

# Overview of the Tertiary Education in Cyprus

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# Higher and Tertiary Education in Cyprus

- HE in Cyprus is offered by public and private institutions
- Aim of Cyprus is to become a regional educational and research centre
- Strong background for a significant growth of the higher education sector
- Governmental administration through the Department of Higher and Tertiary Education of MOEC



# Historical development

- Technical and financial assistance from ILO, UNDP and UNESCO to establish Public HE schools
- The Private Schools of Higher Education Started to develop during the 1980's and the 1990's
- The University of Cyprus started operation in 1992
- Two new public universities are under establishment
- Preparation of the legislation for Private Universities



# The University of Cyprus

- Is an autonomous educational institution established by a Law
- At present is the only university in full operation
- Five faculties as follows:
  - Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
  - Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences
  - Faculty of Economics and Management
  - Faculty of Engineering
  - Faculty of Letters
- Number of students (2003-2004): 3.658 including 491 postgraduate students at Masters and Doctoral degrees.
- The programme structure:
  - 4 years for degree or Ptychio
  - 1,5 years for the Masters degree
  - Further 3 years of study and research for PhD degree
- Future courses in Law, Biological Studies and Medicine



# The Open University of Cyprus

- Law approved by the House of Representatives
- The Interim Governing Board has been appointed and is preparing the operation of the University in January 2006
- Faculties:
  - Human and Social Sciences
  - Economics and Management
  - Pure and Applied Sciences
- Initial programmes:
  - Degree program in Greek Civilisation
  - Postgraduate program in Health Services
  - Postgraduate program in Education



# The Technological University of Cyprus

- The aim is to upgrade the programmes of study of the Public Schools of HE to a degree level.
- Faculties:
  - *Technological Applications*
  - *Health Services*
  - *Economics and Management*
  - *Geotechnical Sciences*
  - *Applied Arts and Communication*
- Among the aims is the provision of courses to graduates of the public schools to upgrade their qualifications
- The university will be operational in 2-3 years



# Public Schools of Higher Education

- They operate under the jurisdiction of the respective Ministries of the Republic and provide professional courses 1-3 years
- They are the following:
  - (a) Higher Technical Institute (444)
  - (b) Higher Hotel Institute (194)
  - (c) School of Nursing (704)
  - (d) Cyprus Forestry College (23)
  - (e) Mediterranean Institute of Management (91)
  - (g) Police Academy (673)
  - (h) Tourist Guides School (--)
  - (i) Health Inspectors School (--)



# Private Schools of Higher Education

- The relevant Law and the corresponding Regulations describe the requirements for their registration, operation and accreditation
- They offer a wide variety of programmes of study in professional and academic levels such as Business Studies, Engineering, Social Sciences, Languages, Education, Hotel and Tourism, Administration, Management, Graphic Design, Computer Sciences and others.
- At present, there are twenty three private schools
- They offer 1 to 4 years programmes of study in various fields together with a number of courses at Masters level.





# The Cyprus Educational Evaluation and Accreditation Board (SEKAP).

- Is appointed by the Council of Ministers and consists of distinguished academicians.
- It has the authority for the accreditation of programmes of study of the Private Schools of HE.
- First programmes of study have been accredited by the Cyprus Educational Evaluation and Accreditation Board (SEKAP) in January 2000
- In total 157 programs of study have been accredited
- The accreditation is granted for a period of four years
- Some programmes of study are now under the process of reaccreditation



# The Cyprus Council for the Recognition of Higher Education Qualifications (KYSATS).

- Is the NARIC of the country
- It gives recognition for the corresponding degrees of:
  - *Higher Diploma*
  - *University degree or Ptychio*
  - *Masters Degree*
  - *PhD Degree*
- The reference diplomas are those of the public institutions



# Access to Higher Education

- Through competitive entrance examinations for entry to the public HE Institutions in Cyprus and Greece
- Entry to the Private Schools of HE is subject to the possession of a recognized secondary school certificate and to the aptitude tests set by the individual school



# Cyprus and the Bologna Declaration

- The Declaration was signed in 1999
- **Recognition of degrees: KYSATS, SEKAP**
- **Degree Structure**
  - 1 year Certificate
  - 2 years Diploma
  - 3 years Higher Diploma
  - 4 years Ptychio/Bachelor
  - 1,5 years Master
  - 3 years PhD



## Bologna Declaration (ctd)

- **System of credits:** The University and some of the public and private institutions are working towards introducing ECTS
- **Mobility:** All HE institutions participate to some degree
- **Quality assurance:** A general QA for all institutions is under discussion
- **Lifelong learning:** New opportunities through the new universities
- **Attractiveness of the European Higher Education Area:** Some 6,500 international students in Cyprus



# Funding Higher Education

- The Public institutions of HE are funded by the government through their annual budgets approved by the House of Representatives.
- Cypriot and European Students pay no fees to public institutions.
- The Private Schools of HE are self financed
- Fees in Private Schools of HE range from c£2,500-3,500 (€ 4,000-5,500) depending on the type of the course
- Families of students attending courses in recognised institutions, locally and abroad, receive an annual grant of c£1000 for their expenses and a further c£500 when they pay fees as in the case of the private schools.



# Participation in the European Programmes

- Cyprus participates actively in the SOCRATES and the ERASMUS programmes and in Lifelong Learning activities
- The public and the private HE institutions participate in mobility, research and other EU programmes



