

Chapter 6

European Universities and Educational and Occupational Intergenerational Social Mobility

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6.1 Theoretical Contexts

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European higher education systems in the last few decades have been in a period of intensive quantitative expansion. Both participation rates and student numbers in most European countries are still growing – but are the chances of young people from lower socioeconomic classes to enter universities higher than before? Under massification conditions, are the chances of young people from poorer backgrounds actually increasing, relative to increasing chances of young people from higher socioeconomic classes and wealthier backgrounds? Are both overall social mobility and relative social mobility of underrepresented classes increasing at the same rate? That is a question about changing social mobility *relative* to the share of particular socioeconomic classes in the population as a whole. Social mobility in increasingly knowledge-driven economies is powerfully linked to equitable access to higher education. And the question of inequality in access to higher education is usually asked today in the context of educational expansion:

the key question about educational expansion is whether it reduces inequality by providing more opportunities for persons from disadvantaged strata, or magnifies inequality, by expanding opportunities disproportionately for those who are already privileged. (Arum et al. 2007: 1)

Educational expansion, in most general terms, and in the majority of European countries studied, seems to be reducing inequality of access. There are ever more

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26 students with lower socioeconomic backgrounds and ever more graduates whose
 27 parents had only primary education credentials. The chances of the latter to enter
 28 higher education are increasing across Europe but are still very low. The intergen-
 29 erational patterns of transmission of education are still very rigid across all European
 30 systems: the offspring of the low educated is predominantly low educated; the off-
 31 spring of the highly educated is predominantly highly educated. Structurally similar
 32 patterns can be shown for occupations: the offspring of those in the best occupations
 33 predominantly takes best occupations, and the offspring of those in the worst
 34 occupations predominantly takes the worst occupations, across all European countries
 35 (“best” being structurally similar and linked to both middle-class earnings and
 36 lifestyles in Europe).

37 Equitable access to higher education is linked in this chapter is empirically
 38 linked to the social background of students viewed from two parallel perspectives –
 39 educational background of parents and occupational background of parents – and
 40 studied through the large-scale EU-SILC (European Union Survey on Income and
 41 Living Conditions) dataset.

42 It is generally assumed in both current scholarly and policy literature that major
 43 higher education systems in the European Union will be further expanding in the
 44 next decade (Altbach et al. 2010; King 2004; Morgan et al. 2009; Trow 2007;
 45 Attewell and Newman 2010; EC 2011). Expanding systems, in general terms, tend
 46 to contribute to social inclusion and equity because the expanding pie, as argued in
 47 a recent cross-national study, “extends a valued good to a broader spectrum of the
 48 population” (Arum et al. 2007: 29). More young people go to universities and
 49 graduate from them, across all socioeconomic classes. At the same time, as Anna
 50 Vignoles argued in the UK context of high fees,

51 It remains the case that young people from poorer backgrounds are very much under-
 52 represented, relative to their share of the population as a whole. The need to further widen
 53 participation for these poorer students ... therefore remains a pressing policy issue.
 54 (Vignoles 2013: 112)

55 In the knowledge economy discourse, the expansion of higher education systems
 56 is key and high enrolment rates in the EU have been viewed as a major policy goal
 57 by the European Commission throughout the last decade, at least since the Lisbon
 58 Strategy was launched in 2000, followed by the Europe 2020 strategy launched
 59 in 2010. The European Commission’s recent Communication (September 2011)
 60 states again that attainment levels in higher education in Europe

61 are still largely insufficient to meet the projected growth in knowledge-intensive jobs,
 62 reinforce Europe’s capacity to benefit from globalisation, and sustain the European social
 63 model. (EC 2011: 3)

64 The empirical data from both the EU-27 and the OECD area demonstrate that
 65 indeed educational expansion has been in full swing across the whole developed
 66 world in the last two decades (and that educational contraction in the next decade
 67 is a serious policy issue for only several countries: most notably, Poland in the
 68 European Union and Korea and Japan in Asia. The three countries are exceptions
 69 to the general rule in which further educational expansion is expected, though,

as discussed further in Kwiek (2013a, b)). The expansion has several new dimensions which may include, to a degree depending on a country, nontraditional routes to higher education, nontraditional age students, shorter study programs (bachelor level rather than masters level), and lifelong learning opportunities. The expansion in Europe thus includes both new students and returning students, and the social base of higher education systems is expected to be further enlarged.

The starting point in research into equity in access to higher education for young Europeans, from a European policy perspective, could be the London Communiqué of the Bologna Process (2007) which states (reflecting current social sciences research on equitable access to higher education, social stratification, and social justice) that “the student body ... should reflect the diversity of our population” (London Communiqué 2007). Similarly, the Bucharest Communiqué (2012: 2) stresses that

The student body entering and graduating from higher education institutions should reflect the diversity of Europe’s populations. We will step up our efforts towards underrepresented groups to develop the social dimension of higher education, reduce inequalities and provide adequate student support services, counselling and guidance, flexible learning paths and alternative access routes, including recognition of prior learning.

Cross-national comparisons of equitable access to higher education and its changing patterns over time can be shown based on the EU-SILC and, in particular, based on its 2005 module on “The Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty.”

Equity in access to higher education, or, in other words, more open intergenerational social mobility through higher education, is positively correlated with human capital development (as well as the development of human capabilities) and with the economic competitiveness of nations (Kwiek 2012b). As is well known from comparative studies conducted by both the World Bank and the OECD, both the long-term social and long-term financial costs of educational failure are high: those without skills, to fully participate socially and economically in the life of their communities, generate higher costs in the areas of healthcare, income support, child welfare, and security. Equitable access to higher education enhances social cohesion and trust and increases democratic participation (and all those dimensions are systematically measured by the OECD through their indicators). There is a positive correlation between the highest levels of education attained and democratic participation, voting patterns, health, and other indicators of well-being. This is what human capital approach stresses.

But the same positive correlations are shown, in a different social science vocabulary and based on different founding principles, in the capabilities approach. The capabilities approach – as an “alternative perspective” (Schneider and Otto: 2009: 8; see Walker 2006: 144) and a “fundamental alternative to neoliberalism” (Otto and Ziegler 2010: 232) – rightly stresses that education is “far more than human capital,” “expands capabilities and functionings,” “enlarges valuable choices,” “influences democratic social change by forming critical voices,” “involves obligations to others,” “requires pedagogical process freedom,” and “fosters agency and well-being” (Walker 2010a: 159–167; see Otto and Ziegler 2010; Nussbaum 2010, 2011; Walker and Unterhalter 2007). What Melanie Walker terms fundamental

114 elements of a “just education” are far more resistant to be measured than the
 115 traditional OECD indicators. The difference between the human capital approach
 116 and the capabilities approach in their account of education is clear: “if education
 117 makes someone a better producer able to contribute more to national income then
 118 education is deemed successful. In the capability approach a human capital basis for
 119 education is useful but limited” (Walker 2010a: 159). Amartya Sen in *Development*
 120 *as Freedom* makes a clear link between capabilities and freedom: “a person’s
 121 capability refers to the alternative combinations of functionings that are feasible for
 122 her to achieve. Capability is thus a kind of freedom: the substantive freedom to
 123 achieve alternative functioning combinations” (Sen 1999: 75). The notion of capability
 124 is central for Sen because someone’s “*actual functionings* do not, in themselves,
 125 tell us very much about how well off she is. ... The capability approach captures
 126 differences by looking behind the actual functionings at the opportunities or
 127 freedom people have to function” (Brighouse and Unterhalter 2010: 199–200). Or as
 128 Hans-Uwe Otto (2009: 48) put it succinctly,

129 instead of looking at the means, the capabilities approach focuses on what individuals are
 130 capable of doing. ... The capabilities approach distinguishes between the individual’s
 131 dispositions and the external conditions that help these dispositions to manifest in reality.

