# Impact of the Pandemic on Education, Employment and Equity

Making sure Young People are not left behind

#### Mario Steiner

10th International Stakeholder Conference on Priority Area 9 "People and Skills" of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region



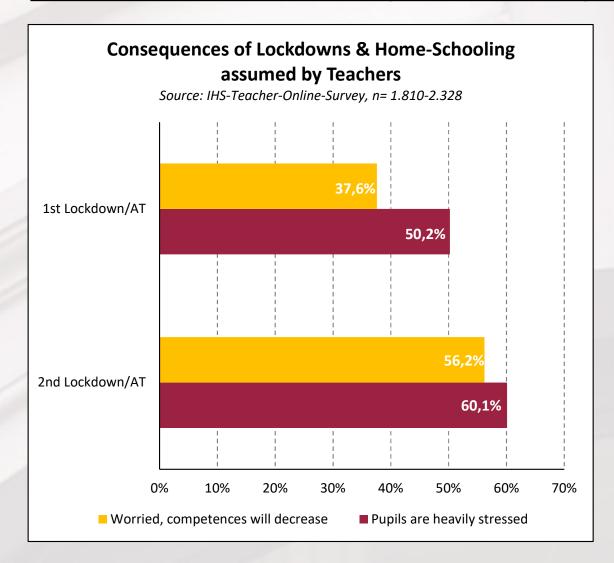




### **Topics**

- Educational Impact of the Pandemic
  - Competences
  - Equality
  - o Career / ESL
- Employment Impact of the Pandemic
  - Unemployment
  - NEETs
- Economic Impact of the Pandemic
  - Material and Social Deprivation
  - Macro-Economic Effects
- Summary & Conclusions
  - Immediate interventions
  - Resilience of Educational System

### 1a) Educational Impact: Competences



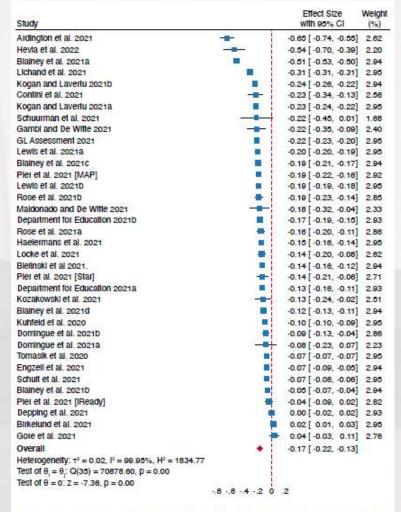
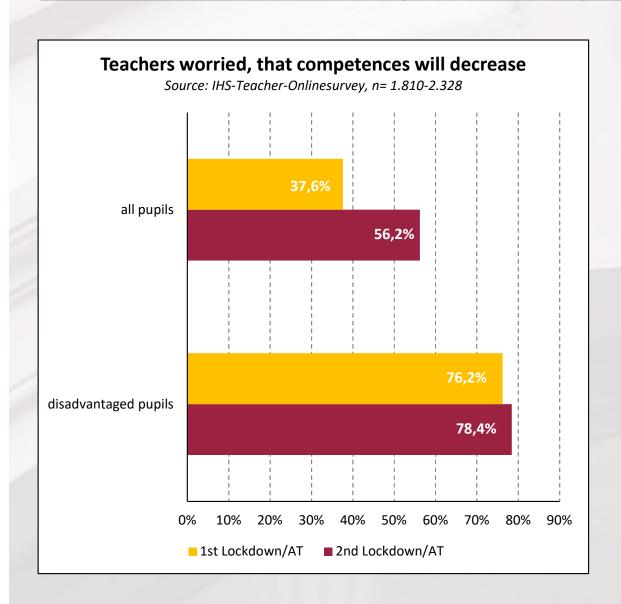


Figure 3: Forest plot showing individual estimates by study (averaged across subject and grade level) and pooled effect size estimate.

Source: Betthäuser B., Bach-Mortensen A., Engzell P. (2022): A systematic review and meta-analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on learning. SocArXiv.