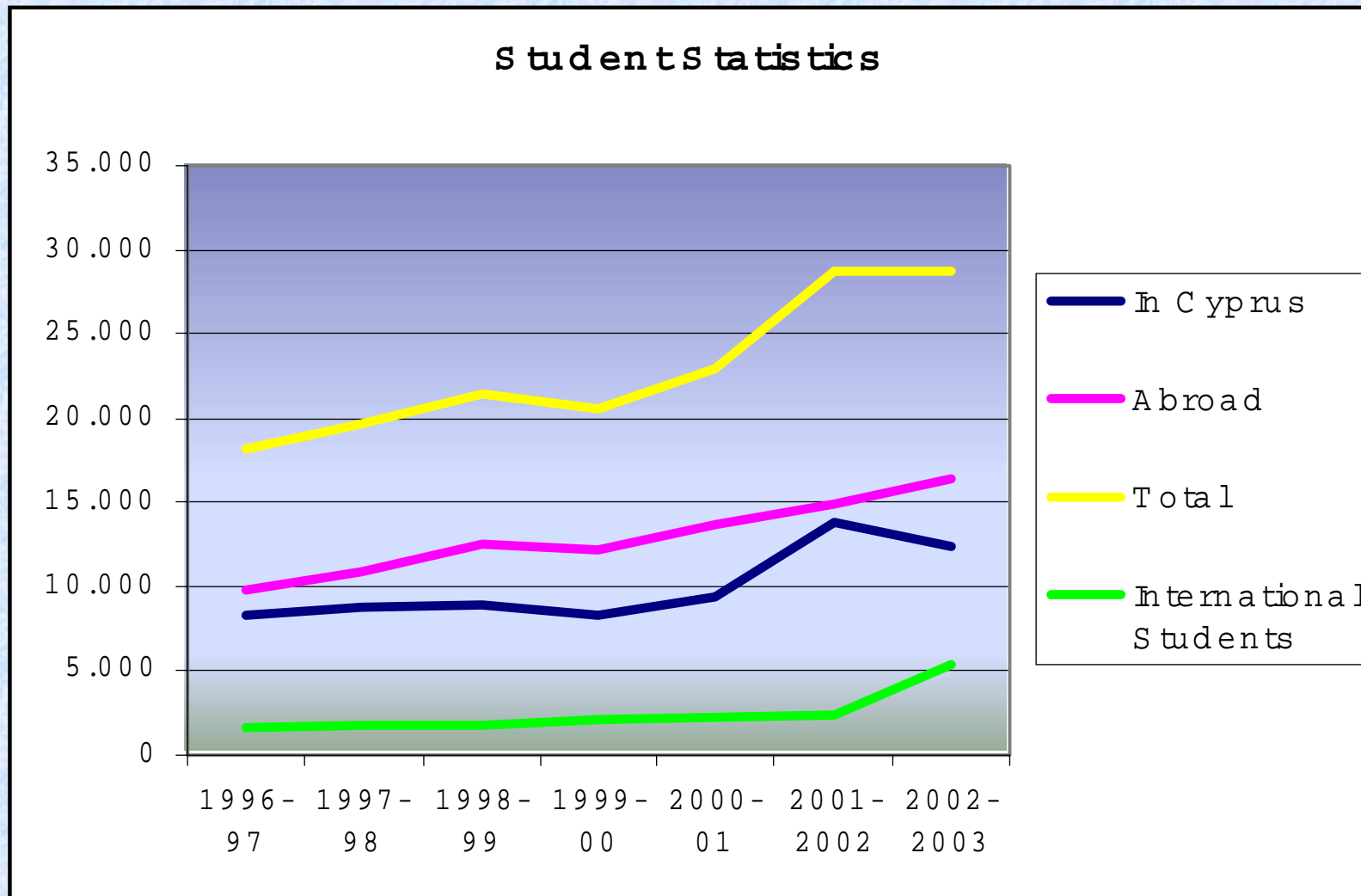
# Future Developments

- The growth of the University of Cyprus and its expansion by adding new schools and departments.
- Commencement of the operations of the Open University of Cyprus in order to promote life long learning
- Commencement of the operations of the Technological University of Cyprus to upgrade the public HE institutions
- Upgrading of the private institutions of higher and tertiary education
- Approval of the legislation and establishment of private universities in Cyprus
- Development of Cyprus into a regional education and research centre linking EU to Middle East, Asia and Africa
- Increase research budget from 0,3% to 3% of GDP by 2008
- Research centers establishing themselves in Cyprus which through synergies with HE sector will contribute to qualitative and quantitative improvements

