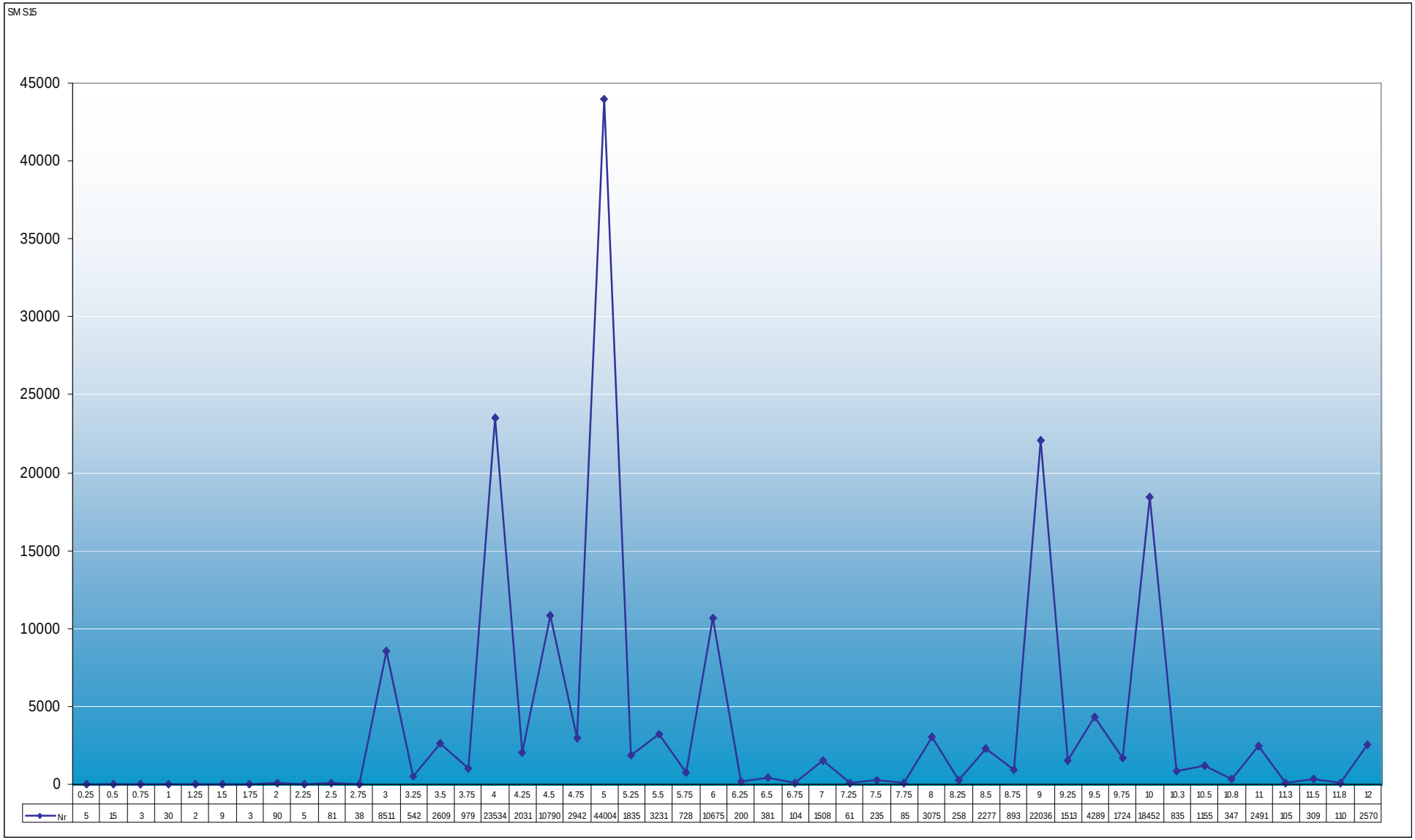
Chart 28: Average duration of Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies from 1994/95 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	5.2	4.9	6.1	5.1	6.2	6.7	5.1	8	6.9	7.3	7.1	5	5.3	5.1	4.9	5.2	3.9	4.9	5.8	6.2	5.9	5.5	6.1	5	5.7	5.8	6.7	5.8	4.4	5.6	5.7	
'2009/10'	5.2	5	5.9	5.2	6	6.4	5.2	8	6.8	7.1	7	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.7	5.3	4.2	4.8	5.6	6.1	5.7	5.8	6.1	5.2	5.7	5.6	6.8	6	5	5.5	5.6	5.3

Chart 29 shows the distribution of the length of duration of Erasmus students on mobility for studies in 2009/10. As the chart clearly shows, the highest number of mobility for studies (44 004) lasted five months, or around one semester. While the minimum duration for Erasmus mobility for studies is three months a number of mobility periods were reported that did not respect the minimum duration of stay. The explanation for most of these is that planned stays abroad had to be cancelled early due to unforeseeable events. It is also interesting to see how many students stayed for nine or ten months abroad which is the equivalent of two semesters (40 488).

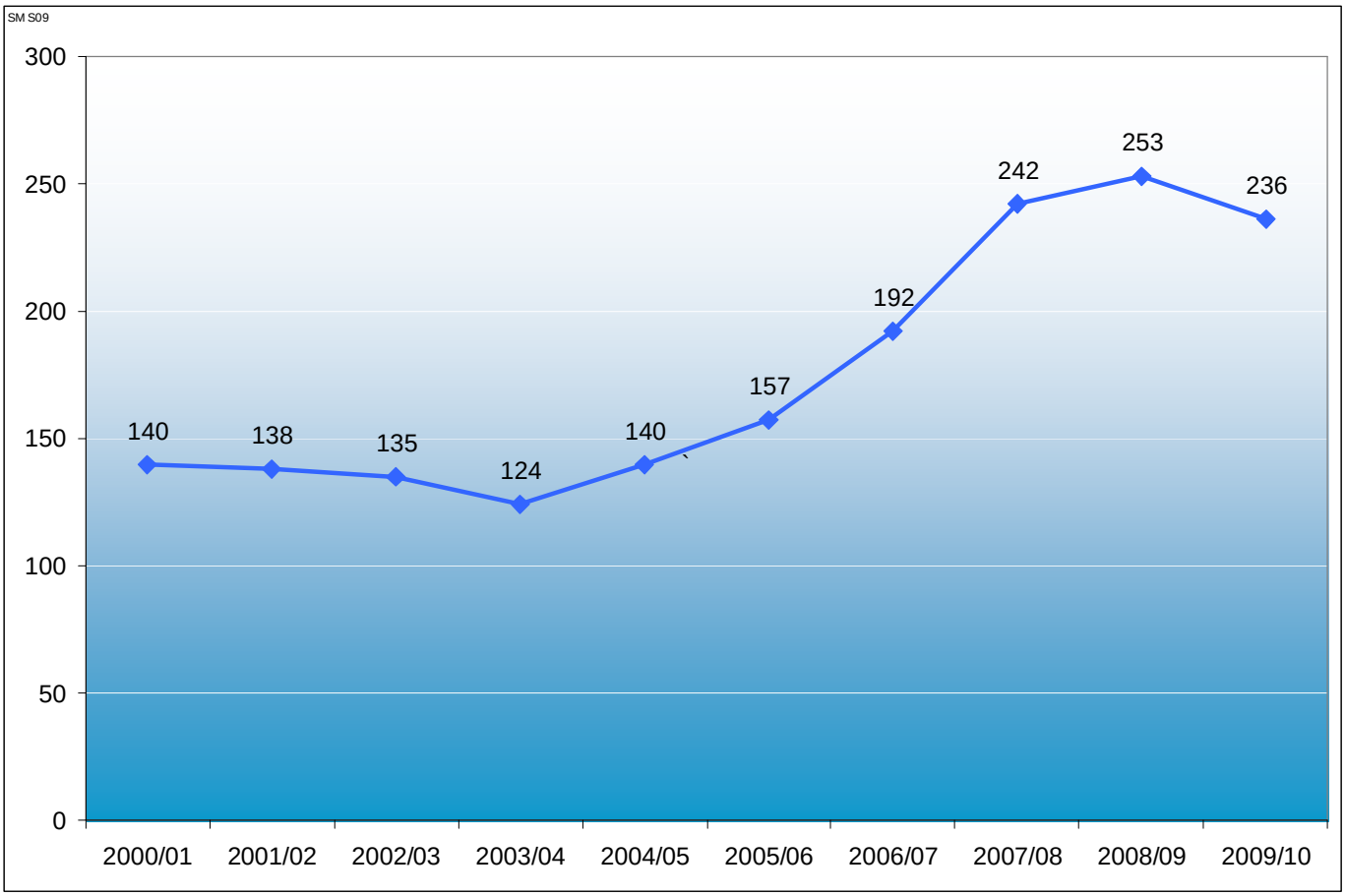
Chart 29: Distribution of length of stay of Erasmus Mobility for Studies in 2009/10



1.2.6 Study grants

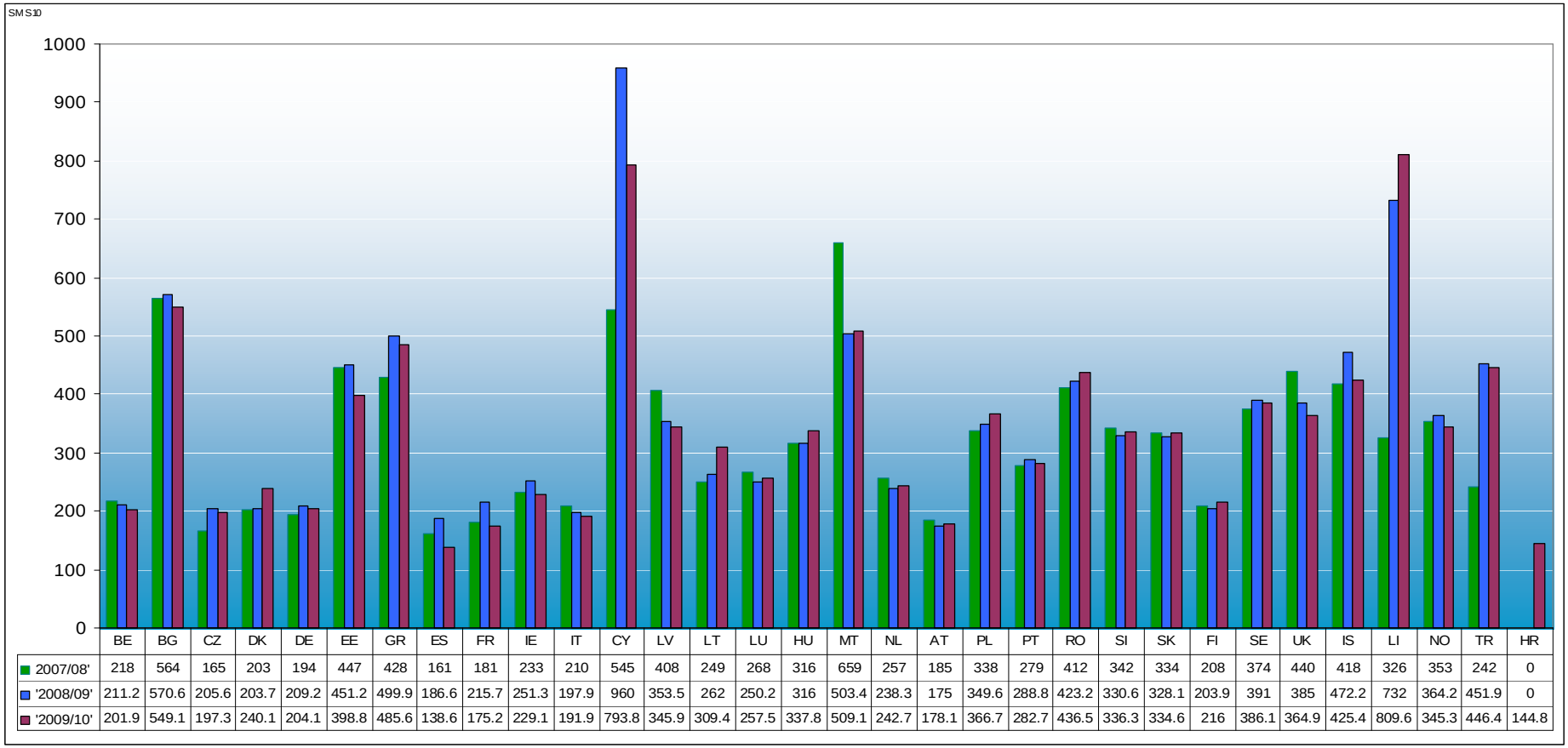
The average monthly EU grant for Erasmus mobility for studies in was EUR 236 in the academic year 2009/10 compared to EUR 253 in 2008/09, which represents an annual decrease of 6.7%.

Chart 30: Average monthly EU grant for Erasmus Mobility for Studies: 2000/01 - 2009/10



Erasmus students received very different amounts of EU monthly grants depending on their home country and their home higher education institution. The Erasmus budget for mobility actions is divided up into 32 national Erasmus budgets according to a set distribution key. Each National Agency then has the possibility to set its own student grant allocation policy. Their policies, however, have to be in accordance with EU rules and guidelines and respect the maximum grants ceilings set by the European Commission. The home institutions can further decide on the maximum grant amounts their own students receive. The average monthly EU study grant in the 2009/10 academic year ranged from EUR 139 in Spain to EUR 810 in Liechtenstein. The difference is wide but it should be pointed out that Spain, as well as many other participating countries, supplements the EU monthly grant with national, regional and institutional funds. The Commission only collects data on national funds that the National Agencies manage so it is not possible to give a comprehensive view of the total average monthly grant students receive in individual countries.

Chart 31: The average monthly EU grant in EUR per home country from 2007/08 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2007/08'	218	564	165	203	194	447	428	161	181	233	210	545	408	249	268	316	659	257	185	338	279	412	342	334	208	374	440	418	326	353	242	0
'2008/09'	211.2	570.6	205.6	203.7	209.2	451.2	499.9	186.6	215.7	251.3	197.9	960	353.5	262	250.2	316	503.4	238.3	175	349.6	288.8	423.2	330.6	328.1	203.9	391	385	472.2	732	364.2	451.9	0
'2009/10'	201.9	549.1	197.3	240.1	204.1	398.8	485.6	138.6	175.2	229.1	191.9	793.8	345.9	309.4	257.5	337.8	509.1	242.7	178.1	366.7	282.7	436.5	336.3	334.6	216	386.1	364.9	425.4	809.6	345.3	446.4	144.8

1.2.7 Students with special needs grants

230 students with special needs receiving a supplementary grant participated in Erasmus mobility for study in 2009/10, compared to 203 students in 2008/09. Students with special needs accounted for 0.14 % of mobility for studies this year. (See more on flows per country in Annex 10). This means that one out of every 731 Erasmus students who studied abroad was a student with a special needs grant. Their average stay abroad was 6 months and the average supplementary grant per student was EUR 2486 (compared to EUR 3938 in the previous year) or EUR 449 per month.

Italy sent out the highest number of students with special needs or 51 (a 22.2 % share), followed by Hungary with 36 (15.7 %), Poland with 35 (15.2 %), and Germany 34 (14.8 %). Ten countries, or one third of the participating countries, did not fund any Erasmus students with special needs to study abroad in 2009/10.

Spain received the highest number of students with special needs in 2009/10 or 58 (25.2 % share) followed by Germany with 34 (14.8 %), the UK with 20 (8.7%), and France with 19 (8.3 %). Lithuania, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, and Romania did not receive any students with special needs grant in 2009/10.

1.2.8 Zero-grant students for studies

Every year, several thousand students participate in student mobility for studies under the Erasmus conditions but without receiving an EU grant. These students are called "zero-grant students". A majority of countries send out zero-grant students every year but the number of zero-grant students has been gradually declining. However, in 2009/10 the number of zero-grant students increased by 47.8% compared to the previous year, and was 6114 (up from 4138 in 2008/09). The share of zero-grant students out of the total Erasmus study mobility numbers has been also declining over the last decade. In 1997/98 students without an EU grant made up 8.8 % of all Erasmus students whereas in 2008/09 they accounted for 2.5%. In 2009/10, however, the share of zero-grant students was up again, or 3.4% of all mobility for study periods. The highest number of zero-grant students came from France, or 2411 (39.4% share), followed by students from Italy which were 1008, and Austria which had 978 zero-grant students (see more in Annex 11).

The most popular destination for zero-grant students in 2009/10 was Spain, where 21.6% of the zero-grant students went to, followed by the UK with 12.4%, France with 6.5% and Sweden with 5.5%.

1.2.9 Combined period of study and placements (integrated placements)

According to Erasmus rules it is possible to combine a period of placement with a period of study. The mobility period is considered as a single "study" mobility period and normally called "integrated placements". In the academic year 2009/10, a total of 636 students did an integrated placement period during their Erasmus study mobility, which represents a decrease of 18.5% between years (from 780 students in 2008/09). The number of integrated placements represents 0.3% of all Erasmus mobility for study (down from 0.46% in the previous year).

The highest number of students doing an integrated placement period came from Germany, or 160 (25.2% share), followed by France with 82 students (12.9%), and Belgium with 72 (12.4%). The most popular destination for integrated placements was France (128, which represents 20.1%), followed by Spain with 104 mobilities (16.4%), and Finland with 51 (8% share). See chart 32 below for information on the host countries of integrated placements.

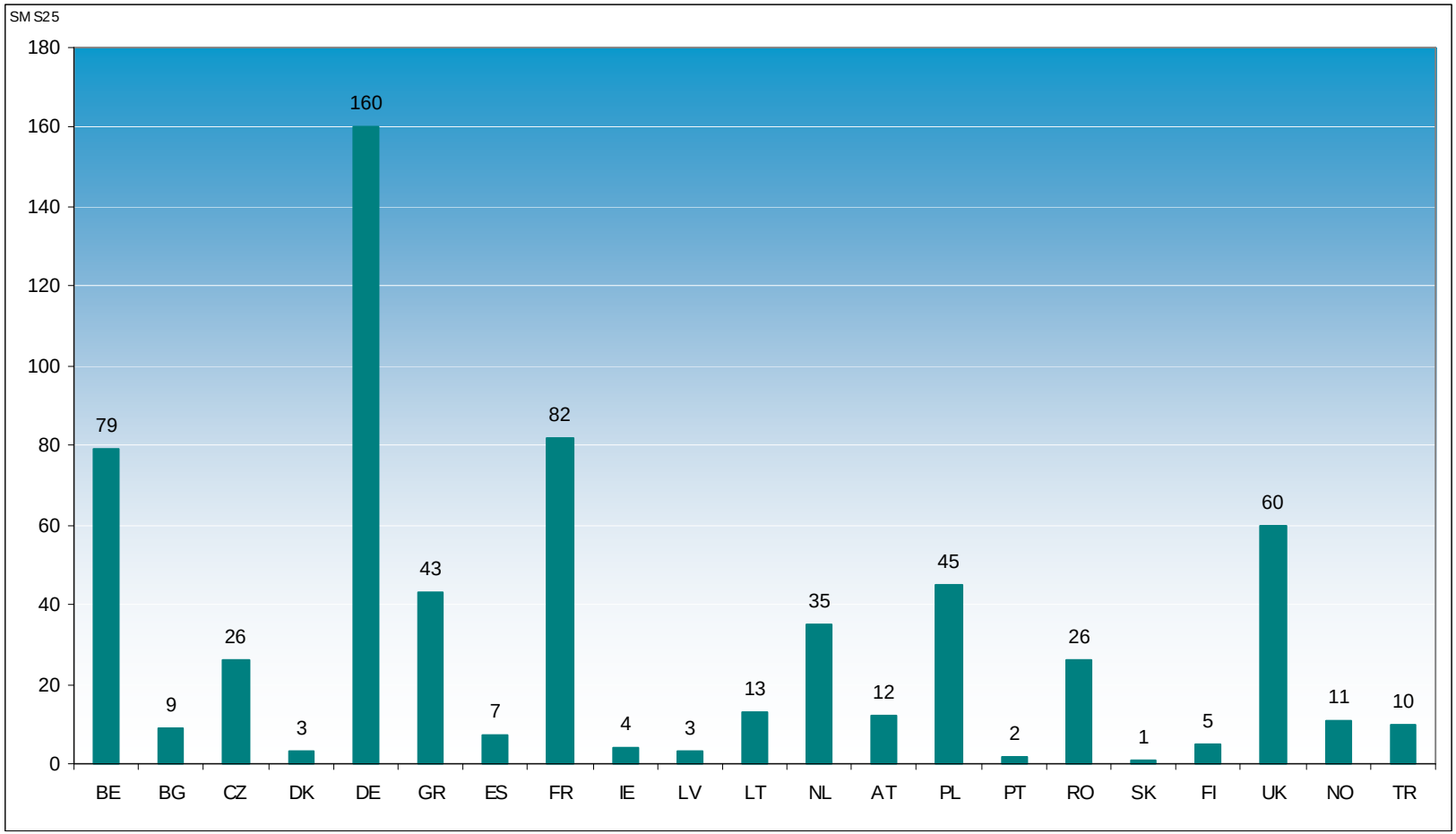
1.2.10 Average expected ECTS credits

Information on expected ECTS credits during a study mobility period abroad is collected in the yearly reports but not the number of ECTS credits earned and recognised. In 2009/10 Erasmus students on study mobility expected to be awarded 32 ECTS credits on average. The highest number of expected credits included in the initial Learning Agreement was among students from Spain, France and the UK (from 44 to 41 credits), while students from Austria expected to gain the lowest amount of credits (22 credits).

Full recognition of studies abroad is one of the principles of the Erasmus Programme but studies such as the PRIME study carried out by the Erasmus Student Network[12] show that while around 73% of Erasmus students say that their studies abroad were fully recognised, 27% still only receive partial recognition of their study periods abroad. This is partly due to incorrect implementation of the different elements of the ECTS (Learning Agreements, course catalogues not always in English etc). A further problem is related to lack of trust between cooperating institutions and faculty, different academic calendars and lack of mobility windows in study programmes.

[12] The PRIME Study 2010 which was done by the Erasmus Student Network investigates obstacles to recognition of Erasmus mobility. For more information see http://www.prime.esn.org/final-report

Chart 32: Number of Combined Erasmus Study and Placements per home country in 2009/10



1.3 Erasmus Student Mobility for Placements

1.3.1 Introduction

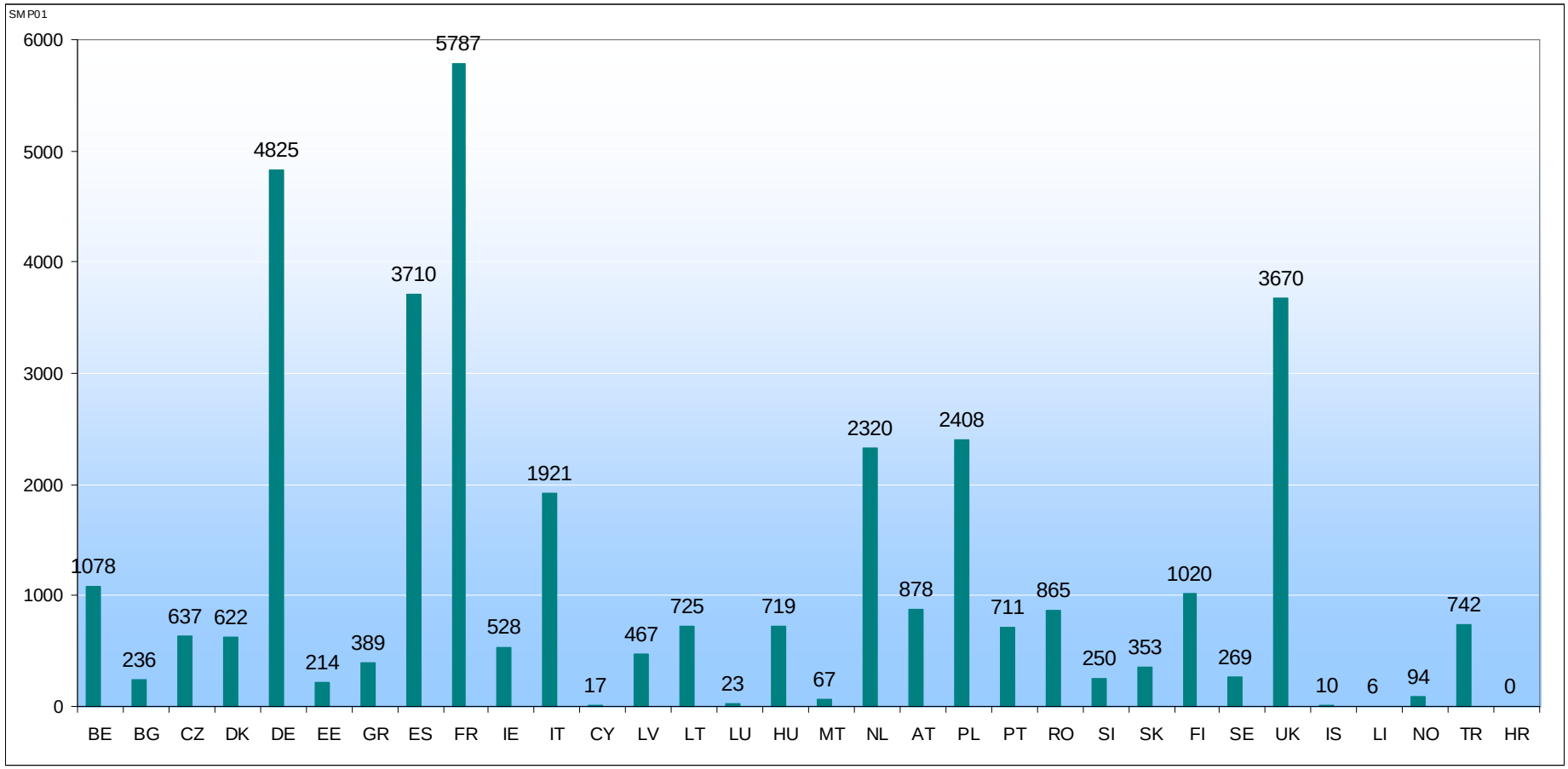
Placements (traineeships) in companies or other organisations is the fastest growing action within the Erasmus Programme. Previously managed within the Leonardo da Vinci Programme (for vocational education and training), company placements have been part of Erasmus since the 2007/08 academic year. Grants enable students to spend a period of three to twelve months doing a company placement abroad (or at least two months for students in short-cycle vocational higher education institutions). Spending time in a company abroad helps students to adapt to the requirements of the labour market and develop specific skills. It also boosts cooperation between higher education institutions and companies.

1.3.2 Outgoing student mobility for placements

Since its inclusion in the Erasmus Programme, company placements abroad have grown rapidly. Out of the 213 266 Erasmus students 35 561 went on company placements abroad in 2009/10. This represents an annual increase of 17.2% between years (up from 30 330 students in 2008/09). Placements represented a 16.7% share of all Erasmus student mobility periods in 2009/10 whereas in the academic year 2008/09 they were 15.4% of the total number of Erasmus mobility periods.

Chart 33 shows from which country the highest number of students going on Erasmus student mobility in the academic year 2009/10 came from. France sent the most students abroad for company placements or 5787 (16.3% share), followed by Germany with 4825 placements (13.6%), Spain with 3710 (10.4%), and then the UK with 3670 (10.3%).

Chart 33: Outgoing Erasmus Students on Placements per home country in 2009/10



Approximately 62.1% of Erasmus placement students in the academic year 2009/10 were female. The average age of Erasmus placement students was 22.75 years (down from 23.6 years in 2008/09). The age of Erasmus placement students ranged from 17 to 61 years.

The proportion of Erasmus student mobility for placements in the academic year 2009/10 of the total student population in the 32 participating country was very low or 0.16%.

1.3.3 Incoming student mobility for placements

During the academic year 2009/10, Spain received the highest number of placement students (6061) which accounts for a 17% share of the total number of Erasmus placements, followed by the UK with 5827(16.4%), Germany with 4582 (12.9%), and then France with 4108 (11.6%). (See more in chart 34 below).

Chart 35 shows the imbalance in terms of incoming and outgoing Erasmus students for placements in 2009/10. Fourteen countries had higher numbers of incoming students for placements than outgoing. While Luxembourg received 256 students it sent out only 23 in 2009/10. The imbalance was also high in many of the other smaller participating countries like Malta, Cyprus, Iceland and Norway (see more in Annex 12). The countries that had higher numbers of students going abroad for placements than coming to their respective countries were seventeen in 2009/10. Lithuania, Latvia and Poland sent out more than four times as many placement students than they received. In Romania the balance was about three outgoing students for every incoming. Of the 32 participating countries, Bulgaria and Germany had the most balance between outgoing and incoming students, followed by Portugal, Austria, and then Italy.

Chart 34: Incoming number of Erasmus Student Mobility for Placements per country in 2009/10

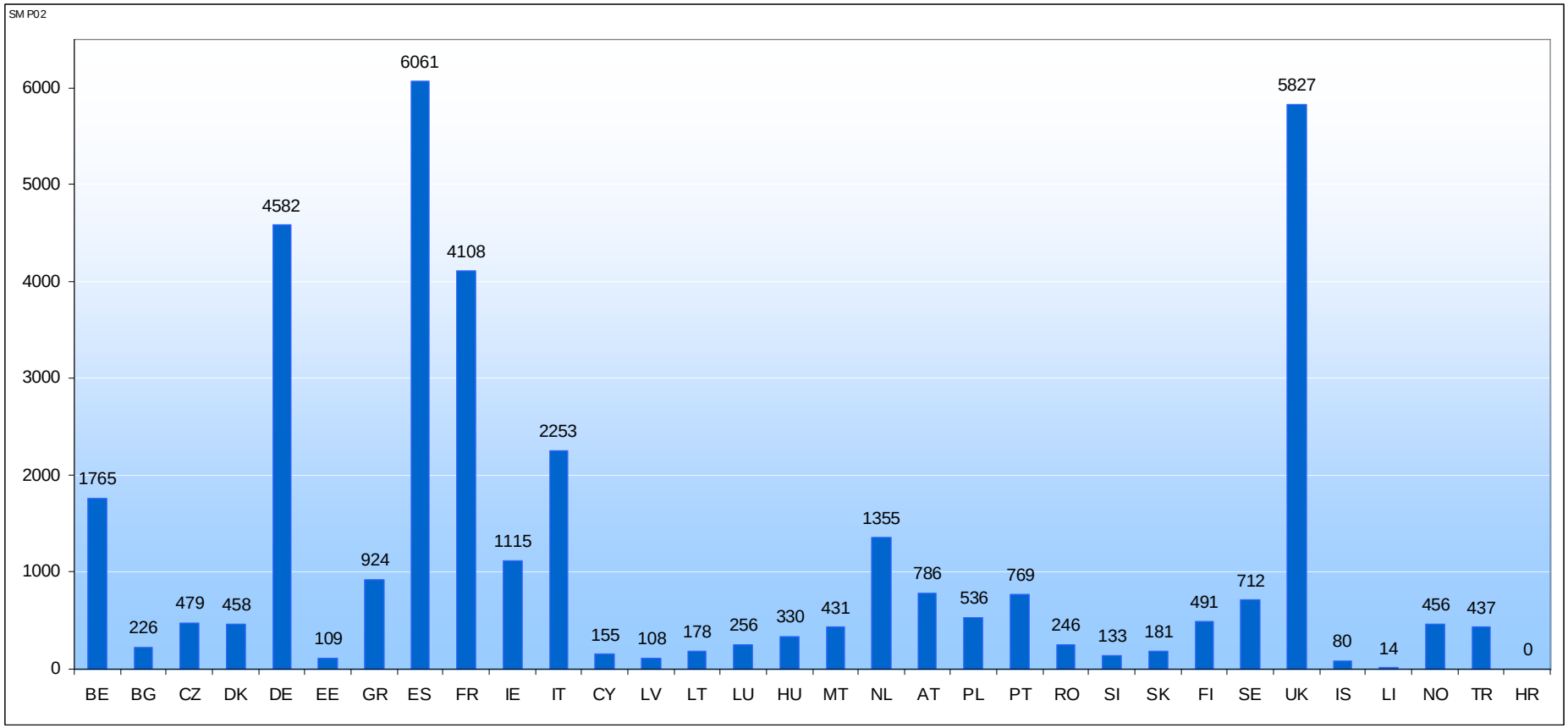
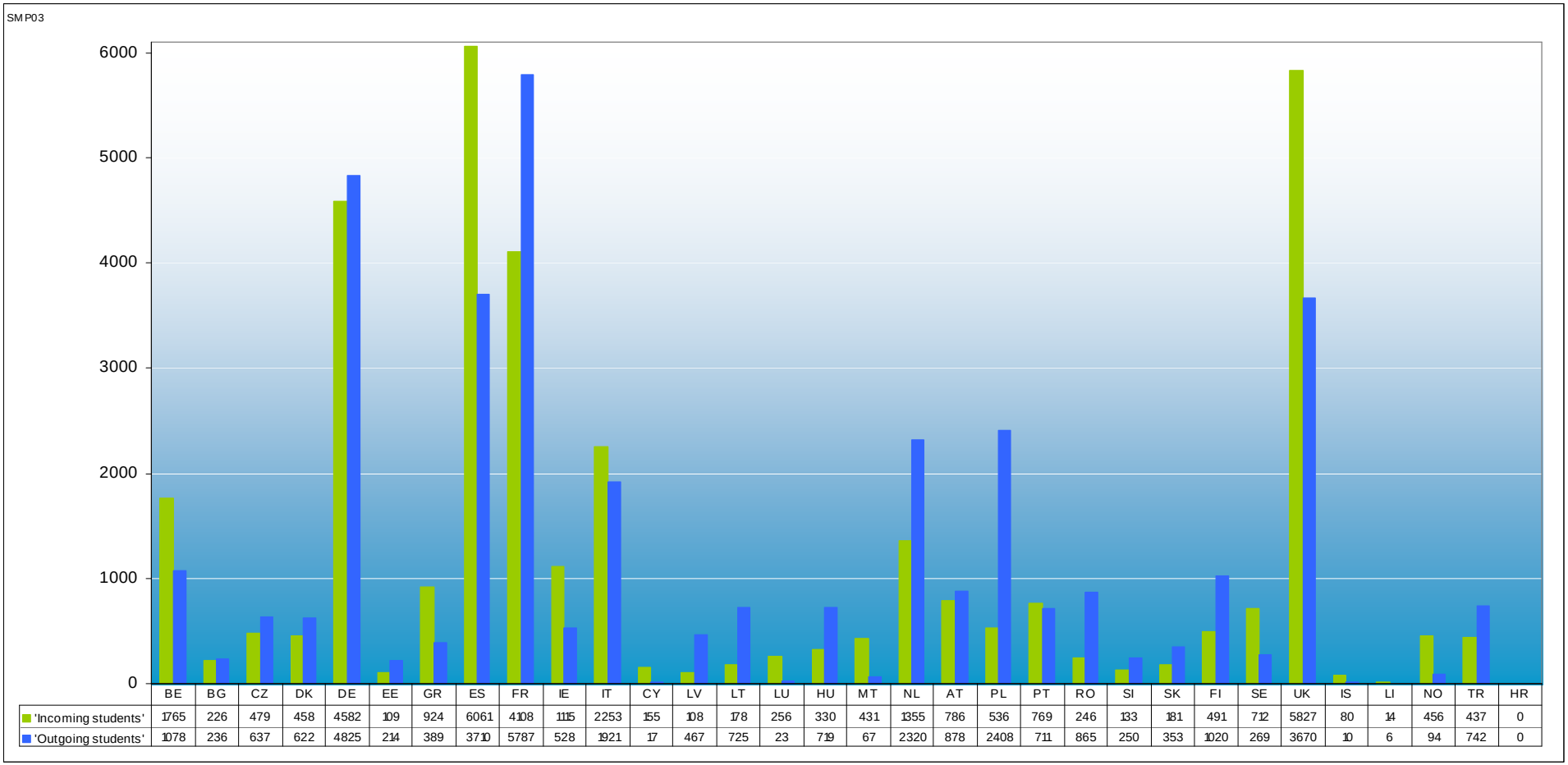
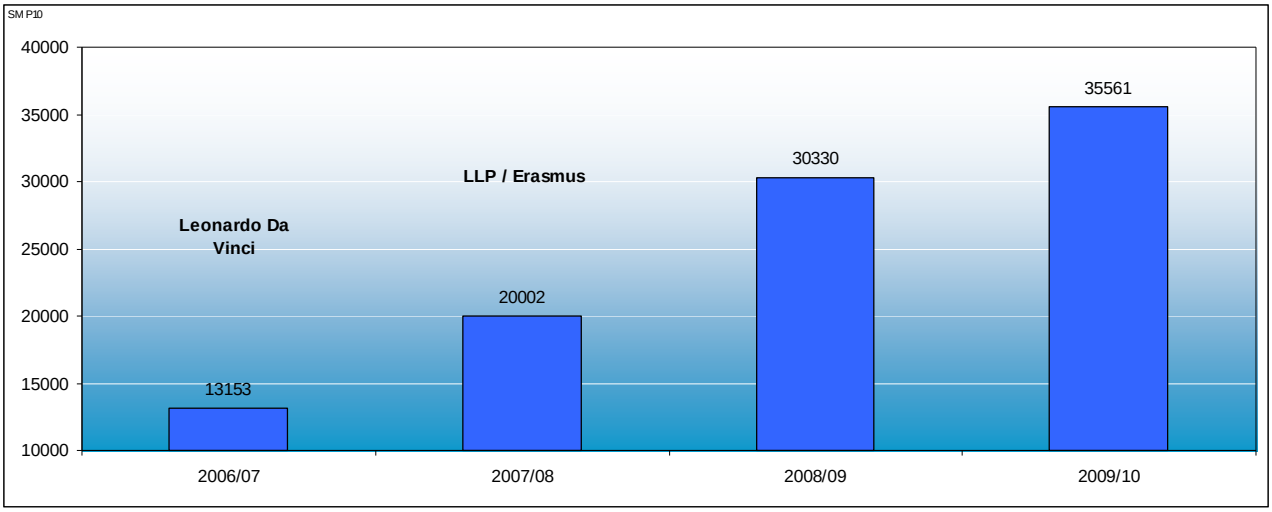


Chart 35: Balance of incoming vs. outgoing Erasmus Student Mobility for Placements in 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'Incoming students'	1765	226	479	458	4582	109	924	6061	4108	1115	2253	155	108	178	256	330	431	1355	786	536	769	246	133	181	491	712	5827	80	14	456	437	0
'Outgoing students'	1078	236	637	622	4825	214	389	3710	5787	528	1921	17	467	725	23	719	67	2320	878	2408	711	865	250	353	1020	269	3670	10	6	94	742	0

Chart 36: Growth of company placements for students from 2006/07 to 2009/10



1.3.4 Placement hosts and placement sectors

26 968 enterprises across Europe received Erasmus placement students during the academic year 2009/10. This represents a 24.5 % year-on-year growth (up from 21 670 in the previous year). The enterprises varied greatly in type and size. Around 45.5% of the enterprises were small, 34.8 % medium-sized and 19.7% were large. The share of small enterprises was highest in Malta (64.6%) and Bulgaria (62.5%). The highest share of medium-sized enterprises was in Cyprus (45%), followed by Turkey, Germany, France, and Romania, where medium-sized enterprises hosting Erasmus placement students accounted for about 40% of all enterprises,. Large enterprises had the highest share in Slovakia (29.3%), Finland (29%), and Sweden (28%).