132 Functionings refer to whether individuals actually do or do not do something
 133 specific. In contrast, the capabilities perspective “addresses the objective set of
 134 possibilities of realizing different combinations of specific qualities of functionings”
 135 (Otto 2009: 49). In the capability approach, there is a rich understanding of agency:
 136 “each person is a dignified and responsible human being who shapes her or his own
 137 life in the light of goals that matter” (Walker 2010a: 167).

138 A particular strength in the capabilities approach, as Elaine Unterhalter and
 139 Melanie Walker (2007: 251) argue, is that

140 while broadly oriented to justice, through its emphasis on capability (potential to function)
 141 it does not prescribe one version of good life but allows for plurality in choosing lives we have
 142 reason to value. The approach emphasizes the importance of capability over functioning –
 143 not a single idea of human flourishing, but a range of possibilities and a concern with
 144 facilitating valuable choices. Above all, the capability approach offers a freedoms-focused
 145 and equality-oriented approach to practicing and evaluating education and social justice in
 146 all education sectors and in diverse social contexts.

147 The capability approach, as opposed to resourcist approaches, looks at a
 148 relationship between the resources people have and what they can do with them.
 149 Consequently, a person’s capability refers to the alternative combinations of
 150 functionings that are feasible for the person to achieve (Unterhalter and Brighouse
 151 2007: 74). As they emphasize, defending the capability approach against Thomas
 152 Pogge’s objections,

153 One of the apparent advantages of the capability approach over its rivals is its sensitivity to
 154 inequalities of natural endowments. The value of resources is usually defined without
 155 regard to what their holder can do with them; but the capability approach always looks at
 156 how well an individual can convert her bundle of resources into functionings. (Unterhalter and
 157 Brighouse 2007: 75)

One important remark has to be made, though. The human capital approach has been providing ideas, standard vocabulary, and related empirical data through large-scale datasets about higher education for more than four decades. The capability approach, in contrast, has been more systematically applied to higher education relatively recently (see especially Walker 2006, 2010a, b; Flores-Crespo 2007; Unterhalter 2010, 2013; Brighouse 2010; Boni and Walker 2013). Although Amartya Sen was never focused on universities, Martha C. Nussbaum was, with her recent *Not For Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities* (2010) in the forefront. Consequently, the capabilities approach could potentially provide new interesting intellectual tools to deal with old higher education concerns, including both equity and social mobility. As Walker concludes in her book on what she terms “higher education pedagogies,”

the capability approach addresses both processes and outcomes of learning and pedagogy. It robustly challenges the narrowness of human capital theory in which human lives are viewed as the means to economic gains. ... Above all, it points to a problem and suggests a practical approach. It requires not only that we talk about and theorize change but that we are able to point to and *do* change through the focus on beings and doings in and through higher education. (Walker 2006: 144, emphasis in original)

Although at the moment the capabilities approach does not seem to contribute significantly to mainstream higher education research, and the community of capability approach researchers in higher education is small and limited to a few countries, its future potential should not be disregarded. So far, the number of both books and papers linking, sometimes indirectly, higher education and capabilities approach is very small: by the end of 2013, their total number available in English does not seem to exceed 50, and they come from mostly the same scholars. But higher education research as a field of studies has always been open to theoretical and methodological influences of new approaches. The future will show how this approach can contribute to the field and whether a human development and capabilities approach perspective are indeed powerful enough to inform “policies and practices” of higher education (Boni and Walker 2013: 7). As Alejandra Boni and Melanie Walker stress, “human development values, capabilities, agency, all are key concepts to re-imagine a different vision of the university, beyond the goal to prepare people as part of a workforce” (Boni and Walker 2013: 5).

The influence of capabilities approach on national politics and welfare policies, in contrast to its influence on research into higher education, can already be substantial, becoming in some countries (e.g., Germany) a part of the “official political agenda” (Otto and Ziegler 2010: 232). It might be possible that the capabilities approach is useful for changing social practices, not only or not exclusively for theorizing about social practices. Such a possibility is clearly suggested by Walker (2010a: 168) when she argues that “capability formation in and through education would widen possibilities and struggle against inequality. It would have an orientation to global justice,” especially if Karl Polanyi’s “pendulum effect” (swinging back and forth between the state and the market) is at work in European societies, as suggested elsewhere (Walker and Boni 2013: 22–24). Elaine Unterhalter’s (2010: 95–108)

202 three types of pedagogies need to be distinguished: “pedagogies of consequence”
 203 (linked to human capital approach and an instrumental view of higher education),
 204 “pedagogies of construction” (higher education asserting and practicing the
 205 importance of moral equality and justice as supreme values), and “pedagogies of
 206 connection” (concerned with equality). An instrumental view of higher education
 207 no longer suffices in reimagining an institution of the university under globalization
 208 pressures.

209 Interestingly, Elaine Unterhalter and Vincent Carpentier (2010: 3–9) refer to
 210 inequalities in and through higher education not as a “dilemma” but as a “tetralemma”
 211 that might guide what is to be done in four rather than in two different directions.
 212 The tetrallemmas of higher education, or the four different elements pulling higher
 213 education apart, are the following: economic growth, equity, democracy, and
 214 sustainability. And the question is: how can we hold together aspirations for all
 215 of them at the same time? Each of them is pulling higher education in different
 216 directions so that resolving one dimension means “compromising or abandoning at
 217 least one other” (Walker and Boni 2013: 16). Equality (and inequality) is at the very
 218 center of the tetralemma and inequality may produce instability which undermines
 219 democracy. Without suitably educated citizens, no democracy can remain stable
 220 (Nussbaum 2010: 10). Equitable access to higher education and social mobility
 221 through higher education are a fundamental part of the tetralemma. As they argue,
 222 “higher education is both potential source and solution to inequalities which
 223 confront us” (Unterhalter and Carpentier 2010: 16).

224 Traditionally, education, and in knowledge economies especially higher education,
 225 is the main channel of upward social intergenerational mobility. It enables individuals
 226 to cross class boundaries between generations. Education, and higher education in
 227 particular, enables intergenerational social mobility to a higher degree in more
 228 equitable societies and to a lower degree in less equitable societies.

229 An equitable or mobile society seems to be a relational (or positional) notion:
 230 some societies are clearly more equitable or mobile than other societies, and some
 231 clusters of countries seem to be more equitable or mobile than other clusters of
 232 countries. Intergenerational social mobility reflects the equality of opportunities.
 233 Younger generations “inherit” education and “inherit” occupations from their parents
 234 to a higher degree in less mobile societies. Young Europeans’ educational futures and
 235 occupational futures look different in more and in less mobile European societies.
 236 As defined by the OECD:

237 Intergenerational social mobility refers to the relationship between the socioeconomic
 238 status of parents and the status their children will attain as adults. Put differently, mobility
 239 reflects the extent to which individuals move up (or down) the social ladder compared with
 240 their parents. A society can be deemed more or less mobile depending on whether the link
 241 between parents’ and children’s social status as adults is looser or tighter. In a relatively
 242 immobile society an individual’s wage, education or occupation tends to be strongly related
 243 to those of his/her parents. (OECD 2010: 4)

244 In the majority of higher education systems in Europe, higher educational
 245 credentials lead to “better jobs” and better life chances (for “good jobs” in the USA,
 246 see Holzer et al. (2011)). Nevertheless, from a theoretical perspective of “positional

goods,” developed for the first time in the 1970s by a British economist, Fred Hirsch, there is always “social congestion” in every society: the number of good jobs (for instance, prestigious white-collar jobs leading to high incomes or to stable middle-class lifestyles) in a labor market system is always limited, and top jobs in a given system will always be limited, no matter how well educated the workforce is (see Kwiek 2006, 2010). The division of economy in particular EU member states into major sectors (e.g., manufacturing, services, agriculture in OECD categories, or into major nine occupations, and “professionals” vs. all other types of occupations in a United Nations terminology in particular) and its changes over time should be an important point of references in all “new skills for new jobs” theoretical exercises presented by the European Commission linking the growth in jobs requiring high skills with the growth in students numbers. In general, European societies, interested in skills and jobs, should bear in mind that higher education is a powerfully positional good: it may define the position of its possessors only relative to other in the labor market. Educational expansion leads to an increased number of highly qualified people who find it increasingly difficult to have stable, middle-class jobs, across the whole developed world.