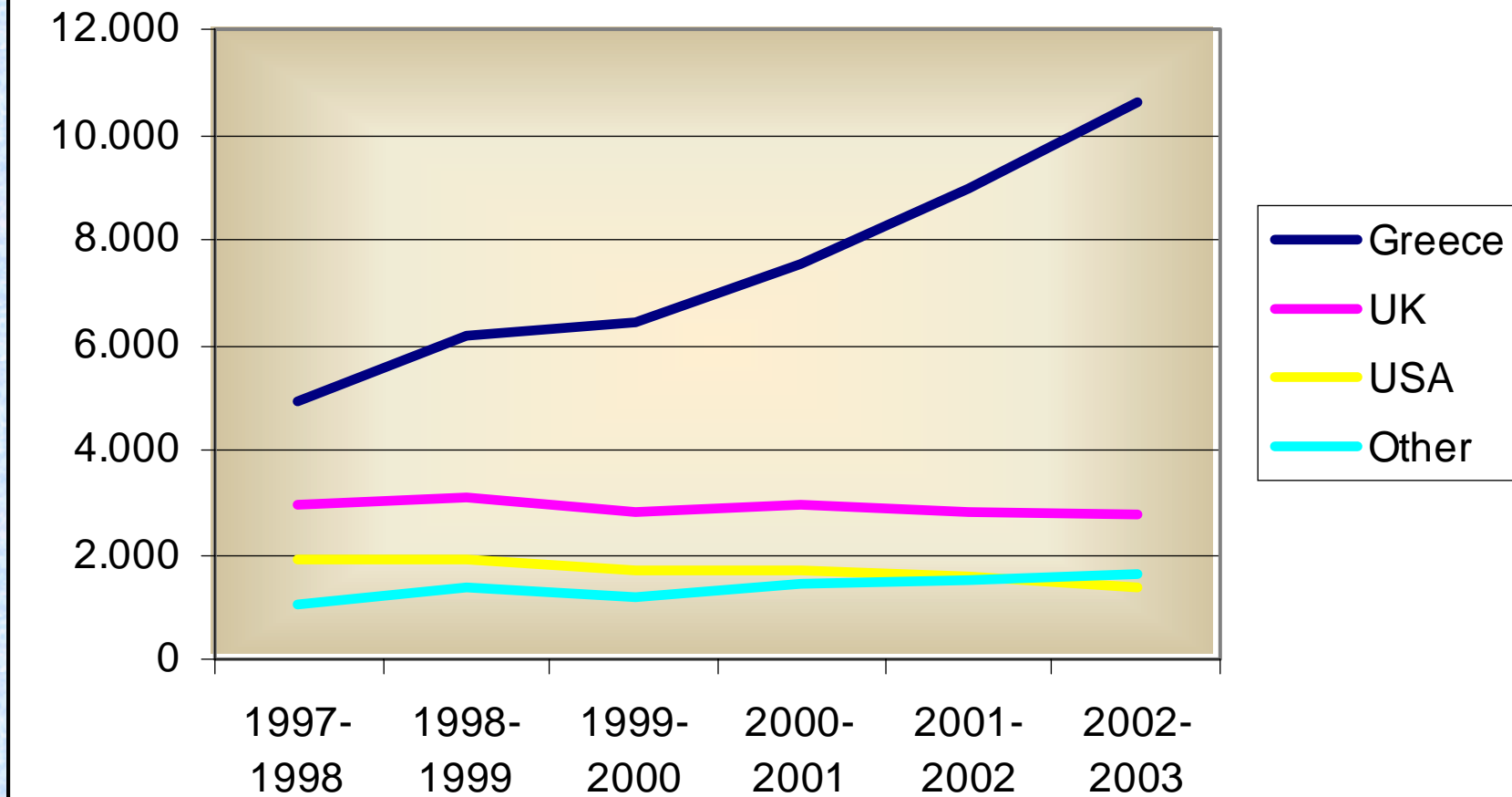




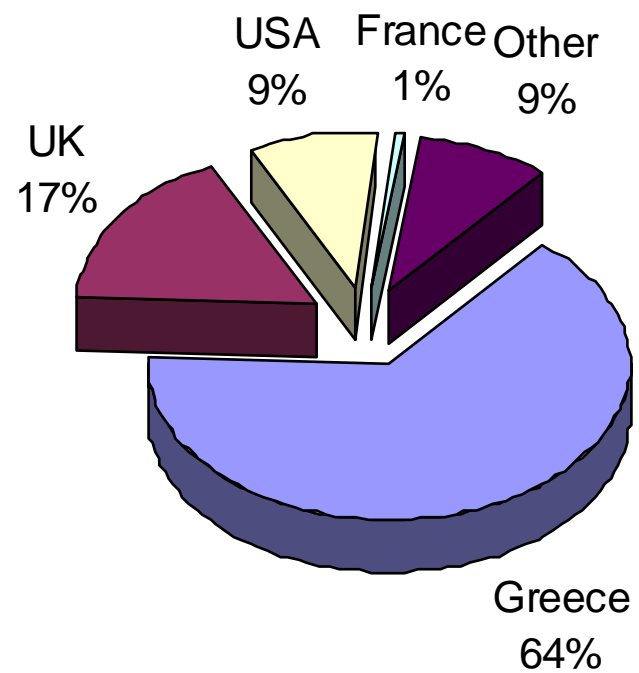
# STUDENT STATISTICS