Students of "humanities and arts" make up the biggest share of student trainees with 31% share. This number has more than doubled compared to the previous year. They were followed by students of "social sciences, business and law" (27%). Those taking courses in "engineering, manufacturing and construction" participated in lower numbers.

1.3.5 Placement duration and expected ECTS

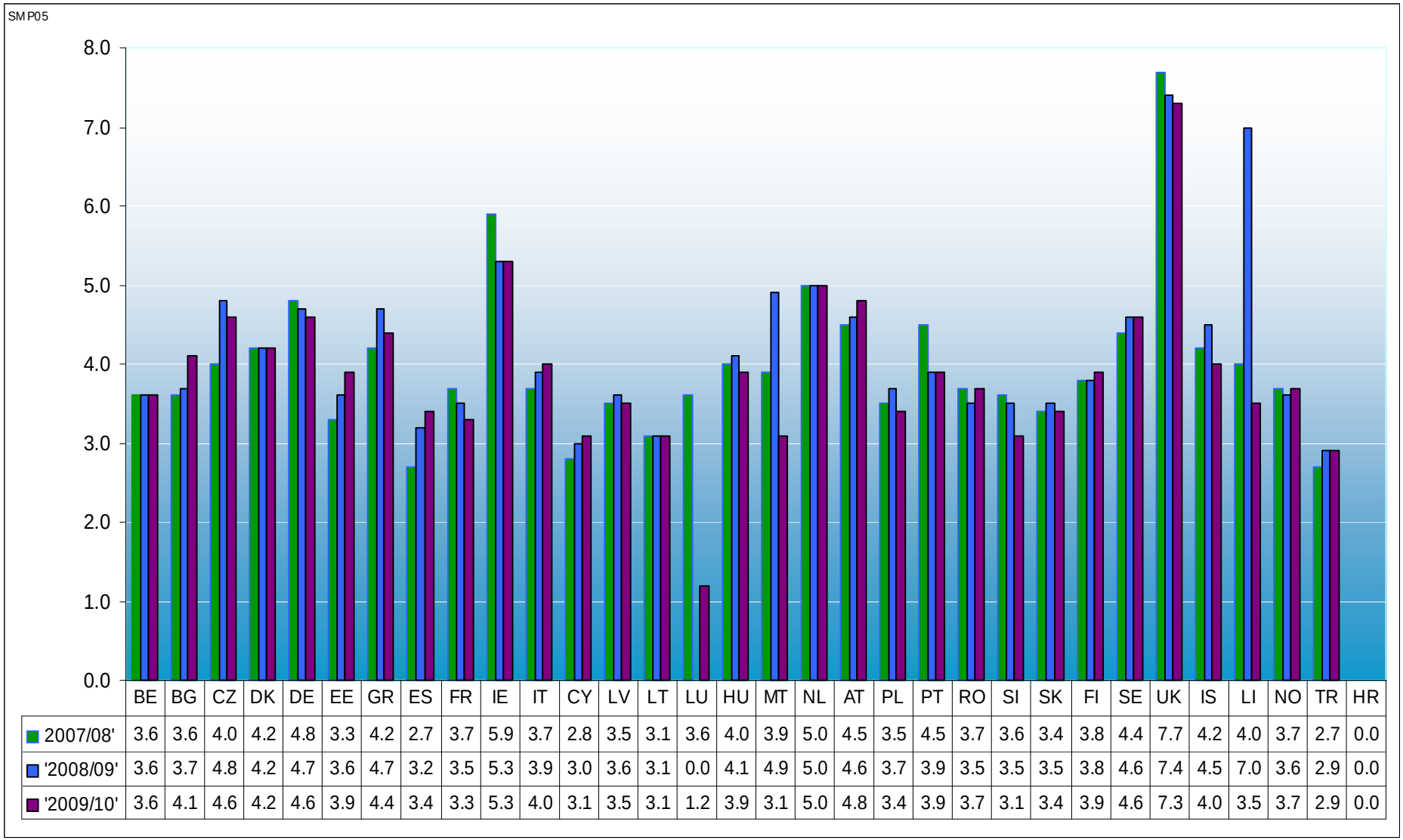
The average duration of Erasmus student mobility for placements in 2009/10 was considerably lower than for studies, or on average 4 months (compared to 6.4 months for studies). The average duration ranged from 3.1 months for students coming from Malta to 5.4 months for students coming from Liechtenstein. On average, placement students stayed the longest in Liechtenstein or 5.4 months, followed by France (5.2 months) and then Luxembourg (4.9 months). The shortest placement periods were in Malta and Romania with 3.1 and 3.3 months respectively. Chart 37 below gives an overview of the trend in duration per home country since academic year 2007/08.

3564 placements, or 10% of the total Erasmus placements in 2009/10, were shorter than three months (up from 2454 in the previous year). A majority of these, a total of 2106 (59.1%), came from France (up from a 53.3 % share in 2008/09), followed by Spain with 1015 or 28.5% share (down from 32.4% in 2008/09), and then Turkey with 113 placements, or 3.2% share (down from 5.8% in

2008/09). The numbers of shorter stays reflect the high number of participating short-cycle higher education institutions in these countries.

The average anticipated ECTS credits for an Erasmus placement period abroad was 18.6 in 2009/10. Students from Luxembourg had the lowest anticipated average ECTS credits (6.9), while students from the UK the highest, with 44.4 anticipated ECTS credits. Taking into account the average duration of Erasmus placements of 4 months, the average anticipated ECTS per month in the academic year 2009/10 was 4.65 ECTS credits.

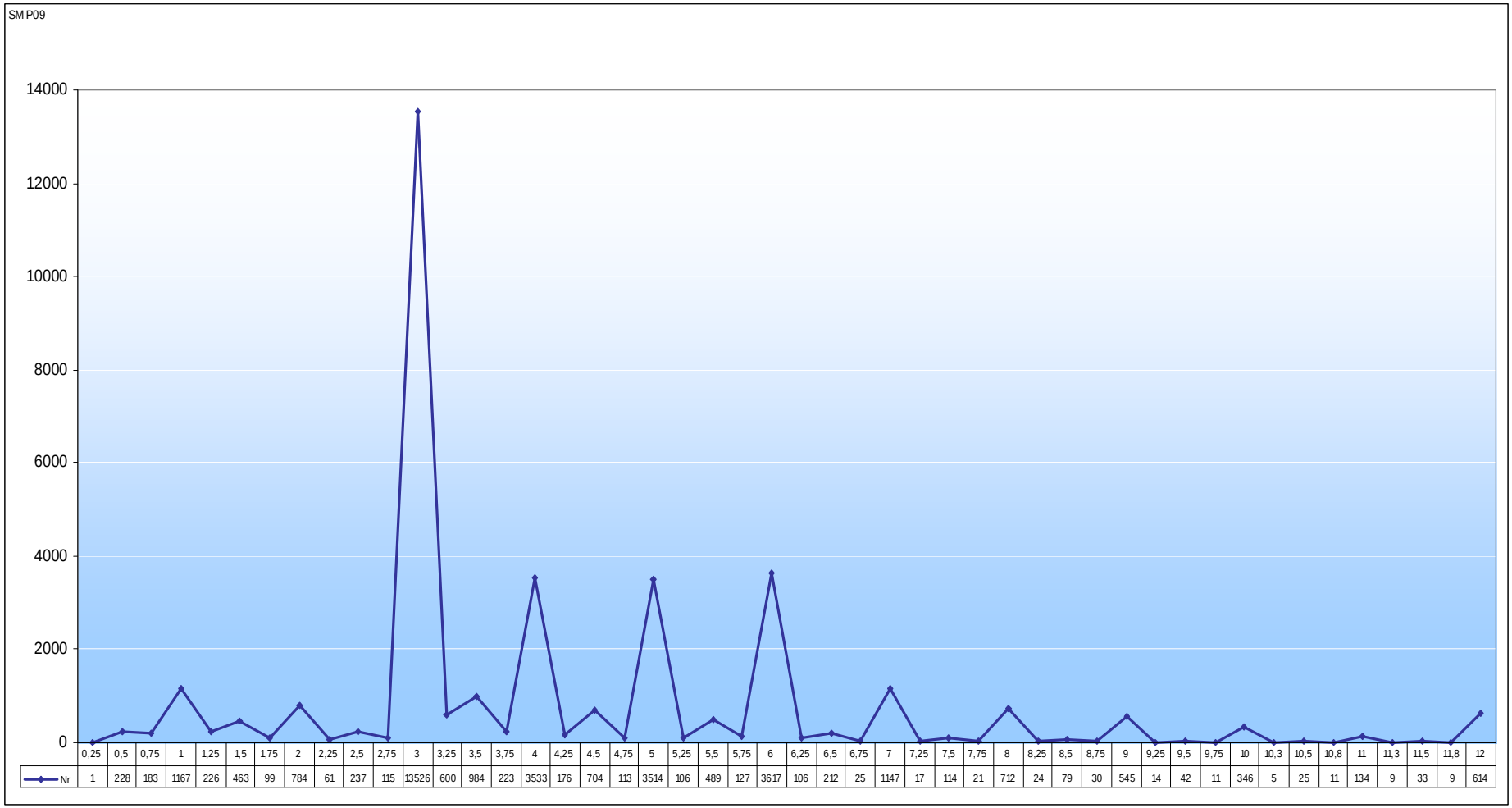
Chart 37: Average monthly duration of Erasmus Student Mobility for Placements per home country from 2007/08 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2007/08'	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.2	4.8	3.3	4.2	2.7	3.7	5.9	3.7	2.8	3.5	3.1	3.6	4.0	3.9	5.0	4.5	3.5	4.5	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.8	4.4	7.7	4.2	4.0	3.7	2.7	0.0
'2008/09'	3.6	3.7	4.8	4.2	4.7	3.6	4.7	3.2	3.5	5.3	3.9	3.0	3.6	3.1	0.0	4.1	4.9	5.0	4.6	3.7	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.8	4.6	7.4	4.5	7.0	3.6	2.9	0.0
'2009/10'	3.6	4.1	4.6	4.2	4.6	3.9	4.4	3.4	3.3	5.3	4.0	3.1	3.5	3.1	1.2	3.9	3.1	5.0	4.8	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.1	3.4	3.9	4.6	7.3	4.0	3.5	3.7	2.9	0.0

Chart 38 below shows the distribution of the length of duration of Erasmus mobility for placements. The relative majority of Erasmus placements abroad (13 526) lasted three months (13 weeks), which represent almost 40% of all Erasmus placements in the academic year 2009/10. As can be seen in the chart, a high number of placements also lasted four, five or six months.

Chart 38: Distribution of the length of duration of Erasmus Mobility for Placements in 2009/10

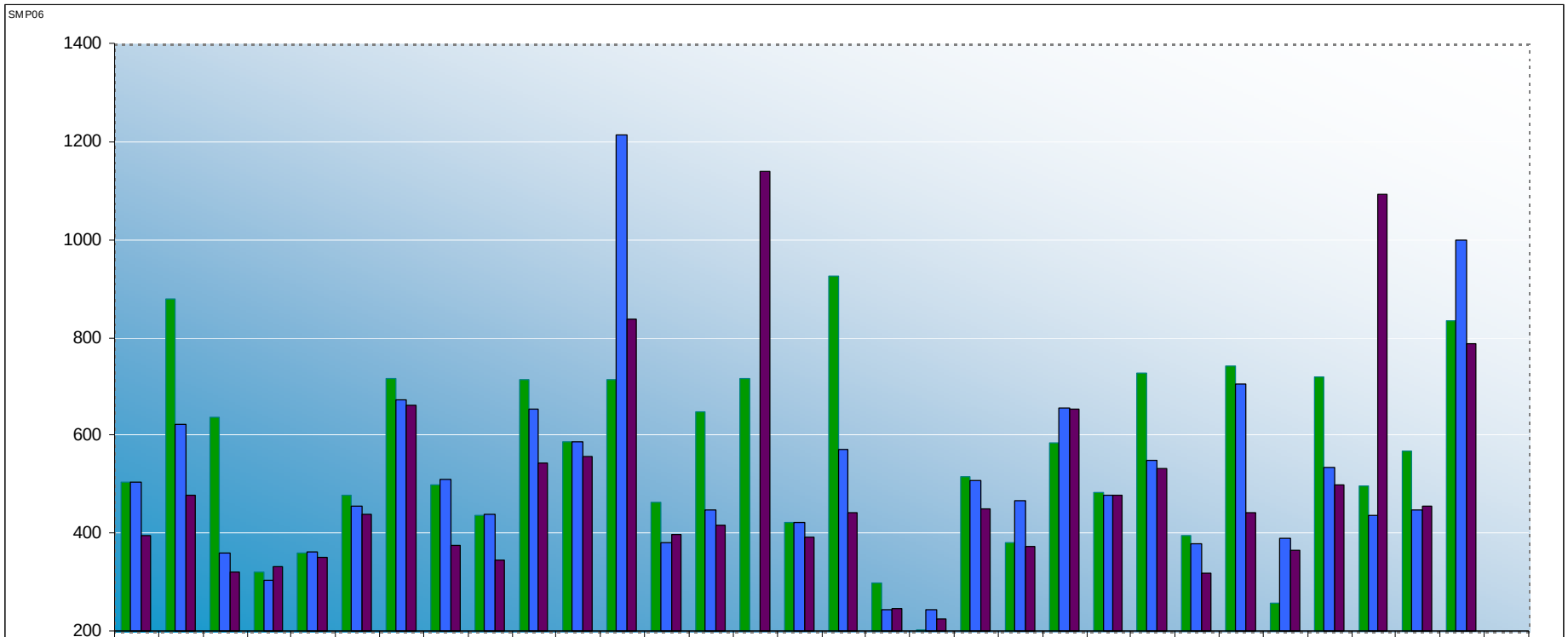


	0,25	0,5	0,75	1	1,25	1,5	1,75	2	2,25	2,5	2,75	3	3,25	3,5	3,75	4	4,25	4,5	4,75	5	5,25	5,5	5,75	6	6,25	6,5	6,75	7	7,25	7,5	7,75	8	8,25	8,5	8,75	9	9,25	9,5	9,75	10	10,3	10,5	10,8	11	11,3	11,5	11,8	12
Nr	1	228	183	1167	226	463	99	784	61	237	115	13526	600	984	223	3533	176	704	113	3514	106	489	127	3617	106	212	25	1147	17	114	21	712	24	79	30	545	14	42	11	346	5	25	11	134	9	33	9	614

1.3.6 Placement grants

In line with study grants, the average EU monthly grant for company placements decreased by 11% over the previous year to EUR 386 (down from EUR 433 in 2008/09). Students received very different EU monthly grants depending on their home country and home higher education institution. The average EU monthly grant for placements ranged from EUR 225 for students from Austria to EUR 1140 for students coming from Luxembourg.

Chart 39: Average EU monthly grant for Erasmus Mobility of Placements per home country in 2009/10

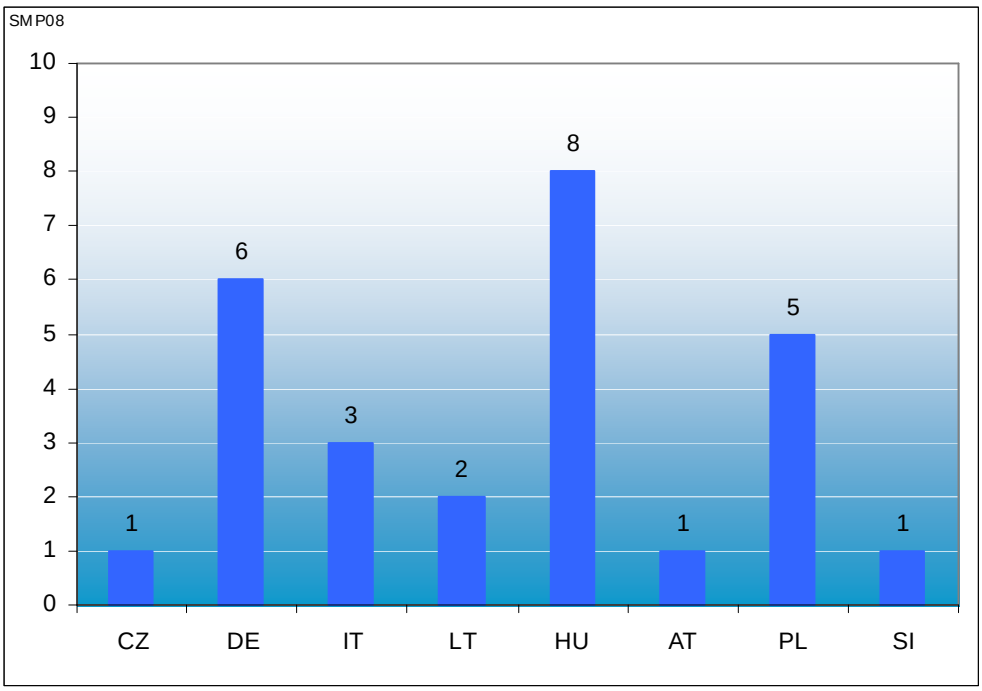


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2007/08'	506	877	637	321	359	478	717	499	437	713	588	714	463	647	717	422	925	298	204	515	381	584	483	727	394	740	258	720	496	568	835	0
'2008/09'	505	623	358	303	363	456	672	509	438	654	586	1215	382	448	0	421	572	245	245	508	467	656	478	548	379	705	391	534	436	448	999	0
'2009/10'	394	477	320	332	352	439	662	376	347	544	557	837	398	417	1140	392	441	246	225	451	373	653	476	532	319	441	366	500	1094	454	788	0

1.3.7 Placement students with special needs grants

In 2009/10 Erasmus supported 27 students with special needs (up from ten in the previous year). This represents a 0.08% share of all Erasmus placements this year. These students came from Hungary (8), Germany (6), Poland (5), Italy (3), Lithuania (2), and Czech Republic, Austria, and Slovenia each sending out one student with special needs. The average duration abroad was 3.7 months (down from 4.4 months last year) and the average EU supplementary grant per student was EUR 1869 or around EUR 505 per month. This is almost a doubling from the previous year when the monthly supplementary grant was EUR 293 (See more in Annex 13).

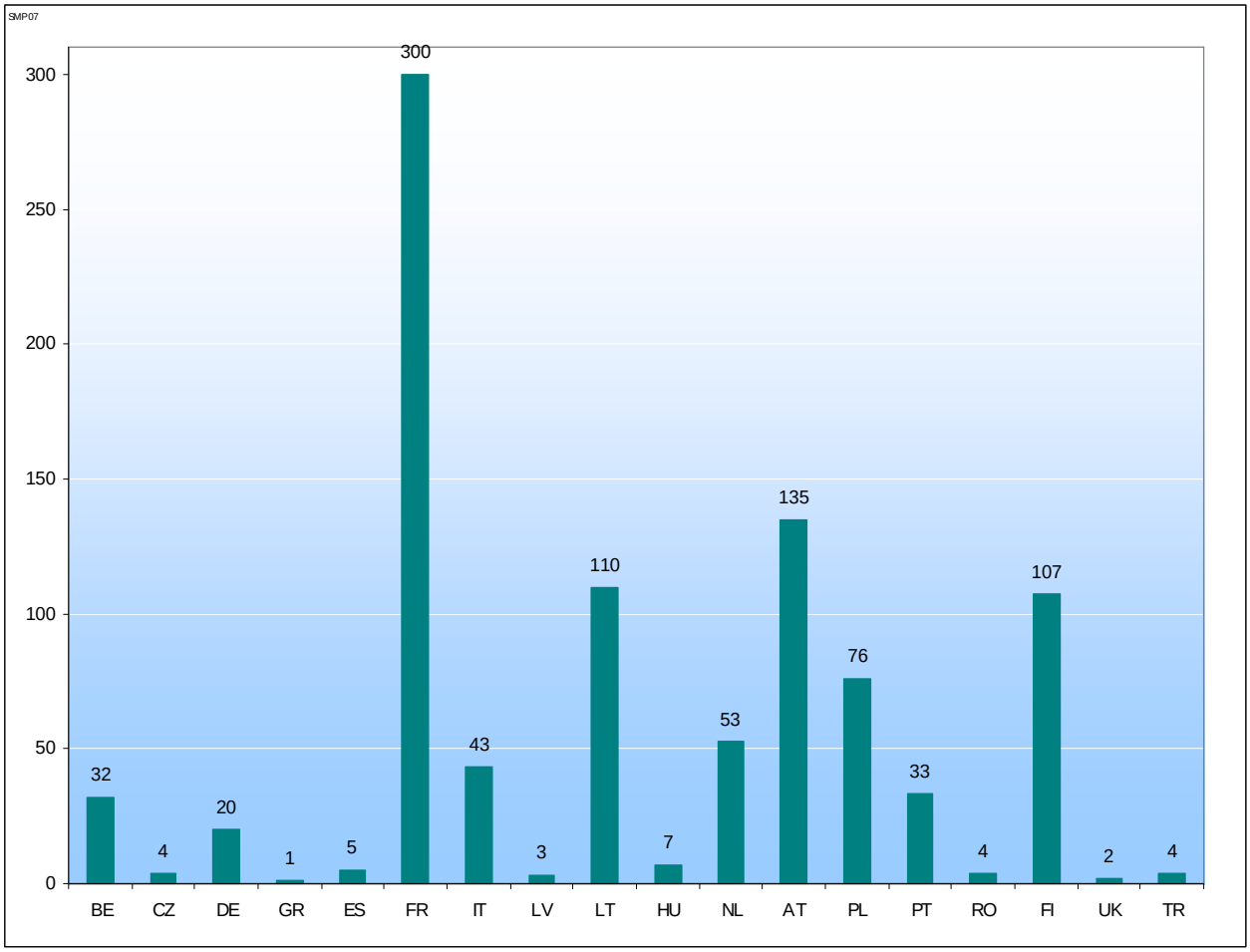
Chart 40: Erasmus Placement Students with special needs per home country in 2009/10



1.3.8 Zero-grant students for placements

A total of 939 Erasmus placement students did not receive an EU grant but undertook their placements nonetheless as "zero-grant" Erasmus students. This represents an increase of 167% on the previous year when the zero-grant Erasmus placement students were 352. Highest number of students came from France or 300 (32% share) followed by Austria with 135 placements (14.4%), Lithuania with 110 (11.7%), and Finland with 107 (11.4%). The most popular destination for zero-grant Erasmus placement students in 2009/10 was Germany with 160 incoming zero-grant placement students, followed by the UK with 155 and then Spain with 131 (see more in Annex 14).

Chart 41: Erasmus “zero-grant” Mobility for Placements per home country in 2009/10



1.3.9 Placement Consortia

To support company placements abroad, higher education institutions holding an extended Erasmus University Charter (EUC) can create a national consortium to organise Erasmus placements. Other organisations (enterprises, associations, chambers of commerce, foundations, etc.) can also participate in such a consortium. A consortium consists of at least one coordinating institution/organisation and one partner higher education institution. The coordinating institution/organisation applies for Erasmus student placement mobility grants and organisation of mobility funds to its home country's Lifelong Learning Programme National Agency.

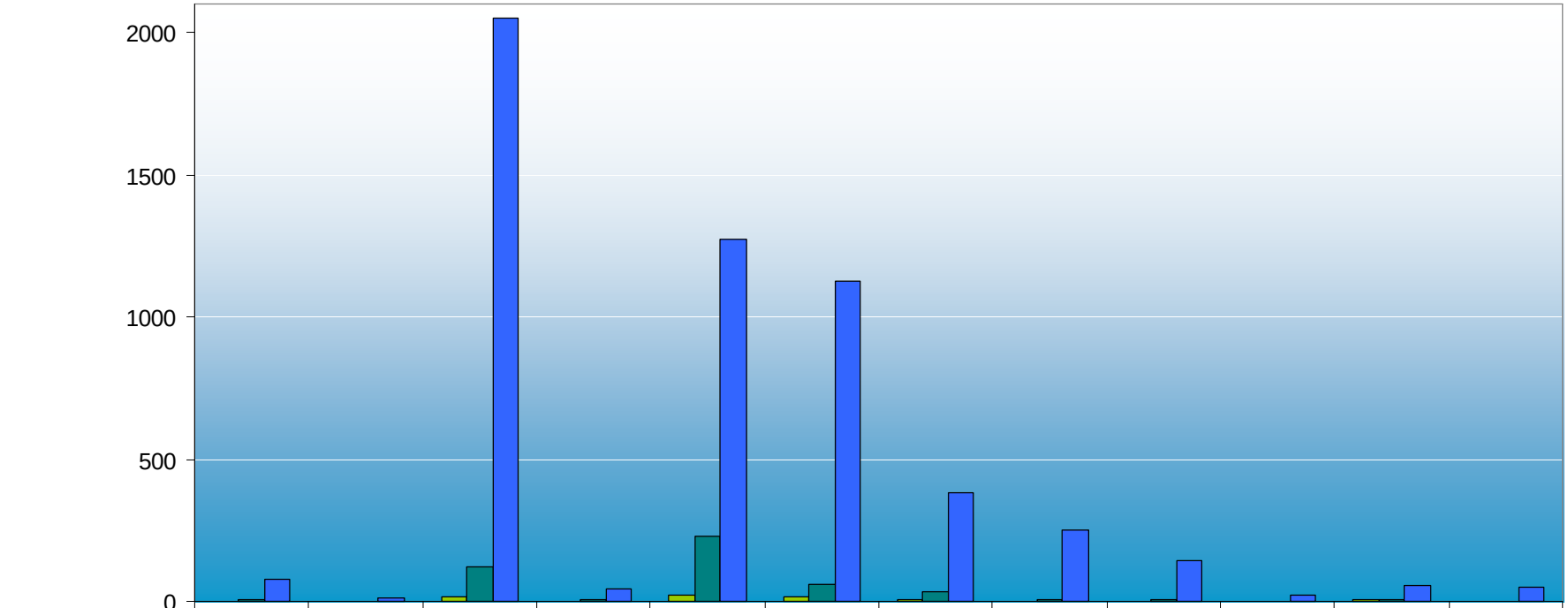
A total of 73 Erasmus placement consortia organised student placements in twelve of the 32 participating countries in 2009/10. A total of 5482 company placements were organised via consortium in 2009/10, which is 15.4% of the number of placements organised during this year (out of 35 561 placements). Chart 42 shows the breakdown per country of the number of placement consortia, the number of institutions represented by the consortia in the country and the number of placements organised by the consortia in the country. Spain had the highest number of consortia with 21, followed by France with fifteen, and then Germany with fourteen.

German consortia managed the highest number of placements in 2009/10, or 2051 (up from 1950 in the previous year), as well as the highest average number of placements per consortium (a total of 147 placements per consortium). The second highest number of placements per consortium was managed by Dutch consortia, with 126 placements on average, and then Bulgarian consortium with 79 placements.

Spanish consortia had the highest number of active higher education institutions/organisations participating in each consortium or on average eleven institutions per consortium.

Chart 43 shows the different ways in which higher education institutions organised placements in 2009/10. Higher education institutions either organised placements by themselves, through a consortia, or through both channels. In 2009/10, Spain managed the highest number of consortia and had the highest number of participating higher education institutions in consortia in comparison with the total number of Spanish institutions participating in the Erasmus Programme. Higher education institutions in a majority of countries, or in 20 countries out of the 32 participating, did not manage or participate in an Erasmus placement consortium which is an indication of the opportunity there is still for increasing the numbers of placements organised through a consortium.

Chart 42: Erasmus Placement Consortia per country, number of active higher education institutions in each consortium and the number of placements organised per consortium in 2009/10[13]



	BG	CZ	DE	GR	ES	FR	IT	NL	AT	PL	PT	FI
Nr Consortium	1	1	14	1	21	15	8	2	2	2	5	1
Nr HEI	8	2	122	7	229	59	34	8	7	2	5	2
Nr Placement	79	12	2051	43	1275	1125	384	251	141	20	54	47

[13] This chart indicates only the number higher education institutions active in sending out students within a consortia in 2009/10

Chart 43: Different ways of organising Erasmus Placement Consortia in 2009/10

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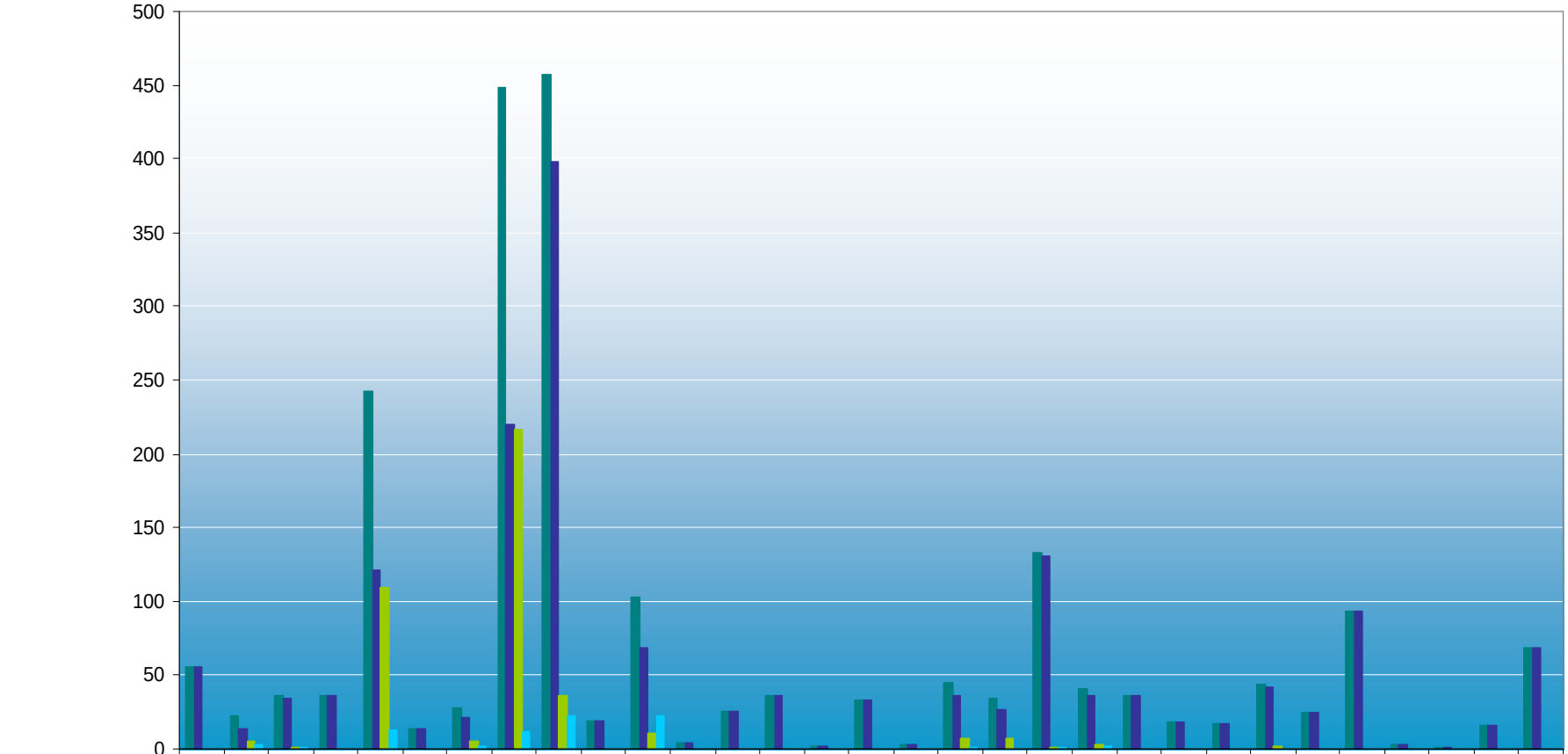


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR
Tot HEI	56	22	36	37	243	14	28	449	457	19	103	4	26	36	2	33	3	45	34	133	41	36	18	17	44	25	93	3	1	16	69
HEI NOT Consortium	56	14	34	37	121	14	21	220	398	19	69	4	26	36	2	33	3	37	27	131	36	36	18	17	42	25	93	3	1	16	69
HEI Consortium	0	5	1	0	109	0	5	217	37	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	7	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
HEI MIX Consortium	0	3	1	0	13	0	2	12	22	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

2 Erasmus Staff Mobility

2.1 Introduction

Erasmus staff mobility for teaching has become a very popular action within the Erasmus Programme since its introduction in 1997. With the creation of the Lifelong Learning Programme in 2007, staff mobility was extended to include staff training as well as the possibility for higher education institutions to invite staff from companies to come and teach at their institutions.

Since its launch, a total of 270 000 staff exchanges have been supported. Staff mobility aims to enrich the experience of participating staff, to contribute to the internationalisation and modernisation of higher education through cooperation among higher education institutions and staff, and to encourage student mobility. Staff mobility accounts for approximately 10% of the overall Erasmus budget.

Some 37 776 staff exchanges were supported in 2009/10, a year-on-year increase of 3.8%. Although both staff mobility for teaching and staff mobility for training grew between years, the increase in staff training was considerably higher or 12.5% versus 1.5% for teaching assignments. As teaching assignments represent 77% of the total number of staff mobility periods in 2009/10 the overall annual growth for staff mobility is rather moderate. Chart 44 gives an overview of the growth of Erasmus staff mobility for the last three academic years, from 2007/08 to 2009/10.