Harry Brighouse and Elaine Unterhalter (2007: 78–83, 2010: 207–212) presented a model to measure justice in education, grounded in both Rawl’s social primary good theory and Amartya Sen’s and Martha Nussbaum’s capabilities approach and treating both approaches as complementary. In their model, the three overlapping fields that intersect with freedom (agency freedom and well-being freedom) relate to three different aspects of the value of education. These are the instrumental value of education, the intrinsic value of education, and the positional value of education. The instrumental value helps to secure work at a certain level and political and social participation in certain forms; the intrinsic value refers to the benefits the person gets from education which are not merely instrumental for some other benefit they may be able to use to get it. And the positional value of education, most important to us here, is

insofar as its benefits for the educated person depend on how successful she has been relative to others. For example, for any individual child aiming to enter a prestigious university, for which there is a fixed number of places, what matters to her is not at all how successful she has been in school, but only how successful she has been *relative to her competitors*. (Brighouse and Unterhalter 2010: 210, emphasis mine)

In a very similar vein, educational expansion in labor markets already saturated with higher education graduates has certainly different consequences than educational expansion in labor markets which are still far away from a state of saturation (the best example being monetary rewards from higher education in such clusters of countries as Central Europe on the one hand and the Nordic countries on the other). On average, CEE countries still have considerably less educated labor force, so – one can assume – monetary rewards from higher education, or wage premium for higher education, are higher. Nonmonetary rewards include, for instance, low levels of unemployment for higher education graduates, combined with relatively faster transitions from unemployment to employment, as analyses of the EU-SILC data demonstrate.

292 Also, any research, including present research based on EU-SILC microdata,
293 should be cognizant of the potential limit to individual benefits from higher education
294 attainment level as an individual shield against unemployment or as an individual
295 life strategy inevitably leading to traditional middle-class lifestyles. From the
296 theoretical perspective in which higher education credentials are “positional goods,”
297 while collective, or public, benefits from educational expansion are increasing,
298 individual, or private, benefits from educational expansion, as viewed, e.g., through
299 the proxy of wage premium for higher education, do not have to be increasing.
300 In some European systems, as reported by the OECD, the wage premium has been
301 consistently high, and increasing, on a global scale, in the last decade. These are
302 postcommunist Central European economies, such as Poland, the Czech Republic,
303 Slovakia, and Hungary (Kwiek 2001). In other systems, where educational
304 expansion has started (much) earlier, the wage premium for higher education is
305 much lower and either stable or decreasing (for instance, in the Nordic countries).
306 There are several interrelated explanations but one of them is the “positional goods”
307 argument according to which the advantage of higher education credentials in
308 the labor market is relative or positional: if collective efforts of ever-increasing
309 numbers of young people are focused in the same direction, individual gains from
310 individually rational life strategies do not lead to expected results (Brown et al.
311 2011; Hirsch 1976).

312 The EU-SILC dataset offers the possibility to study inequality of educational
313 outcomes and relevant coefficients: contrasting those young Europeans whose
314 father (and/or mother) had tertiary education credentials with those whose father
315 (and/or mother) had compulsory education credentials or less. In more equitable
316 national educational regimes, not only educational trajectories of young Europeans
317 with different social backgrounds will be more similar – but also their labor market
318 trajectories will be more similar. By contrast, in less equitable national educational
319 regimes, both educational and labor market trajectories of young Europeans with
320 different social backgrounds will be markedly different. In short, the chances of
321 young Europeans from lower socioeconomic strata to attain higher education will
322 be closer to the chances of young Europeans from higher socioeconomic strata in
323 more equitable systems and in more equitable societies. Alternatively, higher
324 education will be less “inherited,” that is, less dependent on parents’ (father’s or
325 mother’s or both) education in more equitable societies.

326 Two questions need to be separated. One question is about labor market trajectories
327 of young Europeans (aged 15–34, for the purposes of the present research). Another
328 question is how labor market trajectories are determined by social circumstances
329 and family background in particular. In relatively more equitable (just, fair, open,
330 mobile, etc.) systems, the role of social background is less important than in relatively
331 less equitable (just, fair, open, mobile, etc.) systems. (There are long-standing
332 discussions in social science research what social “justice” and “fairness” in access
333 to higher education mean and what “openness” of higher education which leads to
334 higher “intergenerational social mobility” means.) Consequently, the EU-SILC
335 data allow to study both the “inheritance” of education and the “inheritance” of
336 occupations: occupations will be less “inherited,” that is, less dependent on parents’

(father's or mother's or both) occupations in more equitable societies. Cross-country differences can be shown, and especially two contrasting clusters of countries, with very low as opposed to very high social mobility, can be identified.

Different lifetime additional earnings depending on the highest level of education attained by individuals, consistently reported for the OECD area, refer not only to higher education degree taken (usually from the arts and humanities at the bottom end and medicine at the top end of the spectrum) but also to open or closed access to occupations and professions based on social and economic strata of origin (including different labor market aspirations and values and beliefs originating also from social environment in the pre-higher education periods of study). Consequently, while lifetime additional earnings refer to levels of education attained, the EU-SILC data provide clues about intergenerational mobility both in terms of educational levels of respondents and their parents and in terms of occupations of respondents and their parents.

The theoretical underpinning of the present research is the idea that higher education credentials, in the times of massification, should be increasingly viewed as (Fred Hirsch's) "positional goods": they increase the chances of better labor market trajectories only to a certain point of saturation behind which they become a must, a starting point in competition between individuals holding it, rather than a clear competitive advantage. As "social congestion" increases, that is, the number of higher education graduates increases, the role of credentials as signaling mechanisms (about abilities of graduates) is changing: as in Hirsch's memorable metaphor, standing on tiptoes in a stadium does not help to get a better view if all others around also stand on tiptoes. At the same time, *not* having higher education credentials, like not standing on tiptoes, is a serious drawback in the labor market. So credentials are sought by an ever-increasing share of young Europeans, even though their economic value may be, in many systems and increasingly so, questioned. Stable or increasing participation rates in higher education mean a bigger share of populations with higher education credentials seeking traditional white-collar occupations. What especially matters is the question whether the share of students from under-represented strata in the higher education population is increasing (as we know that their numbers are increasing).

