Deloitte.

Researchers' Report 2013

Country Profile: Liechtenstein

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1. National strategies

The public Higher Education system in Liechtenstein is regulated by the Law on the Higher Education (2004). However, no specific Ministry or agency is devoted to research and thus to research policy. That is why, very often, Liechtenstein finances research activities abroad[1].

2. Open, transparent and merit-based recruitment

Recruitment system

The research portal of the University of Liechtenstein provides information on Research and Development (R&D) being conducted in the institutes and associated institutes. All chairs and researchers, their research achievements, publications, research projects and partners are also documented on the portal[2].

Only around 1% of the entire workforce population is employed in scientific research and development, i.e. 335 persons in 2008; more than half of these are inward commuters.

3. Education and training

Measures to attract and train people to become researchers

In 2008, the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein authorised the Hochschule Liechtenstein to offer doctoral study programmes. The Hochschule Liechtenstein (set up in 1961) is the main and the only public academic school in the country. In September 2009, a graduate school was opened as the institutional umbrella for all Master and PhD programmes[3].

Natural sciences (e.g. medicine) or engineering studies are not offered by the national Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and the students choose universities in either Switzerland or Austria.

Doctoral graduates by gender

The table below shows the number of doctoral graduates in Liechtenstein by gender as a ratio of the total population cohort.

Table 1: Doctoral graduates by gender

Indicator	Liechtenstein	EU Average
New doctoral graduates (ISCED 6) per 1 000 population aged 25-34 (2010)	0.2	1.5
Graduates (ISCED 6) per 1 000 of the female population aged 25-34 (2010)	N/A	1.4
Graduates (ISCED 6) per 1 000 of the male population aged 25-34 (2010)	0.4	1.6

Source: Deloitte
Data: Eurostat

4. Working conditions

Autonomy of institutions

In Liechtenstein, only four university institutes offer tertiary education and carry out research, both basic and applied. Most Liechtenstein students attend institutions of higher learning in Austria and especially in Switzerland[4].

5. Collaboration between academia and industry

Liechtenstein has a strong industry sector (44.2% of total employment) and thus research is carried out within firms. However, the Advisory Council for Research and Technology (*Beirat fuer Forschung und Technologie)*, organised by the chamber of commerce and industry, operates as a platform on research activities, bringing together the national firms[5].

[1] Liechtenstein Country Page. Erawatch. Available at: http://erawatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/erawatch/opencms/information/country_pages/li/country?section=Overview. Accessed 23.04.2012.
[2] http://www.uni.li/Forschung/ZurForschung/tabid/83/language/en-US/Default.aspx
[3] Liechtenstein Country Page. Erawatch. Available at: http://erawatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/erawatch/opencms/information/country_pages/li/country?section=Overview. Accessed 23.04.2012.
[4] Ibid.
[5] Liechtenstein Country Page. Erawatch. Available at:

6. Mobility and international attractiveness

Liechtenstein is part of the European Economic Area (EEA) and is actively involved in European research initiatives. The National Contact Point for Research and Technology Development (*Nationale Kontaktstelle für Forschung und Technologische Entwicklung*) serves as the national office responsible for cooperation activities within the (European Research Area) ERA and for cooperation within FP7 and CIP, as well as promotion of international cooperation of enterprises in the field of innovation[6].

http://erawatch.jrc.ec.europa.eu/erawatch/opencms/information/country_pages/li/country?section=Overview&subsection=BasicChar. Accessed 23.04.2012.

[6] Ibid.