Chart 44: Growth of Erasmus Staff Mobility from 2007/08 to 2009/10

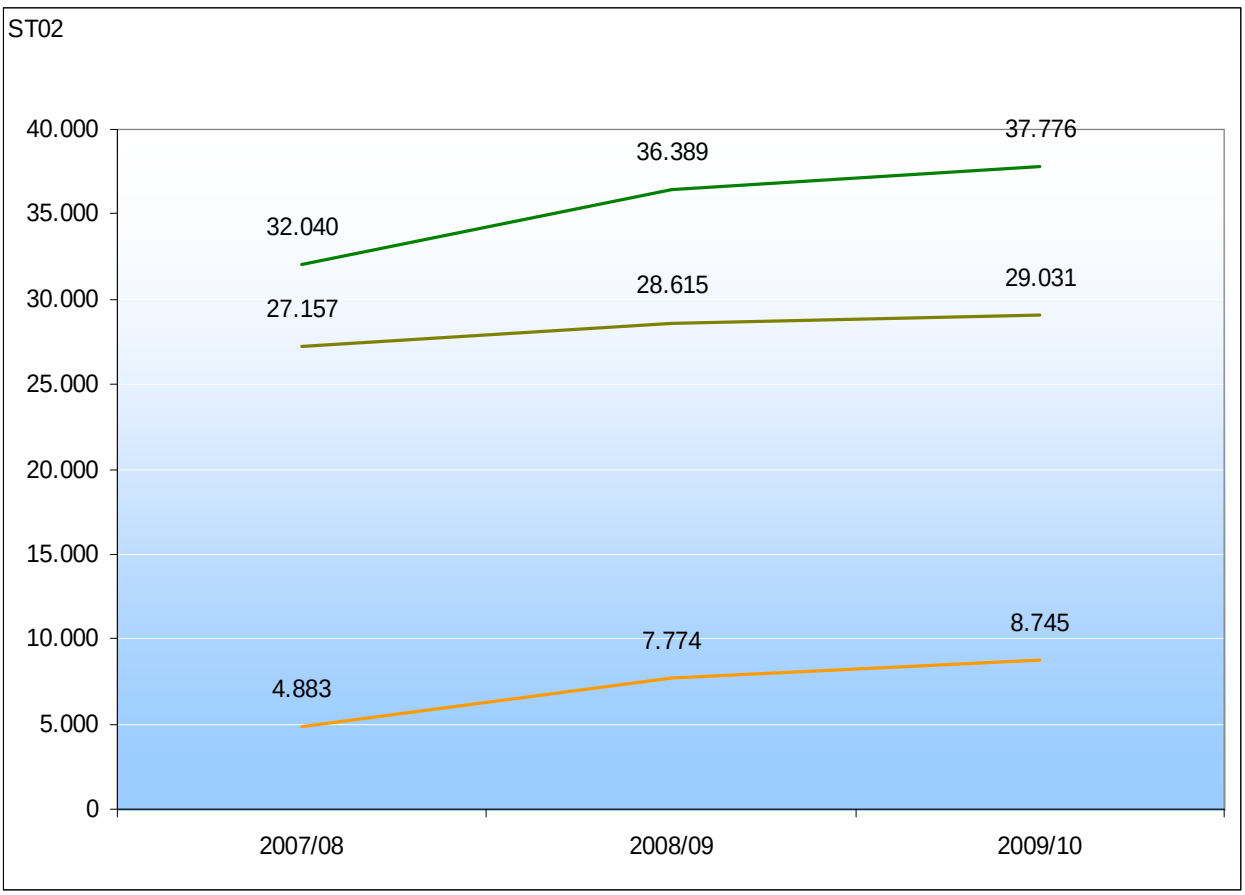
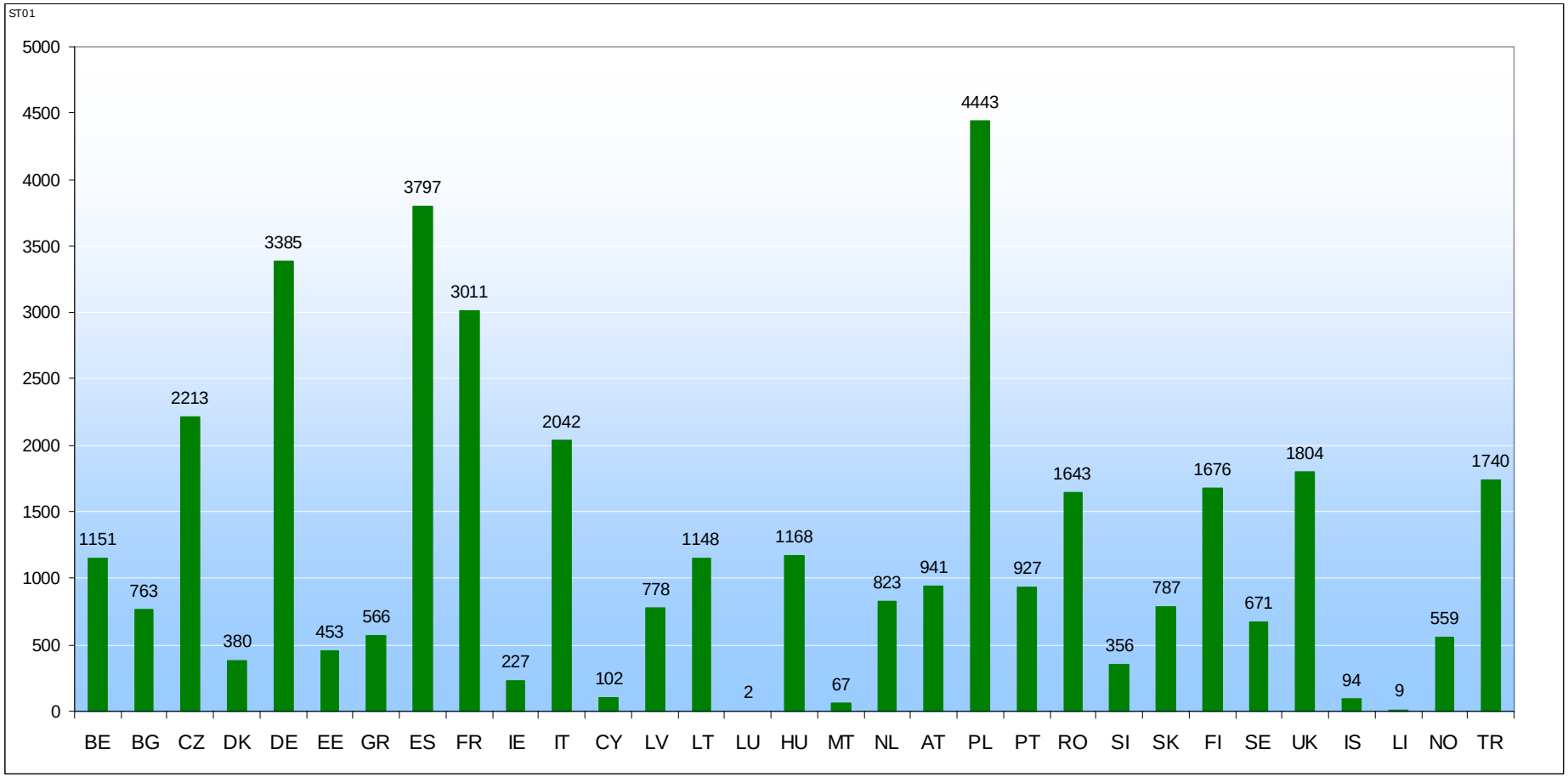


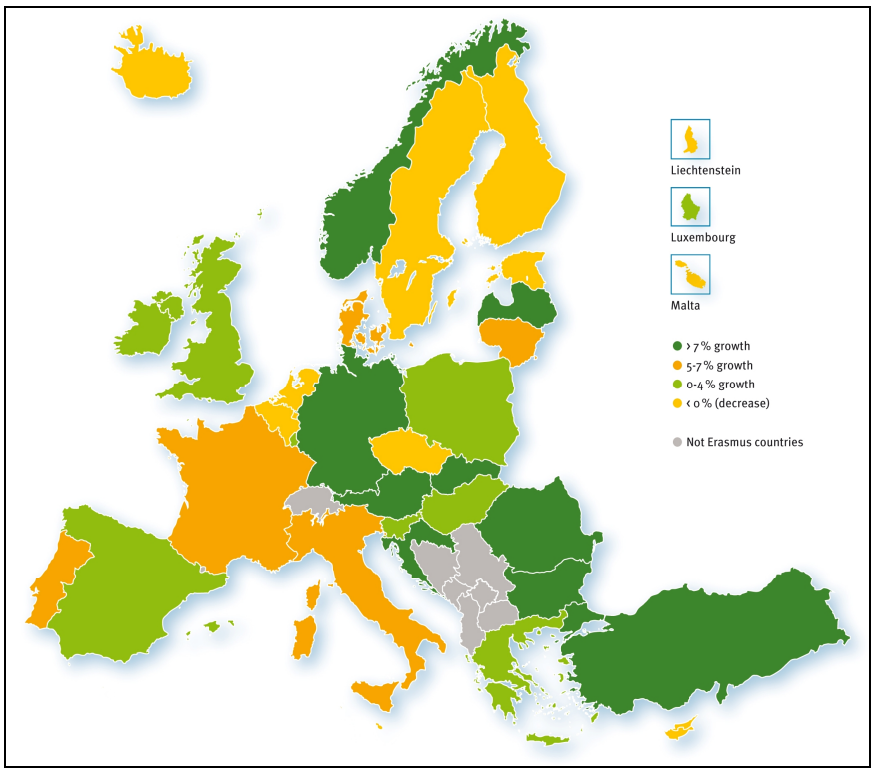
Chart 45 shows the total number of Erasmus staff mobility from each of the 32 participating countries in 2009/10. Poland had the highest number of outgoing staff, or 4443 (11.8% share), followed by Spain with 3797 (10.1%), and then Germany with 3385 (9%). The number of outgoing staff from the Czech Republic was in relative terms the highest in 2009/10, accounting for 2213 staff mobility periods which represents a 5.9% share of the total Erasmus staff mobility periods this year. For the total flow of outgoing and incoming staff mobility in 2009/10 see Annex 15.

Chart 45: Outgoing Erasmus Staff Mobility per home country in 2009/10



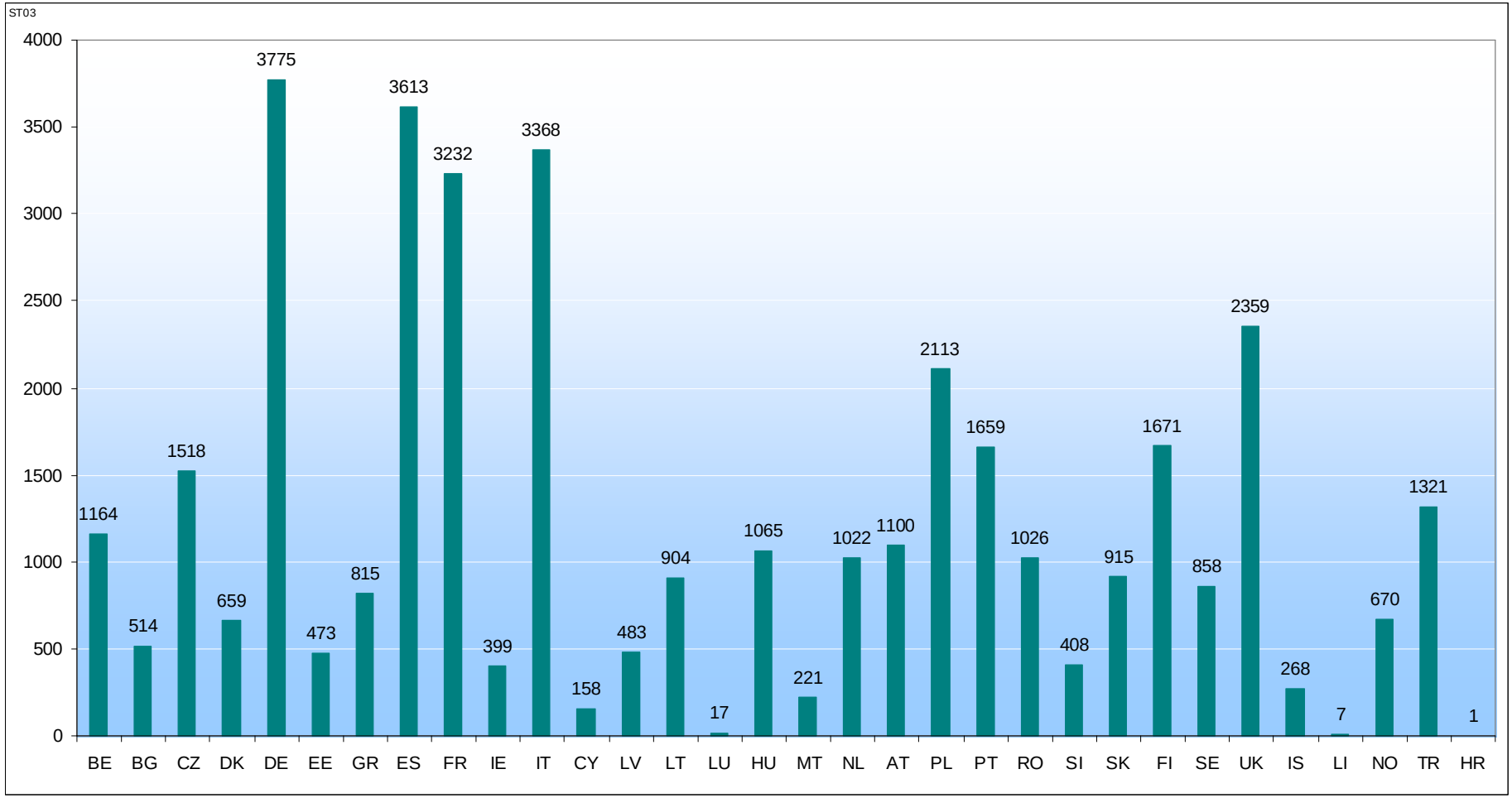
Map 5: Growth in staff mobility (teaching assignments and training in 2009/10

This map shows the growth in staff mobility between the academic years 2008/09 and 2009/10 in percentage. As can bee seen on the map, thirteen countries experienced more than the average annual growth of 3.8%. These include: AT, BG, DK, DE, FR, IT, LT, LV, NO, PT, RO, SK, TR. Ten countries, however experienced a decrease in staff mobility numbers in 2009/10: BE, CY, CZ, EE, FI, IS, LI, MT, NL, SE. 2009/10 was the first year Croatia participated in Erasmus staff mobility.

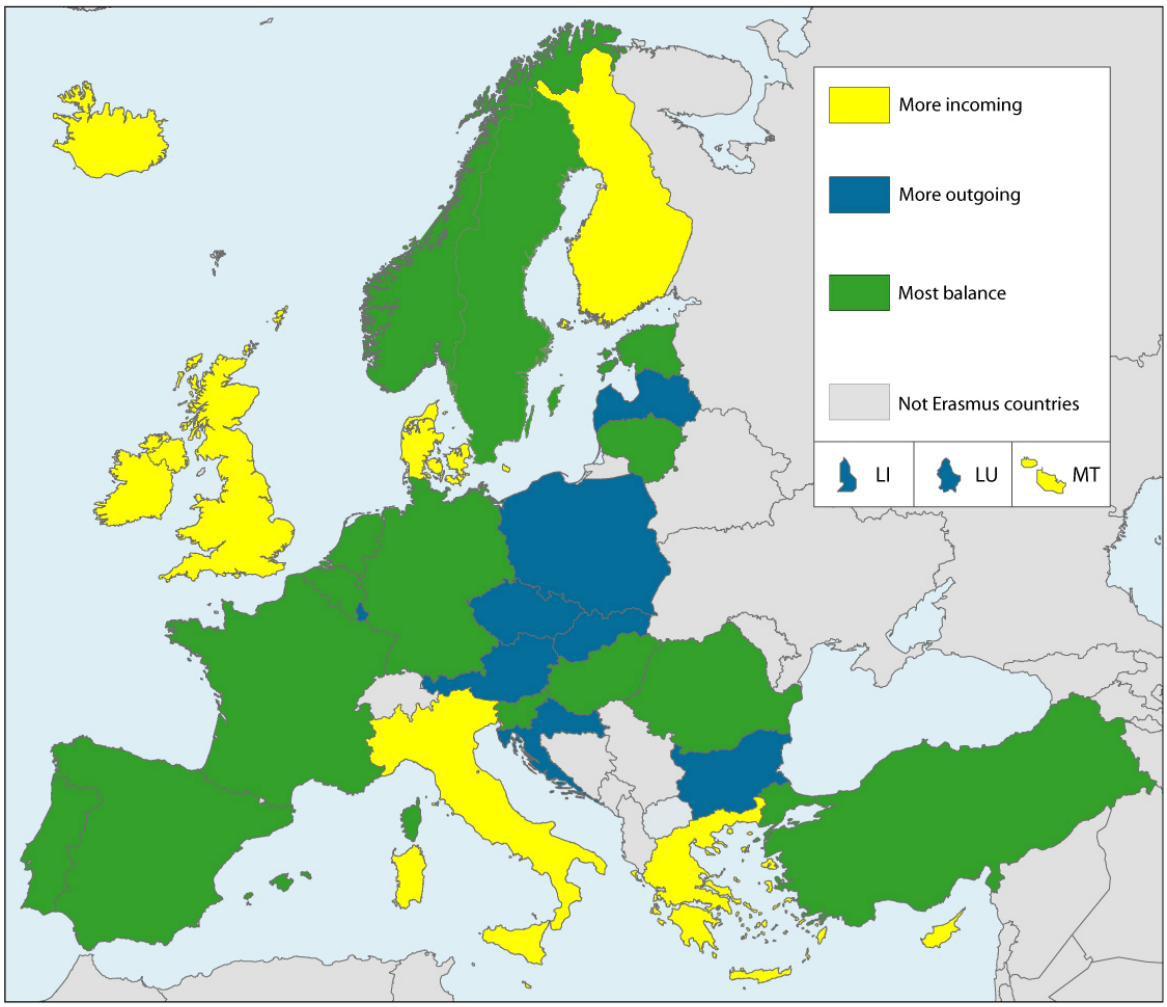


The most popular destinations for Erasmus staff mobility were Germany with 3775 mobilities (10% share), followed by Spain with 3613 incoming mobilities (9.6%) and Italy with 3368 mobilities (8.9%). Chart 46 below shows the distribution of incoming staff mobilities between the 32 participating countries.

Chart 46: Incoming Erasmus Staff Mobility per host country in 2009/10



Map 6: Balance of incoming vs. outgoing Erasmus Staff (teaching assignment and training in 2009/10



Yellow: (more incoming): CY, DK, FI, GR, IE, IS, IT, MT, UK
Blue: (more outgoing): AT, BG, CZ, HR, LI, LU, LV, PL, SK
Green: (most balance): BE, DE, EE, ES, FR, HU, LT, NL, NO, PT, RO, SE, SI, TR

A total of 2154 institutions had staff participating in Erasmus staff mobility activities in 2009/10. While 2032 institutions participated in the staff mobility for teaching assignments action, 1484 institutions sent staff abroad on Erasmus staff training (out of 3873 EUC holders). Annex 16 provides an overview of the top 100 institutions participating in Erasmus staff actions.

2.2 Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments

2.2.1 Introduction

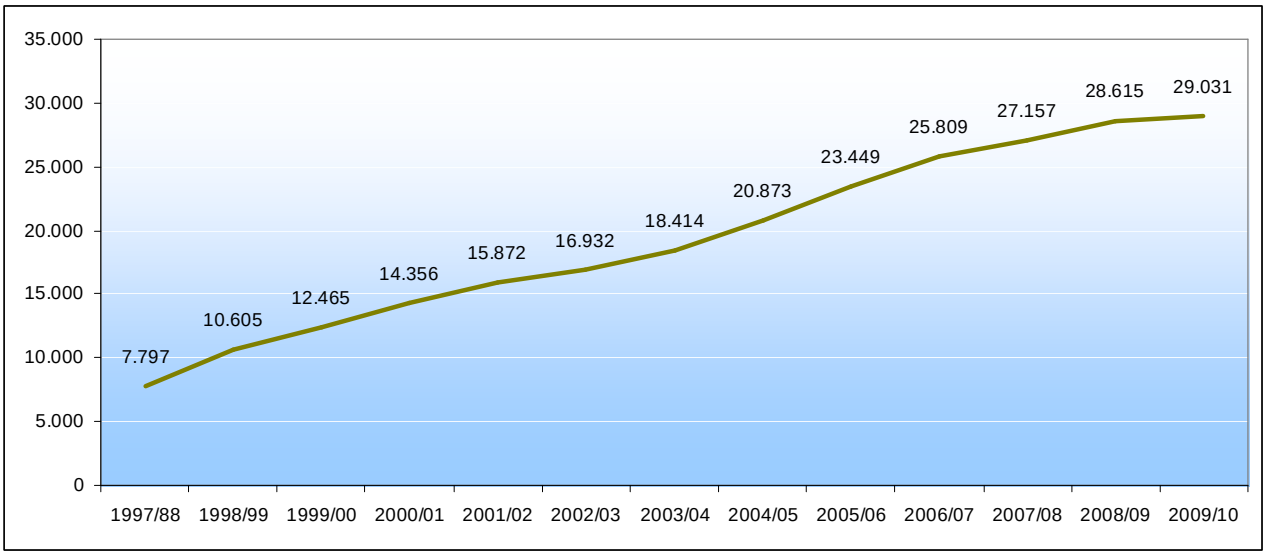
Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments enables staff from higher education institutions and enterprises to spend a teaching period of a minimum one day (or at least 5 teaching hours) up to 6 weeks at a higher education institution in another participating country in Europe.

Since its introduction in 1997 the number of teaching assignments has grown constantly. Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments rose in number from 7797 in 1997/98 to 29 031 in 2009/10. This represents a 272% growth over a thirteen year period. A total of 251 375 teaching assignments have been supported since in the beginning in 1997. Annex 17 shows the flow of Erasmus teaching assignments per country in 2009/10 including invited staff from companies.

The annual growth rate of Erasmus mobilities for teaching assignments between 2008/09 and 2009/10 was 1.5 % which is considerably lower than the increase in the previous academic year when the annual growth was 5.4%.

Some 259 teaching assignments were undertaken by staff from companies who were invited to teach at higher education institutions in other European countries. The most popular destinations for staff from companies were Italy and Lithuania with 33 mobilities each, followed by Germany with 32. See Annex 18 for flows of staff from companies.

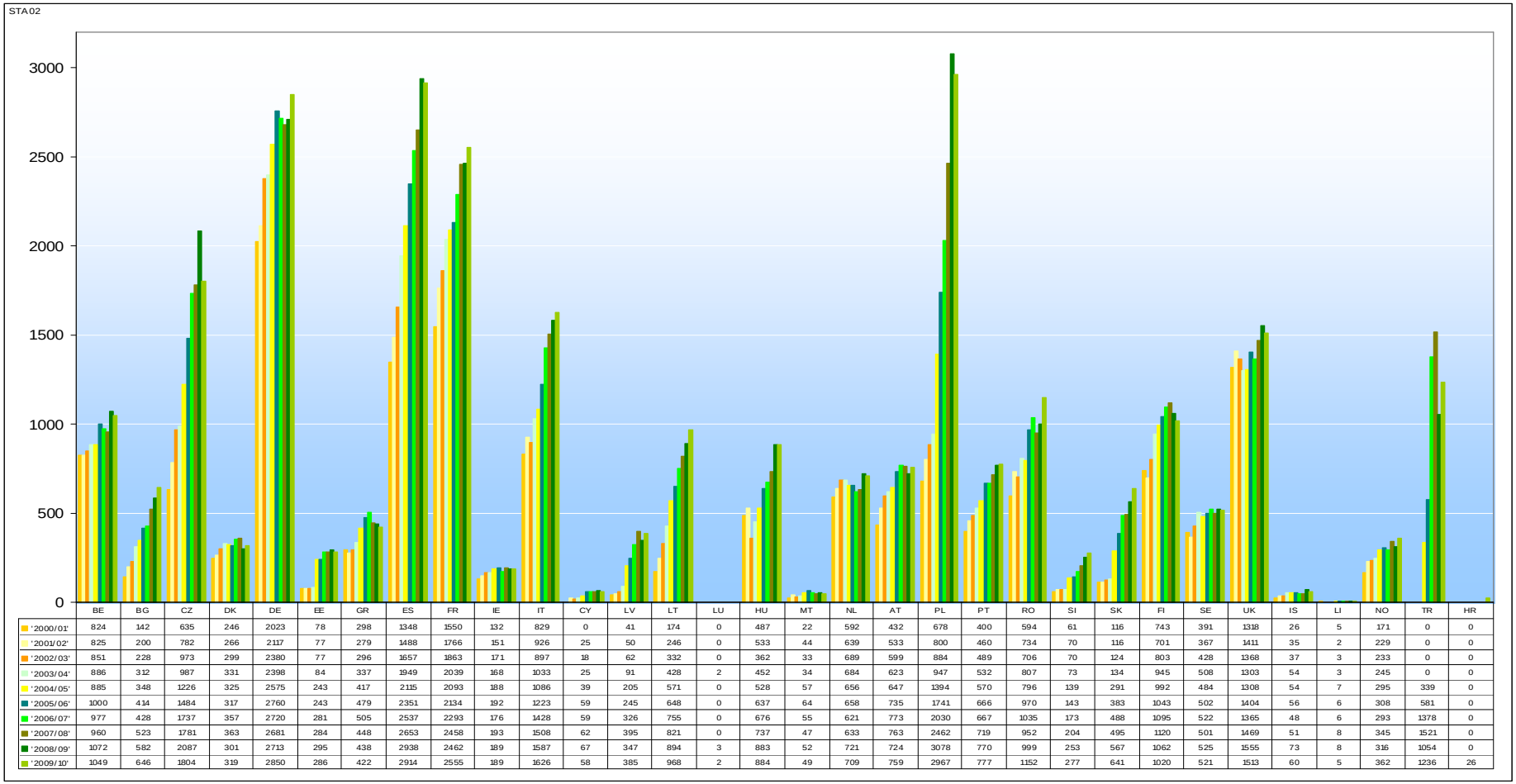
Chart 47: Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments from 1997/98 to 2009/10



2.2.2 Outgoing Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments

Poland had the highest number of Erasmus teaching assignments in the academic year 2009/10 or 2967 (10.2% share), followed by Spain with 2914 (10%) and Germany with 2850 teaching assignments (9.8%).

Chart 48: Outgoing Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments per home country: 2000/01-2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2000/01'	824	142	635	246	2023	78	298	1348	1550	132	829	0	41	174	0	487	22	592	432	678	400	594	61	116	743	391	1318	26	5	171	0	0
'2001/02'	825	200	782	266	2117	77	279	1488	1766	151	926	25	50	246	0	533	44	639	533	800	460	734	70	116	701	367	1411	35	2	229	0	0
'2002/03'	851	228	973	299	2380	77	296	1657	1863	171	897	18	62	332	0	362	33	689	599	884	489	706	70	124	803	428	1368	37	3	233	0	0
'2003/04'	886	312	987	331	2398	84	337	1949	2039	168	1033	25	91	428	2	452	34	684	623	947	532	807	73	134	945	508	1303	54	3	245	0	0
'2004/05'	885	348	1226	325	2575	243	417	2115	2093	188	1086	39	205	571	0	528	57	656	647	1394	570	796	139	291	992	484	1308	54	7	295	339	0
'2005/06'	1000	414	1484	317	2760	243	479	2351	2134	192	1223	59	245	648	0	637	64	658	735	1741	666	970	143	383	1043	502	1404	56	6	308	581	0
'2006/07'	977	428	1737	357	2720	281	505	2537	2293	176	1428	59	326	755	0	676	55	621	773	2030	667	1035	173	488	1095	522	1365	48	6	293	1378	0
'2007/08'	960	523	1781	363	2681	284	448	2653	2458	193	1508	62	395	821	0	737	47	633	763	2462	719	952	204	495	1120	501	1469	51	8	345	1521	0
'2008/09'	1072	582	2087	301	2713	295	438	2938	2462	189	1587	67	347	894	3	883	52	721	724	3078	770	999	253	567	1062	525	1555	73	8	316	1054	0
'2009/10'	1049	646	1804	319	2850	286	422	2914	2555	189	1626	58	385	968	2	884	49	709	759	2967	777	1152	277	641	1020	521	1513	60	5	362	1236	26

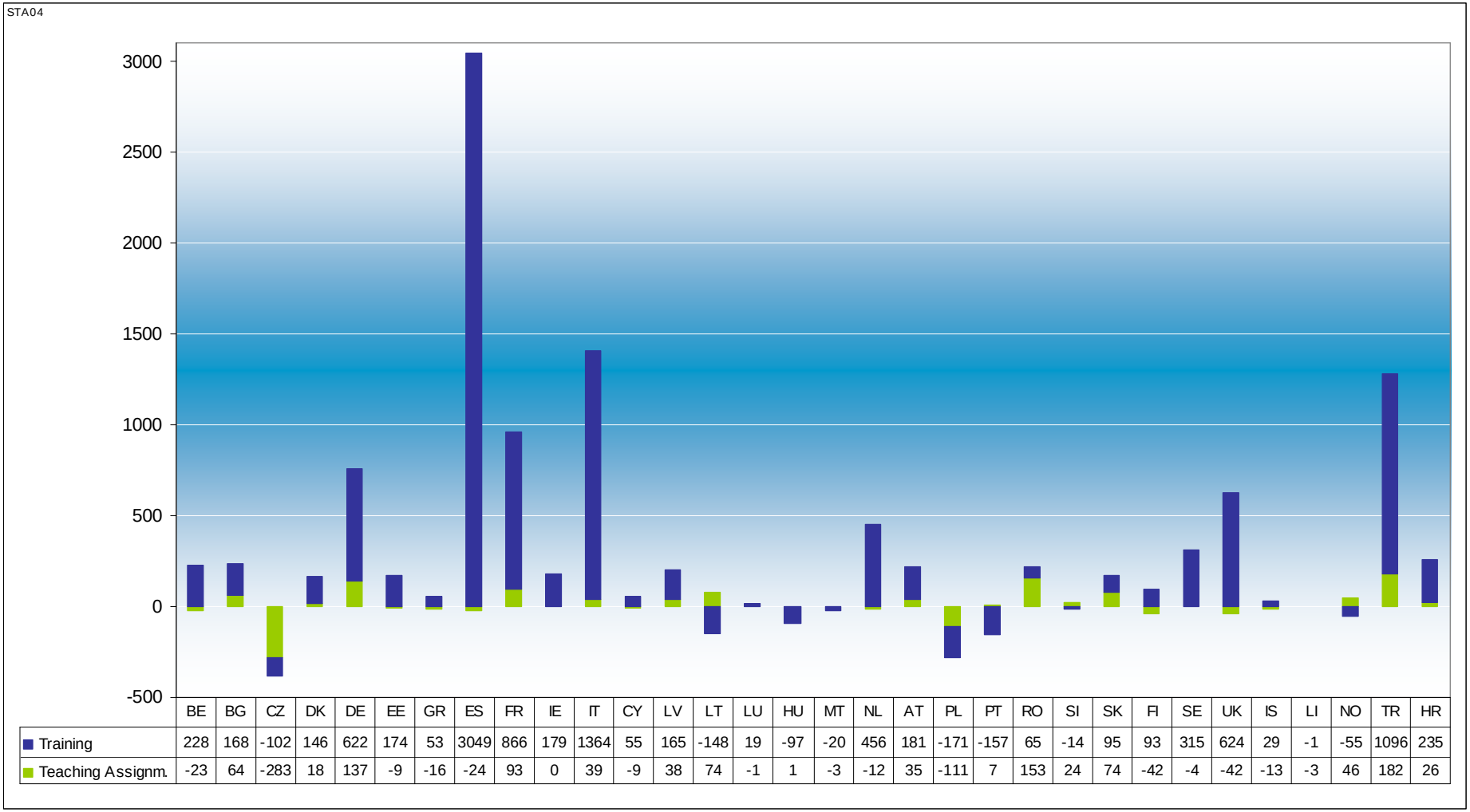
About half of the 32 participating countries experienced a decrease or stagnation in the number of outgoing Erasmus mobility for teaching in 2009/10. These countries are: Belgium (-2.2%), Czech Republic (-13.6%), Cyprus (-13.4%), Estonia (-3.1%), Finland (-4%), Greece (-3.7%), Liechtenstein (-37.5%), Luxembourg (-33.3%), Malta (-5.8%), Netherlands (1.7%), Poland (-3.6%), the UK (2.7%), Iceland (-17.8%), Spain (-0.8%), Sweden (-0.8%).

Chart 48 above shows, however, that in the majority of the countries, outgoing staff mobility for teaching has been growing in recent years. In 2009/10 the highest relative increase in outgoing numbers was in Turkey (17.3%), Romania (15.3%), and Norway (14.6%). Staff mobility for teaching from Poland has quadrupled over the last nine years, from 678 in the academic year 2000/01 to 2967 in 2009/10.

The correlation between staff mobility for teaching assignments and student mobility for studies does not appear to be simple. Chart 49 compares the increase and/or decrease in outgoing student mobility for studies and staff mobility for teaching assignments in 2009/10. Eleven countries experienced an increase in both student mobility for studies and in staff mobility for teaching assignments whereas the Czech Republic, Malta, Poland, and Liechtenstein experienced a decrease in both actions, compared to the previous academic year. In sixteen of the 32 participating countries, student mobility and teacher mobility are growing in opposite directions. These countries include: Belgium, Estonia, Greece, Spain, Cyprus, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Sweden, the UK, Iceland, and Norway.

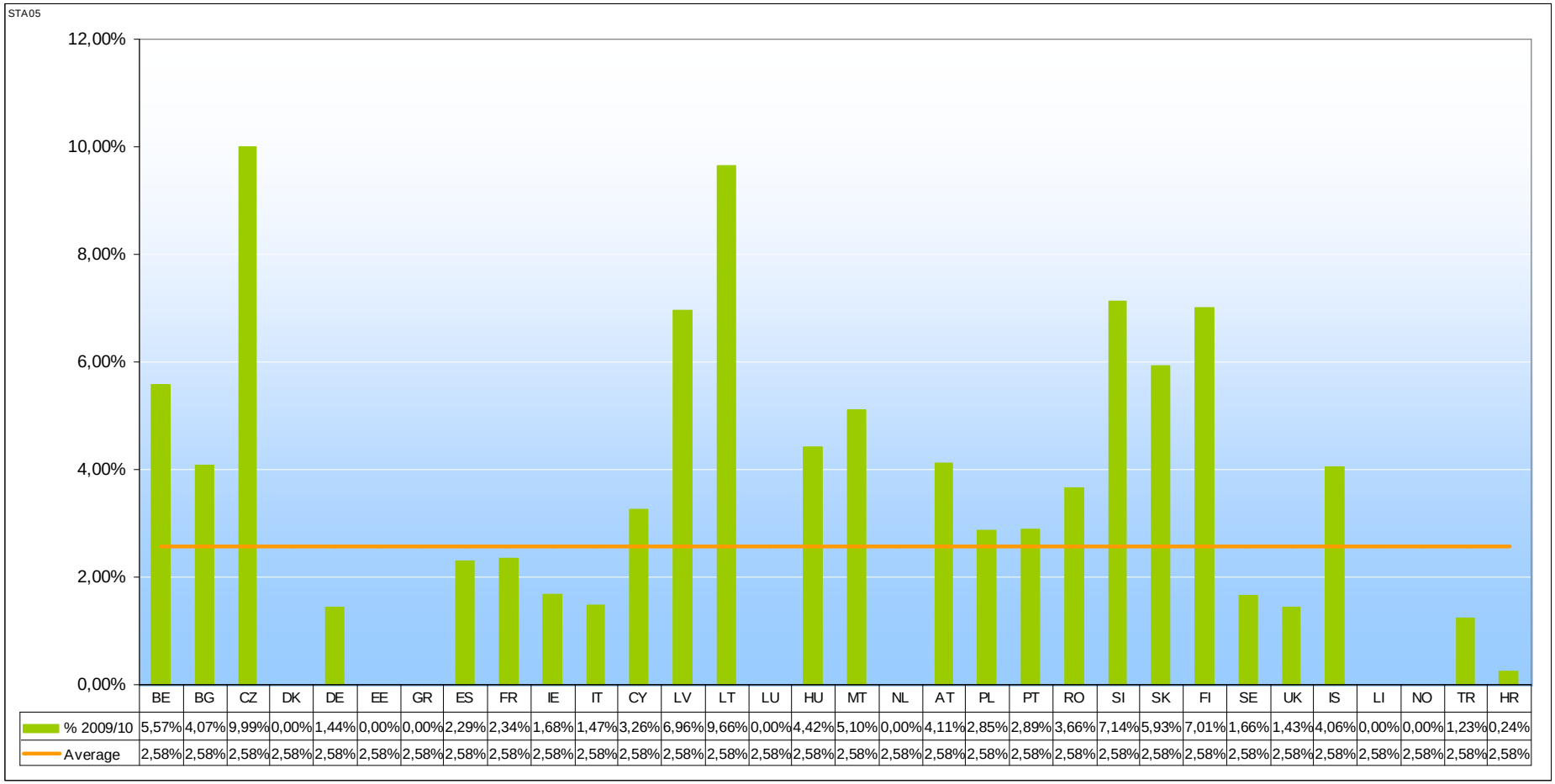
Chart 50 on the other hand compares the number of Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments to the teaching staff population in the 32 participating countries in 2009. On average 2.58% of the total higher education teaching population in the 32 participating countries took part in Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments in 2009/10. The contrast between the number of outgoing Erasmus teachers and total staff population was greatest in the Czech Republic and Lithuania (almost four times higher), and in countries like Finland, Slovenia, and Latvia where the share of Erasmus teachers was more than double of the share of the total staff population. On the contrary, some countries had very low numbers of participation in Erasmus mobility for teaching compared to their population size, e.g. Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Liechtenstein, and Norway.