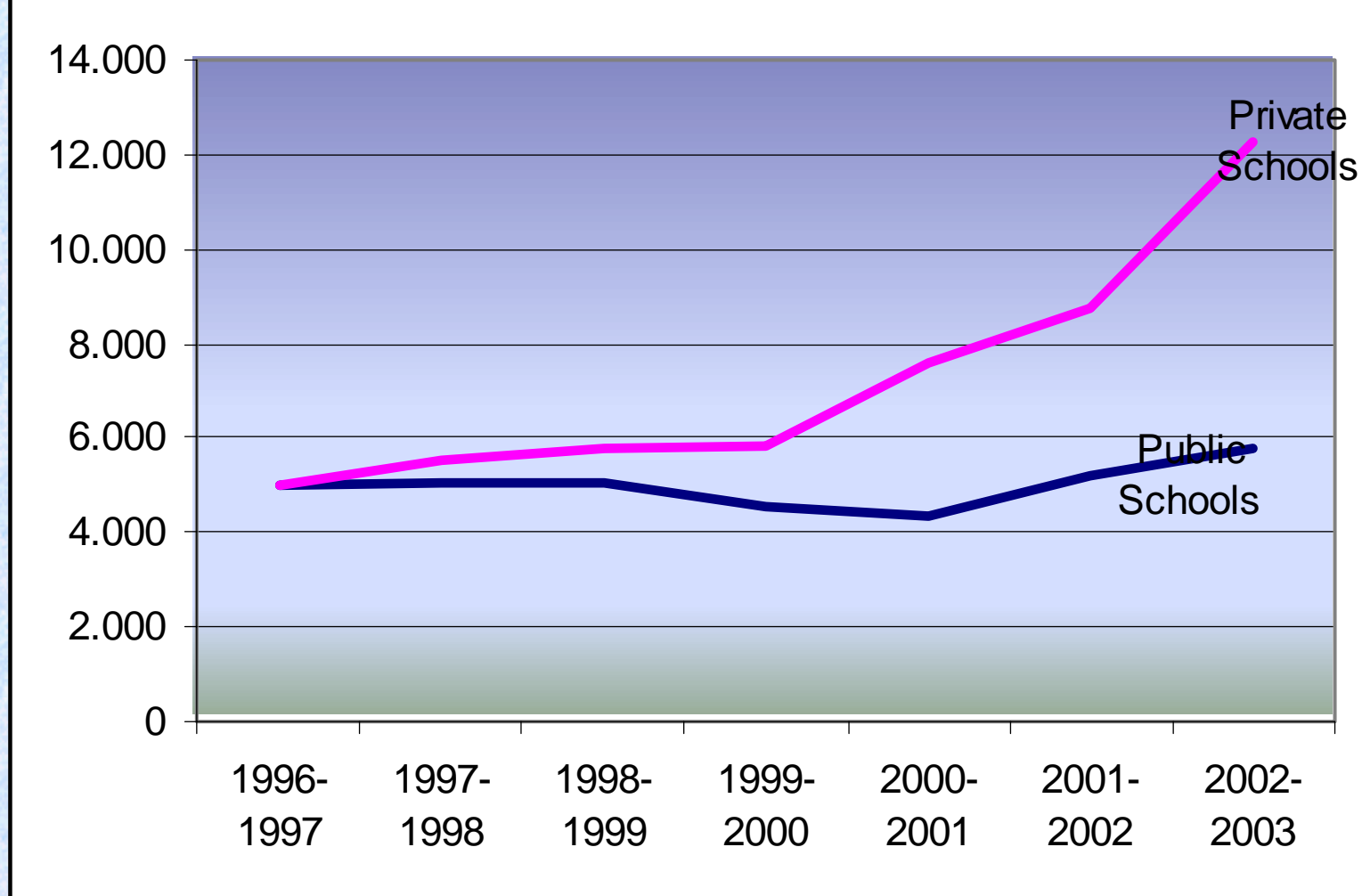
## Cypriot Students Abroad



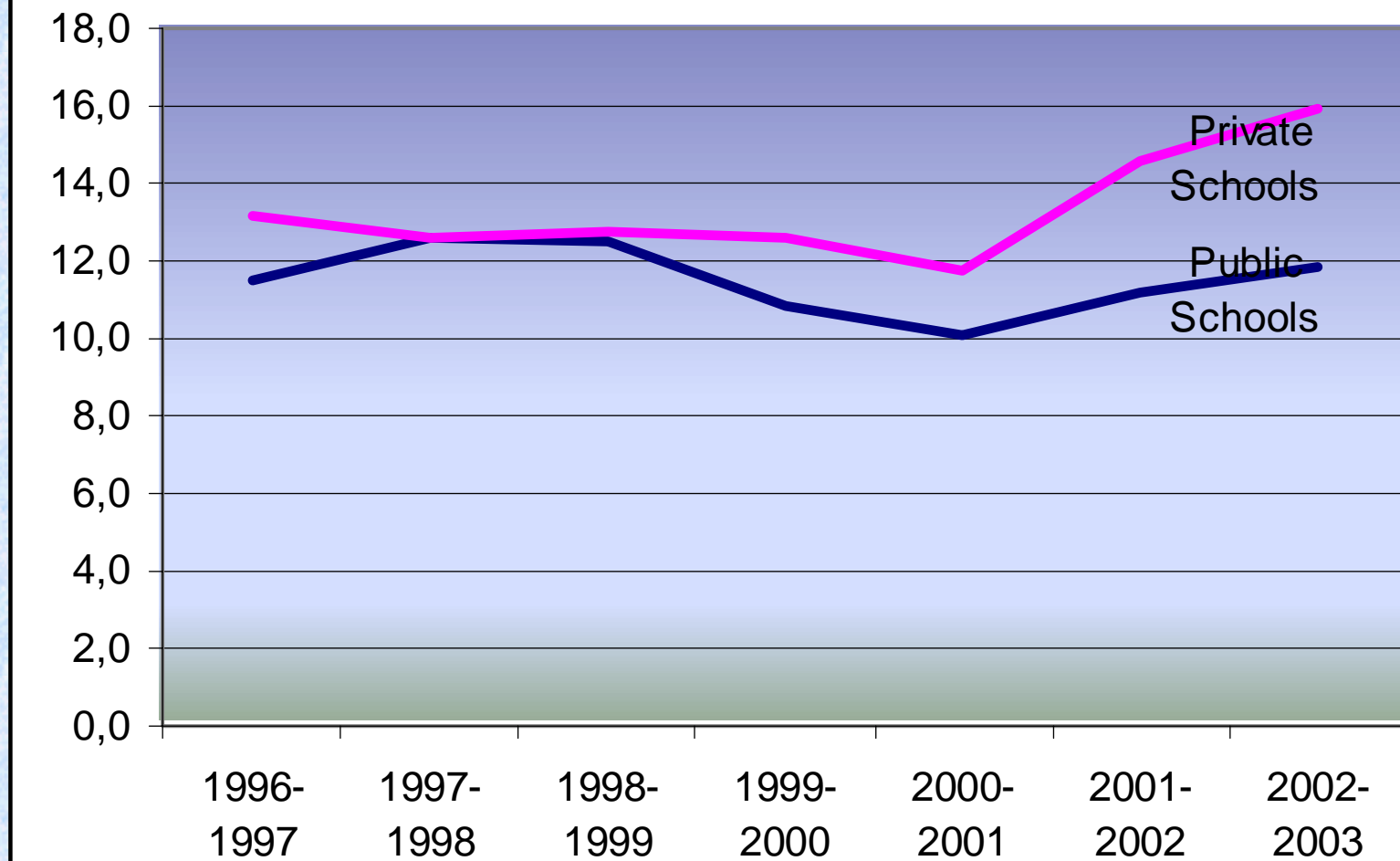
## Cypriot Students Abroad (%)



