

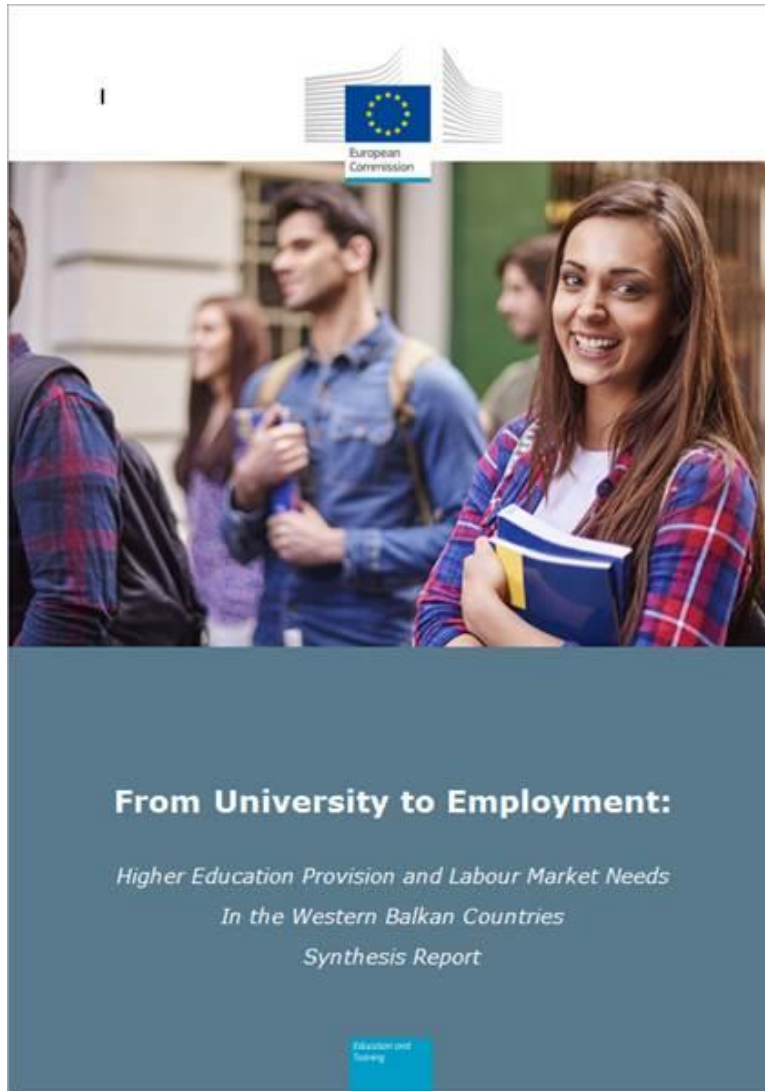
# *From University to Employment:*

## **Mapping of HE qualifications & LM needs in the Western Balkans**

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# Study on HE & LM

Coming in Dec



❖ Part of work undertaken by **WB Platform on Education and Training**

❖ at request of **Ministers**

❖ **Mapping** study of 2015 situation and projection for 2018

6 country reports

+

1 synthesis report



# Study on HE & LM

## Results

Increase in quantity but **not in quality** of HE degrees (mainly produce Bachelor's degrees)

**Too many HE graduates for LM needs** (especially from humanities and social sciences)

Low **completion** ratios (high costs to system)

**High skill gaps** and skills/qualification **mismatches** (bring little added value)

**Effectiveness** and **relevance** of HE studies put in question



# Study on HE & LM

Recommendations  
for HE

## HEIs should improve quality of provision:

- Improve relevance of study programmes
  - Improve teaching / staff quality
  - Teach soft skills / teach in smaller classes
- Increase cooperation with employers
- Review enrolment policies
- Provide more practical experience / work placements / research
- Rigorous internal quality measures
- Combat corruption



# Study on HE & LM

Recommendations  
for LM

- Cooperate more with HEIs
- Provide traineeships for students
- Give feedback on graduate skills and LM needs
- Create more graduate jobs in high-technology, knowledge-intensive sectors



# Study on HE & LM

Recommendations  
for government

- Guide enrolments in growth sectors
- Ensure rigorous accreditation
- Provide incentives for LM involvement
- Support employers to provide training for new graduates
- Remove barriers to entry of new firms
- Support 'gazelles' in fast-growing sectors



# Study on HE & LM

Key messages

## Skills, not paper Qualifications!

**Need to focus on quality of HE** not quantity –  
need evaluation and reform

**Soft skills most important** for changing LM -  
at all levels of education

## Need job creation

Even if skills were of high standard, generally  
there are **far too few jobs**

Need **incentives and investment**

**Need HE - LM cooperation**