Chart 49: Increase/decrease in Erasmus Student Mobility for Studies versus Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments per home country in 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
Training	228	168	-102	146	622	174	53	3049	866	179	1364	55	165	-148	19	-97	-20	456	181	-171	-157	65	-14	95	93	315	624	29	-1	-55	1096	235
Teaching Assignm.	-23	64	-283	18	137	-9	-16	-24	93	0	39	-9	38	74	-1	1	-3	-12	35	-111	7	153	24	74	-42	-4	-42	-13	-3	46	182	26

Chart 50: Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments as a proportion of the Teaching Staff Population per country in 2009/10[14]



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
% 2009/10	5,57%	4,07%	9,99%	0,00%	1,44%	0,00%	0,00%	2,29%	2,34%	1,68%	1,47%	3,26%	6,96%	9,66%	0,00%	4,42%	5,10%	0,00%	4,11%	2,85%	2,89%	3,66%	7,14%	5,93%	7,01%	1,66%	1,43%	4,06%	0,00%	0,00%	1,23%	0,24%
Average	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%	2,58%

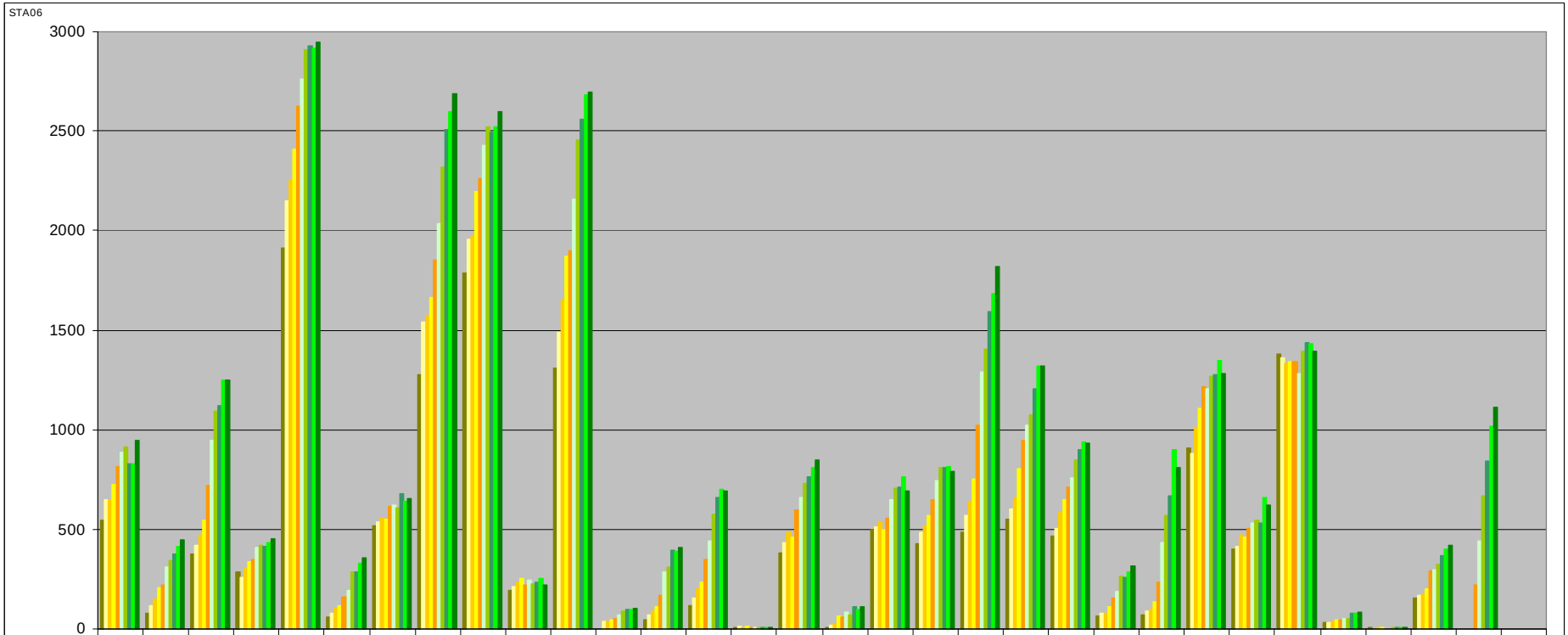
[14] The teaching staff population data is from 2008. The total number of teaching staff in the 31 LLP countries was 1 013 192 in 2008 (Source: Eurostat).

2.2.3 Incoming Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments

Germany was the most popular destination for Erasmus teaching assignments in 2009/10 with 2947 incoming teaching assignments (10.2% share), followed by Italy with 2698 (9.3%), Spain with 2686 (9.3%), and then France with 2598 teaching assignments (8.9%). Luxembourg experienced the highest relative increase in incoming teaching assignments among the participating countries between years, or 40%, followed by Liechtenstein (25%) and Belgium (13.7%). Nine countries experienced a decrease in incoming teaching assignments in 2009/10, as compared to the previous year. The highest decrease was in Ireland (-10.8%), followed by Slovakia (last year's fastest growing country – a decrease of 9.7%) and the Netherlands (-9.4%). Portugal, the Czech Republic and Romania experienced stagnation in incoming teaching assignments between years.

Teachers taught most often in English, followed by French, German, Spanish and Italian.

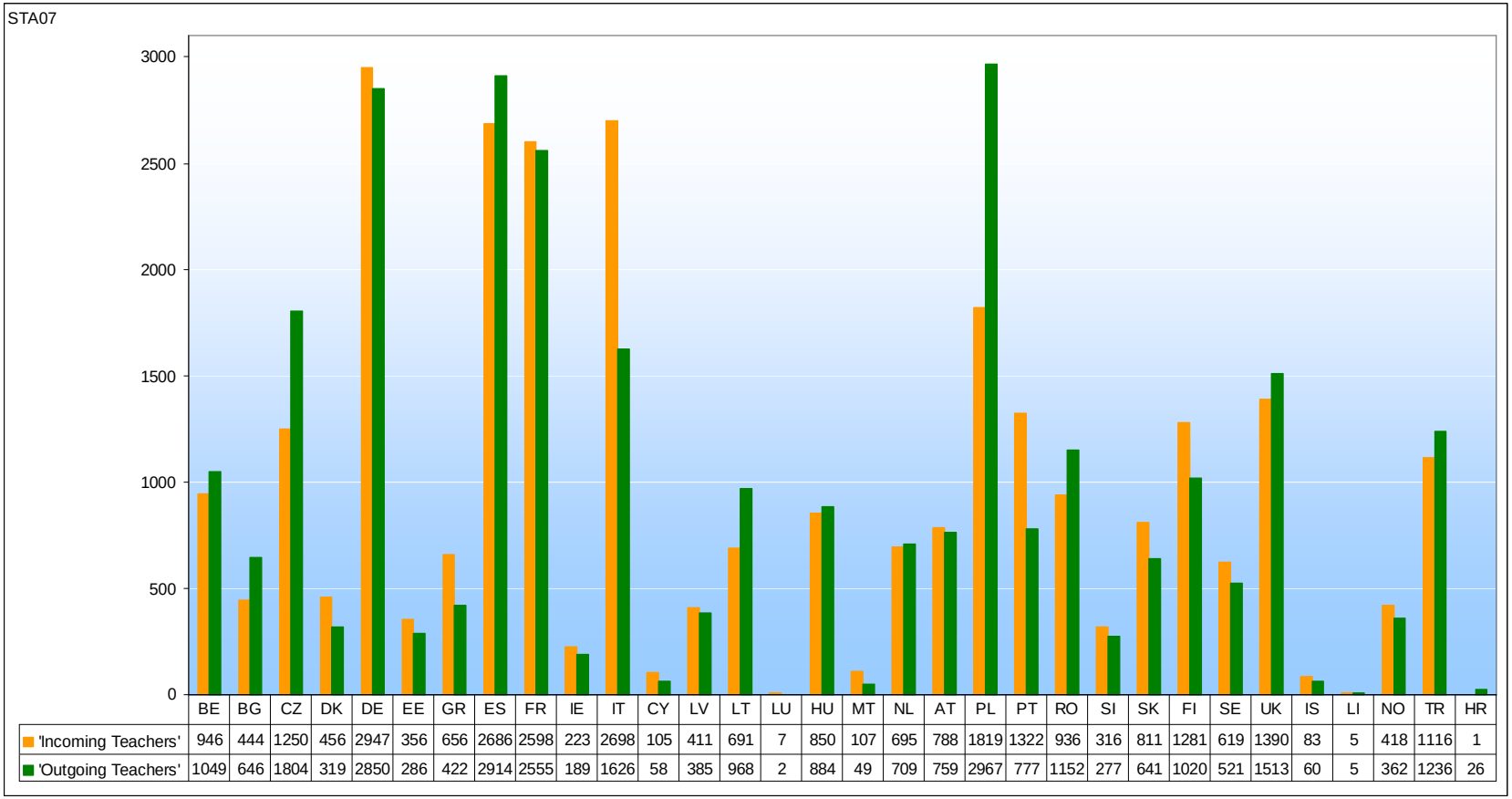
Chart 51: Incoming Erasmus Teaching Assignments per country: 2000/01 – 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2000/01	546	76	376	282	1914	58	517	1275	1786	195	1311	0	47	118	4	385	8	499	430	488	549	465	66	72	910	404	1382	30	4	158	0	0
2001/02	648	119	423	261	2154	78	537	1543	1960	214	1493	41	69	154	10	431	18	513	488	573	604	503	78	90	884	416	1363	34	3	170	0	0
2002/03	649	151	476	304	2252	103	558	1576	1974	233	1650	38	92	200	4	484	28	540	521	640	663	584	78	99	1009	474	1334	37	8	175	0	0
2003/04	723	207	546	338	2411	114	549	1668	2199	253	1872	47	112	234	10	458	67	501	572	749	803	647	109	138	1105	461	1340	44	4	198	0	0
2004/05	818	223	720	349	2623	165	613	1854	2261	221	1897	54	170	347	9	595	59	558	650	1026	945	713	154	234	1216	503	1343	47	3	290	218	0
2005/06	886	312	947	407	2762	196	625	2034	2427	245	2157	69	282	440	5	663	87	646	747	1291	1023	755	189	436	1204	530	1286	55	3	300	440	0
2006/07	913	341	1096	423	2909	282	612	2319	2520	225	2453	88	312	577	5	733	74	704	810	1406	1075	851	264	569	1267	544	1393	51	6	321	666	0
2007/08	829	378	1123	413	2927	288	682	2510	2493	235	2560	99	395	658	6	762	107	715	813	1596	1204	900	261	665	1277	531	1438	76	5	367	844	0
'2008/09'	832	415	1250	431	2913	328	640	2597	2520	250	2681	100	389	698	5	810	100	767	814	1683	1321	939	288	898	1350	660	1432	78	4	402	1020	0
'2009/10'	946	444	1250	456	2947	356	656	2686	2598	223	2698	105	411	691	7	850	107	695	788	1819	1322	936	316	811	1281	619	1390	83	5	418	1116	1

The flow between outgoing and incoming Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments in the 32 participating countries was rather unbalanced in 2009/10. Nineteen countries received more teachers than they sent out: Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden, Iceland and Norway. The remaining countries, the outgoing mobility for teaching assignments was higher than the number of incoming. The flows were most balanced in: Germany, France, the Netherlands, Austria and in Liechtenstein which had the same number of outgoing and incoming teaching assignments. Annex 17 shows the flow of Erasmus teaching assignments in 2009/10.

Chart 52: Balance of outgoing and incoming Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments per country in 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'Incoming Teachers'	946	444	1250	456	2947	356	656	2686	2598	223	2698	105	411	691	7	850	107	695	788	1819	1322	936	316	811	1281	619	1390	83	5	418	1116	1
'Outgoing Teachers'	1049	646	1804	319	2850	286	422	2914	2555	189	1626	58	385	968	2	884	49	709	759	2967	777	1152	277	641	1020	521	1513	60	5	362	1236	26

2.2.4 Subject Areas

Teachers from "humanities and arts" spent the most number of periods abroad on teaching assignments. These accounted for 31.5% of all assignments supported. This was followed by teachers of "social sciences, business and law" (22% share) and then teachers in "engineering, manufacturing and construction" (13.8%). This share has been more or less constant in recent years. "Health and welfare", "agriculture and veterinary" and "services" remain the least popular subject areas for Erasmus teaching assignments, each accounting for less than 1%.

Chart 53: Share of Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments per subject area in 2009/10

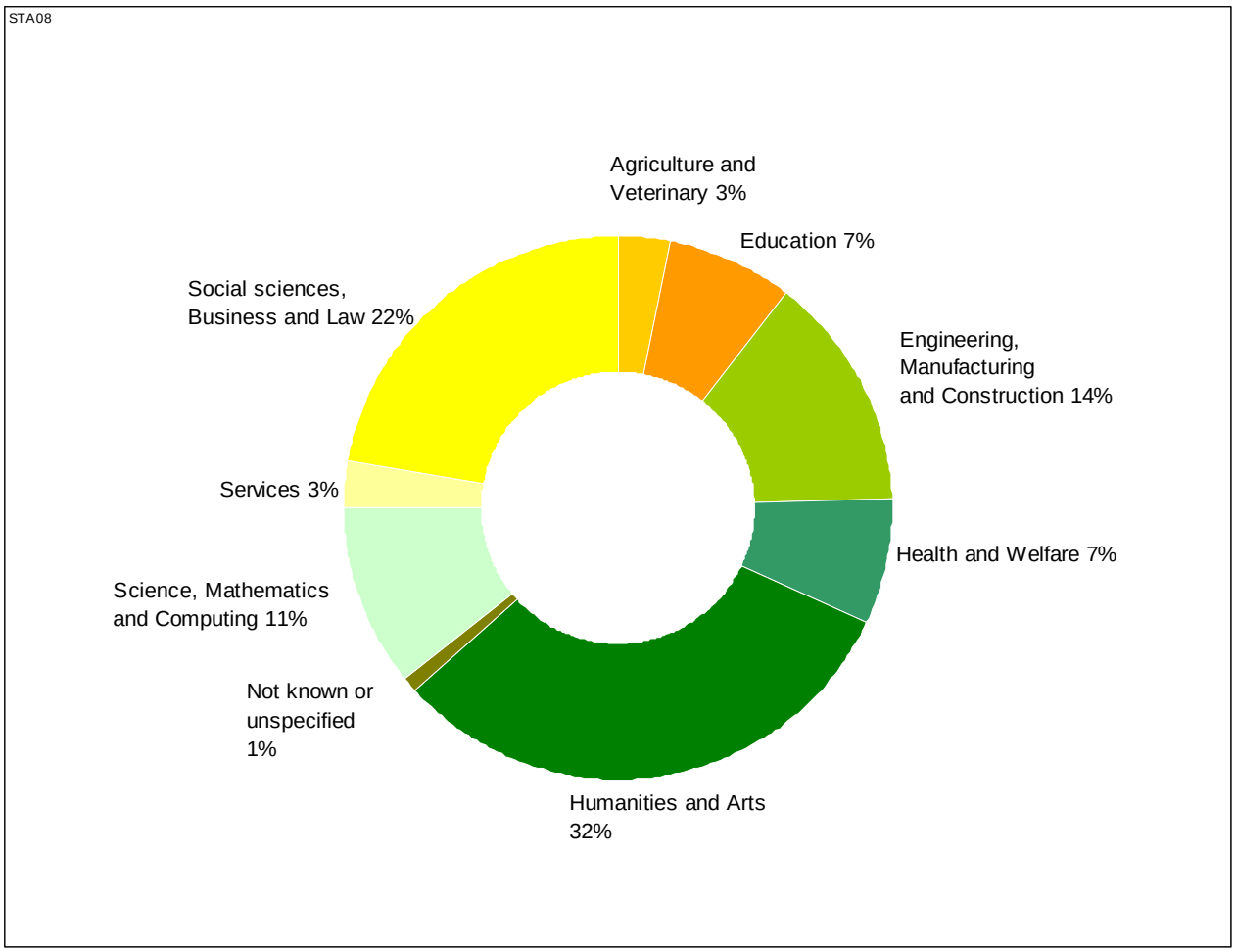
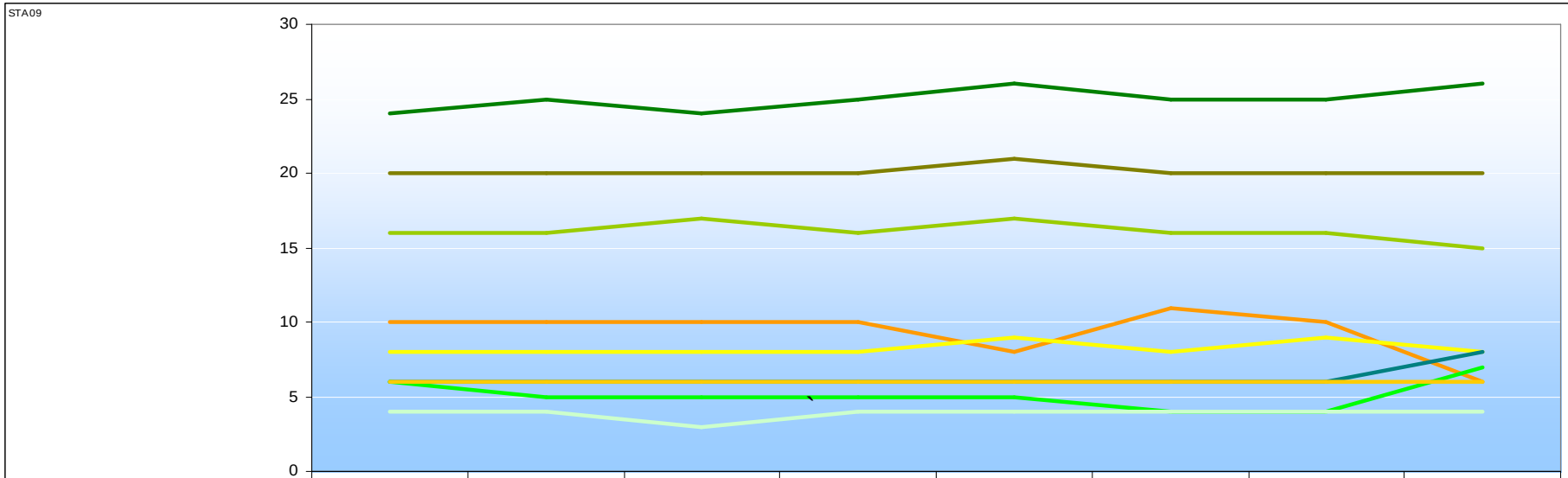


Chart 54 below indicates rather stable development of the distribution of subject areas for teaching assignments over time, similar to the trend observed in student mobility for studies. However, the subject areas are comparable only until 2007/08, when the codes of subject areas in the Erasmus data reporting were changed. Chart 55 shows the development in subject areas of staff mobility for teaching assignments since the academic year 2007/08. As can be seen in the chart there were no major changes between the three academic years.

Chart 54: Erasmus Teaching Assignment subject areas: 2000/01 – 2007/08



	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Art, humanities and languages	24	25	24	25	26	25	25	26
Business and social sciences	20	20	20	20	21	20	20	20
Engineering and architecture	16	16	17	16	17	16	16	15
Other subjects	10	10	10	10	8	11	10	6
Education and teacher training	8	8	8	8	9	8	9	8
Medical sciences	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	8
Natural sciences	6	5	5	5	5	4	4	7
Maths and computing	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Law	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4

Chart 55: Erasmus Teaching Assignment subject areas: 2007/08 - 2009/10

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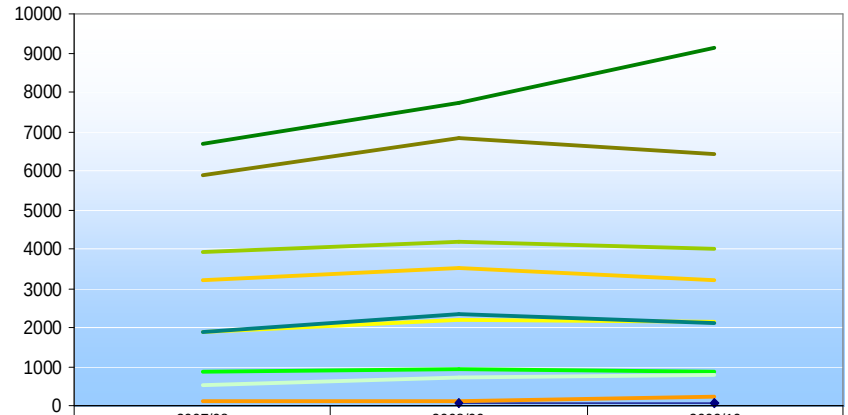


	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10
General Programmes		72	66
Education	1903	2198	2161
Humanities and Arts	6677	7722	9150
Social sciences, Business and Law	5895	6817	6417
Science, Mathematics and Computing	3213	3513	3202
Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction	3906	4183	4013
Agriculture and Veterinary	857	945	885
Health and Welfare	1886	2327	2117
Services	521	733	805
Not known or unspecified	126	105	215

2.2.5 Duration of Teaching Assignments

Chart 56 below shows that the average duration of Erasmus staff mobility for teaching assignments has shortened over the years. In 2009/10 the average duration was 5.6 days (same as in the previous year, but down from 6.9 days in 2000/01).

On average, teachers taught 8.5 hours per teaching assignment abroad in 2009/10.

Chart 56: Average duration of Erasmus Teaching Assignments from 2000/01 to 2009/10

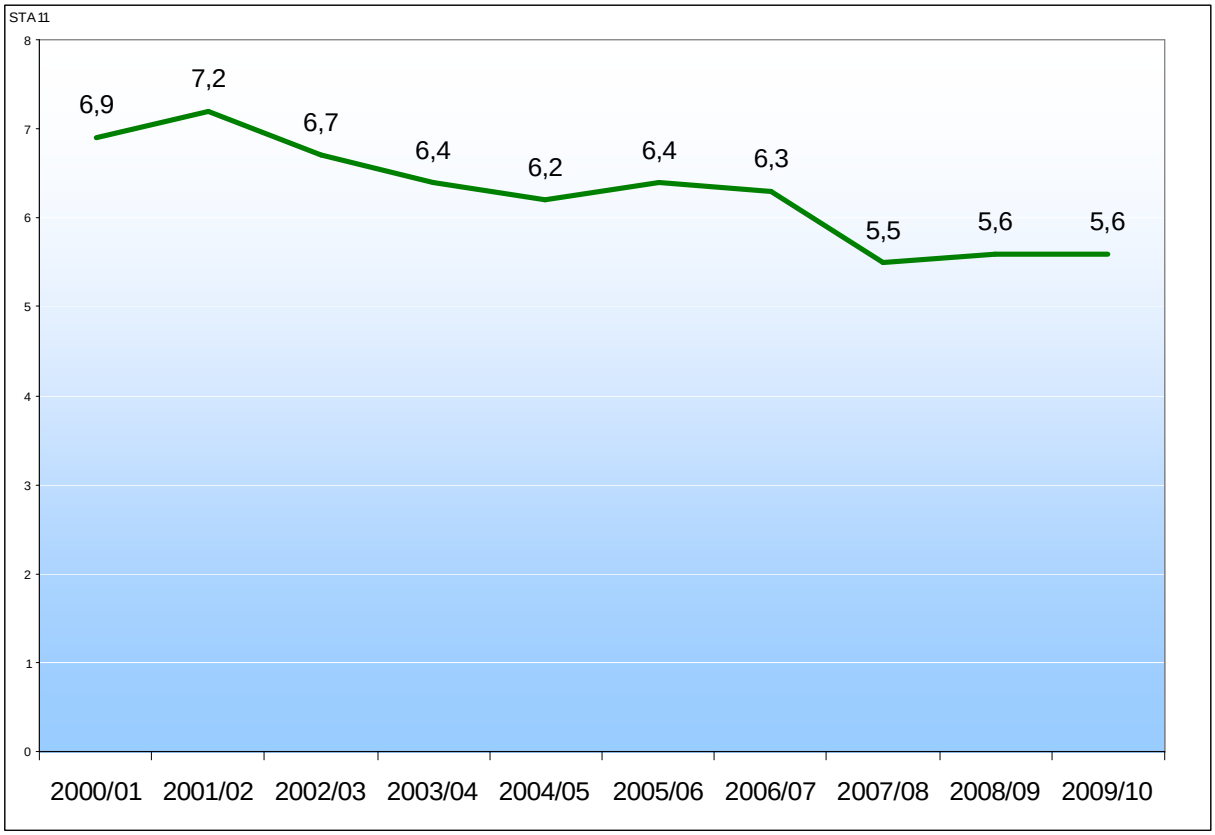
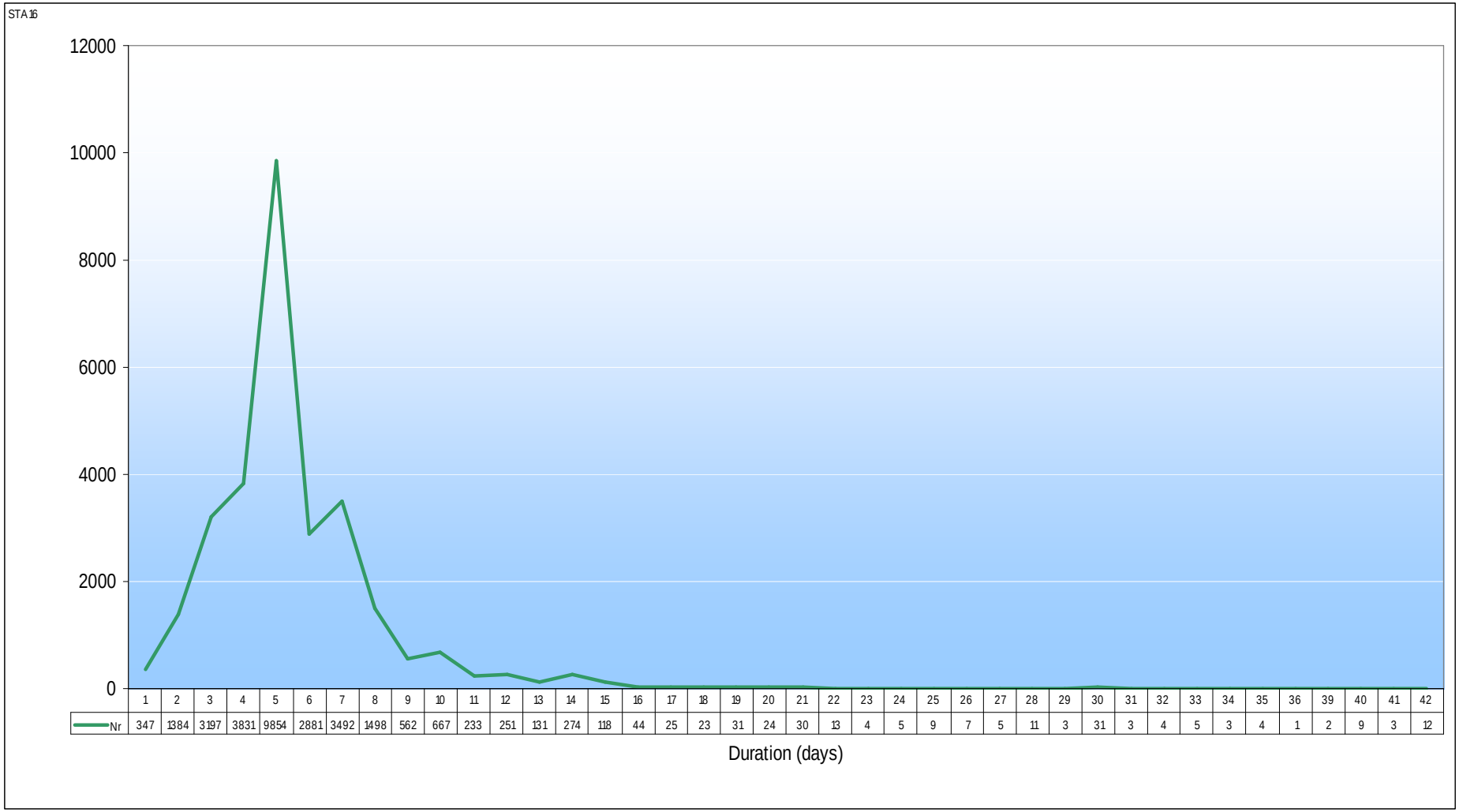


Chart 57 shows the distribution of the length of stay of Erasmus staff mobility for teaching: the highest number of mobility for teaching assignments lasted five days (9854 mobilities, which represents 33.9% share of all mobilities for teaching assignments). 3831 mobilities lasted four days and 3197 lasted three days. 86% of staff mobility for teaching assignments lasted seven days or less.

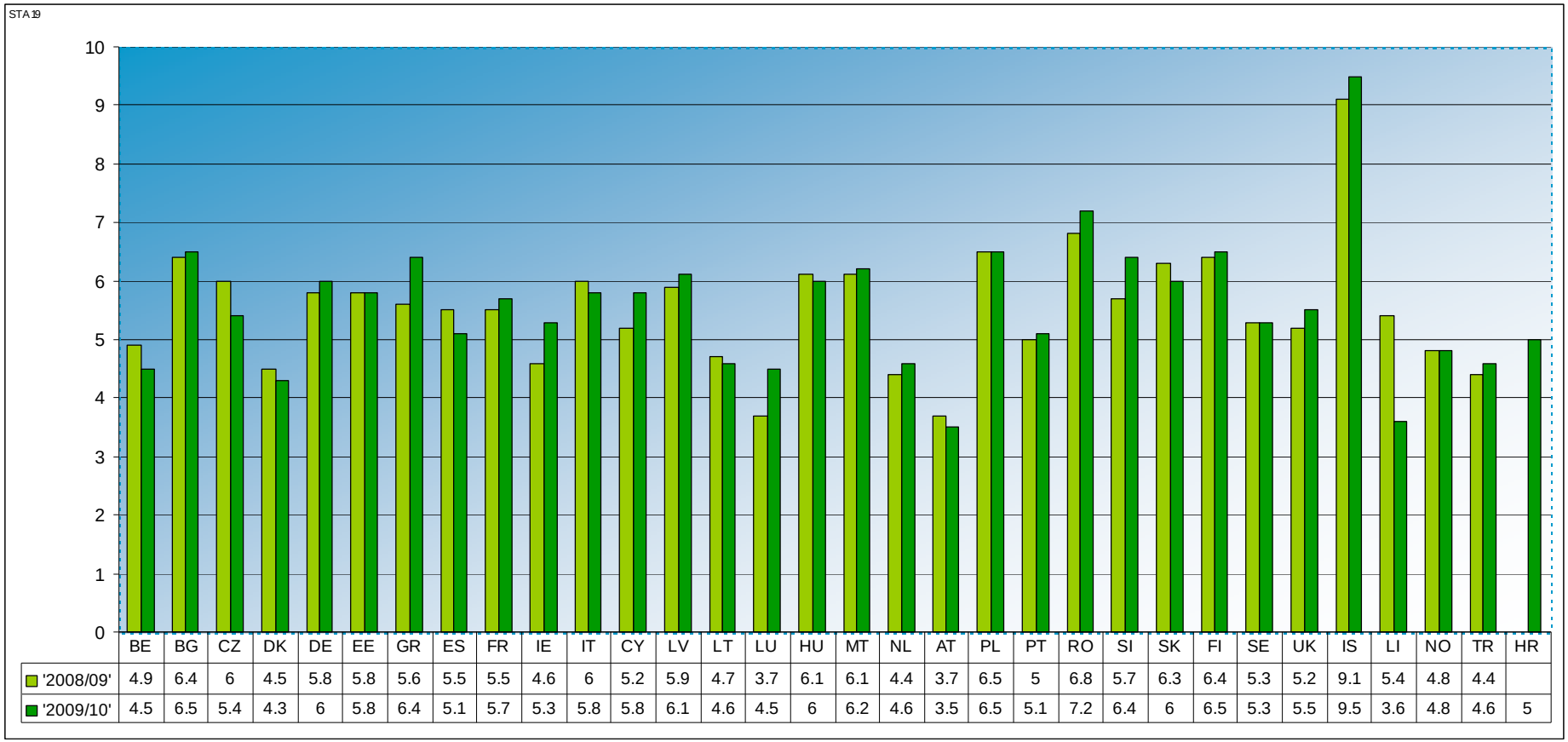
Chart 57: Distribution of the length of stay of Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments in 2009/10



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	39	40	41	42
Nr	347	1384	3197	3831	9854	2881	3492	1498	562	667	233	251	131	274	118	44	25	23	31	24	30	13	4	5	9	7	5	11	3	31	3	4	5	3	4	1	2	9	3	12

The average duration of outgoing teachers varied considerably from one country to another in 2009/10, ranging from 9.5 days for teaching assignments from Iceland to 3.5 days for teaching assignments from Austria. The chart below shows the average duration of teaching assignments in 2008/09 and in 2009/10

Chart 58: Average duration of Erasmus Teaching Assignments by home country in 2008/09 and 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	4.9	6.4	6	4.5	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.5	4.6	6	5.2	5.9	4.7	3.7	6.1	6.1	4.4	3.7	6.5	5	6.8	5.7	6.3	6.4	5.3	5.2	9.1	5.4	4.8	4.4	
'2009/10'	4.5	6.5	5.4	4.3	6	5.8	6.4	5.1	5.7	5.3	5.8	5.8	6.1	4.6	4.5	6	6.2	4.6	3.5	6.5	5.1	7.2	6.4	6	6.5	5.3	5.5	9.5	3.6	4.8	4.6	5

Incoming teaching assignments lasted on average the longest in Luxembourg, or eight days, followed by Iceland and Cyprus with 6.6 days. The shortest teaching assignments were in Liechtenstein 4.4 days (up from 3.5 days in 2008/09), Belgium (4.8 days) and Denmark and the Netherlands (4.9 days).

2.2.6 Grants for Teaching Assignments

Chart 59 shows that the average EU grant per teacher has remained fairly constant since 2000/01 at around EUR 611 on average. In 2009/10, the average EU grant for a teaching assignment was EUR 654 (down from EUR 666 in the previous year), which represents on average about EUR 131 per day. As in previous years, there were large differences in grant amounts among the 32 participating countries, ranging from EUR 189for teachers from the Czech Republic to EUR 137 for Turkish teachers. When the duration of teaching assignments is taken into account the, teachers coming from Liechtenstein, Turkey, Luxembourg and Cyprus received the highest EU grants per day, or EUR 309, EUR 299, EUR 280 and EUR 227 respectively. Teachers from the Czech Republic continued to receive the lowest grant amount per day or EUR 32. This daily rate is even lower than last year when it was EUR 37. Teachers going on teaching assignments to Denmark received the highest grants, or on average EUR 796 per mobility. Those going to Sweden received EUR 777 on average. According to the information received from individual countries, teachers often received complementary grants, which came almost exclusively from university sources. Only a few countries mentioned other complementary funding sources, such as national funds. (See more on duration and grant levels over time in Annex 19).

Chart 59: Average daily EU grant per Erasmus Teaching Assignments from 2000/01 to 2009/10

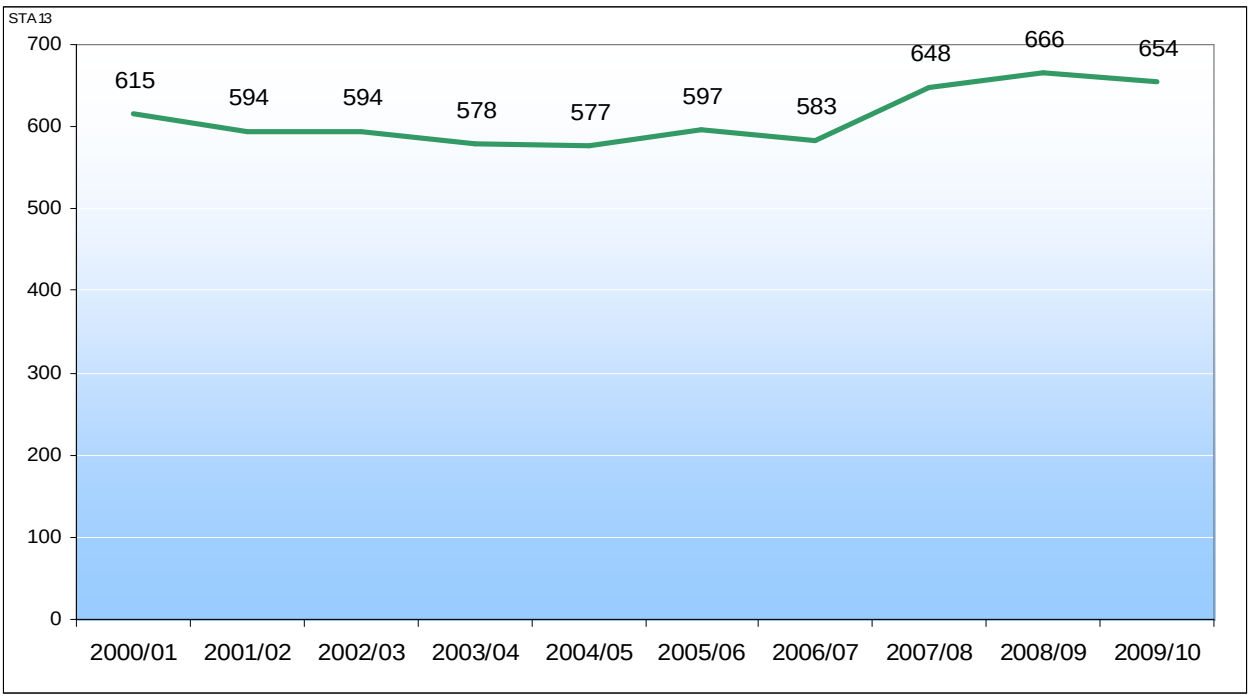
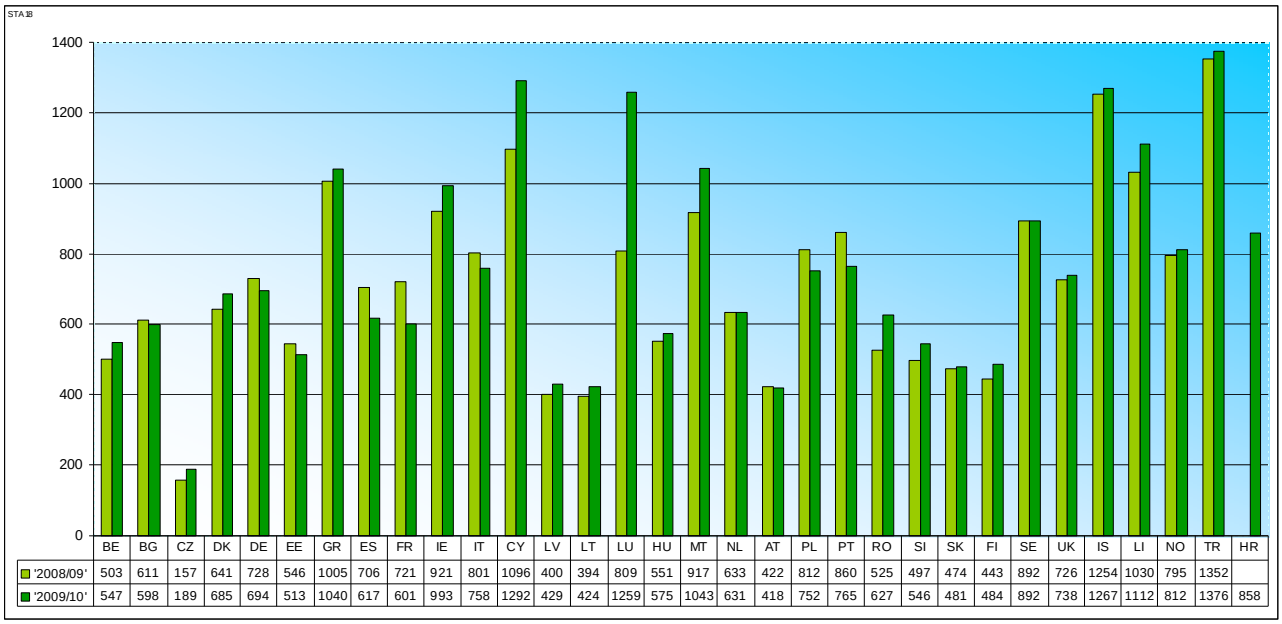


Chart 60: Average grant for Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments per home country in 2008/09 and 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	503	611	157	641	728	546	1005	706	721	921	801	1096	400	394	809	551	917	633	422	812	860	525	497	474	443	892	726	1254	1030	795	1352	
'2009/10'	547	598	189	685	694	513	1040	617	601	993	758	1292	429	424	1259	575	1043	631	418	752	765	627	546	481	484	892	738	1267	1112	812	1376	858

2.2.7 Teachers with Special Needs grants

During the academic year 2009/10, four teachers with special needs grants participated in Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments. Last year, eight teachers with special needs participated in this action so there was a 50% drop in absolute numbers on the previous year. Teachers receiving a special needs supplementary grant came from Denmark, Ireland, Italy and Sweden. The destination countries were equally as many: Belgium, Germany, Finland and Spain The average duration of stay was 4.7 days (down from 8.9 days in 2008/09), ranging from a two to six day stays. The average EU supplementary grant per teacher with special needs was EUR 1109 or EUR 236 per day.

