



Information for Participants

OSES Delphi Survey – Online Survey of Experts and Stakeholders

What is the Purpose of This Study?

EDU-LAB is a multinational European research project focused on understanding and improving the pathways and transitions of young people (aged 15–30) in education and training and their entry into the labour market.

The OSES Delphi Survey collects expert opinions on key challenges, trends, and policy options related to education-to-work transitions across Europe. Through two survey rounds, we aim to identify areas of consensus and divergence among experts and stakeholders from different countries and sectors.

Your insights will contribute to evidence-based policy recommendations that can benefit young people and policymakers across Europe.

Who is Conducting This Study?

EDU-LAB is funded by the European Commission's Horizon Europe programme (Grant Agreement No. 101177428) and implemented by a consortium of 11 European universities and research organizations. The project runs from 2025 to 2027.

The OSES Delphi Survey is coordinated by the **Economica Institute of Economic Research** in Vienna, Austria. The entire project is coordinated by Economica. All EDU-LAB consortium partners act as joint data controllers under a Joint Controllership Agreement, which is available on the project website: [JCA Download](#)

This research programme and its instruments have been approved by the European Commission and reviewed by the Ethics Committee of Economica.

Further details can be found on the project website: www.edu-lab-project.eu

How Will the Study Proceed?

Survey Duration

The questionnaire takes approximately **35 minutes** to complete.

Two-Wave Delphi Process

The OSES Delphi Survey consists of two rounds (waves):

- **Wave 1:** You will evaluate a series of statements on education and labour market transitions using rating scales and have the opportunity to provide comments.



- **Wave 2:** Participants who opt in will receive a summary of the aggregated Wave 1 results and be invited to reconsider or refine their views in light of the collective feedback.

Participation in Wave 2 is optional. At the end of Wave 1, you will be asked whether you wish to be contacted for the second round. If you agree, you will be directed to a separate form to provide your email address.

Data Separation

Your survey responses and your email address (if provided for Wave 2) are stored in separate databases. This means your answers cannot be linked to your identity.

What Data Will Be Collected?

The survey collects:

- **Sociodemographic information:** Professional background, country, sector of expertise, and similar characteristics (collected anonymously within the survey)
- **Your assessments:** Ratings and comments on the survey statements
- **Email address (optional):** Only if you choose to participate in Wave 2, collected through a separate consent form

No other personally identifiable information is collected within the survey itself. The only personal data collected is the email address for Wave 2 participation, which is stored separately from your responses.

How Is Your Data Protected?

Technical Security

The survey is hosted on LimeSurvey's GDPR-compliant cloud platform, with servers located in the EU. LimeSurvey GmbH acts as a data processor under a GDPR-compliant data processing agreement. Email addresses (for Wave 2 participation) are stored separately from survey responses, ensuring your answers cannot be linked to your identity.

Pseudonymisation

All survey responses are pseudonymised. Your responses are identified only by a random participant code, not by your name or other identifying information. Since email addresses are stored separately, your survey responses cannot be linked to your identity.

Access Restrictions

Access to the survey data is strictly limited to authorised researchers within the EDU-LAB consortium. Only the core research team at Economica has access to the LimeSurvey administration system.

Data Retention

- Personal data (email addresses) will be retained for a maximum of two years after the end of the project for validation purposes, then securely deleted.

- Anonymised datasets may be preserved for scientific reuse and deposited in the open-access repository Zenodo for at least five years after project completion.

Legal Basis for Data Processing

The processing of your personal data is carried out in accordance with the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679**, specifically:

- **Article 6(1)(a)**: the data subject has given consent to the processing of their personal data for the purposes of scientific research.

The EDU-LAB project follows strict data protection safeguards, including pseudonymisation, purpose limitation, data minimisation, and security measures with access restrictions.

Your Rights Under GDPR

As a participant, you have the following rights regarding your personal data:

- **Right of access**: You are entitled to know what information we hold about you or to receive confirmation that your personal data is not being processed.
- **Right to rectification**: You have the right to have any incorrect, inaccurate, or incomplete personal data corrected without undue delay.
- **Right to erasure ("right to be forgotten")**: In certain circumstances, you have the right to have your personal data erased from our records.
- **Right to restriction of processing**: You may request that we restrict the processing of your personal data.
- **Right to object**: In certain circumstances, you may object to the processing of your personal data at any time for compelling personal reasons.
- **Right to data portability**: You have the right to obtain a copy of your personal data in a commonly used, machine-readable format.
- **Right to lodge a complaint**: You have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority (Data Protection Authority) in your country of residence if you believe your data protection rights have been violated.

These rights can be exercised as long as the data remains identifiable. Once data has been fully anonymised, it can no longer be linked to individual participants and is therefore no longer subject to these rights under GDPR.

Note: In accordance with Article 89(2) of GDPR, some rights (such as erasure and objection) may be lawfully restricted if necessary for scientific research purposes, provided that such restrictions are proportionate and necessary to ensure research validity.

Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may:

- Decline to answer questions in the survey
- Stop the survey at any time and return to it later
- Withdraw your participation at any time without providing a reason and without any negative consequences

If you wish to withdraw after submitting your responses, or if you wish to have your email address removed from the Wave 2 contact list, please contact us using the details below.

Contact Information

OSES Coordinator

For questions about the survey, your participation, or to request withdrawal:

Daniel Helmenstein, MSc.

OSES Coordinator

Economica Institute of Economic Research

Email: daniel.helmenstein@economica.eu

Data Protection Officer

For questions specifically related to data protection:

Mag. Harald Schitnig

Data Protection Officer

Economica Institute of Economic Research

Liniengasse 50-52, 1060 Vienna, Austria

Email: dataprotection@edu-lab-project.eu

Supervisory Authority

If you believe your data protection rights have been violated, you may lodge a complaint with your national Data Protection Authority:

Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)

Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, United Kingdom

Email: icocasework@ico.org.uk

Website: www.ico.org.uk

Consent

By proceeding with the survey, you confirm that:

- You have read and understood this information sheet
- You have had the opportunity to ask questions
- You understand that your participation is voluntary and that you may withdraw at any time without consequences

- You consent to the processing of your data as described above

Digital consent is obtained at the start of the survey through a dedicated consent screen. Your consent is recorded electronically.