# 1b) Educational Impact: Inequality



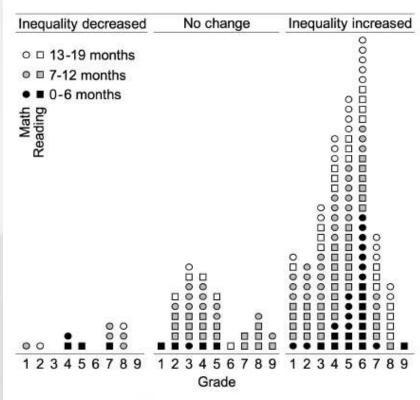


Figure 5: Harvest plot of the evidence on the effect of the pandemic on educational inequality. Each circle/square refers to one estimate of over-time change in inequality in math/reading performance. Estimates that find a decrease/no change/increase in inequality are grouped on the left/middle/right. Within these categories, estimates are ordered horizontally by grade level. Shading indicates when in the pandemic measure was taken.

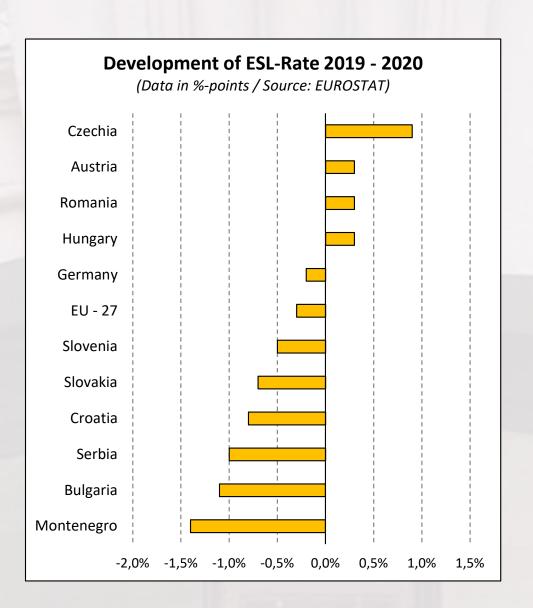
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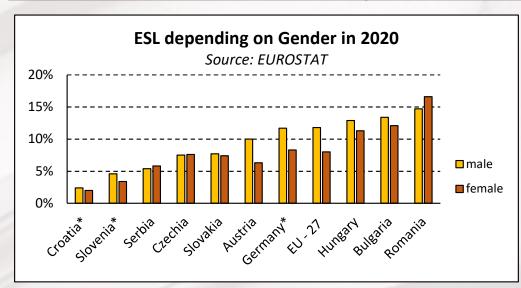
# 1c) Educational Impact: Careers

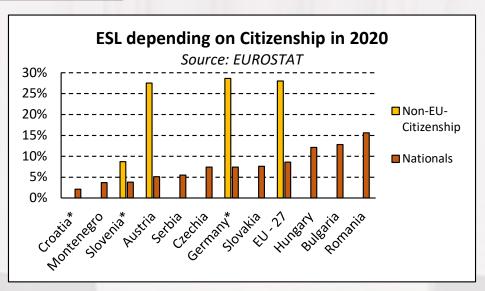
#### Mixed Evidence from Austria

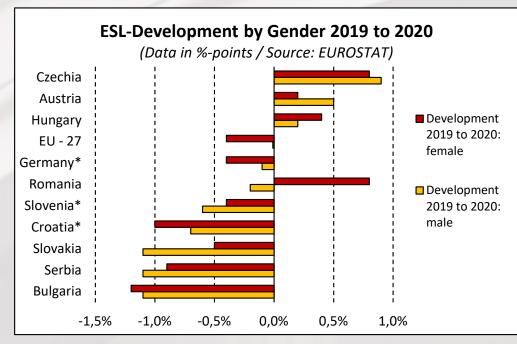
- Tendency for reduced drop-out from educational tracks which pupils entered before the pandemic.
- Severe difficulties for those at the transition from lower to upper secondary education during pandemic, 5% of cohort lost to ESL?