2.2.8 Zero-Grant Teachers

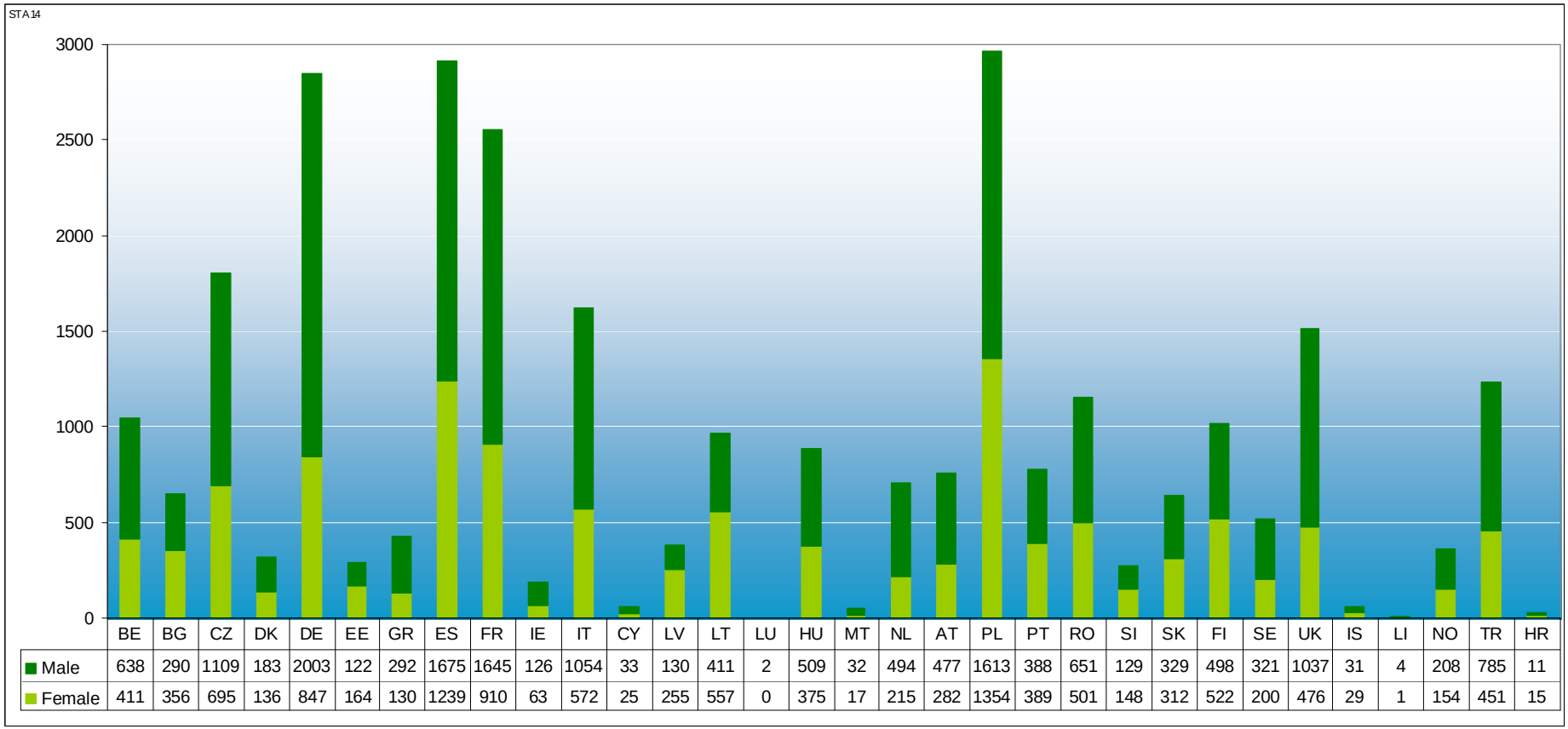
572 "zero-grant" teachers took part in Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments in 2009/10 which is over 50% more than zero-grant teaching assignments in 2008/09 (377). Zero-grant teachers constituted about 2% of the total number of teaching assignments (up from 1,3% in the previous year). The highest number of zero-grant teaching assignments came from Italy or 87 (up from 38 in previous year), followed by France and then Poland. The most popular destination for zero-grant teaching assignment was Spain, followed by Poland and Norway.

2.2.9 Gender of staff participating in staff teaching assignments

As in the previous year more men than women participated in Erasmus teaching assignments. 41% of teaching assignments were undertaken by female teachers. Only Portugal had equal number of male and female participants (389 of each gender) but the participation was also balanced in Iceland and Slovakia. Female teachers outnumbered men in seven countries: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania,

Slovenia, Croatia and Finland. The gender imbalance was, on the other hand, the highest in Luxembourg (only men participated), followed by Liechtenstein (one out of five participants was female), and Germany where men represented over 70% of participants.

Chart 61: Gender of outgoing Erasmus Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments in 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
Male	638	290	1109	183	2003	122	292	1675	1645	126	1054	33	130	411	2	509	32	494	477	1613	388	651	129	329	498	321	1037	31	4	208	785	11
Female	411	356	695	136	847	164	130	1239	910	63	572	25	255	557	0	375	17	215	282	1354	389	501	148	312	522	200	476	29	1	154	451	15

2.2 Erasmus staff mobility for staff training

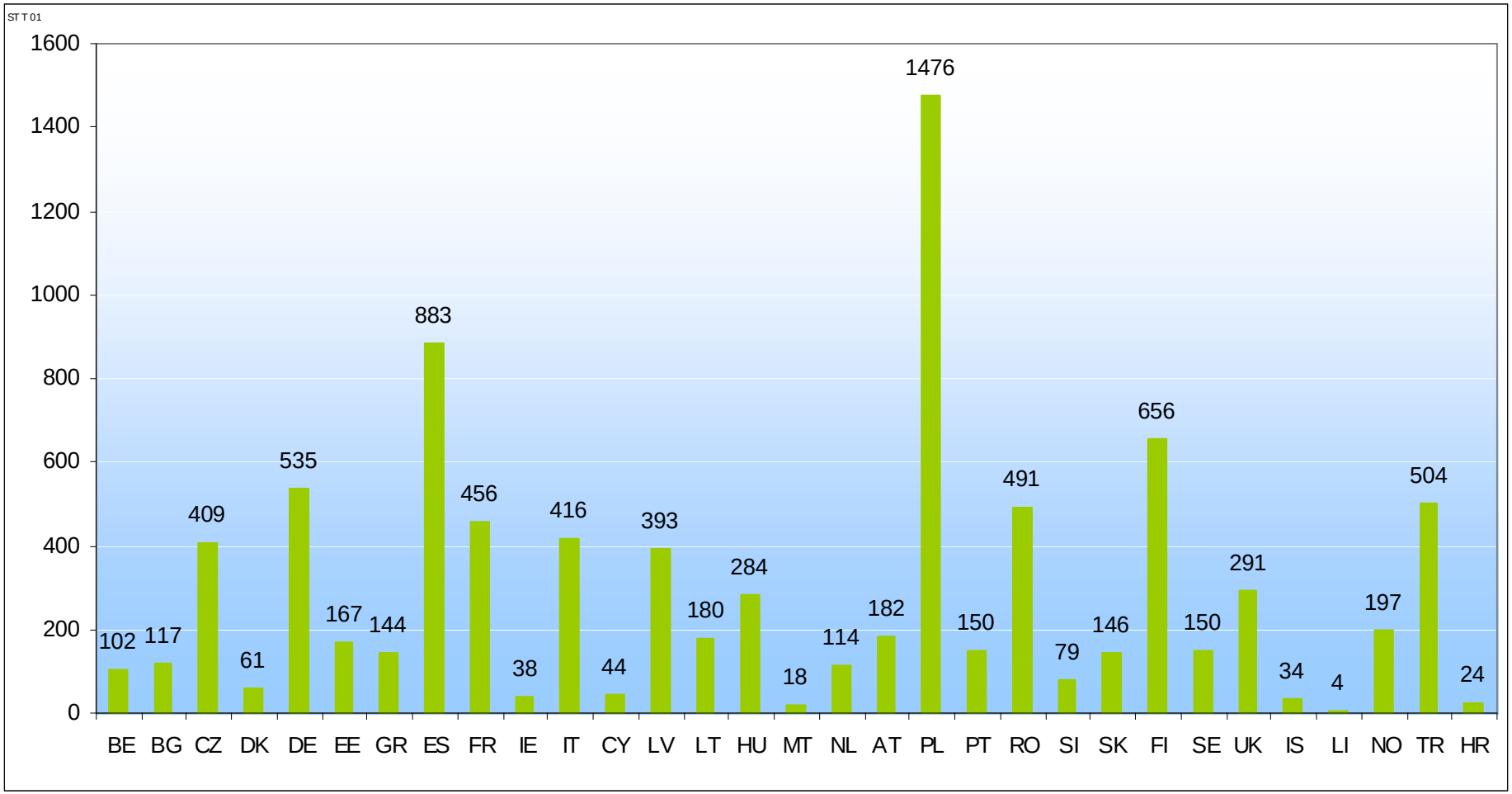
2.2.1 Staff Mobility for Staff Training

Erasmus staff mobility for staff training started in the academic year 2007/08. This action offers both teachers and other staff at European higher education institutions an opportunity to go on training for a period of one week (five working days) up to six weeks in a company or an organisation, such as a higher education institution, in another participating country. With the introduction of this action, Erasmus finally addresses all staff involved in higher education in Europe.

2.2.2 Outgoing Staff Mobility for Staff Training

Staff mobility for training continues to increase in popularity. Out of the 37 776 staff exchanges 8745 were staff training periods in 2009/10 (up from 7774 in 2008/09). This constitutes an increase of 12.5% on the previous year. The highest number of mobility periods came from Poland or 1476 (a 16.9% share), followed by Spain with 883 (10.1%) and then Finland with 656 (7.5 %) (for more details see chart 62 below). Luxembourg did not send any staff on staff training but out of the countries which participated in the action, the lowest number of outgoing staff for staff training was from Liechtenstein with four mobilities (0.04% share), followed by Malta with eighteen (0.2%) and Croatia with 24 (0.3%).

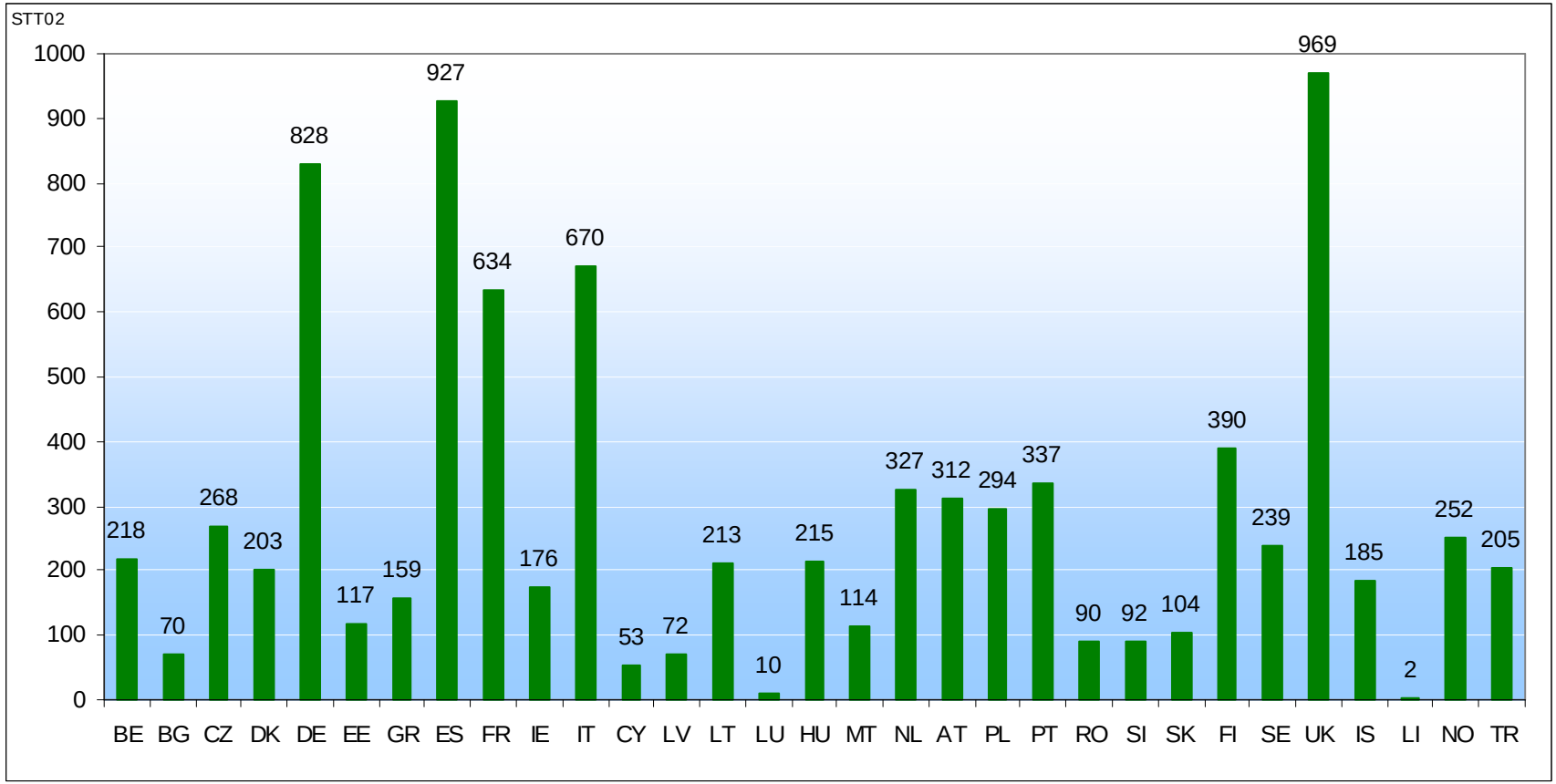
Chart 62: Outgoing Erasmus Staff Mobility for Staff Training per home country in 2009/10



2.2.3 Incoming Staff Mobility for Staff Training

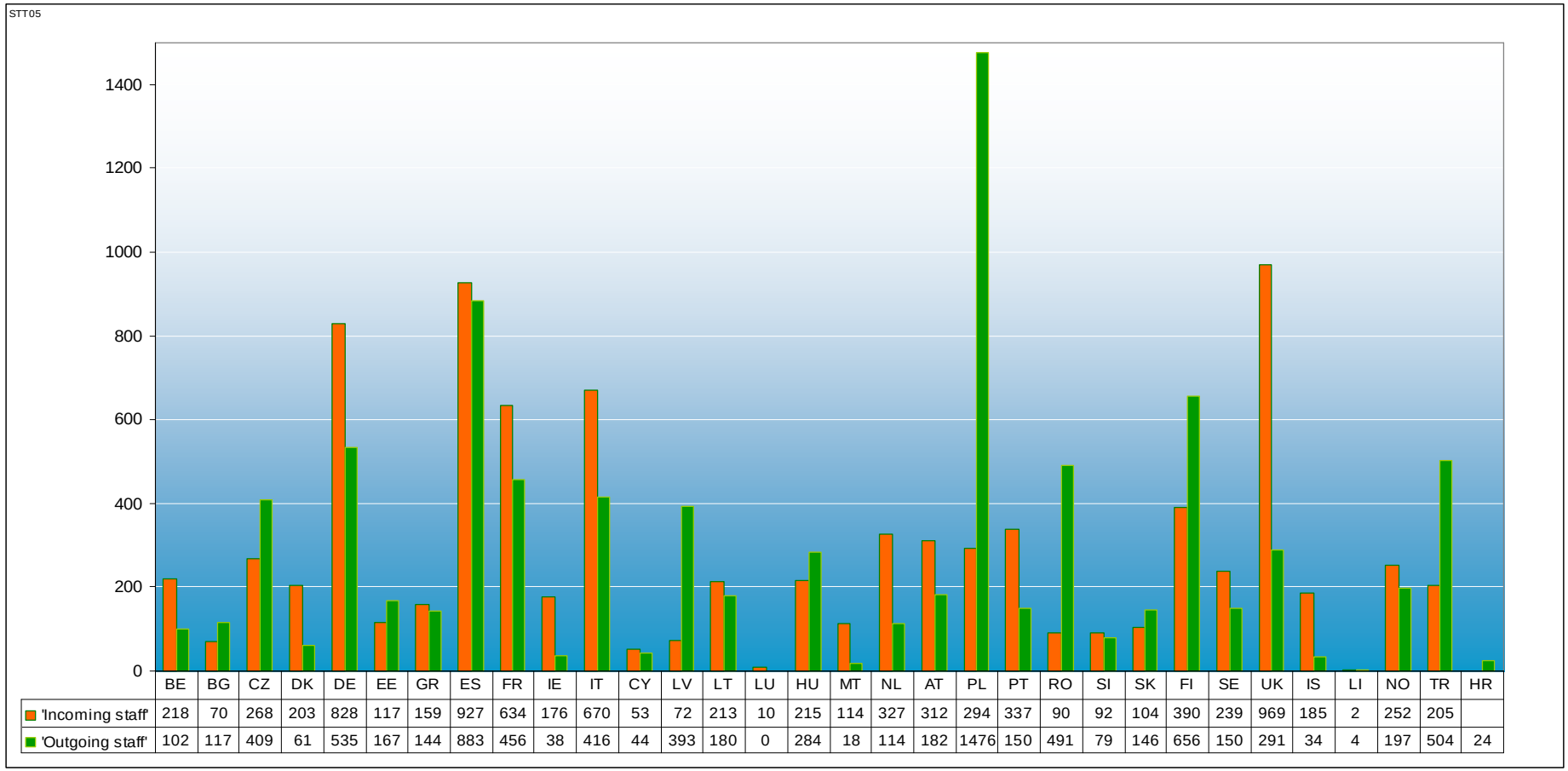
Chart 63 below shows that the United Kingdom continue to be the most popular destination for Erasmus staff training mobility from the previous year. There was 969 incoming staff for training in the UK, which constitutes an 11.1% share, followed by Spain with 927 mobilities (10.6%), and Germany with 828 mobilities (9.5%). The countries with the fewest incoming Erasmus staff for training in 2009/10 were Liechtenstein and Luxembourg with ten mobilities respectively.

Chart 63: Incoming Erasmus Staff Mobility for Staff Training per country in 2009/10



As can be seen in chart 64, the following eleven countries sent more staff on Erasmus staff training than they received: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Turkey. The rest of the participating countries received more staff for staff training than they sent out but the most balance in flows was in Spain with 5% more incoming and in Greece with 10% more incoming… See Annex 20 for outbound and inbound flows of staff mobility for staff training in 2009/10

Chart 64: Outgoing and incoming Erasmus Staff Mobility for Staff Training by country in 2009/10

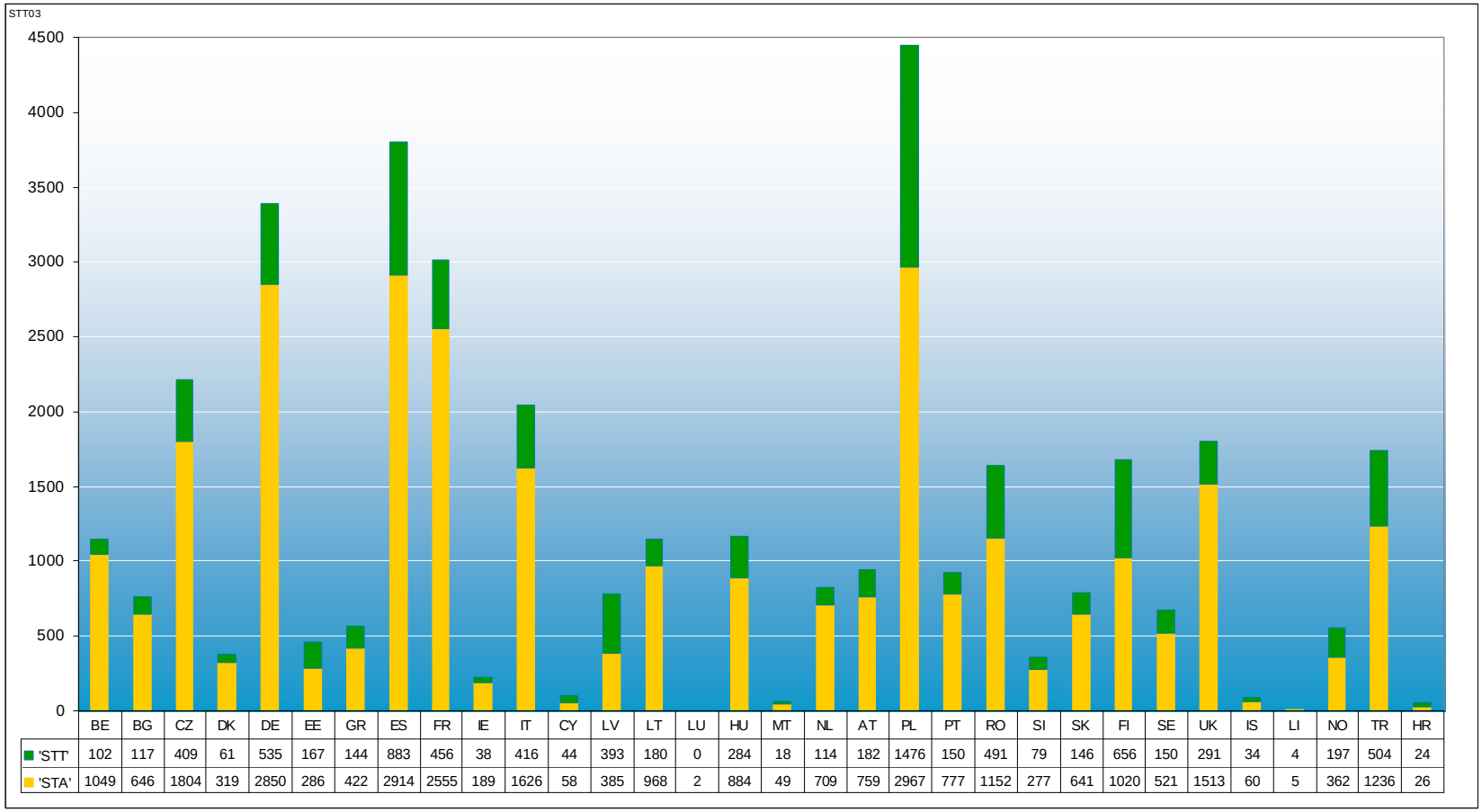


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'Incoming staff'	218	70	268	203	828	117	159	927	634	176	670	53	72	213	10	215	114	327	312	294	337	90	92	104	390	239	969	185	2	252	205	
'Outgoing staff'	102	117	409	61	535	167	144	883	456	38	416	44	393	180	0	284	18	114	182	1476	150	491	79	146	656	150	291	34	4	197	504	24

2.2.4 Share of staff mobility for staff training versus teaching assignments

Chart 65 shows the share of Erasmus staff mobility for training versus Erasmus teaching assignments in the 32 participating countries in 2009/10. The country that had the highest share of staff training compared to teaching assignments was Latvia, which was the only country in 2009/10 that had higher outgoing staff for training than for teaching assignments (50% share of staff training on staff mobility). The second highest share of staff training versus teaching assignments was in Croatia (49%), followed by Liechtenstein with 44% and Cyprus with 43%. The lowest share of staff training periods on the total Erasmus staff mobility was in Luxembourg (no staff training mobility) and Belgium with only 10% share.

Chart 65: Share of Erasmus Staff mobility for Training versus Teaching per country in 2009/10

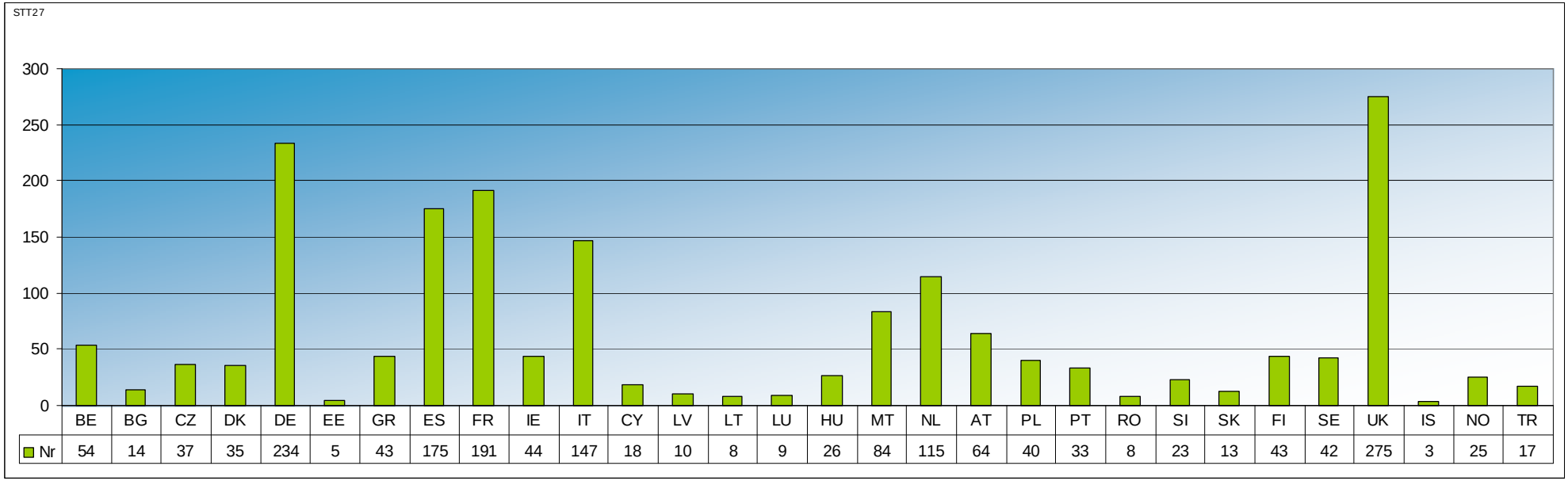


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'STT'	102	117	409	61	535	167	144	883	456	38	416	44	393	180	0	284	18	114	182	1476	150	491	79	146	656	150	291	34	4	197	504	24
'STA'	1049	646	1804	319	2850	286	422	2914	2555	189	1626	58	385	968	2	884	49	709	759	2967	777	1152	277	641	1020	521	1513	60	5	362	1236	26

2.2.5 Staff training in companies by host country

In 2009/10, 1835 higher education institution staff went on training in companies abroad. This represents a slight decrease of 2.7% compared to the previous year (down from 1886 in 2008/09). Training in companies thus constituted 21% of all Erasmus staff mobility for staff training. The highest number of staff went for training in enterprises in the UK (275 or 15% share), which represents 14.4% share, followed by enterprises in Germany (234 or 12.7% share) and then France (191, or 10.4% share). See Annex 21 on the flow of staff from home country to enterprises (host).

Chart 66: Erasmus Staff Training in companies by host country



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	NO	TR
Nr	54	14	37	35	234	5	43	175	191	44	147	18	10	8	9	26	84	115	64	40	33	8	23	13	43	42	275	3	25	17

2.2.6 Staff composition in staff training and type of activity

In 2009/10, academic staff made up the largest part of staff participating in Erasmus staff mobility for staff training, or 37%, followed by staff from general administration (24%) and staff in international offices (20%).

Chart 67: Category of work in home institution

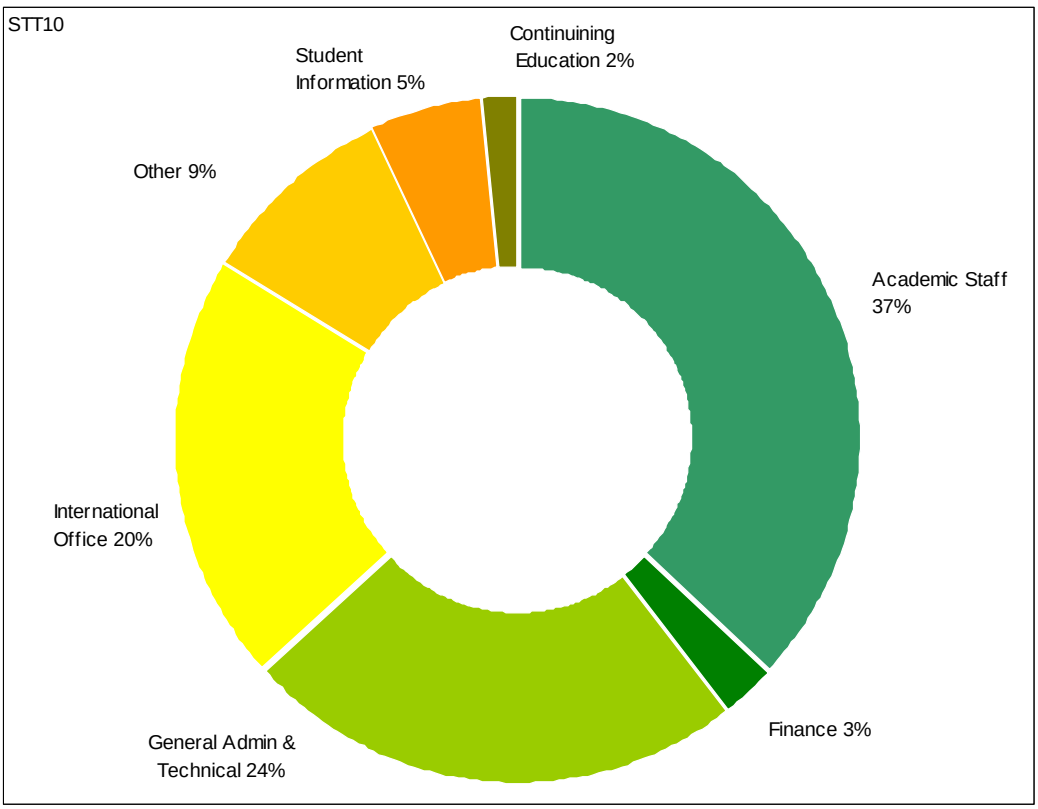
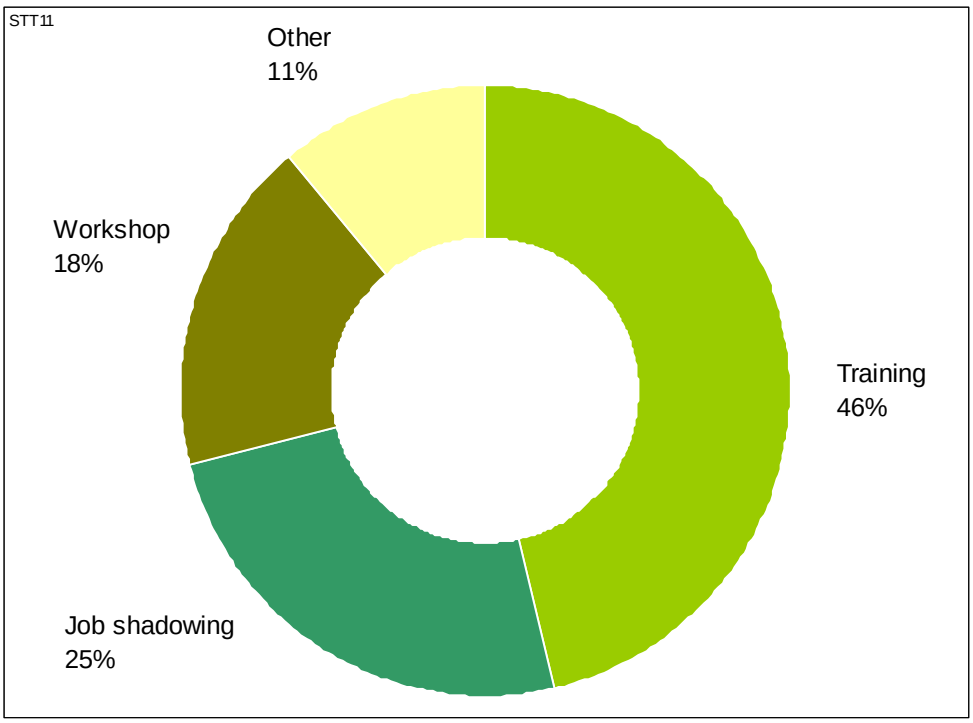


Chart 68 below shows the type of activity participants in Erasmus staff training engaged in during their training period abroad. The highest number - 4065 participated in training (46.5% share), followed by job shadowing with 2157 mobilities (24.7%) and participation in workshops with 1553 mobilities (17.8%). 970 participants, or 11%, indicated the activity of their training as "other."

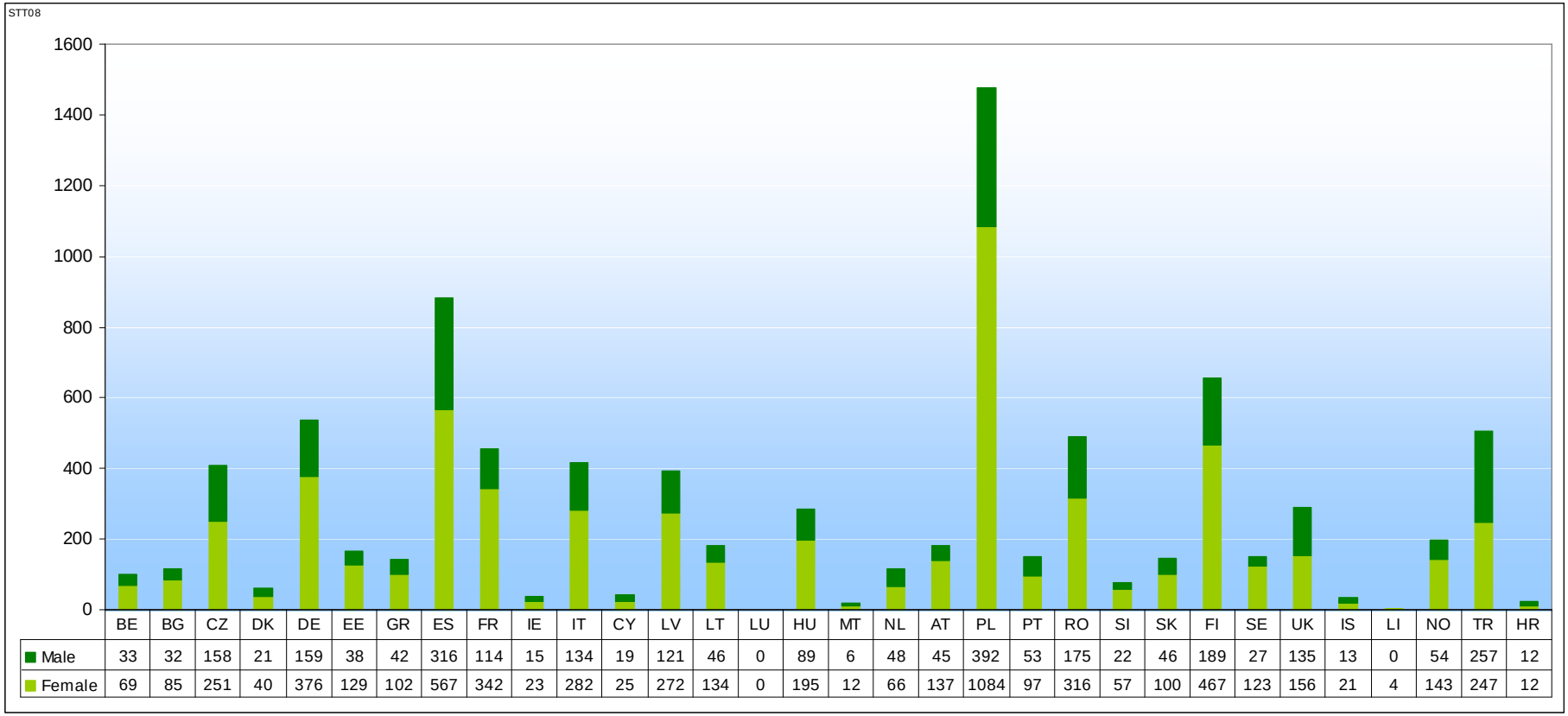
Chart 68: Type of activity during Erasmus Staff Training



2.2.7 Gender Composition in Staff Training

Chart 69 shows the composition of gender in Erasmus mobility for staff training. In 2009/10, female participants represented 68% (or 5934). This is identical with the situation in 2008/09. Only one country, Turkey, sent out more males than females on staff training. The highest share of female participants was in Liechtenstein (all of the participants were women), followed by Sweden (82%), and Estonia (77%). Participation in terms of gender was most balanced in Croatia (50%), followed by Turkey (49% share of women) and the UK (54% share of women).