As OECD data for the last decade show, the overall higher education attainment for the population aged 25–64 has been increasing throughout the OECD area in the 1997–2009 period, with the OECD average annual growth rate of 3.7 % and with the EU-21 average annual growth rate of 3.9 %. Average annual growth in the proportion of those with a tertiary education has exceeded 5 % in four European countries: Ireland, Luxembourg, Poland, and Portugal. The proportion of the population that had not attained upper secondary education decreased by 5 % or more per year in five European countries: Hungary, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, and the Slovak Republic. Most of the changes in educational attainment have occurred at the low and high ends of the skills distribution, largely because older workers with low levels of education are moving out of the labor force and as a result of the expansion of higher education in many countries in recent years. As OECD's *Education at a Glance* explains, this expansion has generally been met by

382 an even more rapid shift in the demand for skills in most OECD countries: the demand
 383 side can be explored in labor market indicators on employment and unemployment,
 384 earnings, incentives to invest in education, labor costs and net income, and transition
 385 from school to work, all covered in this OECD volume (OECD 2011).

386 What works on an individual basis, and especially before the level of massifi-
 387 cation or universalization of higher education is reached, does not seem to work
 388 from a larger social perspective: individual efforts may be largely lost if all young
 389 people undertake the same efforts of getting higher education credentials, as the
 390 efforts finally may not lead to increasing individual life chances. The pool of
 391 “good jobs” seems to be restricted in Europe, as elsewhere, and the idea that higher
 392 education is leading to middle-class lifestyles and standards of living for everyone
 393 may be increasingly misleading, as Brown et al. (2011) demonstrate (for Poland,
 394 see also Kwiek (2012b)).

395 Both in the USA and in Europe, the standard of living of young people is threat-
 396 ened to be lower than the standard of living of their parents, especially for those
 397 from the middle classes, as Robert Frank argues in *Falling Behind: How Rising*
 398 *Inequality Is Harming the Middle Classes* (2007). The “positional goods” perspective
 399 (represented by Fred Hirsch and Robert Frank among labor economists, and Phillip
 400 Brown and Hugh Lauder among sociologists of education; for the first time
 401 applied to education in Simon Marginson’s landmark study from 1997, *Markets in*
 402 *Education*) Marginson (1997) needs to be born in mind in any cross-country research
 403 based on the EU-SILC data.

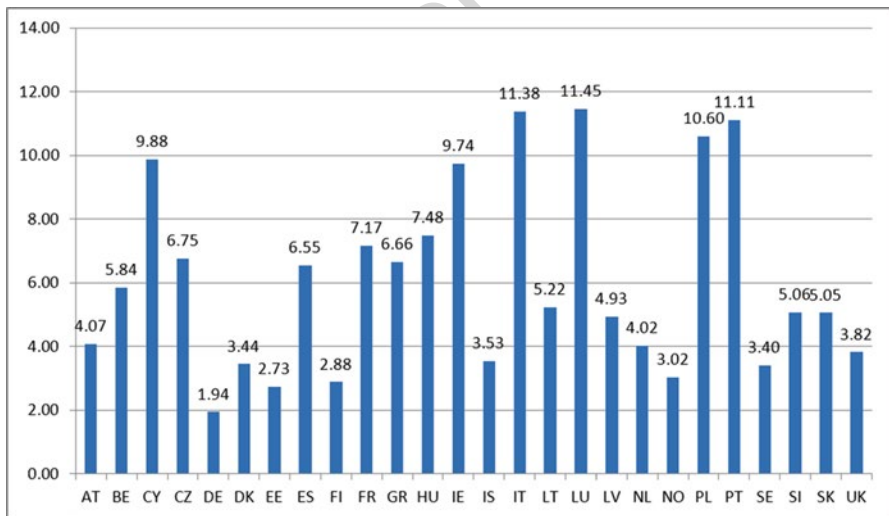
404 The initial hypothesis of the present research was that in those European countries
 405 where higher education has been more expanded, there is more equality in achieving
 406 higher education by social background – but there are also accompanying diminishing
 407 occupational and wage returns from higher education. The OECD data do not suffice
 408 to research the interrelations between the two and it is useful to strengthen this line
 409 of research by the empirical evidence derived from the EU-SILC. The EU-SILC
 410 dataset thus provides new opportunities for Europe-wide mapping of inequality.

411 **6.2 Intergenerational Social Mobility: A European Union** 412 **Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)**

413 The European Union Survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) collects
 414 microdata on income, poverty, and social exclusion at the level of households and
 415 collects information about individuals’ labor market statuses and their health.
 416 The database includes both cross-sectional data and longitudinal data. For most
 417 countries of the pool of 26, the most recent data available come from 2007 to 2008.
 418 The 2005 module on “The Intergenerational Transmission of Poverty” of the
 419 EU-SILC provides data for attributes of respondents’ parents during their childhood
 420 (age 14–16). The module reports the educational attainment level and the occupa-
 421 tional status of each respondents’ father and mother. As reported by the OECD,

in almost all European OECD countries, there is “a statistically significant probability premium of achieving tertiary education associated with coming from a higher-educated family, while there is a probability penalty associated with growing up in a lower-educated family” (Causa and Johansson 2009b: 18). We shall follow these intuitions, well known from comparative social stratification studies. Fairness in access to higher education in Poland, a country taken as an example, is linked in this section to intergenerational transmission of educational attainment levels and occupational statuses of parents from a European comparative perspective. If Polish society is less mobile than other European societies, then the need for more equitable access to higher education in Poland is greater than elsewhere in Europe. While absolute numbers can speak by themselves, I assume here that the numbers tell us more in a European comparative context.

In technical terms, I conduct a brief assessment of the relative risk ratio of “inheriting” levels of educational attainment and “inheriting” occupations in transitions from one generation to another generation in Poland from a cross-national perspective. Relative risk ratios show how many times the occurrence of a success is more probable in an individual with a given attribute than in an individual without a given attribute. In the case studied here, “success” is the respondent’s higher education and the attribute is parents’ higher education. Relative risk ratios (presented in Fig. 6.1) show how an attribute of one’s parents makes it more likely that the respondent (offspring) will show the same attribute (see Causa and Johansson 2009a, b).



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Fig. 6.1 Relative risk ratio for persons with *higher* education in relation to their father’s *higher* education (Source: own study based on EU-SILC 2005 module on “The intergenerational transmission of poverty.”) (The cross-country results are presented for the 35–44-year-old cohort. The module is based on data from personal interviews only. Variables analyzed were PM040: “Highest ISCED level of education by father,” PM060: “Main activity status of father,” and PM070: “Main occupation of father”)

443 Similarly, in OECD analyses, the risk ratio of achieving tertiary education is defined
444 as “the ratio of two conditional probabilities. It measures the ratio between the
445 probability of an offspring to achieve tertiary education given that her/his father had
446 achieved tertiary education and the probability of an offspring to achieve tertiary
447 education given that her/his father had achieved below-upper secondary education.
448 Father’s educational achievement is a proxy for parental background or wages”
449 (Causa and Johansson 2009b: 51).