## Number of Students



## Students / Staff Ratio

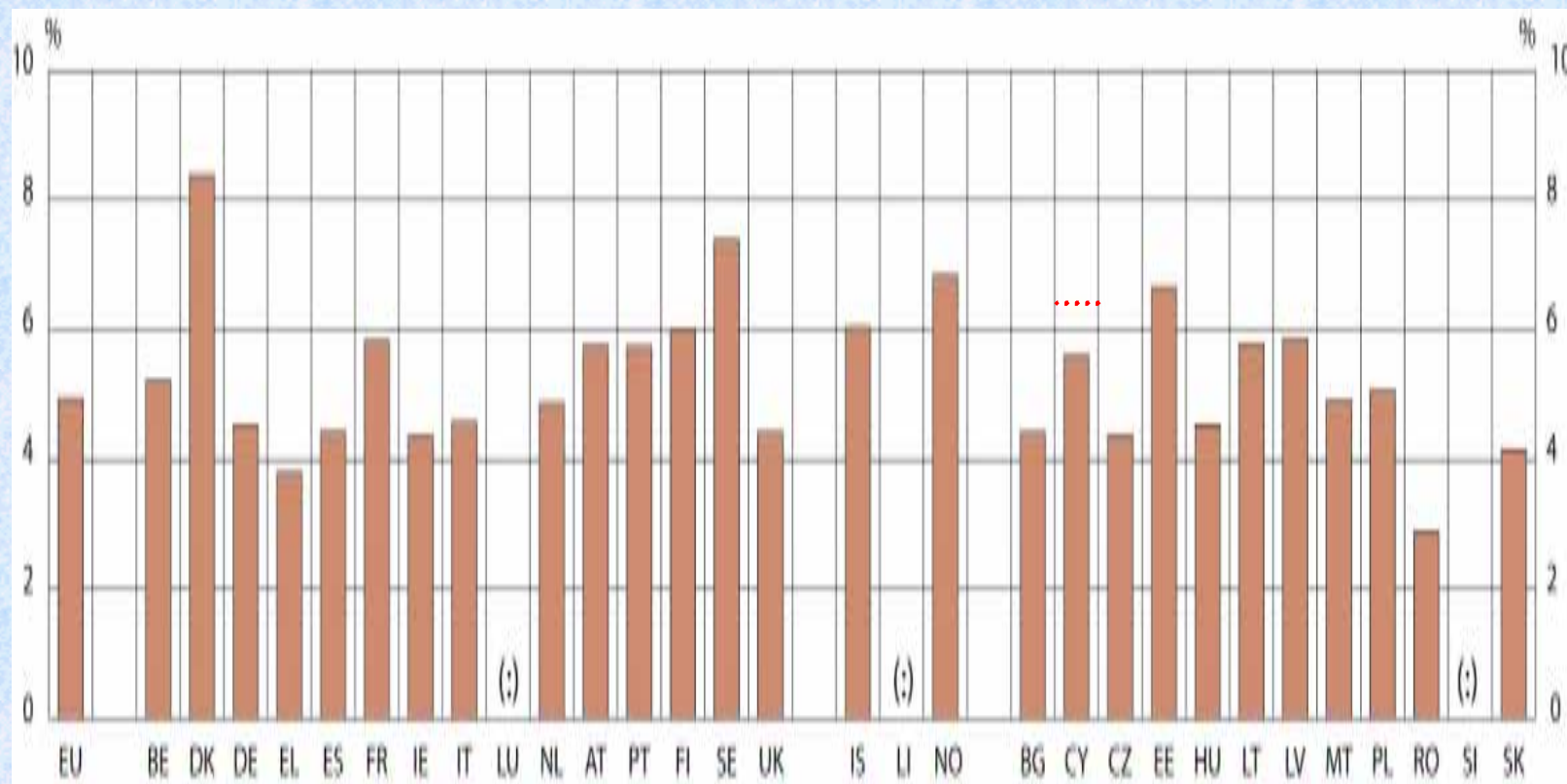


# Higher Education in Cyprus as Compared to EU Countries

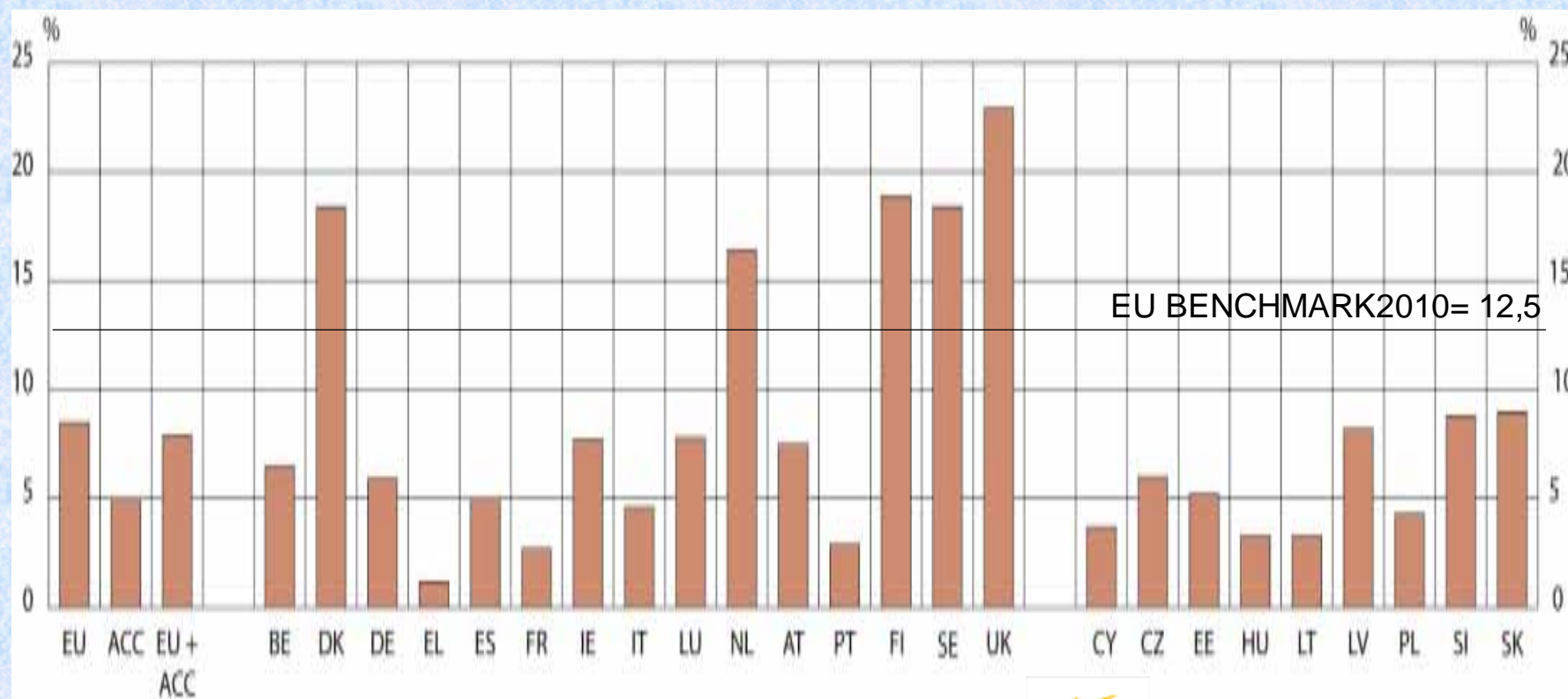
Data from eurostat and Commission staff  
working document on implementation of  
the "Education & Training 2010"  
programme