Chart 69: Composition of gender in Erasmus Staff Training in 2009/10

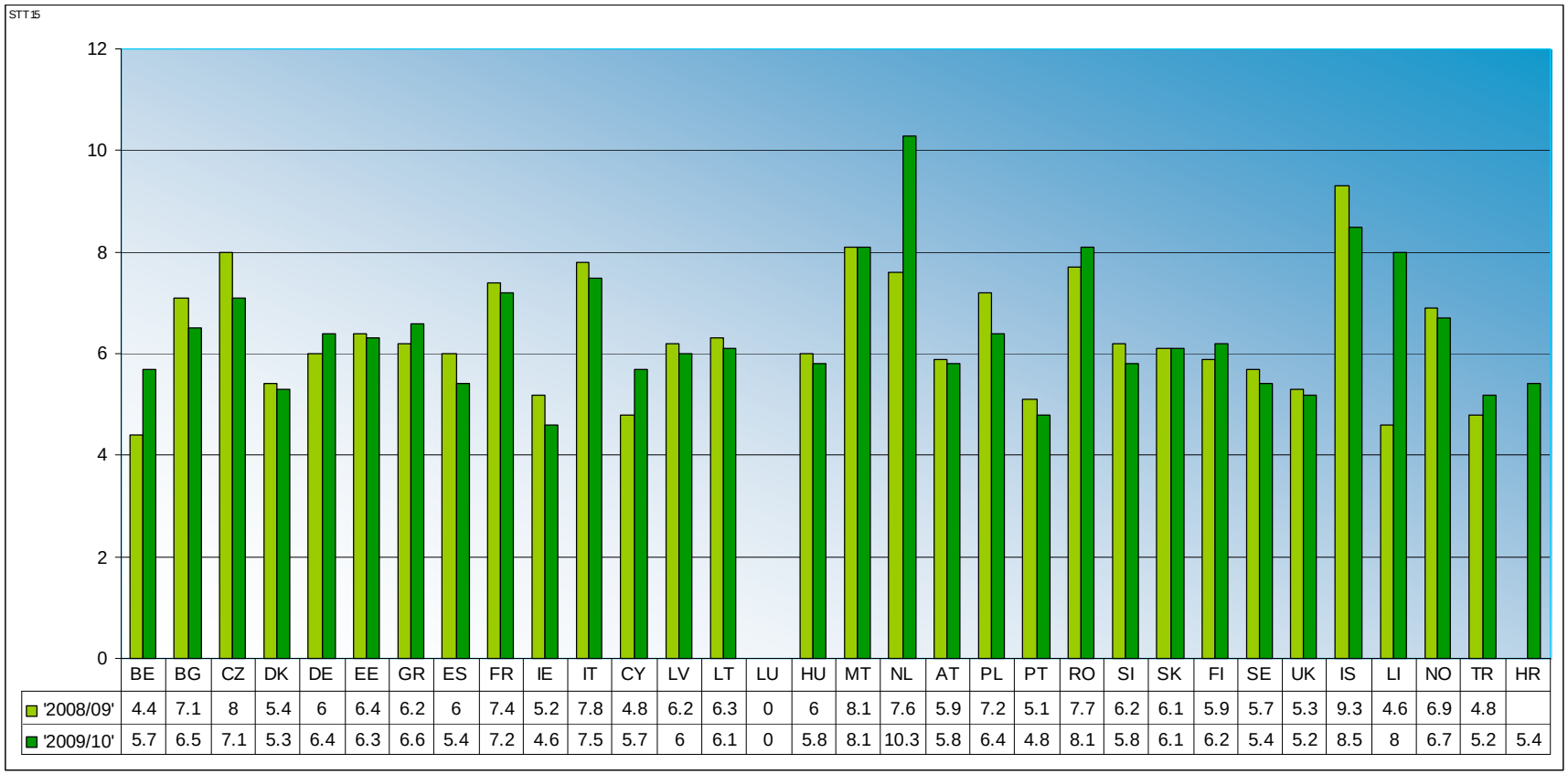


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
Male	33	32	158	21	159	38	42	316	114	15	134	19	121	46	0	89	6	48	45	392	53	175	22	46	189	27	135	13	0	54	257	12
Female	69	85	251	40	376	129	102	567	342	23	282	25	272	134	0	195	12	66	137	1084	97	316	57	100	467	123	156	21	4	143	247	12

2.2.8 Duration of Staff Training

The average duration of Erasmus staff training in 2009/10 was 6.4 days (down from 6.5 in the previous year). This is slightly higher than the Erasmus mobility for teaching assignments, which lasted on average 5.6 days. The duration varied somewhat between countries. Staff from the Netherlands stayed the longest abroad on training (on average 10.3 days), followed by staff from Iceland (8.5 days), and Romania and Malta (8.1 days each). Higher education staff going on training abroad stayed on average the longest in Ireland (7.3 days), followed by Belgium and Hungary (7 days) and then Greece and the UK (6.8 days each) while the shortest stays were in Luxembourg (5 days) and Estonia (5.4 days).

Chart 70: Average duration of Erasmus Staff Training in days per home country in 2008/09 and in 2009/10

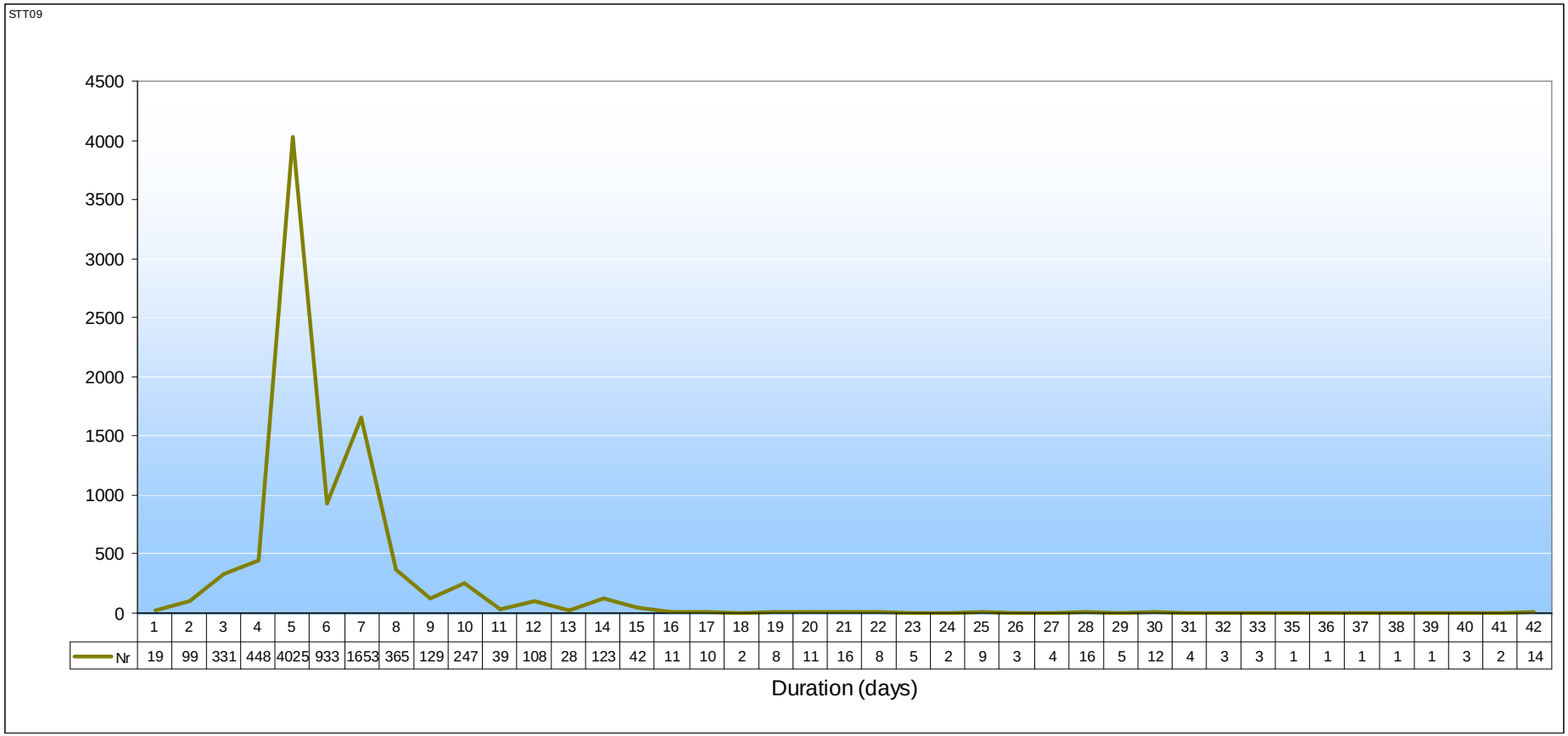


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	4.4	7.1	8	5.4	6	6.4	6.2	6	7.4	5.2	7.8	4.8	6.2	6.3	0	6	8.1	7.6	5.9	7.2	5.1	7.7	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.3	9.3	4.6	6.9	4.8	
'2009/10'	5.7	6.5	7.1	5.3	6.4	6.3	6.6	5.4	7.2	4.6	7.5	5.7	6	6.1	0	5.8	8.1	10.3	5.8	6.4	4.8	8.1	5.8	6.1	6.2	5.4	5.2	8.5	8	6.7	5.2	5.4

*No data is presented for Luxembourg which did not sent any staff on Erasmus staff training in 2008/09 and 2009/10.

Chart 71 shows the distribution of length of duration of staff training mobility. As the chart clearly shows, the highest number of mobility periods lasted five days (4025 out of 8745), which represents a 46% share of all staff training. 85.9% of staff training, however, lasted seven days or less. The chart further shows that 10.3% of staff training (897 mobility periods) were shorter than the minimum requirement of five days. It should be noted that shorter durations are allowed only in exceptional cases so these results demand further investigation.

Chart 71: Distribution of duration of Erasmus Staff Training in 2009/10

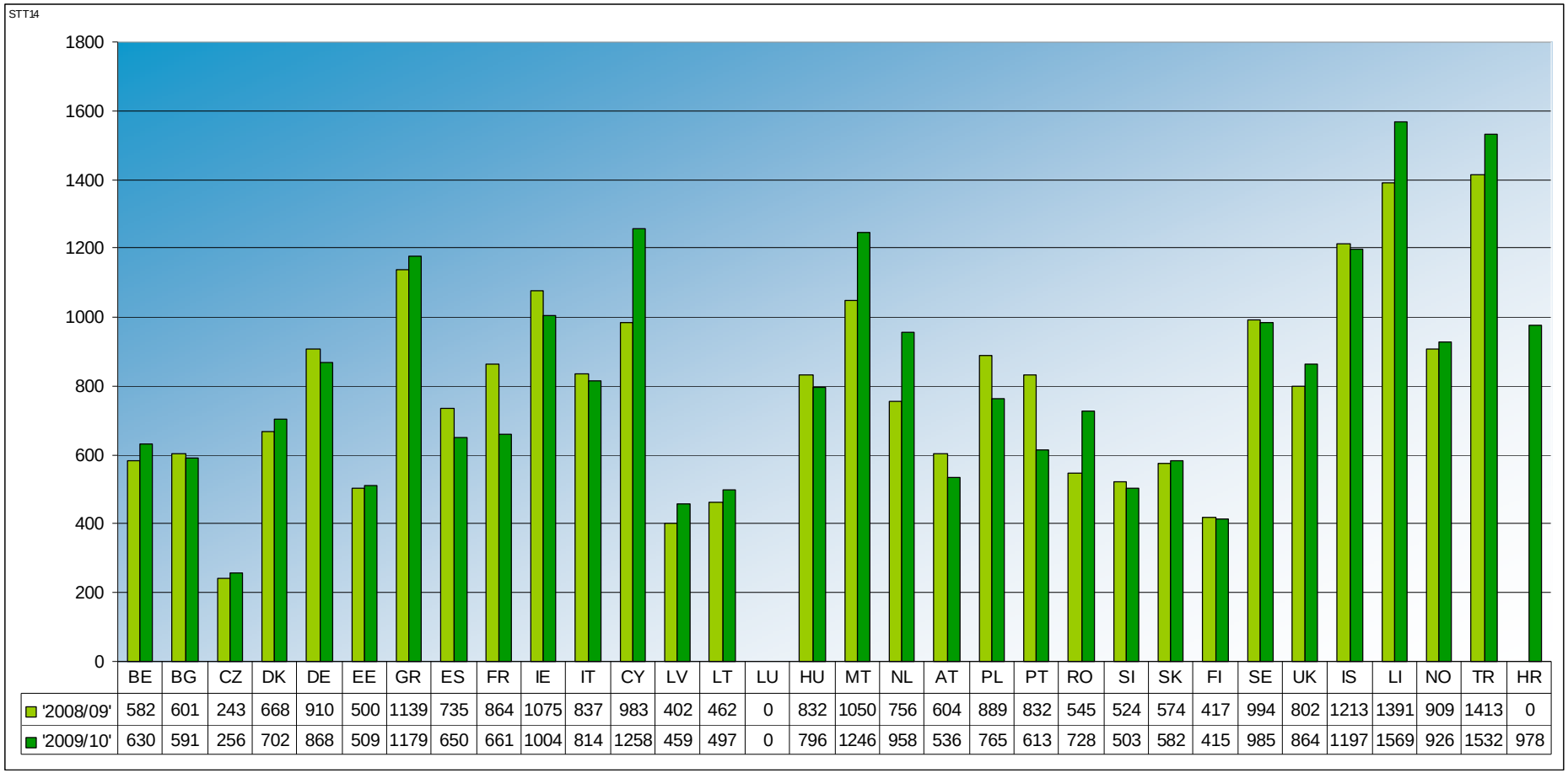


	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
Nr	19	99	331	448	4025	933	1653	365	129	247	39	108	28	123	42	11	10	2	8	11	16	8	5	2	9	3	4	16	5	12	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	14

2.2.9 Grants for Staff Training

Staff going abroad on Erasmus staff training received an average EU grant of EUR 735 (down from 751€ in the previous year), or EUR 115 per day. Staff training grants are on average higher than the grants for teaching assignments (EUR 654) which can be explained by the longer duration of staff training mobility. The average EU grants varied greatly between countries, ranging from EUR 1569 for staff from Liechtenstein and EUR 1529 for Turkish staff to only EUR 256 for staff from the Czech Republic. When the average grant is divided with the average duration the highest EU daily grant was given to staff from Turkey (EUR 296 per day) followed by staff from Cyprus (EUR 221) while staff from the Czech Republic received the lowest average EU daily grant (EUR 36). In absolute terms, staff going on training to Malta, Denmark and the UK received the highest EU grants. When duration is taken into account, then the highest average EU daily rate was for training in Luxembourg (EUR 159 per day), Denmark (EUR 151) and Finland (EUR 134).

Chart 72: Average EU total grant for Erasmus Staff Training in 2009/10[15]



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	582	601	243	668	910	500	1139	735	864	1075	837	983	402	462	0	832	1050	756	604	889	832	545	524	574	417	994	802	1213	1391	909	1413	0
'2009/10'	630	591	256	702	868	509	1179	650	661	1004	814	1258	459	497	0	796	1246	958	536	765	613	728	503	582	415	985	864	1197	1569	926	1532	978

[15] No data is reported for Luxembourg as no Luxembourgese staff participated in the action in 2008/09 and 2009/10

2.2.10 Staff with Special Needs

During the academic year 2009/10 only one higher education staff with special needs grant participated in the Erasmus staff training action (up from zero in the previous year). The participant came from Italy and went on training in Belgium. The supplementary grant given amounted to EUR 900 and the stay lasted for nineteen days making the average EU daily supplementary grant EUR 47.

2.2.11 Zero-Grant for Staff Training

Out of the total number of staff participating in Erasmus staff training in 2009/10, 370 were "zero-grant" staff (up from 136 in the previous year). This constitutes an increase of 175% between years. Zero-grant staff training periods were 4,2% of the total number of mobility for staff training (up from 1,7% in the previous year). Over half of the zero-grant staff training participants came from Poland (185) followed by Finland (45) and Portugal (33). The most popular destination for zero-grant staff training was Iceland with astounding 130 incoming zero-grant staff, followed by Norway with 63 and then Spain with 29. The high numbers of incoming staff mobility for staff training in Iceland and Norway can be explained by the availability of mobility grants through the European Economic Area (EEA) development fund which was set up to promote student and staff mobility activities to Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein from the Member States which joined the EU in 2004 and 2007 respectively. Many LLP National Agencies in the countries involved, such as in Poland, manage the EEA grants.

3 Erasmus Intensive Language Courses

Since 1996, Erasmus has financed specialised courses in the less widely used and taught languages for students going abroad as part of the Erasmus Programme.[16]. The aim of Erasmus Intensive Language Courses (EILC) is to prepare incoming students for their study exchange or company placement through a linguistic and cultural introduction to the host country. EILCs are organised in the countries where these languages are used as teaching languages at higher education institutions and are not organised for the most widely taught languages English, German, French and Spanish (Castilian).

The number of Intensive Language Courses supported has grown tremendously since their launch. Some 361 courses were organised in 23 participating countries in 2009/10 (up from 326 in the previous year).[17] The annual growth constituted 10.7% which is a higher average growth than between the two preceding years. The highest number of courses were organised in Italy (57) followed in the Flemish speaking part of Belgium (31) and Portugal (29).

3.1 Participation in EILC

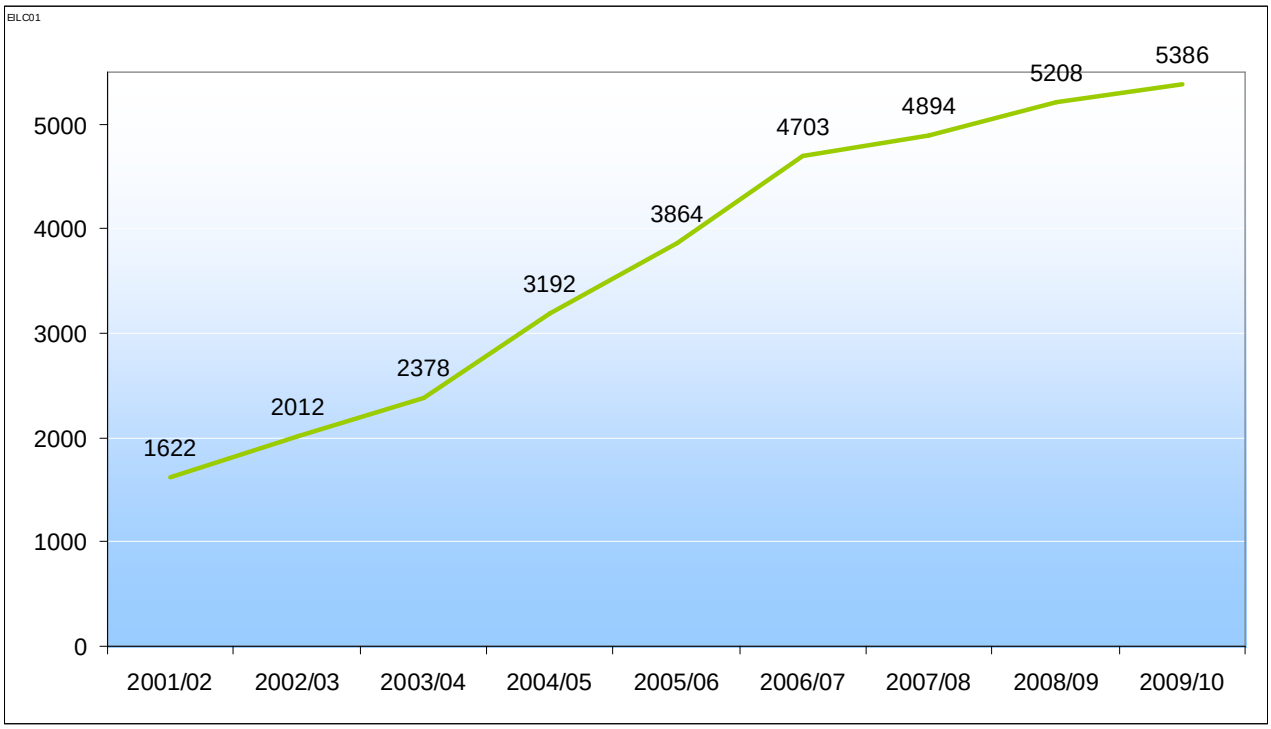
The EILC are available for students who have been selected for an Erasmus study or a placement period. Comenius Assistants may also participate in the EILC if there is a surplus of places. The aim of courses is to prepare incoming students for their Erasmus study or placement mobility period through a linguistic and cultural introduction to the host country and institution.

In total, 39 460 Erasmus students (including students from the pilot phase period in 1999) have benefited from an Erasmus Intensive Language Course prior to their study or placement period abroad. In the academic year 2009/10 5386 students participated in an EILC course (up from 5208 in the previous year), which represents a 3.4% increase between years. If compared to the increase in number of courses organised between years (10,7%) the increase in the number of participants was considerably lower. This is an indication that the number of students per course is lowering. On average fifteen students participated in each EILC course organised. This year 24 Comenius Assistants participated in an EILC course compared to eleven in 2008/09. The highest number of participants came from Romania (6).

[16] The years between 1996 and 1999 was a pilot phase, under the name "Intensive Language Preparation Courses" (ILPC). EILCs were (re)launched in 2001 (no courses organised in 2000) and in 2004 the name "Erasmus Intensive Language Courses" was introduced for a stronger identification with the Erasmus Programme.

[17] The participating EILC countries are: Belgium (Flemish Community), Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Turkey.

Chart 73: Participation in Erasmus Intensive Language Courses: 2001/02 – 2009/10

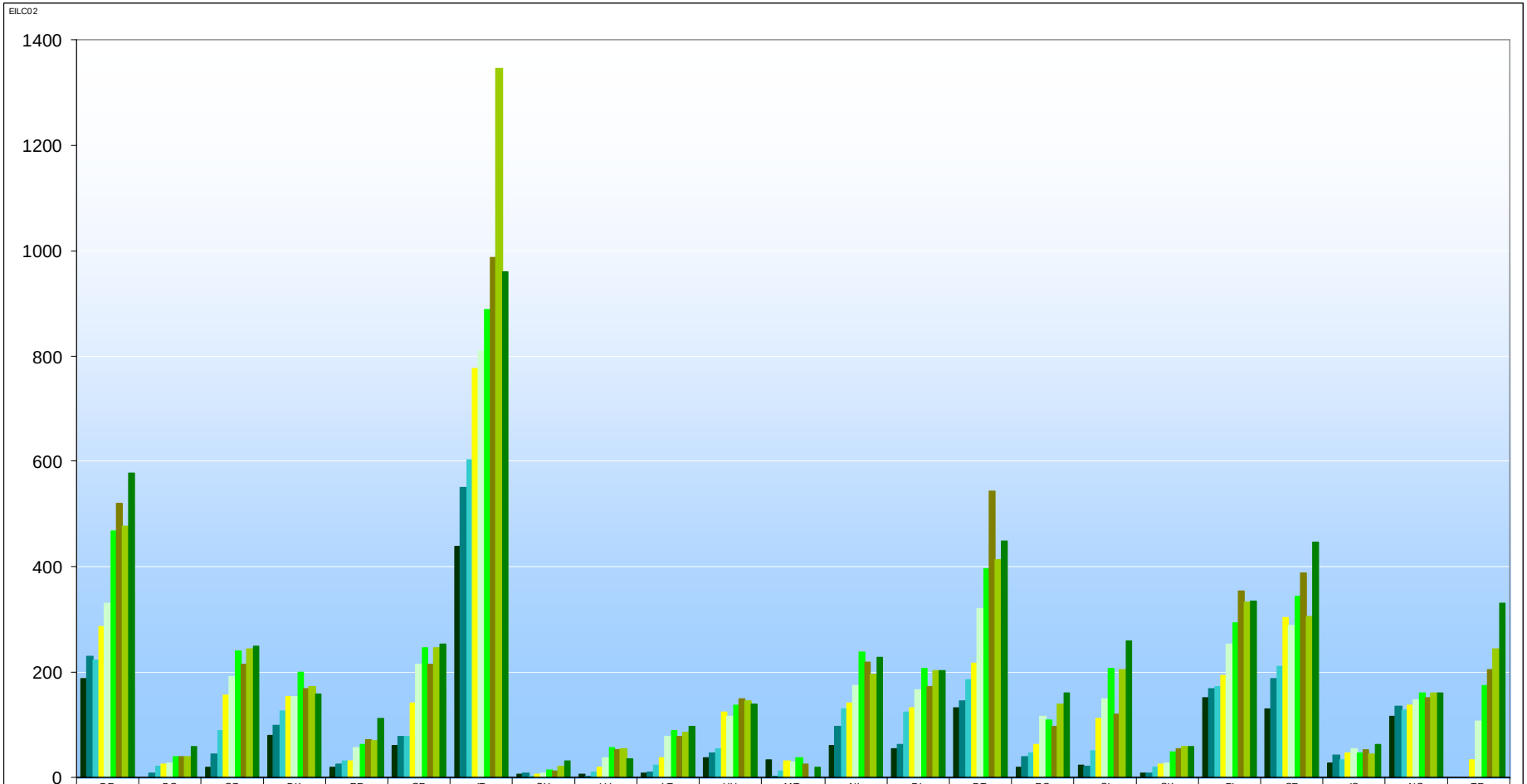


3.2 Incoming Intensive Language Course Participants

In 2009/10 six of the 23 countries organising EILC courses received fewer EILC students than in 2008/09. The greatest decrease in number of students was in Latvia (-35%), followed by Italy (-29%) and Denmark (-9%). The highest annual increase in number of participants was on the other hand in Estonia (60% increase), followed by Cyprus (52%) and Sweden (47%).

In spite of s significant decrease in number of participants on the previous year, Italy still received the highest number of students or 960, which represents a 17.8% share of all students participating in the EILC scheme. The Flemish speaking community in Belgium received the second highest number of students (578, which is a 10.7% share), followed by Portugal with 449 students (8.3% share). This order of countries is identical with the previous year.

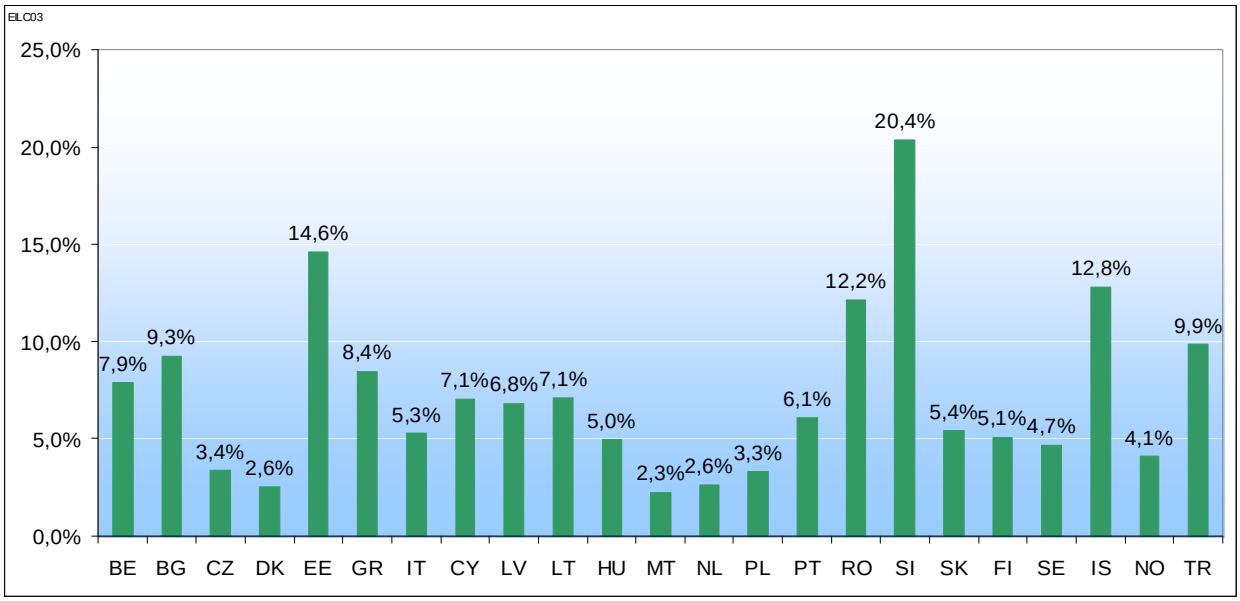
Chart 74: Incoming Erasmus Intensive Language Course participants per host country: 2001/02 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	EE	GR	IT	CY	LV	LT	HU	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	IS	NO	TR
'2001/02'	187	0	19	80	19	62	438	7	6	9	37	33	61	55	132	20	24	9	151	130	28	115	0
'2002/03'	229	9	44	99	26	77	550	8	3	11	47	2	97	63	145	40	21	9	168	188	42	134	0
'2003/04'	223	21	88	126	32	79	604	3	11	24	54	13	130	124	185	47	51	18	172	210	34	129	0
'2004/05'	286	26	155	153	31	142	776	7	18	37	124	32	141	132	217	64	111	25	193	304	47	138	33
'2005/06'	332	28	191	153	57	215	809	8	39	78	115	30	176	167	321	116	150	27	254	289	54	148	107
'2006/07'	468	40	240	200	63	246	887	15	56	89	138	38	239	207	397	109	206	48	293	344	46	160	174
'2007/08'	521	40	216	168	72	215	986	13	53	79	149	25	219	173	544	96	121	54	354	387	53	152	204
'2008/09'	476	41	244	173	70	246	1345	21	55	86	145	0	197	203	413	140	204	60	333	305	45	161	245
'2009/10'	578	58	249	158	112	252	960	32	36	98	140	20	227	203	449	161	259	59	335	447	63	160	330

On average 7.2% of Erasmus students going to countries with less widely spoken languages participated in an EILC course in 2009/10, up from a 5.8 % participation rate in the previous year. Four countries had over 10% of their incoming students participating in an Erasmus language course: Slovenia (20.4%), Estonia (14.6%), Iceland (12.8%), and Romania (12.2%). In fifteen countries the participation of Erasmus students in an EILC was below the average.

Chart 75: EILC students as a percentage of incoming Erasmus Students to countries with less widely spoken languages



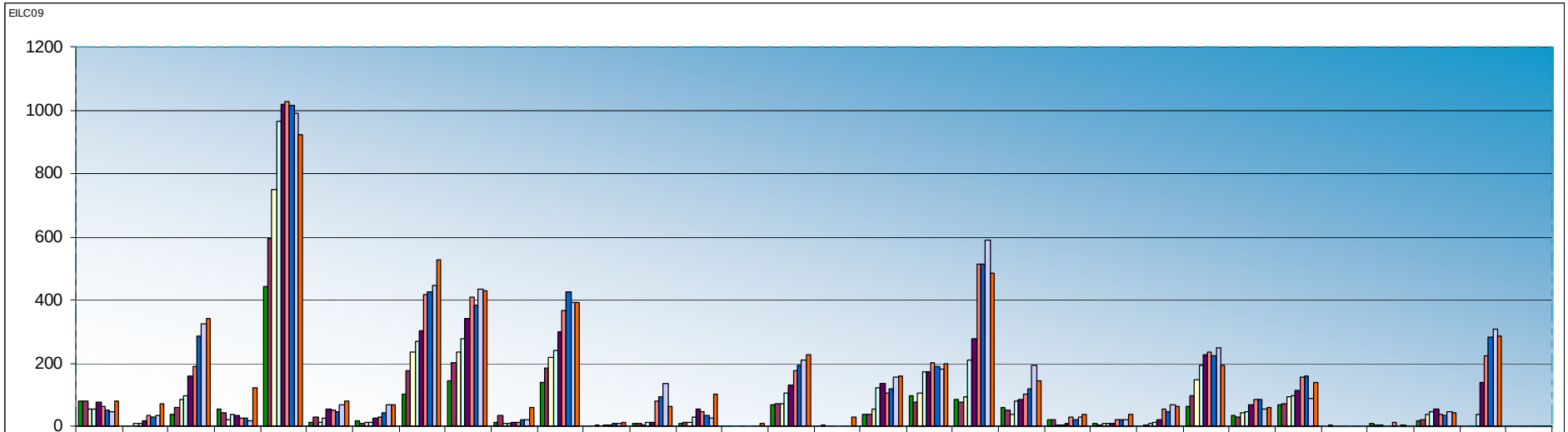
3.3 Outgoing Intensive Language Course participants

In absolute numbers, German students were by far the most active participants in Erasmus intensive language courses with 922 participants in 2009/10. This constitutes about 3.2% of all mobile German Erasmus students this year. The second highest participation was from Spain with 528 participants (1.7% share) and then Poland with 483students (3%). No students from Iceland participated in an EILC course in 2009/10 The highest annual increase in absolute number of participants was among Danish students who went from 18 to 122 between years. Aside from Luxembourg, which increased its participation rate nine fold between years (from zero to nine), the highest annual percentage increase in participation was also among Danish students, an increase of over 500% between years. Eleven countries sent fewer students to EILC courses than in the previous year (up from ten last year).
76 compare EILC participation with the total number of students visiting the 23 countries that organised an EILC. The percentage of outgoing students visiting these countries and participating in an EILC was 6.4% of the total. The chart shows that in relative terms students from Liechtenstein were the most active participants in EILC courses in 2009/10. 31.4% of students from Liechtenstein participating in Erasmus mobility took part in an EILC. The second highest participation rate was among Finnish students (16.3%) and then Latvian students (15.8%).

In 2009/10, a number of countries had a very low participation rate in the EILC action. The lowest participation rate was among students from Luxembourg none of whom participated in an EILC, followed by students from Lithuania (1.3%) and Iceland (1.7%). Participation in EILC among students

from the larger Member States that do not organise EILC courses varied greatly in the academic year 2009/10 as in previous years. Participation rates of outgoing students from Germany, France, Spain and UK ranged from 1.2% in the UK to 3.2% in Germany. Annex 22 provides an overview of the flow of students participating in EILC per country in 2009/10

Chart 76: Number of outgoing EILC participants per home country: 2001/02 to 2009/10



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2001	78	0	40	55	441	14	15	102	145	11	141	1	7	10	0	66	0	40	95	86	57	19	8	1	62	32	69	0	9	18	0	0
2002	80	0	60	41	593	28	10	176	202	35	184	2	10	14	0	72	4	38	75	77	52	23	6	4	95	29	70	3	6	23	0	0
2003	53	10	85	22	751	13	11	235	234	8	221	3	6	13	0	72	0	56	107	92	39	5	10	10	149	42	92	0	3	36	0	0
2004	56	9	97	37	966	27	13	270	279	7	242	1	13	30	0	107	0	124	172	212	79	4	8	13	194	48	97	0	2	46	39	0
2005	75	17	162	35	1018	54	27	304	339	14	301	3	14	56	0	131	0	133	171	277	85	10	9	19	229	69	115	2	1	55	139	0
2006	63	32	190	25	1027	51	28	416	410	13	368	6	80	47	0	176	0	105	201	515	103	29	19	56	235	83	154	0	12	36	223	0
2007	50	28	288	24	1016	46	44	426	384	20	424	8	94	34	0	193	0	118	188	512	120	20	23	48	225	84	162	0	0	33	282	0
2008	48	34	323	18	991	67	67	446	434	21	393	10	135	25	0	209	2	154	179	588	195	31	20	68	247	54	89	2	4	47	307	0
2009	79	70	339	122	922	80	67	528	428	61	393	11	65	101	9	229	28	161	200	483	144	37	38	65	195	59	141	0	1	42	288	0

3.4 Types of Erasmus Intensive Language Courses

Like in previous years, the majority of the 361 EILC courses organised in 2009/10 took place during the summer before the start of the fall semester. In 2005 it became possible for the first time to organise EILC courses in the winter. Winter courses usually take place in January/February before the start of the spring semester. In 2009/10 a total of 285 courses were organised in the summer, or 79% of the total. A majority of the countries participating in the EILC action also offered winter courses which accounted for 21% of the total number of EILC courses held in 2009/10. The EILCs are organised at beginners and intermediate level. 87.4% of participants attended a beginner´s course (up from 83.4% last year) and the remaining participants attended an intermediary level course. In Finland, the organising institutions offer courses in Finnish and Swedish as both languages are official languages in Finland.

3.5 Recognition of participation

Since 2004, the European Commission has recommended an assessment of the performance of each student participating in an EILC, as well as the issuing of a certification and awarding of ECTS credits for participation. Whether the home institution recognises credits earned through participation in an EILC depends, however, on what is stated in each student's Learning Agreement.