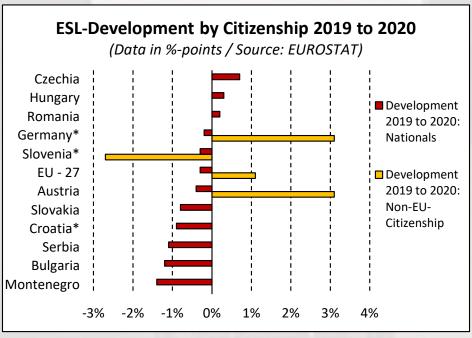


### 1c) Educational Impact: Careers II

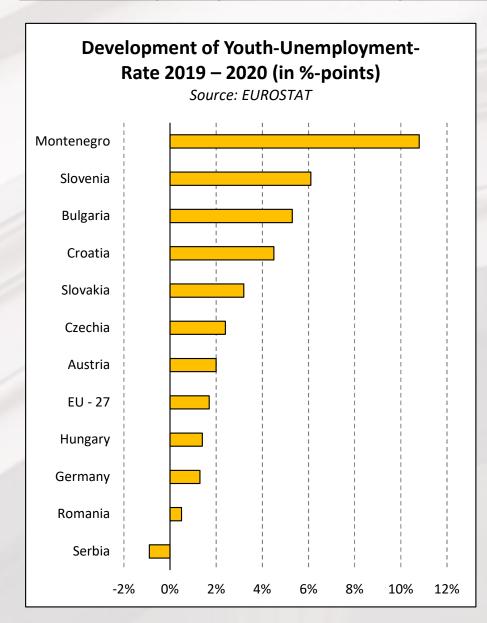


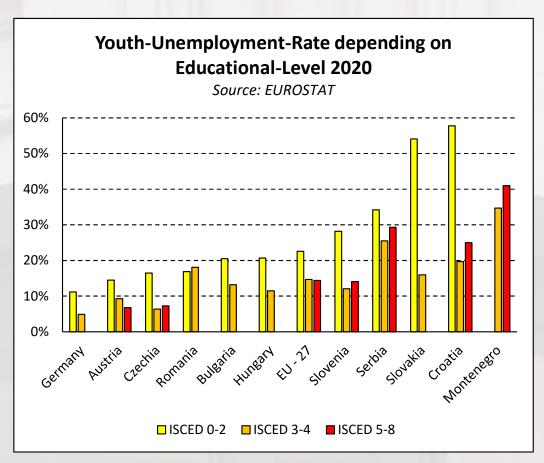




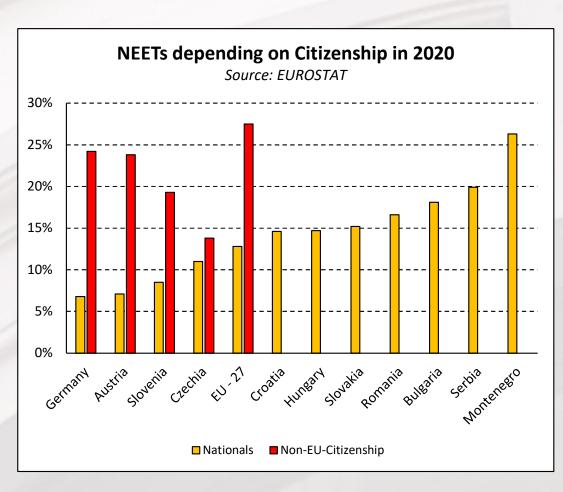


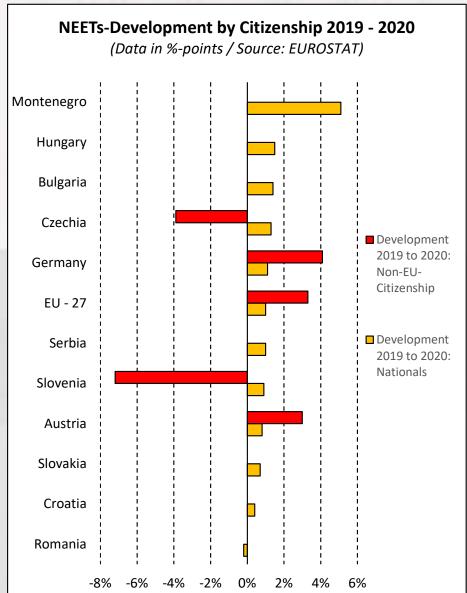
# 2a) Employment Impact: Unemployment (15-24y)