# Public expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP, 2000 (Eurostat)

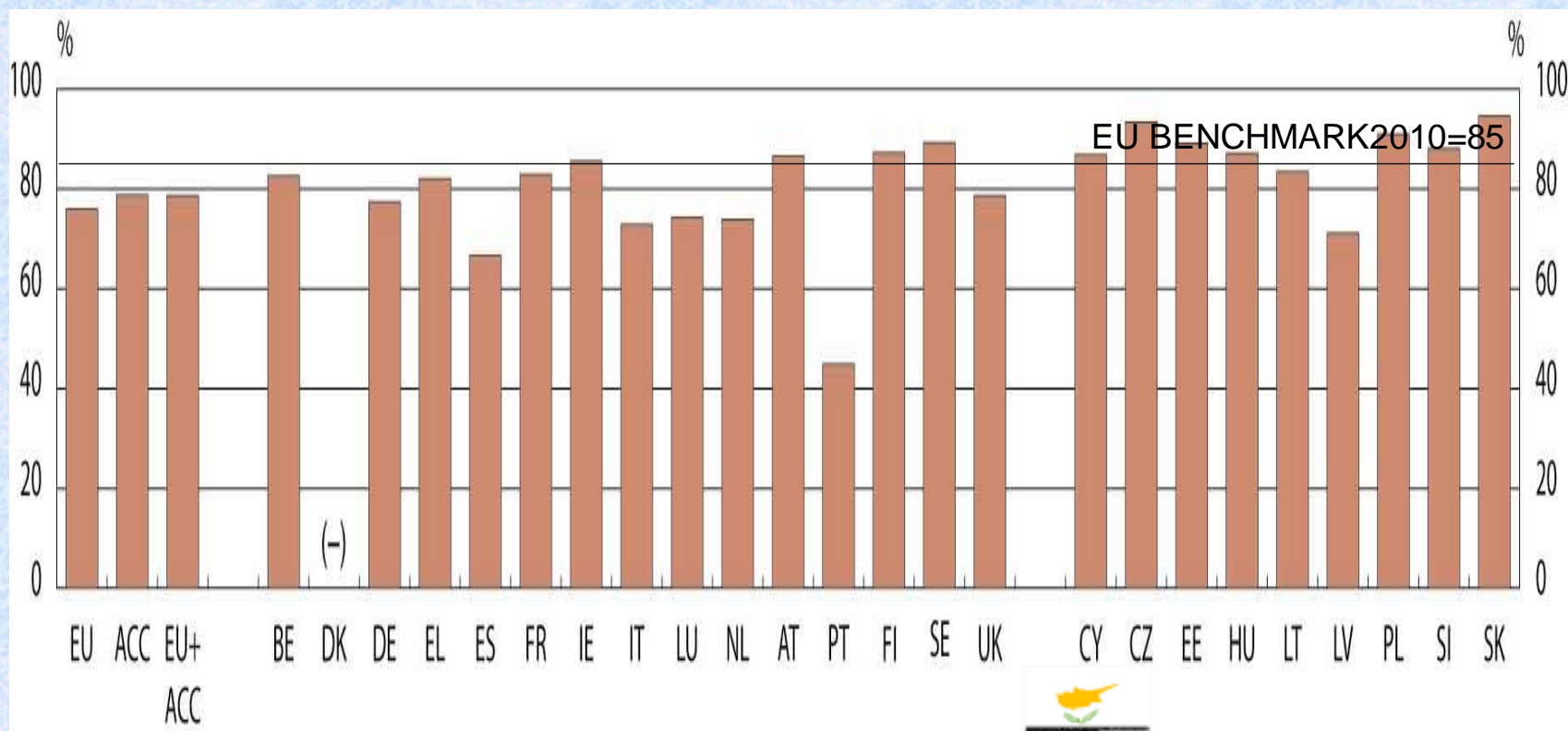


# Percentage of population aged 25-64 participating in education and training in 4 weeks prior to the survey (2002)

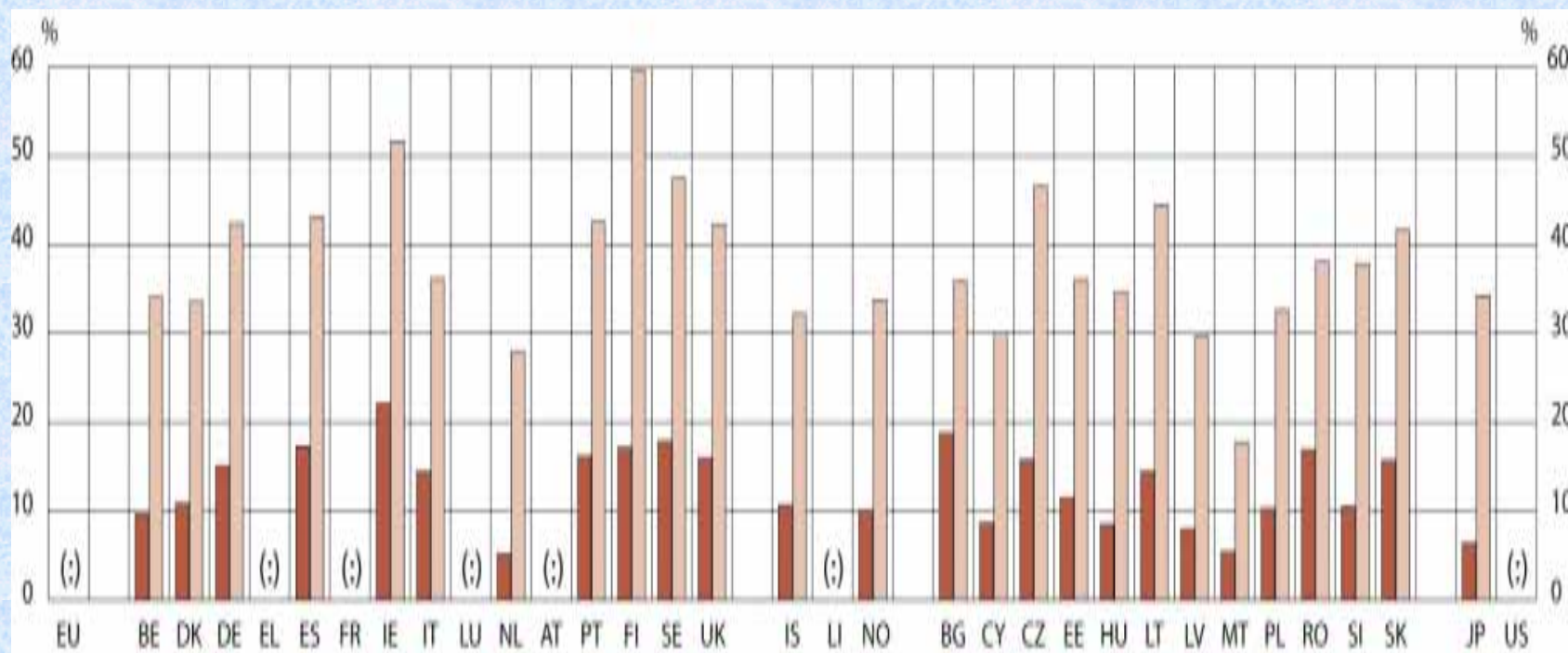




# Percentage of those aged 22 who have successfully completed at least upper secondary education (ISCED 3), 2002



# Students enrolled in mathematics, science and technology as a proportion of all students in tertiary education (ISCED 5A, 5B and 6) (2001)

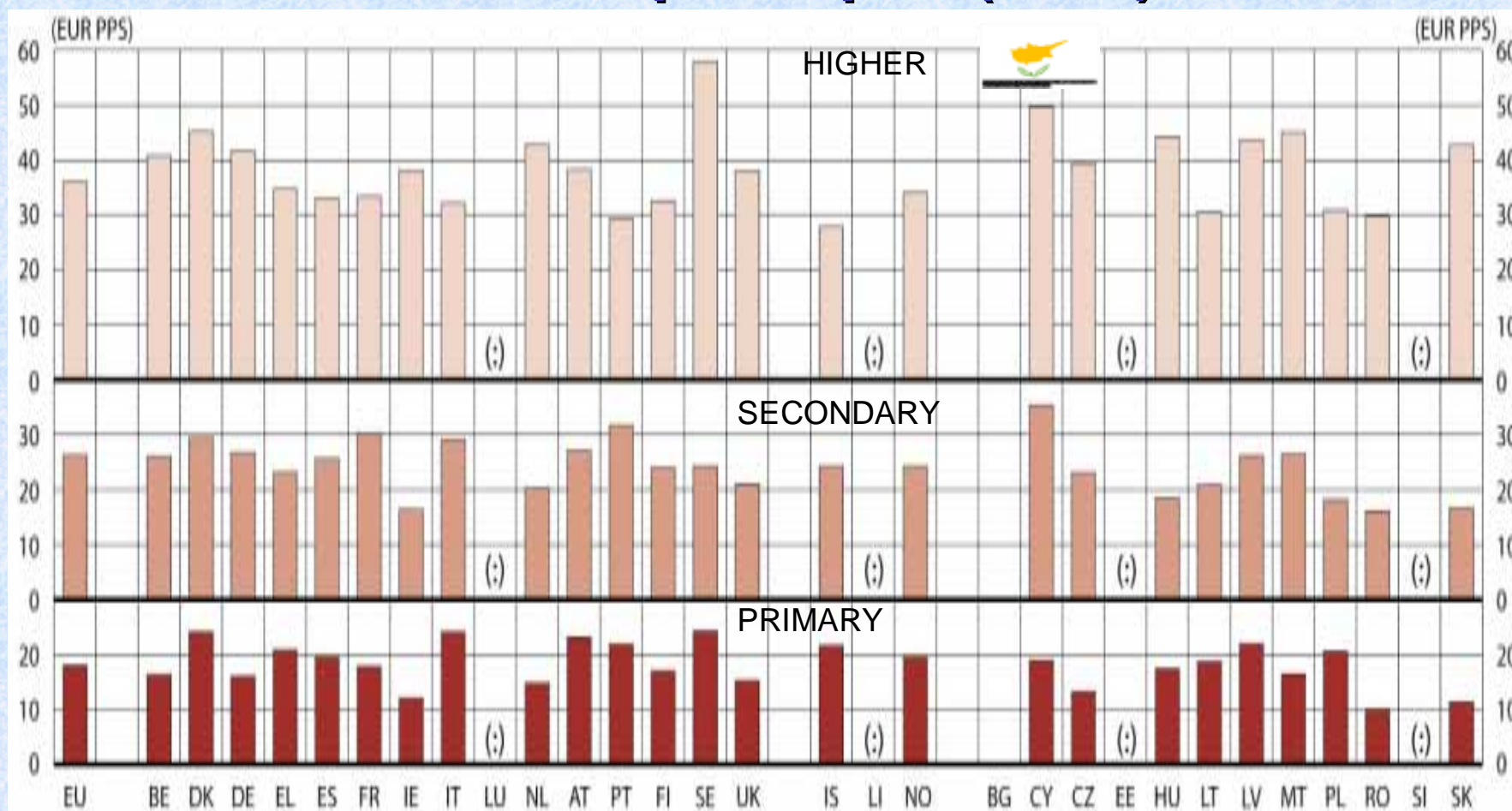


FEMALES

MALES



# Total expenditure on educational institutions per pupil/student by level of education relative to GDP per capita (2000)