Since the use of ECTS is not required but only recommended, the situation varies between countries and between institutions within the same country. While some institutions issue ECTS credits others do not. According to the annual reports of the Lifelong Learning Programme National Agencies, the majority of the EILC organising institutions award ECTS credits. Students can earn from two up to nine ECTS credits depending on the workload and the number of contact hours.

4 Erasmus Intensive Programmes

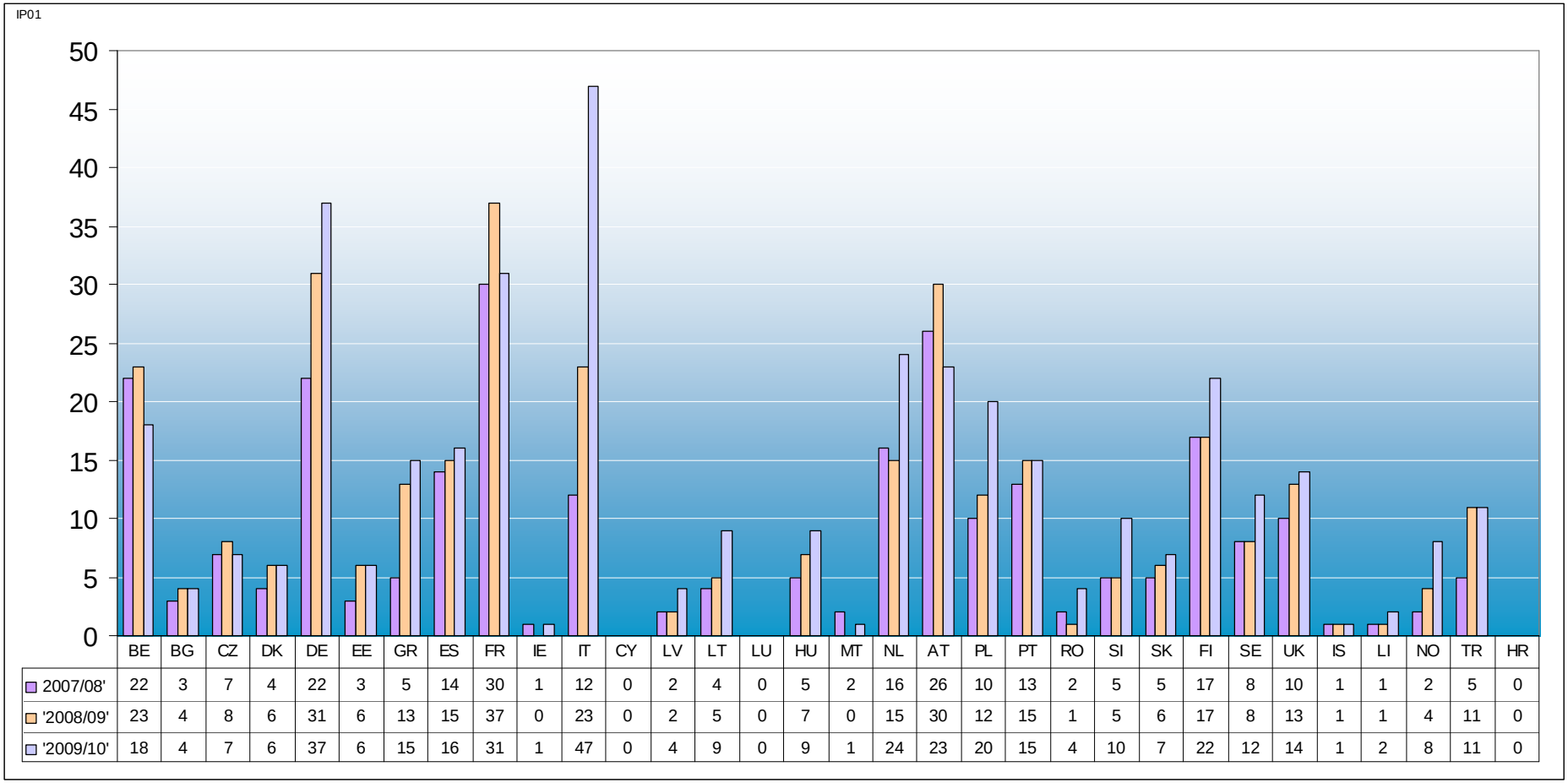
Erasmus Intensive Programmes (IPs) are short subject-related programmes of study (of ten days up to six weeks in length), which bring together students and teaching staff from Higher Education Institutions from at least three European countries.[18] Intensive Programmes aim to encourage the multinational groups and so benefit from learning and teaching conditions not available in a single institution; to allow teachers to exchange views on course content and new curricula approaches; and to test teaching methods in an international classroom environment.

4.1 Number of Intensive Programmes

Since the 2007/08 academic year Erasmus Intensive Programmes have been managed individually by the countries participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme. They have also experienced strong growth during this time. In the academic year 2009/10 a total of 384 Intensive Programmes were organised in 29 countries (see chart 77). This represents over 20% increase on the previous year. Italy organised the highest number of courses (47), which represents 12.2% of the total number of courses organised this year. Germany organised the second highest number, or 37 (9.6% share), followed by France with 31 courses (8.1 % share). Ireland, Iceland and Malta organised one Intensive Programme each in 2009/10, but there were no Intensive Programmes organised in three countries: Cyprus, Luxembourg and Croatia.

[18] EUR 32 can participate in the IP action

Chart 77: Number of Intensive Programmes per coordinating country in 2009/10

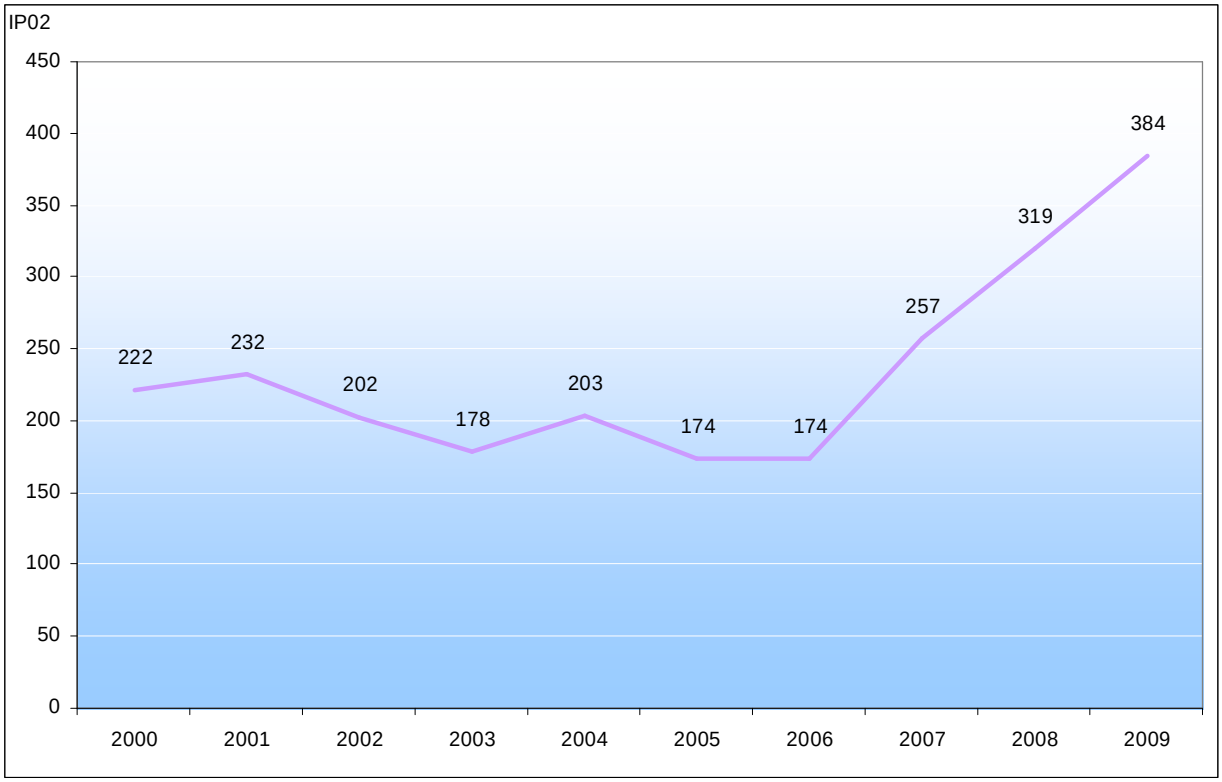


	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
2007/08'	22	3	7	4	22	3	5	14	30	1	12	0	2	4	0	5	2	16	26	10	13	2	5	5	17	8	10	1	1	2	5	0
'2008/09'	23	4	8	6	31	6	13	15	37	0	23	0	2	5	0	7	0	15	30	12	15	1	5	6	17	8	13	1	1	4	11	0
'2009/10'	18	4	7	6	37	6	15	16	31	1	47	0	4	9	0	9	1	24	23	20	15	4	10	7	22	12	14	1	2	8	11	0

New Intensive Programmes were 182 in 2099/10 and constituted 47.4% of funded IPs this year. Out of the courses funded, 27.6% were first time renewals (2nd year) and 25% were second time renewals (3rd year).

Chart 78 below shows the number of Intensive Programmes that have been funded since the academic year 2000/01. Since the beginning, a total of 2345 Intensive Programmes have been organized. The numbers have varied somewhat from year to year but there has been a steady increase in the number of funded IPs since the beginning of the Lifelong Learning Programme in 2007.

Chart 78: Number of Erasmus Intensive Programmes: 2000/01 – 2009/10



4.2 Participation in Intensive Programmes

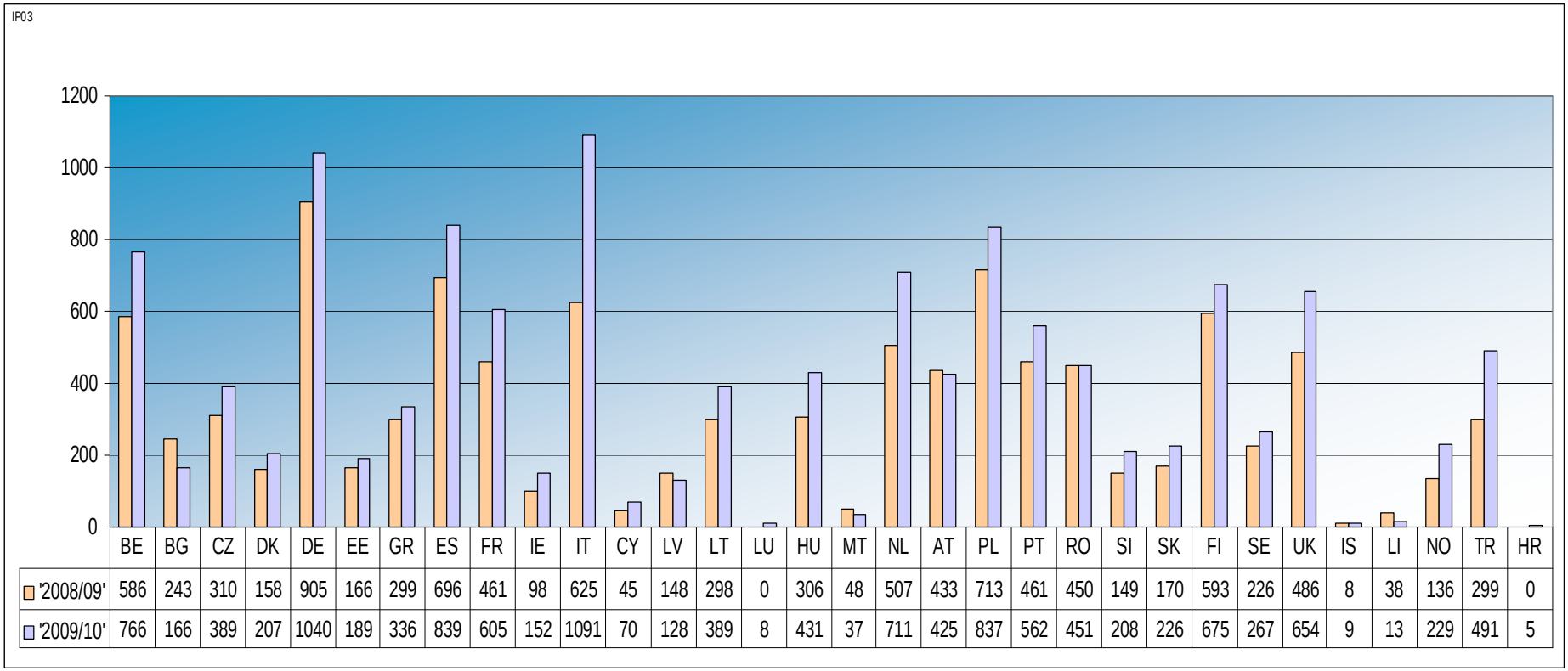
A total of 16 984 students and teachers participated in Erasmus Intensive Programmes in 2009/10 (up from 13 560 in 2008/09), which is a 25.3% year-on-year increase. The average number of participants per Intensive Programme was 44 (up from 42.5 in the previous year).

Altogether 12 606 students participated in Intensive Programmes in 2008/09 and 2009/10 (see chart 79 below) out of which the estimated number of international students was more than 9000 students. Out of the total number of participants, students represented 74.2%. Annex 22 provides a matrix of the flow of students per country in 2009/10.

As can be seen in chart 79 below, the highest number, during 2009/10, of students participating in an IP came from Italy with 1091 participants, Germany with 1040, followed by followed by Spain with 839 and then Poland with 837. Fewest participants came from Croatia (5), followed by Luxembourg (8) and then Iceland (9).

The average age of IP students was higher than Erasmus students going on mobility for studies and placements. On average, IP students were 24.7 years old, the youngest student being 16 years old.

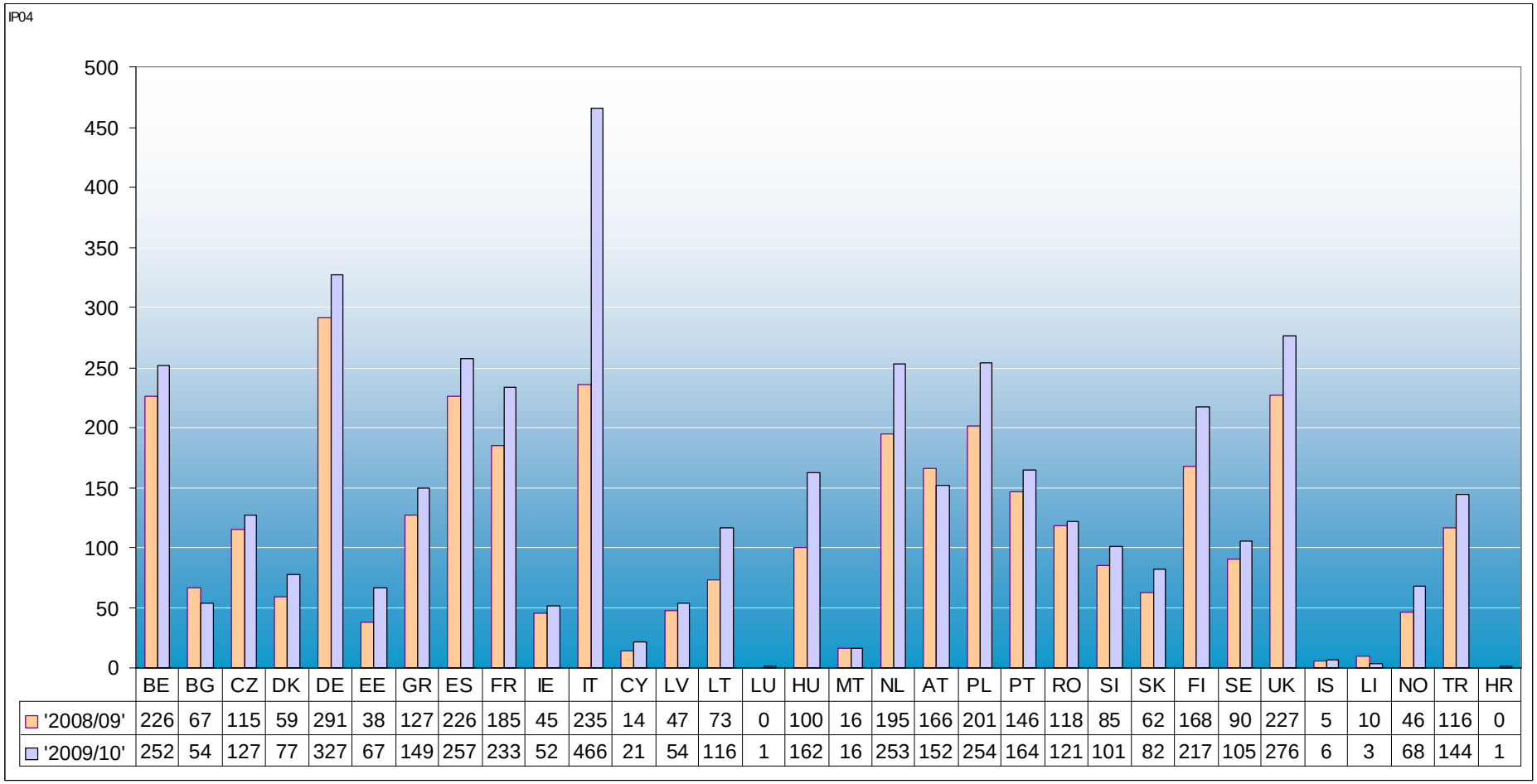
Chart 79: Number of Students participating in Erasmus Intensive Programmes per coordinating country from 2008/09



	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	586	243	310	158	905	166	299	696	461	98	625	45	148	298	0	306	48	507	433	713	461	450	149	170	593	226	486	8	38	136	299	0
'2009/10'	766	166	389	207	1040	189	336	839	605	152	1091	70	128	389	8	431	37	711	425	837	562	451	208	226	675	267	654	9	13	229	491	5

The number of teachers participating in Intensive Programmes increased from 3499 in the academic year 2008/09 to 4378 in 2009/10, which constitutes a 25.1% year-on-year increase. Teachers represented 25.8% of participants in IPs in 2009/10, which is identical to the previous year. The highest number of participating teachers came from Italy, or 466 (up from 235 in previous year), followed by Germany with 327 (up from 291) and then 276 teachers from the UK (up from 227). See Annex 24 for flows of teachers per home country in 2009/10.

Chart 80: Number of Teachers participating in IPs per home country from 2008/09



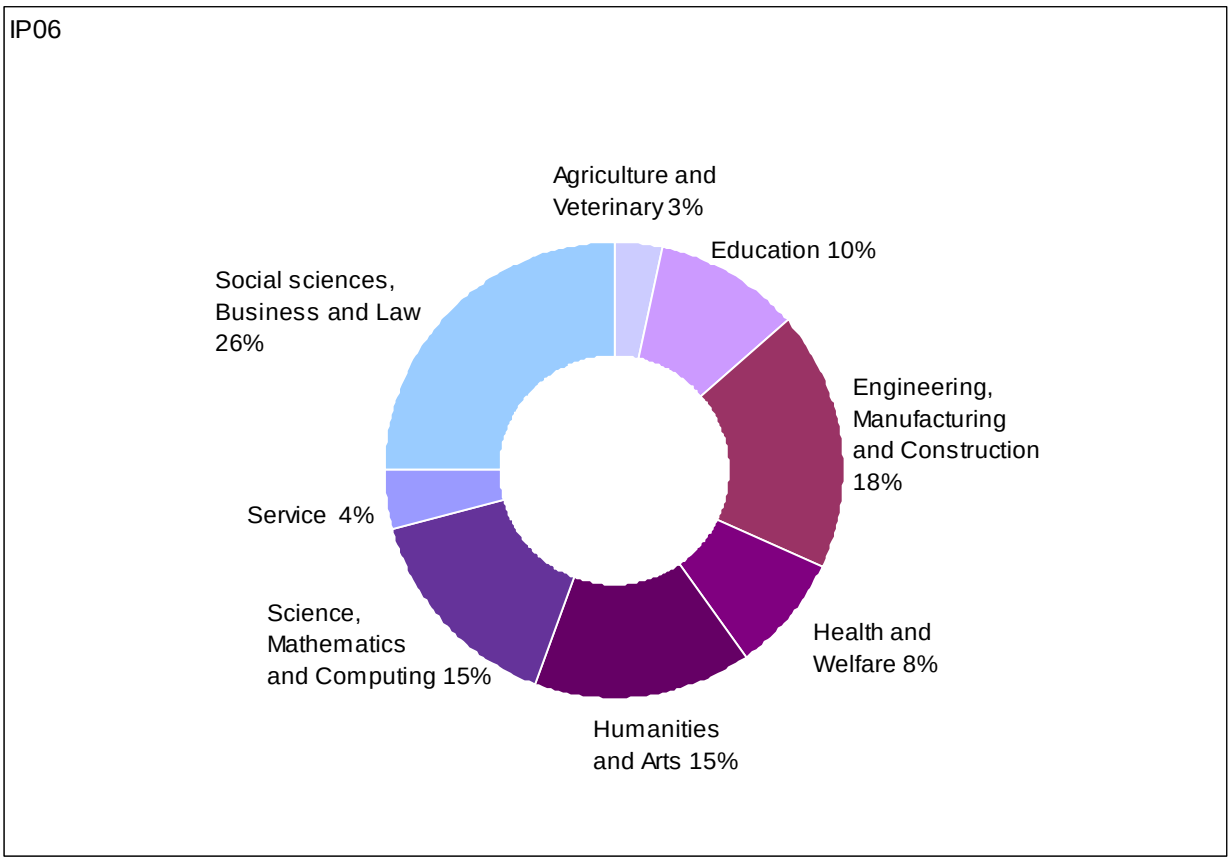
	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	GR	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	LI	NO	TR	HR
'2008/09'	226	67	115	59	291	38	127	226	185	45	235	14	47	73	0	100	16	195	166	201	146	118	85	62	168	90	227	5	10	46	116	0
'2009/10'	252	54	127	77	327	67	149	257	233	52	466	21	54	116	1	162	16	253	152	254	164	121	101	82	217	105	276	6	3	68	144	1

4.3 Subject Areas of Intensive Programmes and ECTS awarded

The most popular subjects for Intensive Programmes in 2009/10 were "social sciences, business and law." This subject area represented 26% of courses funded this year. "Engineering, manufacturing was the theme in 18% of cases whereas, "humanities and arts," "science, mathematics and computing," had a 15% share each. The least popular areas were "agriculture and veterinary" studies with 3% share and "services" with 4% share.

On average Intensive Programmes awarded 5.3 ECTS credit hours in 2009/10 (down from 6 in the previous year Ireland awarded the highest number of ECTS credit hours per IP or ten, followed by Estonia which awarded nine ECTS per course, and then Iceland with eight ECTS. Liechtenstein continues to be the only country organising an IP which does not award any ECTS credits for participation but the lowest average number of ECTS per IP were awarded by Bulgaria (3,5 ECTS) and Turkey (3.7 ECTS).

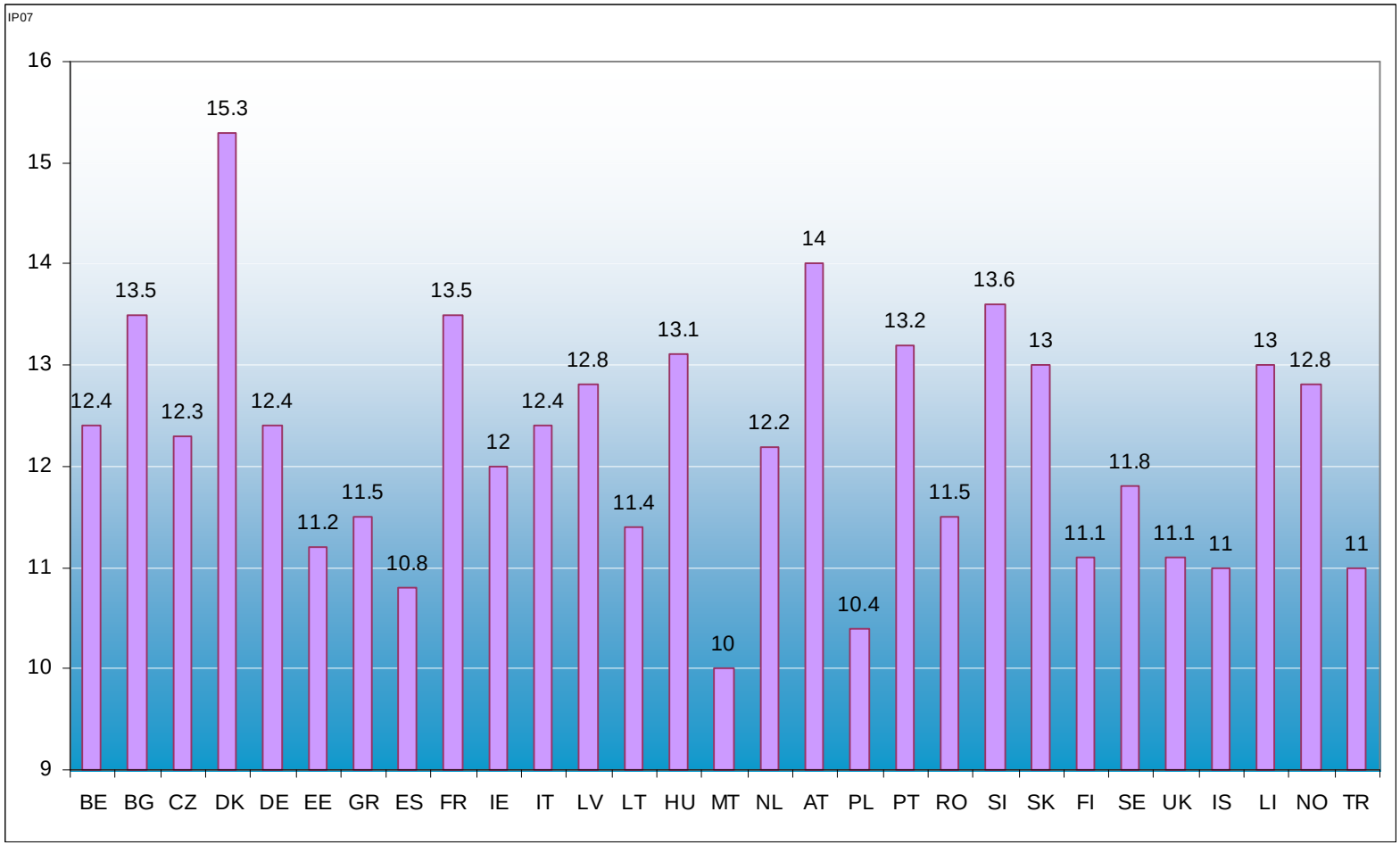
Chart 81: Share of Intensive Programmes per first subject area in 2009/10



4.4 Duration of Intensive Programmes

On average, each Intensive Programme lasted 12.2 days in the academic year 2009/10. The average duration of an IP ranged from ten days in Malta to 15.3 days in Denmark.

Chart 82: Average duration of Intensive Programmes in days per home country in 2009/10



5 Erasmus Preparatory Visits

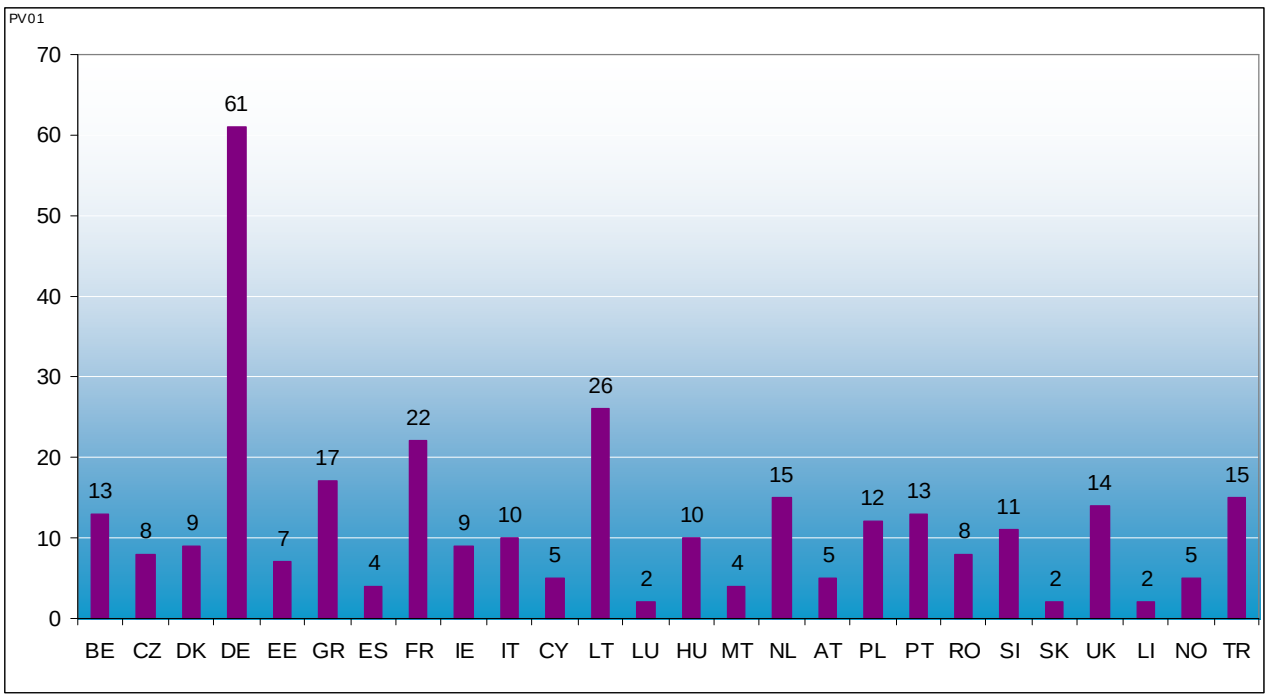
Erasmus Preparatory Visits (PVs) were introduced a new Erasmus action at the beginning of the Lifelong Learning Programme in 2007. The main objective of the action is to help higher education institutions establish contacts with prospective partner institutions in other participating countries and prepare participation in the different actions of the Erasmus Programme. Only higher education institutions holding an Erasmus University Charter (EUC) can receive a preparatory visit grant.

Preparatory visit grants can be used to visit new prospective partner institutions, or an enterprise, to establish future cooperation in teacher and student mobility and to prepare new Intensive Programmes. These grants can also be used to participate in a partner-finding "contact seminar" organised by a Lifelong Learning Programme National Agency. In addition, preparatory visit grants may be awarded to staff at other organisations for the purpose of helping them establish consortia for the organisation of Erasmus student placements.

309 Erasmus preparatory visit grants were awarded in the academic year 2009/10, which is an increase of 54.5% from the previous year (up from 200). Out of the 32 participating countries, 26 made the use of the preparatory visit grants. Germany sent the highest number of people abroad on a preparatory visit grant or 61, followed by Lithuania with 26, and France with 22.

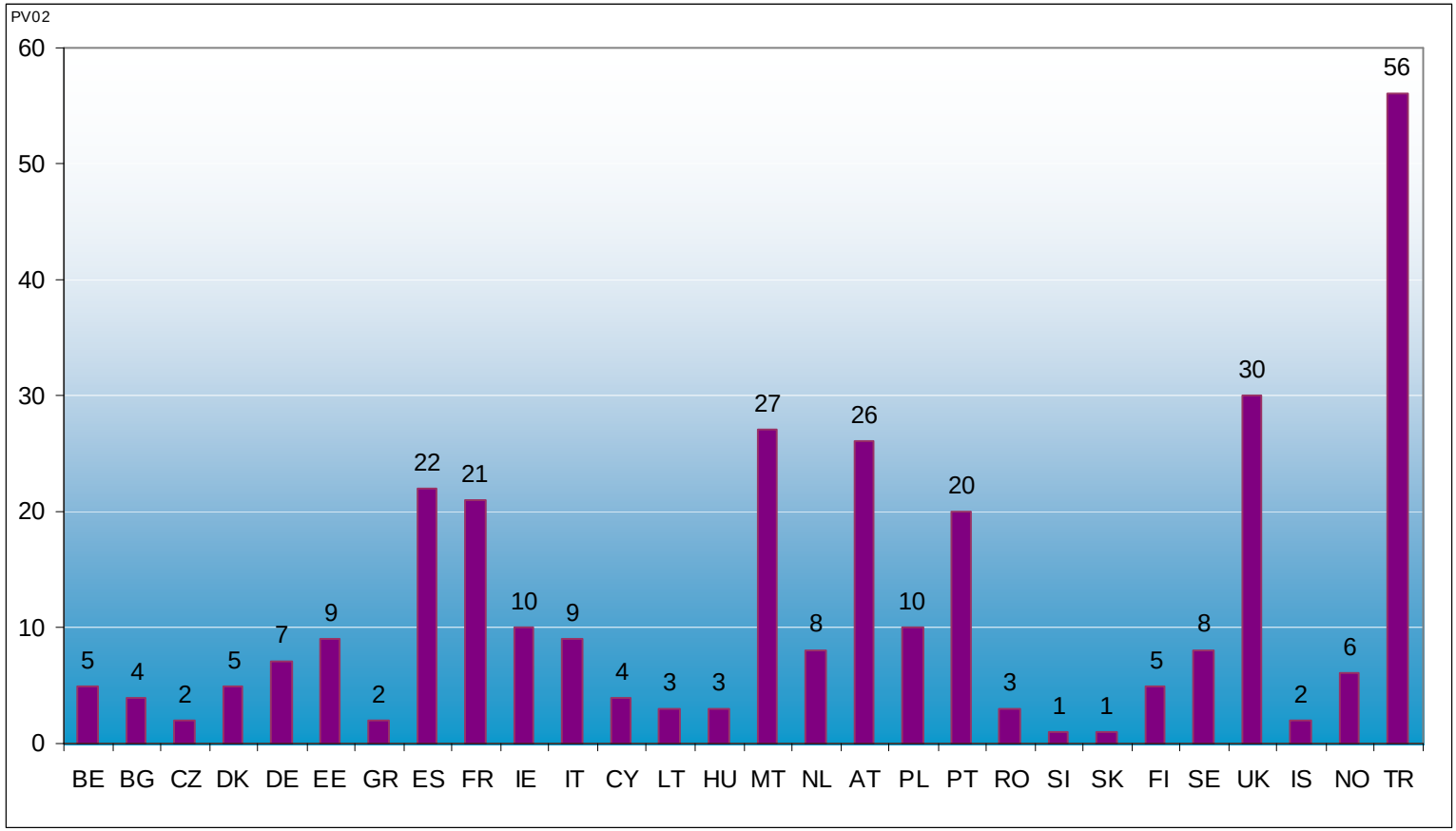
The use of preparatory visit grants is very limited in the Erasmus Programme compared to other sub-programmes within the Lifelong Learning Programme. A partial explanation can be the fact that still very few contact seminars are organised within the Programme.

Chart 83: Number of Erasmus Preparatory Visit grants awarded per country in 2009/10



Turkey hosted the highest number of preparatory visits with 56 visits in 2009/10 (18.3% share), followed by the UK with 30 (9.8% share), and Malta with 27 (8.8%). Preparatory visit grant recipients visited 28 countries in 2009/10.

Chart 84: Number of Erasmus Preparatory Visits per host country in 2009/10



The average duration of an individual preparatory visit was 3.9 days. Participants from Estonia, Greece, France and Poland spent on average 4.6 days on a preparatory visit but participants from the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Liechtenstein spent on average three days abroad. The average grant per preparatory visit across the 31 participating countries (Croatia could not participate) was EUR 962.

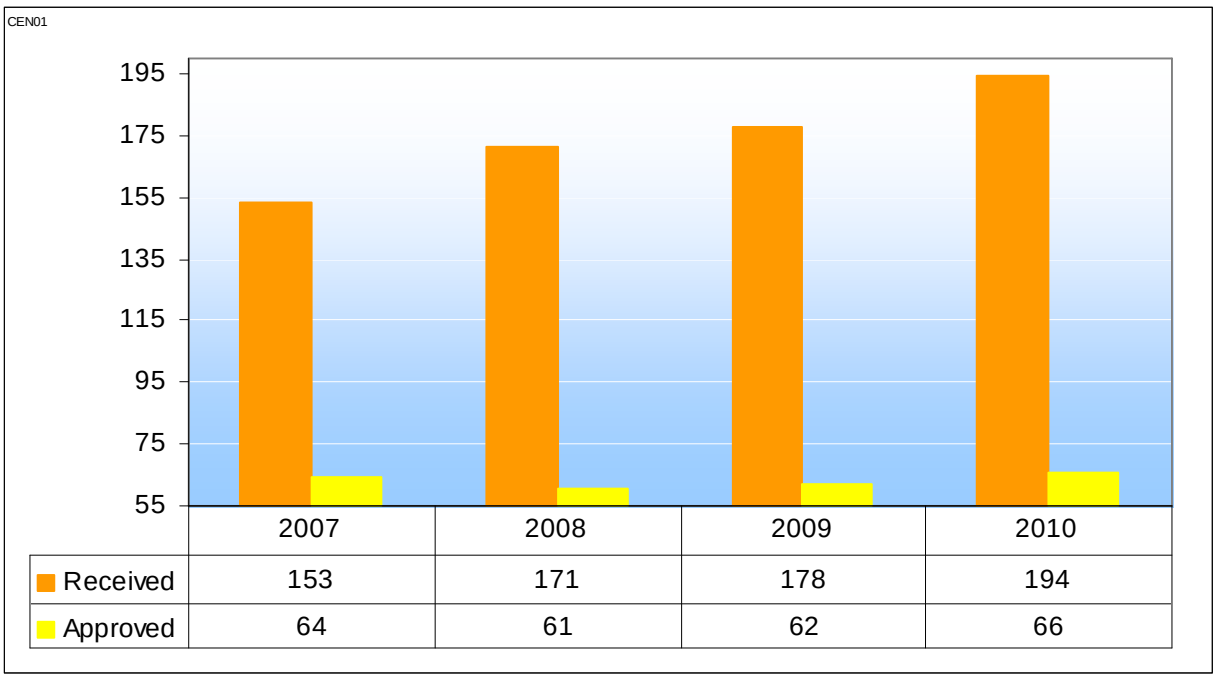
6 Erasmus University Cooperation Projects

Together with mobility, the Erasmus Programme also fosters the modernisation of European higher education through the funding of joint projects. These projects, which run from between one and three years, aim to stimulate policy reforms through transnational cooperation among higher education institutions and other relevant stakeholders across Europe. Applications are submitted once every calendar year and around EUR 20 million is allocated annually to these projects. These project actions which are managed centrally by the Executive Agency of the Directorate General for Education, Culture and Sports, contain multilateral projects in the field of curriculum development, modernisation of higher education, cooperation between higher education institutions and enterprises, virtual campuses as well as Erasmus networks and accompanying measures. Applications are submitted once every calendar year and around EUR 20 million is allocated annually to these projects. For 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 together the total amount of money granted to Erasmus centralised actions, was EUR 75.220.049 (for detailed figures see chart 87).