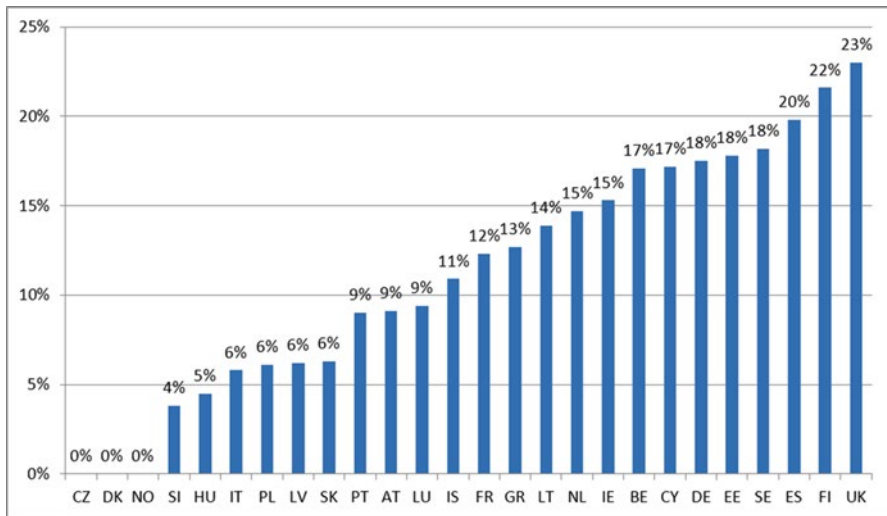
450 Relative risk ratios were estimated using logistic regression analysis for the
451 weighted data. A binomial model was used. Multinomial-dependent variables were
452 dichotomized and separate models were constructed. The choice of independent
453 variables was conducted using a backstep method and the Wald criterion.

454 Generally, there are four educational intergenerational social transitions and two
455 occupational intergenerational transitions of interest to us here. The probabilities of
456 educational transitions are calculated for the following cases: fathers with primary
457 education and respondents with primary education, fathers with tertiary education and
458 respondents with primary education, fathers with primary education and respondents
459 with tertiary education, and fathers with tertiary education and respondents with
460 tertiary education. And the probabilities of occupational transitions are calculated
461 for two cases only: respondents with an elementary occupation, in relation to their
462 fathers’ occupation (ISCO groups 1 through 9), and respondents with an ISCO
463 group 1 occupation ((1) legislators, senior professionals, (2) professionals, and
464 (3) technicians and associate professionals), in relation to their fathers’ occupations.

465 Among European countries, Poland has one of the highest relative risk ratios
466 (10.6) for persons with higher education to have their parents with higher education,
467 meaning that it is highly unlikely for children to have higher education if their parents
468 did not also achieve the same level of education. In Poland, for a person whose
469 parents had higher education, the probability of attaining higher education is 10.6
470 times higher than for a person whose parents had education lower than higher
471 education. There are only four European systems that markedly stand out in variation
472 (Poland, Portugal, Italy, and Ireland, plus two tiny systems of Luxembourg and
473 Cyprus): in all of them, the probability that an individual who has attained higher
474 education has parents who have attained higher education is about ten times higher
475 than a person whose parents did not. While higher education is being “inherited”
476 all over Europe, in Poland, the probability is on average almost two times higher than
477 in other European countries (the average for 26 countries is 6.06, and the average
478 for 8 postcommunist countries is 5.97). The details are given below in Fig. 6.1.

479 On the basis of the EU-SILC data, one can follow the transmission of *education*
480 and the transmission of *occupations* across generations and see to what extent
481 parental educational and occupational backgrounds are reflected in their offspring’s
482 educational and occupational backgrounds. Educational status and occupational status
483 are strong attributes carried across generations (Archer et al. 2003; Breen 2004).

484 Figure 6.2 below shows the probability of respondents achieving higher education
485 given that their parents had achieved a primary level of education. In more mobile
486 societies, the probability will be higher; in societies in which intergenerational
487 mobility is lower, the probability will be lower. As can be seen, there is a major



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Fig. 6.2 Transition from parents' *primary* education to respondent's *higher* education (Source: own study based on EU-SILC 2005 module on "The intergenerational transmission of poverty" (0 % for CZ, DK, and NO results from a too low number of respondents in these countries))

divide between a cluster of countries in which there is low probability of upward 488
 mobility for this subpopulation – in the range of 4–6 % – and a cluster of countries 489
 in which the probability of upward mobility for the same subpopulation is three to 490
 four times higher and the probability of a "generational leap" in education between 491
 generations for those born in low-educated families is three to four times higher, in 492
 the range of 17–23 %. The "low probability" cluster includes Poland and several 493
 other former communist countries, as well as Italy. The "high probability" cluster 494
 includes the Nordic countries, Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Spain, and the UK 495
 (no distinction in the dataset can be made between various *types* of higher education 496
 so that the question of "access to what" from an intergenerational perspective can- 497
 not be answered on the basis of the EU-SILC). Other countries are in the middle. 498
 The probability of upward intergenerational mobility for young people from 499
 low-educated families through higher education, from a comparative perspective, 500
 is clearly very low in Poland. The percentage of people with higher education 501
 whose parents had primary education is only 6 %; the remaining 94 % of people 502
 whose parents had primary education never attained higher education. 503

One can also look at the rigidity of educational backgrounds across generations or 504
 the transmission of the same level of education (from primary to primary, from 505
 higher to higher) across generations. What is particularly relevant here is the inher- 506
 itance of higher education across generations. Figure 6.3 below shows that in all 507
 26 European countries studied (except Slovenia), the probability of having attained 508
 higher education if one's parents have also attained higher education is more than 509
 50 %. The lowest range (50–60 %) dominates in several postcommunist countries, 510

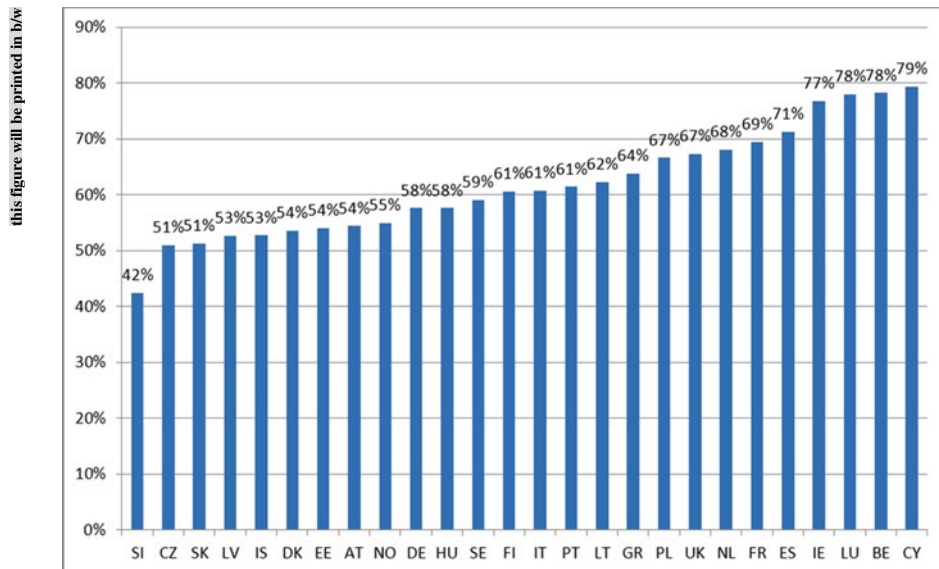


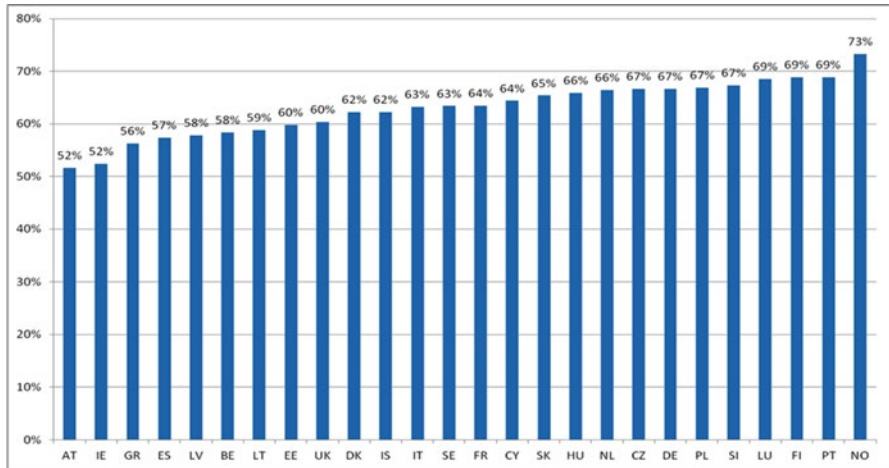
Fig. 6.3 Transition from parents' higher education to respondent's higher education (Source: own study based on EU-SILC 2005 module on "The intergenerational transmission of poverty")

511 as well as in Denmark, Austria, Norway, Germany, and Sweden. The highest range
 512 (70–79 %) is shown only for Spain, Ireland, and Belgium, as well as two small
 513 systems of Luxembourg and Cyprus. Poland (67 %) is in the upper-middle range
 514 of 65–70 %, and ninth from the top: 67 % of people whose parents had higher
 515 education managed to attain higher education. The remaining 33 % attained the
 516 level of education which was lower than higher education.