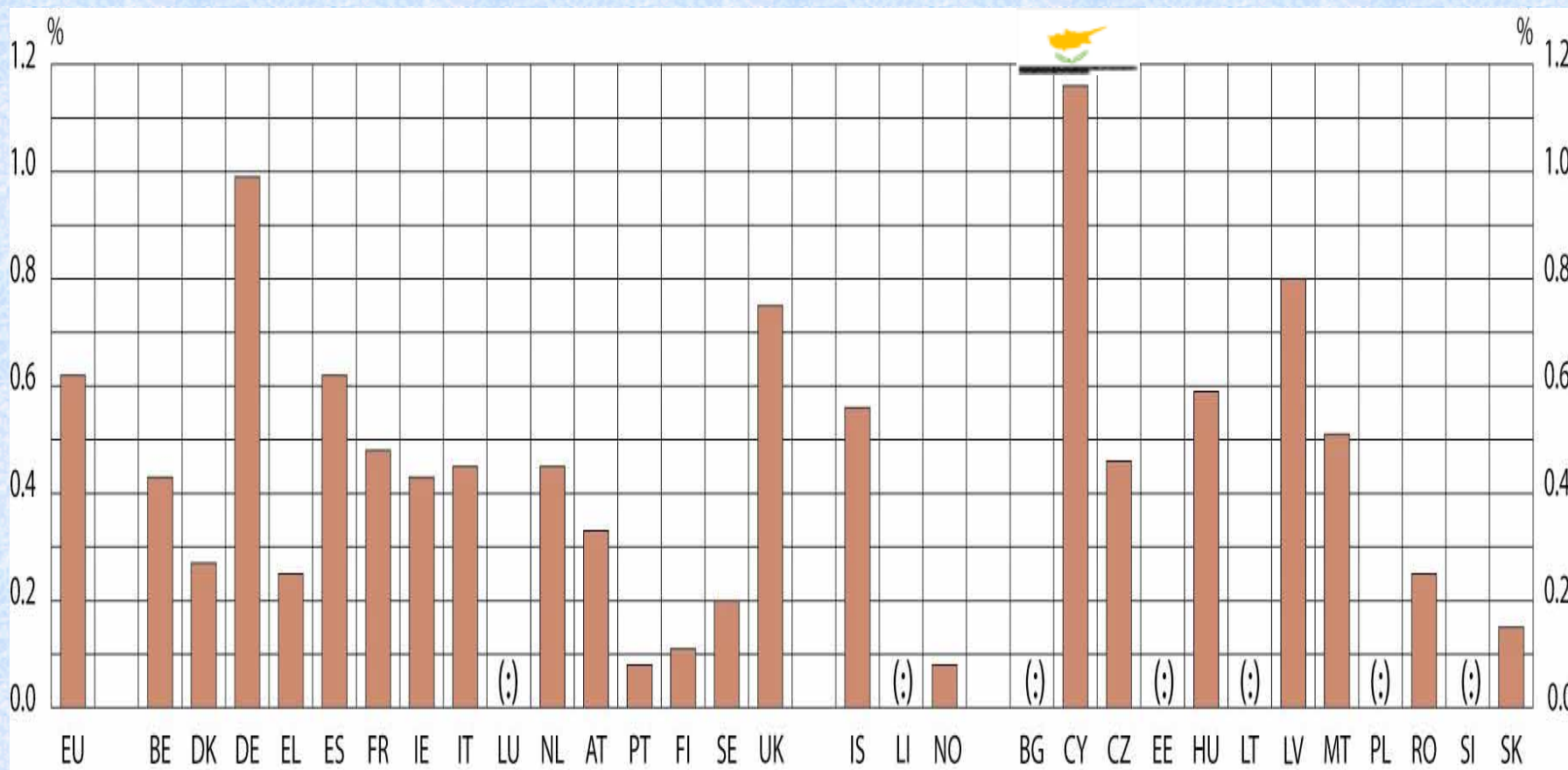
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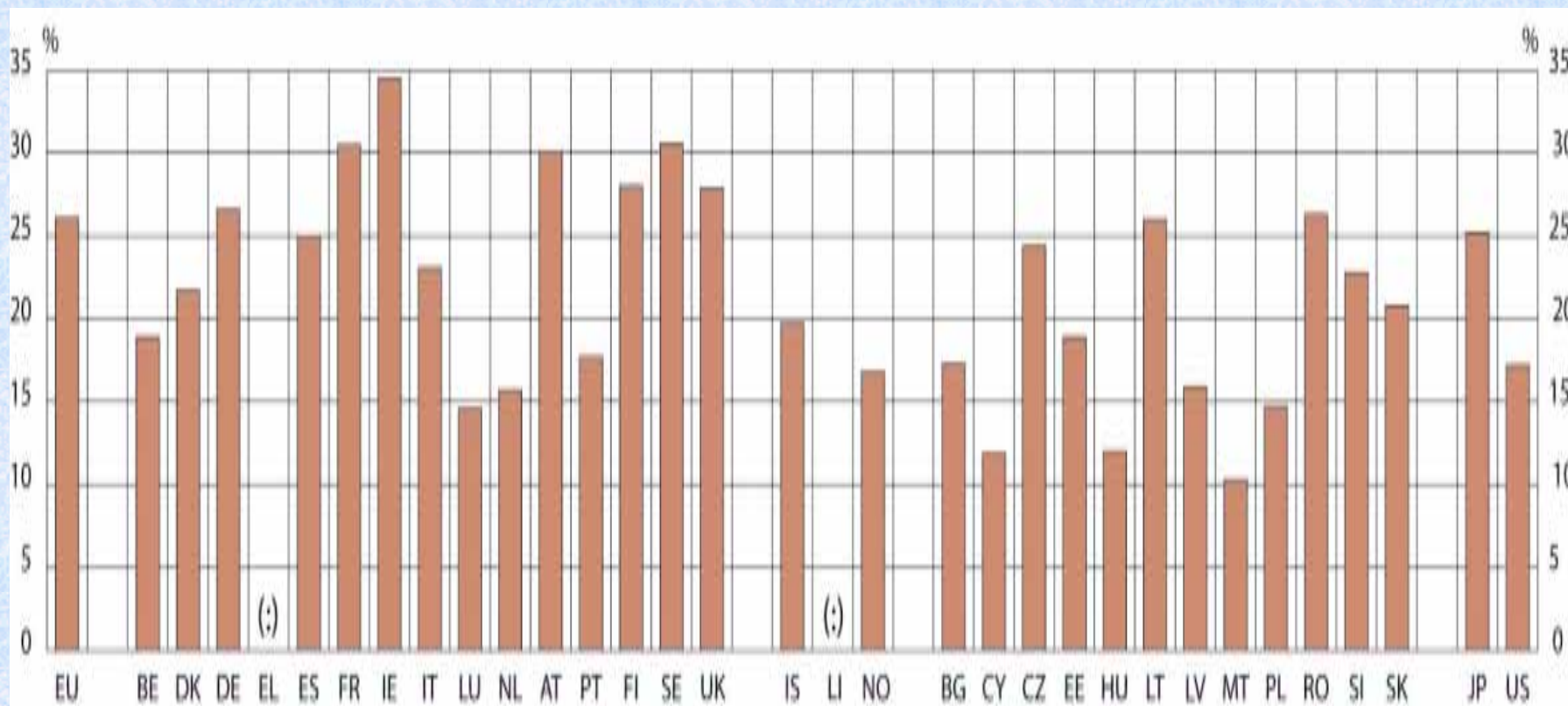
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CULTURE