Many of the projects funded under this part of the Erasmus Programme have led to important policy developments. For example, the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) was originally an Erasmus project, before becoming a major tool to foster mobility that is used throughout Europe.

The number of applications has grown year-on-year since 2007. Some 194 applications were submitted in 2010 (up from 178 in 2009). Among these 66 were selected for funding, which represents, on average, a 34% success rate. Chart 85 below compares the total number of received proposals and approved applications for all Erasmus centralised actions in each respective year.

Chart 85: Total number of received and selected applications for Erasmus University Cooperation Projects: 2007 – 2010

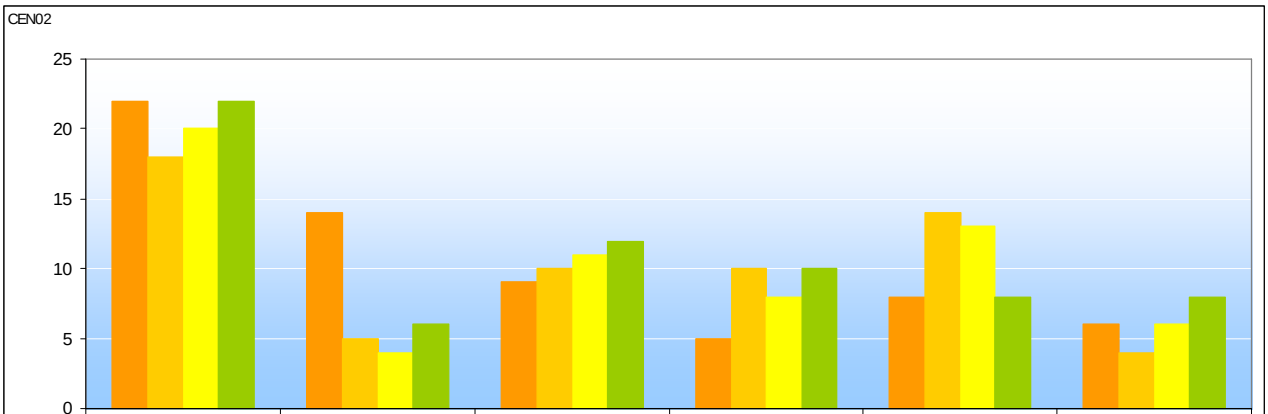


	2007	2008	2009	2010
Received	153	171	178	194
Approved	64	61	62	66

Chart 85 shows two trends. Firstly, the total number of received applications for Erasmus centralised actions increased from 153 in 2007 to 194 in the 2010 application year. Secondly, the total number of proposals approved was relatively stable with 63 successful applications on average. This also indicates a decreasing overall success rate of applications, from 41.8 % in 2007 to 34% in 2010. The most plausible reasons for the lower success rate are not only the increased number of applications but also the fact that the budget for each action did not increase substantially between application years.

With regard to the total number of successful applications there are clear differences between the different types of centralised actions as chart 86 below indicates.

Chart 86: Number of Erasmus University Cooperation Project applications selected in different centralised actions: 2007 – 2010



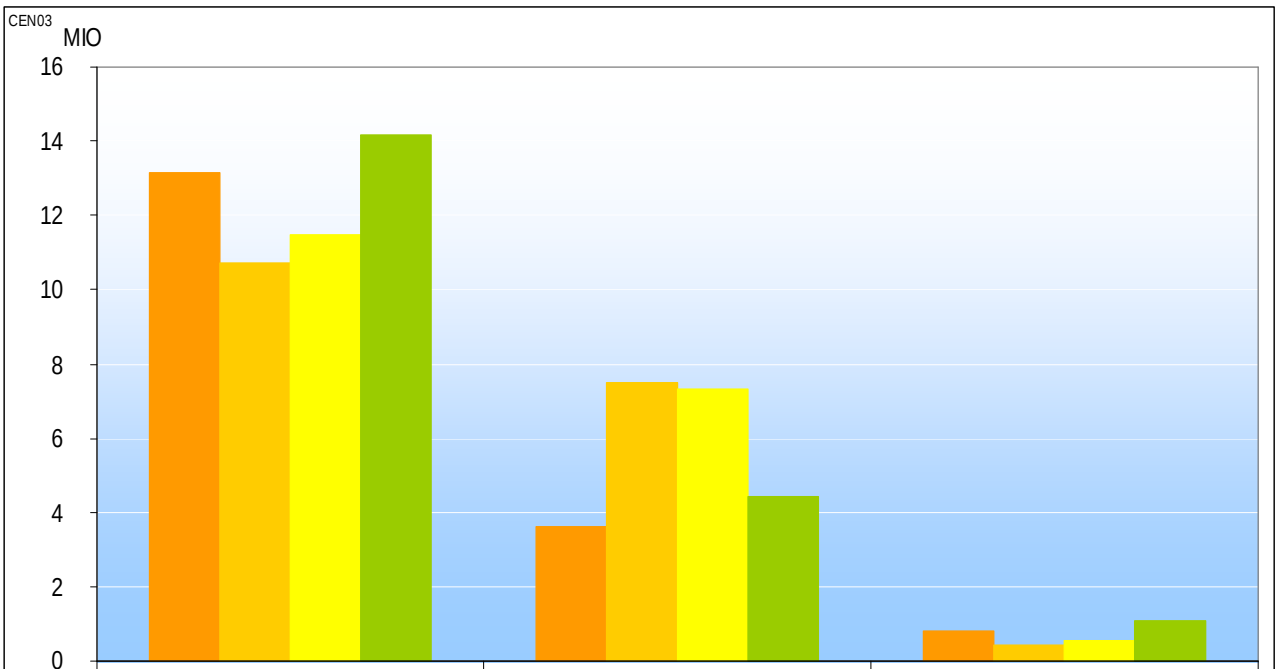
	Curriculum Development	Virtual Campuses	Modernisation of Higher Education	Cooperation University-Enterprise	Networks	Accomp. Measures
2007	22	14	9	5	8	6
2008	18	5	10	10	14	4
2009	20	4	11	8	13	6
2010	22	6	12	10	8	8

In 2010, most applications were received under the Curriculum Development Action (67), followed by the Cooperation between Universities and Enterprises action (33) and the Modernisation of Higher Education action (24). Analysing trends over time, one can see that the highest number of successful applications in the period 2007 – 2010 was within the Curriculum Development action (82). While there was a decrease in the total number of selected Virtual Campuses' projects between the years 2007 and 2009, the number slightly recovered in 2010. The number of selected applications on the Modernisation of Higher Education slightly increased over time. The number of selected applications within the Erasmus Network Actions (academic and structural networks together) initially increased, but fell back to eight in 2010. The number of selected Accompanying Measures projects increased slightly from 2008 to 2010.

The differences between the different actions are also reflected in the budget available for each of them. Chart 87 shows the amount of awarded grants per action per year. The budget granted to multilateral projects has increased over the last three years, after an initial decrease in 2008 and is the action with the highest budget. Most of the different project types belong to this action (Curriculum Development, Virtual Campuses, Modernisation of Higher Education and Cooperation of Higher Education Institutions and Enterprises). The development in the number of network applications selected is also reflected in the development of the awarded grants, which more than doubled from

2007 to 2008 but decreased during the last two years. Similar trend is visible in the Accompanying Measures, where the amount of grants developed in accordance with number of selected applications and doubled from last year.

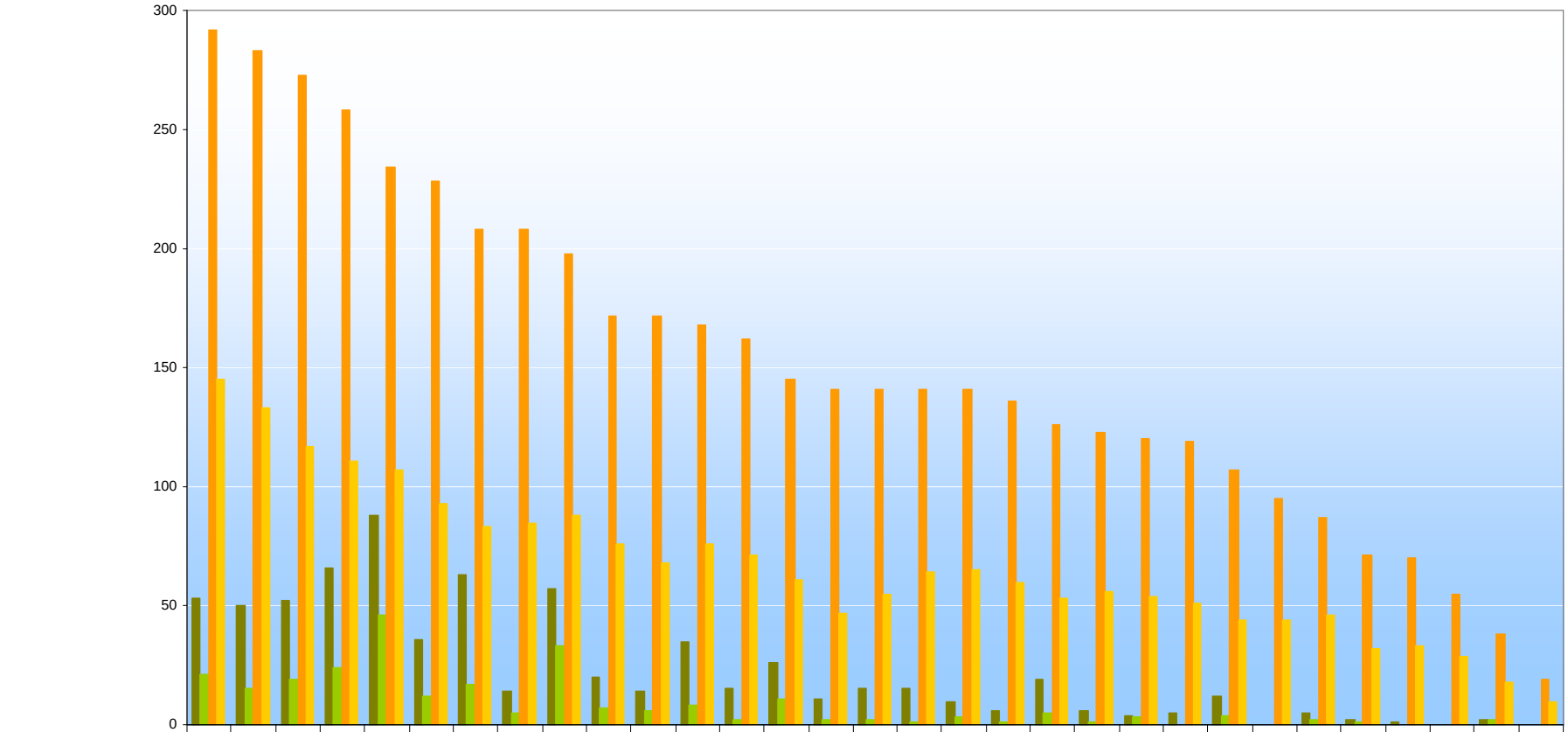
Chart 87: Total amount of awarded grants per category of University Cooperation Projects: 2007 – 2010



	Multilateral Projects	Network Projects	Accompanying Measures
2007	13.157.857	3.599.353	823.765
2008	10.729.370	7.483.751	456.562
2009	11.473.186	7.316.028	515.700
2010	14.153.021	4.418.737	1.092.719

Activity and performance in the Erasmus University Cooperation Projects, as well as trends overtime, are related to the participation of individual countries as is shown by the following charts.

Chart 88: Total number of Erasmus University Cooperation Project proposals per country, indicating coordinator and partner and submitted vs. selected proposals: 2007 – 2010



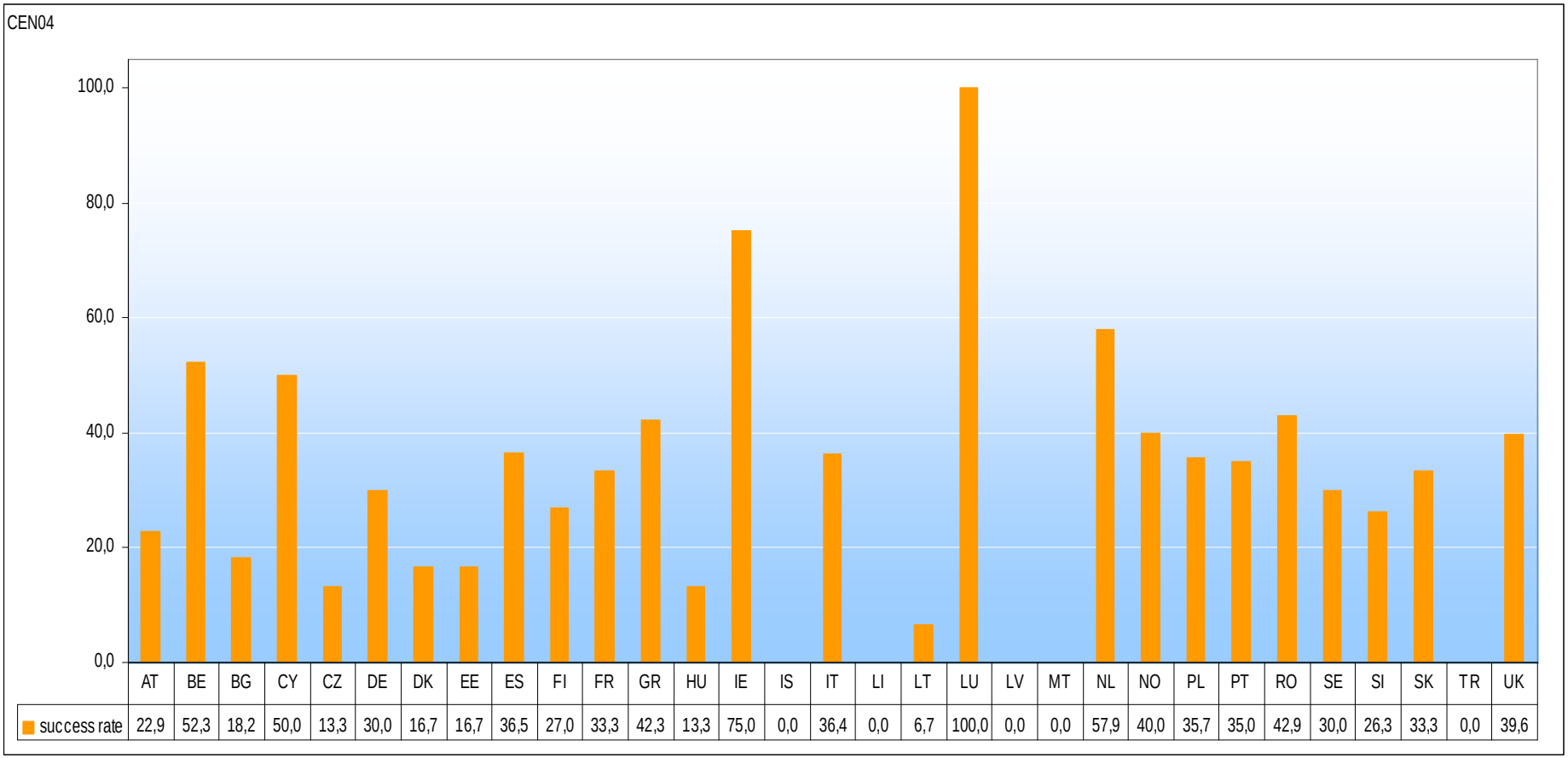
	UK	DE	ES	IT	BE	FR	FI	PL	NL	PT	RO	AT	HU	GR	BG	CZ	LT	SE	EE	SI	DK	IE	TR	SK	LV	NO	CY	MT	IS	LU	LI
Submitted as Coordinator	53	50	52	66	88	36	63	14	57	20	14	35	15	26	11	15	15	10	6	19	6	4	5	12	0	5	2	1	0	2	0
Selected as Coordinator	21	15	19	24	46	12	17	5	33	7	6	8	2	11	2	2	1	3	1	5	1	3	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	2	0
Submitted as Partner	292	283	273	258	234	228	208	208	198	172	172	168	162	145	141	141	141	141	136	126	123	120	119	107	95	87	71	70	55	38	19
Selected as Coordinator	145	133	117	111	107	93	83	85	88	76	68	76	71	61	47	55	64	65	60	53	56	54	51	44	44	46	32	33	29	18	10

Up until 2010, the UK submitted the highest number of proposals and had the highest number of partners in other proposals. However, in 2010 the countries that submitted the most applications were Belgium (23), followed by Spain (18), Italy, the Netherlands and the UK (with 17 each). Belgium was also the most successful country in terms of applications approved with 12 successfully accepted.

Although this gives already some hints about the activity of a country in the Erasmus University Cooperation Projects, the total number of submitted and selected proposals per country have to be put into perspective. The success rate, in chart 89 below is shown as the percentage of selected applications per coordinating country from 2007 to 2010.

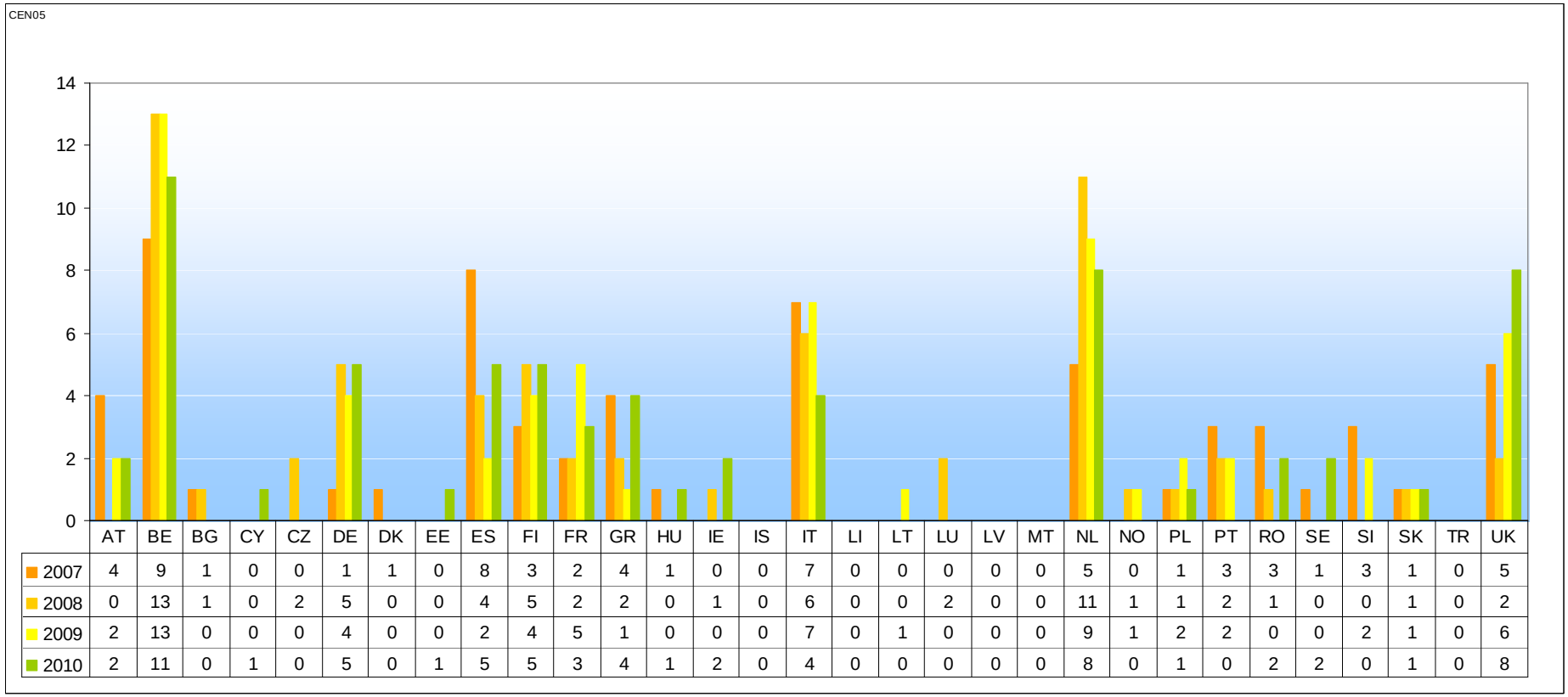
The average success rate for proposals of coordinating countries was 36 % from 2007 to 2010 from 2007 to 2010. Although Luxemburg had a success rate of 100% as coordinating country, it should be noted that Luxemburg only submitted and coordinated two projects during the whole period. Similar situation applies to Ireland with 75% success rate with three projects coordinated over the four years. The most active countries (the UK, Spain, Italy, and Belgium) have all had success rate above the average. As noted before, Belgium is the best performer as a coordinating country in total numbers (see chart 90). Overall, 13 countries out of the 31 participating countries had a success rate above average: Belgium, Cyprus, Spain, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania and the UK. Iceland, Liechtenstein and Latvia have never submitted a proposal for a centralised action as a coordinator.

Chart 89: Success rate in % of submitted Erasmus University Project proposal per coordinating country: 2007 – 2010



	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	ES	FI	FR	GR	HU	IE	IS	IT	LI	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	NO	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	TR	UK
success rate	22,9	52,3	18,2	50,0	13,3	30,0	16,7	16,7	36,5	27,0	33,3	42,3	13,3	75,0	0,0	36,4	0,0	6,7	100,0	0,0	0,0	57,9	40,0	35,7	35,0	42,9	30,0	26,3	33,3	0,0	39,6

Chart 90: Selected Erasmus University Cooperation Project proposals per coordinating country: 2007 – 2010



	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	ES	FI	FR	GR	HU	IE	IS	IT	LI	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	NO	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	TR	UK
2007	4	9	1	0	0	1	1	0	8	3	2	4	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	3	3	1	3	1	0	5
2008	0	13	1	0	2	5	0	0	4	5	2	2	0	1	0	6	0	0	2	0	0	11	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	2
2009	2	13	0	0	0	4	0	0	2	4	5	1	0	0	0	7	0	1	0	0	0	9	1	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	6
2010	2	11	0	1	0	5	0	1	5	5	3	4	1	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	8

7 Erasmus Programme budget

The Erasmus Programme experienced a sharp increase in its budget at the onset of the Lifelong Learning Programme in 2007. The funding for the Erasmus Programme under the Lifelong Learning programme for the seven year period 2007-2013 is estimated at some 3.1 billion euro.

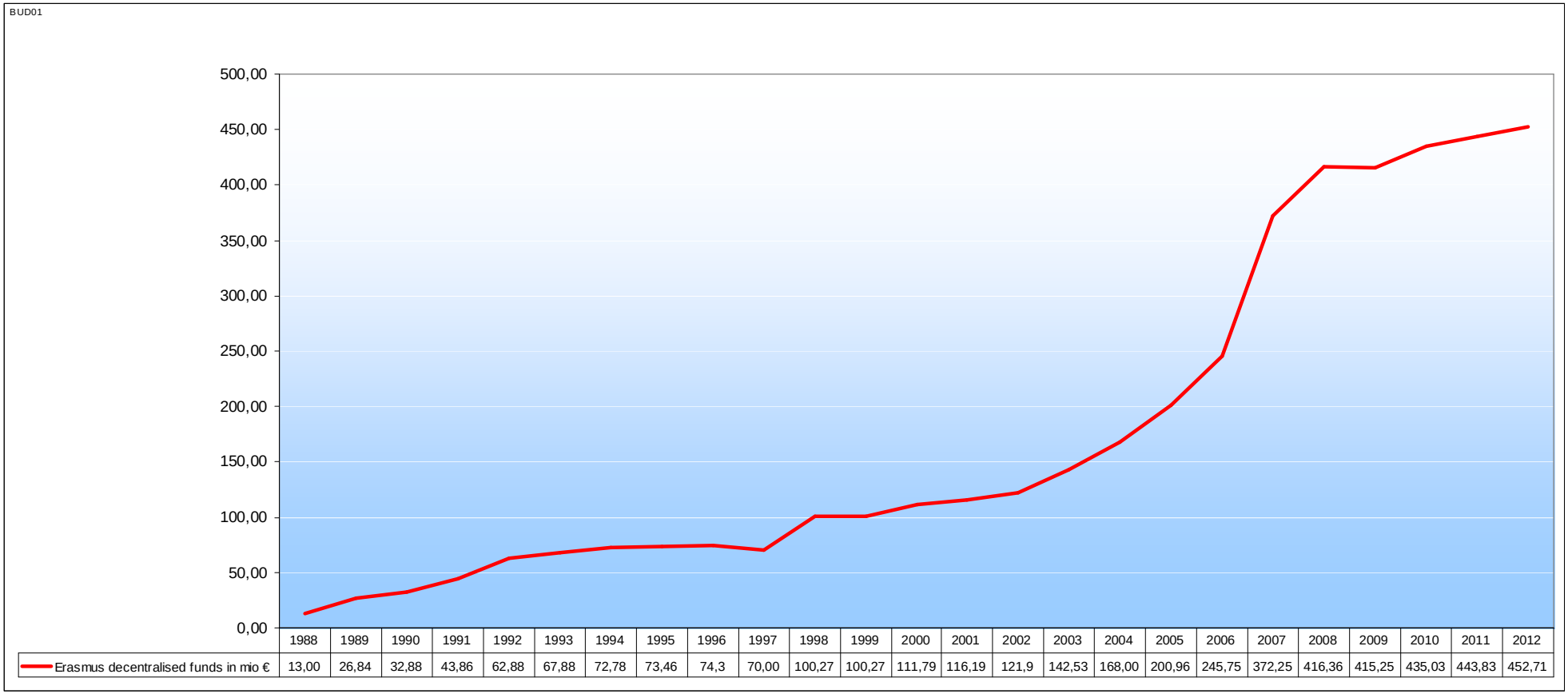
In 2009 the budget for the Erasmus decentralised actions amounted to EUR 415.25 million, a slight decrease from the previous year (down from EUR 416.36 million). Increases in the annual budget until 2013 are expected at a higher but still moderate rate. For the period 2011-2013 it is estimated that the increases in the budget will be below the increase of the cost of living index as estimated by Eurostat.

The Erasmus budget is for the most part managed by National Agencies in each of the 32 participating countries. Approximately 96% of the total Erasmus budget is used to fund mobility actions (so called "decentralised actions") run by the LLP National Agencies in each country. These actions include student and staff mobility as well as Intensive Programmes (IPs) and Erasmus Intensive Language Courses (EILCs). Erasmus University Cooperation Project, i.e. multilateral projects, networks and accompanying measures, account for some 4% of the Erasmus budget. These are managed centrally by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency in Brussels (EACEA).

Chart 91 shows the evolution of the budget for Erasmus decentralised actions since 1988 until 2012. It should be noted that during this period participation of the programme has expanded from eleven countries in 1988 to 32 countries participating in the academic year 2009/10[19].

[19] Evolution in participating countries:
1992/93 participation was opened to EFTA countries
After 1995/96 Switzerland ceased to participate
1995-1997: EU-15 + EFTA states
1998: Participation expanded to include also Czech Republic, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic and Cyprus
1999: Participation expanded to include also Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and Slovenia
2000: Participation also of Malta
2004: Participation also of Turkey

Chart 91: Budget for Erasmus decentralised actions from 1988-2012

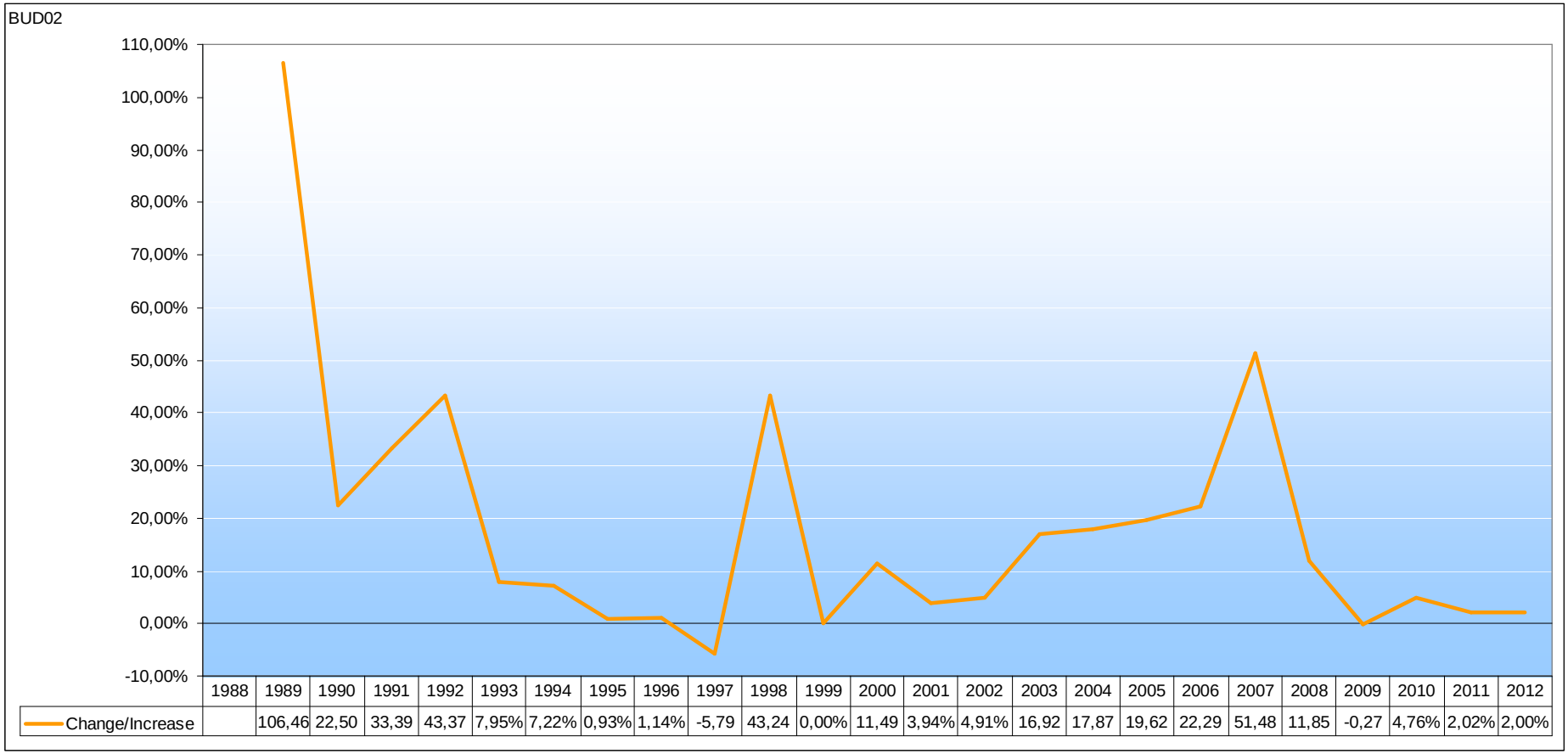


	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Erasmus decentralised funds in mio €	13,00	26,84	32,88	43,86	62,88	67,88	72,78	73,46	74,3	70,00	100,27	100,27	111,79	116,19	121,9	142,53	168,00	200,96	245,75	372,25	416,36	415,25	435,03	443,83	452,71

* The budget from 2010 onwards is provisional

Chart 92 below shows the expected year-on-year percentage increase in the Erasmus decentralised budget until 2012.

Chart 92: Expected percentage change/increase in the Erasmus decentralised budget until 2012



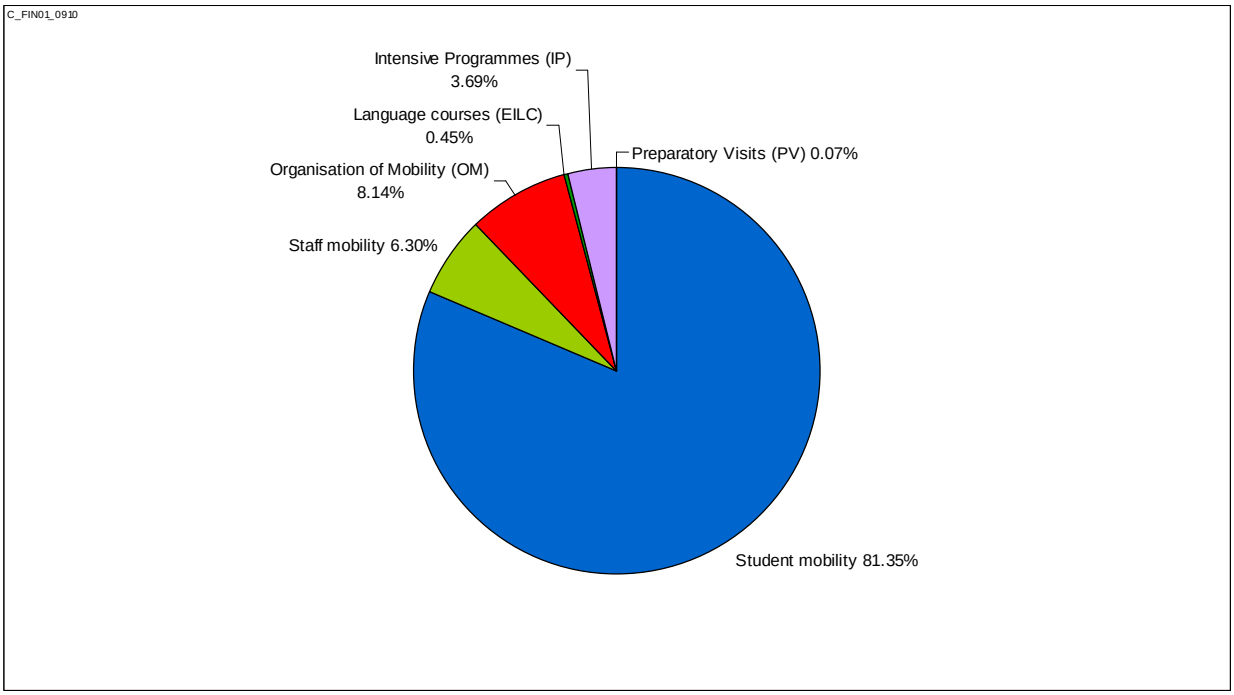
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Change/Increase		106,46	22,50	33,39	43,37	7,95%	7,22%	0,93%	1,14%	-5,79	43,24	0,00%	11,49	3,94%	4,91%	16,92	17,87	19,62	22,29	51,48	11,85	-0,27	4,76%	2,02%	2,00%

* The budget from 2010 onwards is provisional

Overall, the higher education institutions in the participating countries used around 96.9% of the available funds in 2009/10 (up from 96.2% in 2008/09).

Out of the total decentralised funds spent, 81.35% went to student mobility (studies and placements) followed by organisation of mobility with 8,14% (up from 7.83% in previous year), and 6.30% went to staff mobility (staff training and teaching assignments). The remainder of the funding went to finance Intensive Programmes which used 3.69% of the budget (up from 2.81% in previous year), Erasmus Intensive Language Courses with 0.45% and Preparatory Visits with 0.07%.

Chart 93: Use of Erasmus decentralised funds by type of action in 2009/10



The National Agencies spent EUR 327.5 million 331 million on student mobility via higher education institutions and placement consortia. EUR 25.4 million were spent on staff mobility. EUR 32.7 million were spent on organisation of mobility grants.

3010 higher education institutions in Europe sent students and staff on Erasmus mobility activities in the academic year 2009/10. The average EU grant for the organisation of mobility per institution (including consortia) was EUR 10 880.[20] The average organisation of mobility grant per mobile student or staff in the 32 participating countries was EUR 134.5 In addition, 73 placement consortia organising student placements received on average an organisation of mobility grant of EUR 13 135 in 2009/10, making the average per participant EUR 175.

361 Erasmus Intensive Language Courses spent EUR 1.82 million in 2009/10 in 23 countries. The average EU grant per course was EUR 5029 and the average cost per student was EUR 302. The total EU grant spent on the 384 Intensive Programmes organised in 2009/10 was EUR 14.87 million. Each Intensive Programme received on average EUR 37 700. The total EU grant spent on Preparatory Visits in 2009/10 was EUR 275 000.

[20] The calculation of the average EU grant for organisation of mobility includes institutions that are part of Placement Consortia and not just organisation of mobility grants receiving higher education institutions.

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