517 Analyses of the transmission of *levels of education* across generations can also
 518 be supplemented with analyses of the transmission of *occupation* across generations,
 519 with similar results for Poland. This article uses ISCO-88 (International Standard
 520 Classification of Occupations) basic occupational groups (nine major groups) and,
 521 following recent EUROSTUDENT IV study (2011), applies the following hierarchy
 522 of workers:

- 523 – *Highly skilled white-collar* ((1) legislators, senior professionals, (2) professionals,
 524 and (3) technicians and associate professionals)
- 525 – *Low-skilled white-collar* ((4) clerks, (5) service workers and shop and market
 526 sales workers)
- 527 – *Highly skilled blue-collar* ((6) skilled agriculture and fishery workers, (7) craft
 528 and related trades workers)
- 529 – *Low-skilled blue-collar* ((8) plant and machine operators and assemblers,
 530 (9) elementary occupations)

531 Analyses performed with reference to ISCO-88 group 1 occupations ("legislators
 532 and senior professionals," translated in Fig. 6.4 into "highly skilled white-collar")



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Fig. 6.4 Transition from parents’ *highly skilled white-collar occupation* to respondent’s *highly skilled white-collar occupation*. (The analysis presented in Figure 12 aggregated the nine ISCO-88 basic occupational groups, following recent EUROSTUDENT IV study (Eurostudent 2011: 55), into the following four groups of workers: “highly skilled white-collar” (1 legislators, senior professionals, 2 professionals, and 3 technicians and associate professionals), “low-skilled white-collar” (4 clerks, 5 service workers and shop and market sales workers), “highly skilled blue-collar” (6 skilled agriculture and fishery workers, 7 craft and related trades workers), and “low-skilled blue-collar” (8 plant and machine operators and assemblers, 9 elementary occupations)) (Source: own study based on EU-SILC 2005 module on “The intergenerational transmission of poverty”)

in relation to parents’ occupation show that while overall in Europe the “inheritance” of highly skilled white-collar occupations is high, and it is generally in the 50–70 % range, in Poland it is very high and reaches 67 %.

In the case studied here, the success is respondent’s group 1 occupation and the attribute is parents’ group 1 occupation. Relative risk ratios show how an attribute of one’s parents makes it more likely that the respondent will show the same attribute. Table 6.1 in the Data Appendix shows the relative risk ratio for persons from ISCO-88 *highest occupational group* (“legislators and senior professionals” or LE, shadowed) in relation to their fathers’ occupation. For instance, for Poland, the probability that a person whose father was a legislator or senior professional will have the same category of occupation is 3.32 times higher than in the case of a person whose father had a different occupation; the probability that a person whose father had an “elementary” (EL) occupation will have a legislator or senior professional occupation is 1.49 times lower than in the case of a person whose father had occupation other than EL. Table 6.2 in the Data Appendix shows the relative risk ratio for persons from ISCO-88 *lowest occupational group* (“elementary” or EL, shadowed) in relation to their fathers’ occupation. For Poland, the probability that a person whose father had an elementary occupation to have the same category of occupation is 2.11 times higher than in the case of a person whose father had a different occupation. Figure 6.4 shows that, for Poland, 67 % of persons whose fathers had highly skilled white-collar occupations also have the same occupation.

554 The remaining 33 % of those persons have different occupation. In Poland, the level
555 of “inheriting” higher education and highly skilled white-collar occupations is high,
556 and successful transitions across generations from primary education to higher
557 education and from low-skilled blue-collar occupations to highly skilled white-collar
558 occupations are rare.

559 Thus, upward educational social mobility in Poland (from a longer perspective
560 and despite the 1990–2005 expansion period in higher education) is still limited,
561 and the level of inheritance of both educational status and occupational status across
562 generations is quite high, compared with other European countries. The changes in
563 mobility among social strata are long term, and the recent expansion period in
564 higher education is still short enough to change the basic social structure in Poland
565 (on the role of privatization of higher education in the expansion, see Bialecki and
566 Dabrowa-Szeffler (2009), Kwiek (2014)). Both the highest educational attainment
567 levels and the most socially and financially rewarded occupations (“highly skilled
568 white-collar”) are inherited in Poland to a stronger degree than in most European
569 countries, except for most postcommunist countries. Based on above analyses,
570 Poland seems to differ more from more socially mobile Western European systems
571 and less from most socially immobile postcommunist systems in its educational
572 social mobility than traditionally assumed in the research literature (e.g., Domański
573 2000; Mach 2004; Baranowska 2011). Polish society in general is less mobile
574 compared with most Western European systems because the links between parents’
575 and children’s social status as adults (in both educational and occupational terms)
576 are tighter. While the expansion period substantially increased equitable access
577 to higher education in Poland, upward social mobility viewed from a long-term
578 perspective of change across generations is still limited. Consequently, from a
579 European comparative perspective, there is much greater need for further fair and
580 increased access to higher education than commonly assumed in educational
581 research (for a Polish higher education massification context from which the
582 above data are derived, see Kwiek (2012a, 2013b), and for a European context,
583 see Kwiek (2009a, 2013a)).

584 **Conclusions and Directions for Further Research**

585 There are at least three major directions for further research.

586 One research direction is linking higher education with labor market
587 trajectories through academic fields of study, with additional lifetime
588 earnings different for different academic degrees viewed horizontally (masters in
589 one study area vs. masters in a different area) rather than vertically (masters
590 in all areas vs. bachelors in all areas). The difference between following labor
591 market trajectories by educational levels and by fields of study within the
592 same educational level (e.g., at the bachelors and masters levels in different
593 fields of study) is significant. The second research direction is a combination

of insights from the EU-SILC dataset and from two large-scale European datasets about European university graduates and about European professionals, as studied through surveys in 12 European countries in the 2000s, CHEERS and REFLEX. And the third research direction is a study of lifelong learning.

Thus, the first task for future research is linking higher education with the labor market and labor market trajectories (including transitions between employment, unemployment, and inactivity) through academic fields of study. Not only the status of being employed/unemployed/inactive in the labor market is linked to the level of education (which EU-SILC data clearly show) – but the labor market status and its transitions are also substantially linked to fields of study. The national average wage premium from higher education, private internal rate of return (IRR) in higher education, and other related indicators measured over the years by OECD do not show the difference between fields of studies. So far, this dimension has *not* been systematically explored, mostly due to the lack of European data in a comparable format. And average additional lifetime earnings are substantially different for different degrees, as various national or global labor market studies show. While overall average additional lifetime earnings for higher education seem substantial in most countries, they are very low or nonexistent for graduates in such fields of study as arts and humanities in many systems.