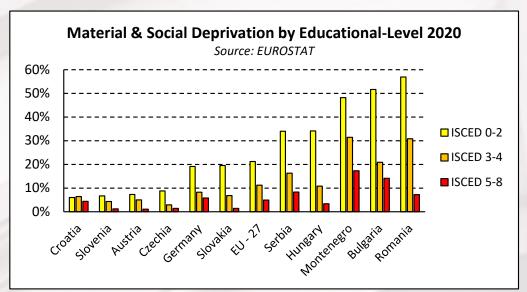


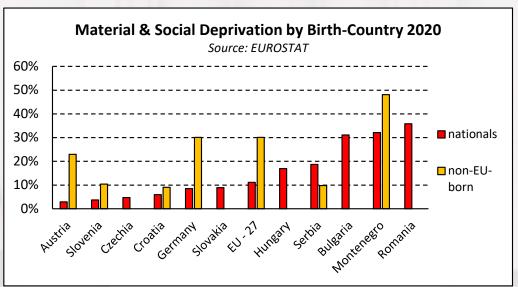
# 2b) Employment Impact: NEETs (15-29y)

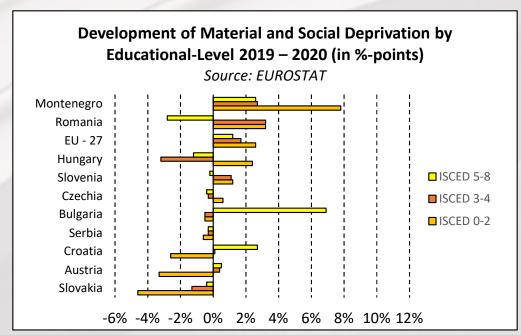


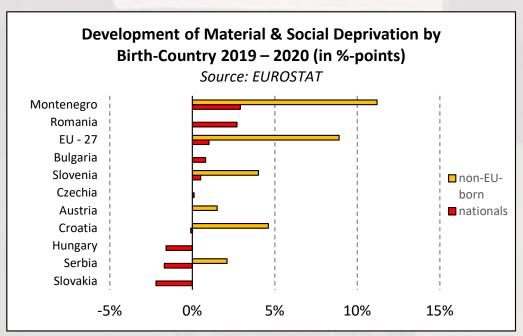


# 3a) Economic Impact: Deprivation of youth (16-29y)

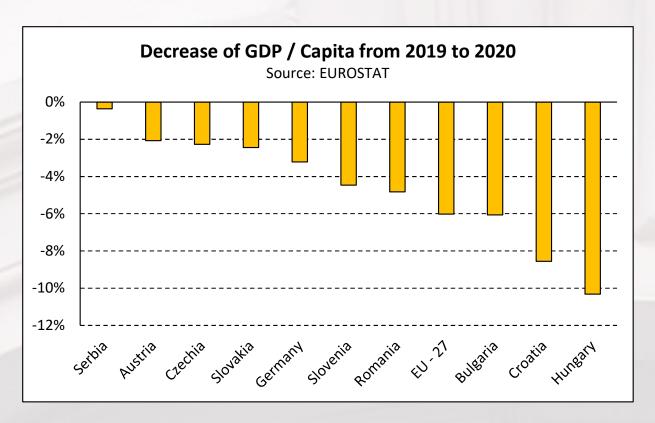








#### 3b) Economic Impact: Macro-Economic-Effects



#### Educational Costs for Individuals & Society

- Decrease in prospect income of pupils 2 billion per month of school-closure (Kocher/Steiner, 2020)
- Future gross domestic product reduced by 1,1% if schools close a quarter of a school-year (Hanushek/Wössmann, 2020)

### 4) Summary & Conclusions:

#### **Summary:**

- We witness effects on competences and educational careers
- Labor-market-integration declines
- Material and social deprivation rises
- Social differences grow even further: those disadvantaged before are even more effected by impacts of pandemic
- Because of these severe consequences school closure within the repertoire of policy measures to fight pandemic should be implemented as ultima ratio only!
- Mixture of interventions needed
  - Short term measures
  - Strengthening resilience of educational systems

### 4) Conclusions: Interventions

#### Short Term Measures:

- Guidance at transition,
- Coaching and active integration strategy for drop-outs, ESL & unemployed youth
- o Increase Support Structures in Schools (social work, school-psychology, ...) to allow teachers to concentrate on pedagogics/didactics.

#### Strengthen resilience of educational system:

- Improve Digitalization
  - Hardware & digital competences & didactics
  - Pay attention to digital divide

#### Empower Main Actors

- Train pupil's capability of independent learning and implement less teacher-centered didactics
- Strengthening autonomy of teachers and schools enabling them to find individual solutions



# Thank you for your attention!

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