Exploring labor market trajectories of young Europeans from an equity perspective may mean not only linking their labor market trajectories with educational trajectories. It may also increasingly mean linking them with fields of study taken and consequently degrees obtained and used in the labor market. The initial hypothesis is that the socioeconomic background of students and graduates may be positively correlated with fields of study taken: the SES quartiles of origin may be a determining factor for the choice of fields of study, from a continuum of those generally least demanding and least competitive (and leading to the lowest financial rewards in the labor market) to those generally most demanding and most competitive (and leading to best paid jobs).

Researching labor market consequences of studying different fields seems fundamental to linking higher education to the labor market successes and failures (changing employment status and changing occupational status over time) both in individual EU member states and in Europe as a whole. The research literature analyzing the impact of the specific field of study (and its importance for social stratification studies) on occupational prestige, job mismatches, employment status, and income has been growing (see Reimer et al. 2008). As they argue, “with increasing numbers of university graduates in the labor market, the signal value of a university degree from less-academically challenging and less selective fields like the humanities and social sciences will deteriorate” (2008: 234). This is an important additional dimension of studies

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636 linking higher education to labor markets and labor market trajectories and
637 levels of educational attainment by field of study with wage premium for
638 higher education by field of study. Unfortunately, the EU-SILC dataset does
639 not allow to explore the issue – but it can be approached through the analyses
640 of the European Union Labour Force Survey (EU LFS). The EU-SILC data
641 can also be combined with the European Social Survey (ESS) 2002–2008
642 data to further explore the issue of linking educational outcomes and occupa-
643 tional outcomes with social background (see Bernardi and Ballarino 2011).
644 At the same time, this is the line of research which can go hand in hand, in
645 empirical terms, with a more fundamental, theoretical issue raised recently by
646 Martha Nussbaum in her *Not For Profit: Why Democracy Needs Humanities*
647 (2010): that our being in the midst of a “crisis of massive proportions and
648 grave global significance” means a “worldwide crisis in education.” In practical
649 terms, the humanities and the arts (as fields of study) being cut away from
650 curricula and are losing their place “in the minds and hearts of parents and
651 children” (Nussbaum 2010: 2). Any research into fields of study should refer
652 to this alarming, global phenomenon. The fate of graduates from those fields
653 in the labor market, from a European comparative perspective, might shed
654 new light on the phenomenon analyzed so far mostly in the American context
655 of liberal education gradually losing its ground.

656 The second research direction is to study labor market trajectories of young
657 Europeans based on the EU-SILC dataset in combination with other datasets
658 currently available about university graduates and professionals (and can be
659 informed by theoretical underpinning of two large-scale, European compara-
660 tive research projects of the 2000s – CHEERS and REXLEX, surveys of
661 higher education graduates in Europe (CHEERS) and survey of professionals
662 in Europe (REFLEX), with large theoretical output resulting from both proj-
663 ects. CHEERS studied about 40,000 questionnaires from graduates in 11
664 European countries and Japan on their socio-biographical background,
665 study paths, transitions from higher education to employment, early career,
666 links between study and employment, job satisfaction, and their retrospective
667 view on higher education (Teichler 2007 and Schomburg and Teichler 2006)).
668 REFLEX studied demands that the modern knowledge society places on
669 higher education graduates and the degree to which higher education equips
670 graduates with the competencies to meet these demands, based on 70,000
671 surveys of higher education graduates in 15 European countries and Japan (see
672 Allen and van der Velden 2011). The higher education exit point is thus as
673 important as the higher education entry point in current research, so that both
674 students and graduates already present in the labor market are explored.

And the third research direction is to review the determinants of inequality in workers' lifelong learning (LLL) opportunities on the basis of the EU-SILC. The probability of undertaking lifelong learning (adult learning) can be studied for each EU country, and a European comparative study can be performed directed at LLL incidence, as self-reported by survey respondents. The participation in LLL (and its intensity) is an important dimension of different labor market trajectories of young Europeans, and clusters of countries can be identified on the basis of high/average/low LLL participation – which can be explored through socioeconomic strata of origin of young Europeans. The impact of class origins on LLL participation can be explored although it is unclear whether any links can be shown and whether the equity perspective employed can lead to any statistically significant results. Such dimensions as age, sex, attainment levels, working full or part time, and type of occupation can be researched too, to explore national variations. The EU-SILC data can be combined with such data sources as IALS (the *International Adult Literacy Survey*), LFS (*EU Labour Force Survey*), the *European Working Conditions Surveys*, and the *Continuous Vocational Training Survey*, as well as OECD aggregate data (see Biagetti and Scicchitano 2009). Lifelong learning is of critical importance for the success of the Europe 2020 strategy, and its role increases with ongoing work in Europe on both National Qualifications Framework and European Qualifications Framework (EQF) which link all levels of (and all routes to) education in EU countries (see Kwiek and Maasen 2012 and Kwiek (2009b)).

Equitable access to higher education and educational and occupational intergenerational social mobility can be studied cross-nationally in Europe through the EU-SILC data, following previous highly successful global research in educational attainment and social stratification (Shavit and Blossfeld 1993; Shavit et al. 2007). Consequently, Europe is consistently becoming a “data-rich” area; a new role of social science research is to use this newly available, large-scale quantitative (and often self-produced) empirical material.

In this new “data-rich” environment, higher education research may increasingly use theoretical insights from the capabilities approach, as it has been using insights from the human capital approach for the last four decades. One of the major obstacles to develop further the capabilities approach in higher education research is the current construction of both national and European datasets, especially their underlying theoretical concepts leading to specific social research vocabulary in data-driven studies. Current datasets “measure” higher education and its multilayered dimensions according to the human

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714 capital paradigm and therefore, it is hard *not* to refer to its major concepts,
715 always present behind measures used. And the capability approach in higher
716 education should not rely on qualitative material only, as has been mostly the
717 case so far. If the capability approach is to be applied further to higher educa-
718 tion as a sector, it has to highlight not only the need to measure different
719 things but also the need to measure them differently. The whole (national and
720 international) statistical architecture of higher education is currently embedded
721 in the human capital approach. If a new approach is to be further developed
722 within higher education studies, it needs to support both new vocabulary and
723 new statistics, based on new, and most often merely complementary, theoretical
724 concepts.

725 The paper presents strong support for the “education for all” agenda in
726 Europe: in all European countries, as our data show, access to higher educa-
727 tion for young people from lower socioeconomic strata is severely restricted,
728 despite ongoing powerful processes of massification of higher education. For
729 young Europeans from poorer and low-educated backgrounds, the chances to
730 get higher education credentials and to work in highly skilled white-collar
731 occupations are very low indeed, across all European systems (and in Central
732 European systems in particular). It is a shame that in nine European countries,
733 the percentage of people with higher education whose parents had primary
734 education is below 10 %; the remaining 90 % of people whose parents had
735 primary education never attained higher education. A major recommenda-
736 tion for EU strategies is to introduce more effective mechanisms to enable
737 new routes of access to, preferably more differentiated, higher education.
738 More diversification in higher education is needed so that a higher proportion
739 of young people from lower socioeconomic strata will be able to move up the
740 education and career ladders in the future.¹

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Annex

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t1.1 **Table 6.1** Relative risk ratio for persons from ISCO-88 *highest occupational group* (“legislators
t1.2 and senior professionals”) in relation to their father’s occupation (*shadowed*: “legislators and
t1.3 senior professionals”)

Country	Father's occupation								
	1. LE	2. PR	3. TE	4. CL	5. SE	6. AG	7. CR	8. PL	9. EL
AT	3.36	2.33	1.24	1.15	-1.18	-2.08	-1.37	-1.72	-1.43
BE	2.59	1.29	-1.41	-1.14	-1.67	-1.00	-1.37	-1.30	-1.89
CY	4.21	2.58	1.47	1.18	1.33	-1.75	-1.11	-1.14	-1.61
CZ	2.30	2.41	1.39	1.60	-1.41	-1.12	-1.52	-1.45	-1.23
DE	1.64	1.23	1.15	1.10	-1.18	-1.10	-1.16	-1.32	-2.00
DK	1.98	-1.15	1.20	1.02	1.16	-1.45	-1.19	-1.85	-1.04
EE	1.60	1.41	1.72	-1.27	-6.25	-2.44	-1.18	-1.09	-1.54
ES	4.12	1.13	1.21	-1.00	-1.32	-1.22	-1.47	-1.35	-1.52
FI	2.12	1.35	1.06	-1.01	1.09	-1.33	-1.05	-1.28	-1.79
FR	2.09	1.69	1.49	-1.30	-1.28	-1.89	-1.03	-1.64	-1.52
GR	2.38	-1.08	-1.15	-1.32	-1.19	-1.22	-1.16	-1.08	-1.22
HU	2.38	2.14	1.68	1.45	1.44	-1.75	-1.18	-1.27	-2.22
IE	1.61	1.04	2.17	-1.09	-1.08	-5.26	-1.37	-1.23	-2.04
IS	1.42	1.08	1.19	1.14	-1.64	-1.59	-1.00	-1.05	1.24
IT	2.83	-1.37	-1.10	-1.59	-1.06	-1.18	-1.28	-1.27	-1.15
LT	3.00	1.93	1.61	1.52	1.13	-1.85	-1.11	-1.45	-1.52
LU	3.26	1.79	-1.12	-1.67	1.04	-1.14	-1.69	-1.54	1.03
LV	1.24	2.23	1.22	1.06	1.83	1.04	-1.11	-1.23	-1.43
NL	1.56	-1.19	-1.09	1.03	-1.01	-1.00	-1.56	-1.23	-1.00
NO	1.77	-1.23	-1.03	1.14	-1.01	-1.54	-1.06	-1.15	1.02
PL	3.32	2.10	1.30	1.34	1.07	-1.67	-1.00	-1.25	-1.49
PT	2.58	1.58	1.02	-1.52	1.31	-1.28	-1.20	-1.43	-1.00
SE	3.44	1.07	-1.64	1.77	-2.13	1.70	-2.22	-1.69	1.34
SI	2.36	2.03	2.27	-1.08	1.67	-1.69	-1.09	-1.85	-2.38
SK	1.86	1.62	1.28	1.31	-2.22	-1.67	-1.18	-1.27	-1.02
UK	1.71	-1.14	1.25	1.31	1.07	-1.75	-1.56	-1.23	-1.59

t1.4 Source: own study based on the EU-SILC 2005 module on “The intergenerational transmission of
t1.5 poverty.” ISCO-88 occupational groups (International Standard of Classification of Occupations,
t1.6 1988, used in EU-SILC) are the following: (1) *LE* legislators, senior professionals, (2) *PR* profes-
t1.7 sionals, (3) *TE* technicians and associate professionals, (4) *CL* clerks, (5) *SE* service workers and
t1.8 shop and market sales workers, (6) *AG* skilled agriculture and fishery workers, (7) *CR* craft and
t1.9 related trades workers, (8) *PL* plant and machine operators and assemblers, (9) *EL* elementary
t1.10 occupations

t2.1 **Table 6.2** Relative risk ratio for persons from ISCO-88 *lowest occupational group* (9. “elementary”) in relation to their father’s occupation (*shadowed*: (9) “elementary” to (9) “elementary”)

Country	Father's occupation								
	1. LE	2. PR	3. TE	4. CL	5. SE	6. AG	7. CR	8. PL	9. EL
AT	-1.23	-2.94	-1.96	-2.63	-1.12	1.22	-1.43	-1.09	2.45
BE	-2.08	-3.33	-2.63	-2.22	-1.43	-1.37	1.16	1.45	3.10
CY	-2.56	-6.25	-4.76	-3.85	-1.79	1.67	-1.19	-1.11	1.77
CZ	-1.89	-14.29	-3.03	-2.86	-1.30	1.51	1.01	1.20	3.06
DE	-1.47	-2.27	-1.30	-1.69	-1.23	1.60	1.07	1.56	2.03
DK	-1.61	-4.17	-1.54	-1.45	-1.35	1.25	-1.05	1.77	1.83
EE	-1.64	-2.86	1.08	-1.25	-1.39	1.27	-1.00	1.02	1.95
ES	-2.33	-4.55	-2.22	-2.50	-1.61	1.20	-1.33	-1.47	2.47
FI	-2.63	-1.82	-1.25	-1.69	1.16	1.21	1.15	-1.00	1.87
FR	-1.41	-4.00	-2.08	-2.56	-1.19	1.36	1.10	1.13	2.09
GR	-2.17	-2.63	-1.89	-1.47	1.31	1.04	-1.05	1.20	2.23
HU	-2.94	-9.09	-4.76	-2.00	-1.19	1.76	-1.14	-1.04	2.34
IE	-1.54	-1.85	-1.45	-2.04	-2.22	1.86	1.06	1.17	2.10
IS	-1.32	-5.56	-1.96		1.52	1.46	1.12	1.41	1.45
IT	-2.22	-1.67	-2.78	-2.08	-1.28	1.37	-1.10	-1.22	2.39
LT	-2.50	-3.57	-2.78	-1.23	-1.04	1.15	-1.15	1.05	1.63
LU	-2.04	-20.00	-2.44	-5.00	-1.10	1.83	1.38	1.31	1.65
LV	-1.47	-2.08	-1.79	-2.78	1.40	1.44	-1.27	-1.09	2.04
NL	-1.30	-10.00	-1.82	1.10	-1.08	1.49	1.17	1.91	2.43
NO	-4.35	-2.70	-1.30	-1.89	2.08	1.81	-1.01	1.53	-1.10
PL	-2.08	-7.14	-2.50	-1.92	-1.64	1.11	1.03	1.03	2.11
PT	-3.57	-3.70	-3.13	-2.04	-1.67	1.16	-1.02	-1.18	2.35
SE		-3.45	1.13		1.61	2.33	1.07	-1.23	4.91
SI	-4.55	-3.03	-1.72	-1.22	-2.38	1.45	-1.00	1.08	1.78
SK	-3.03	-2.63	-3.03	-1.61	1.04	1.31	-1.16	-1.09	2.16
UK	-2.63	-4.00	-1.82	-2.00	1.08	2.49	1.26	1.52	1.73

t2.3 Source: own study based on the EU-SILC 2005 module on “The intergenerational transmission of
t2.4 poverty.” ISCO-88 occupational groups (International Standard of Classification of Occupations, 1988,
t2.5 used in EU-SILC) are the following: (1) *LE* legislators, senior professionals, (2) *PR* professionals,
t2.6 (3) *TE* technicians and associate professionals, (4) *CL* clerks, (5) *SE* service workers and shop and
t2.7 market sales workers, (6) *AG* skilled agriculture and fishery workers, (7) *CR* craft and related trades
t2.8 workers, (8) *PL* plant and machine operators and assemblers, (9) *EL* elementary occupations

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