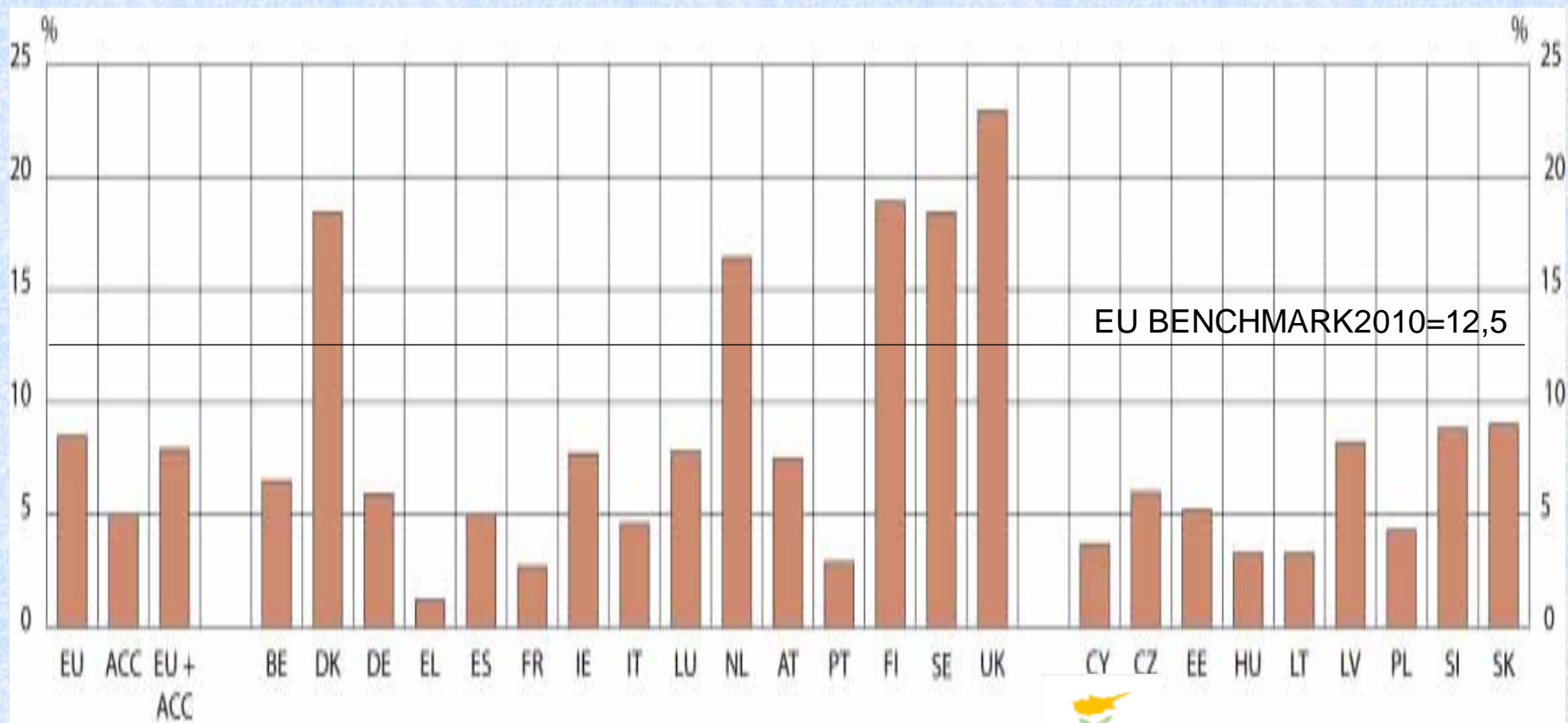
# Private expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP, 2000



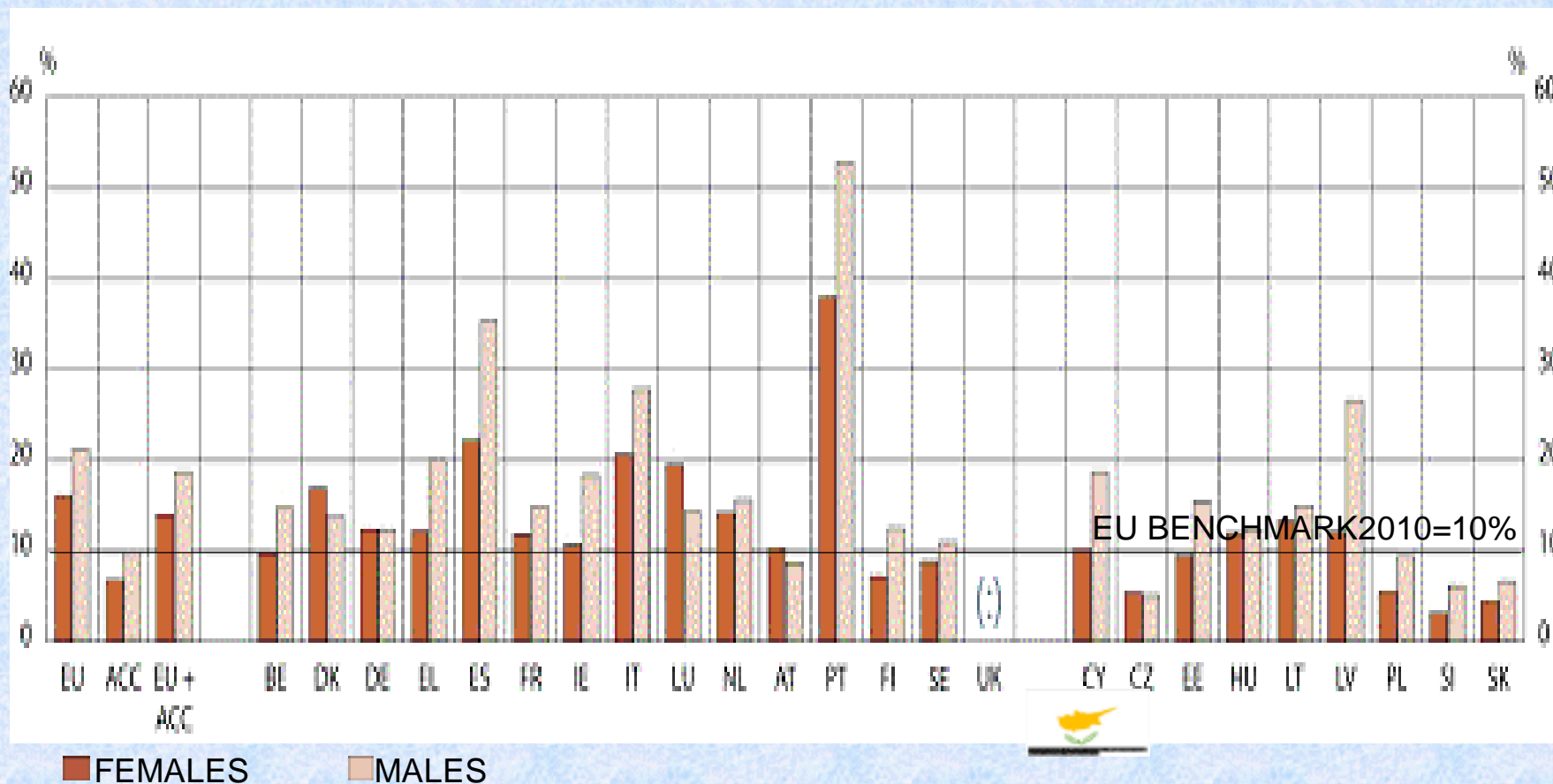
# Graduates in mathematics, science and technology (ISCED 5A, 5B and 6) as percentage of all graduates (ISCED 5A, 5B and 6), 2000



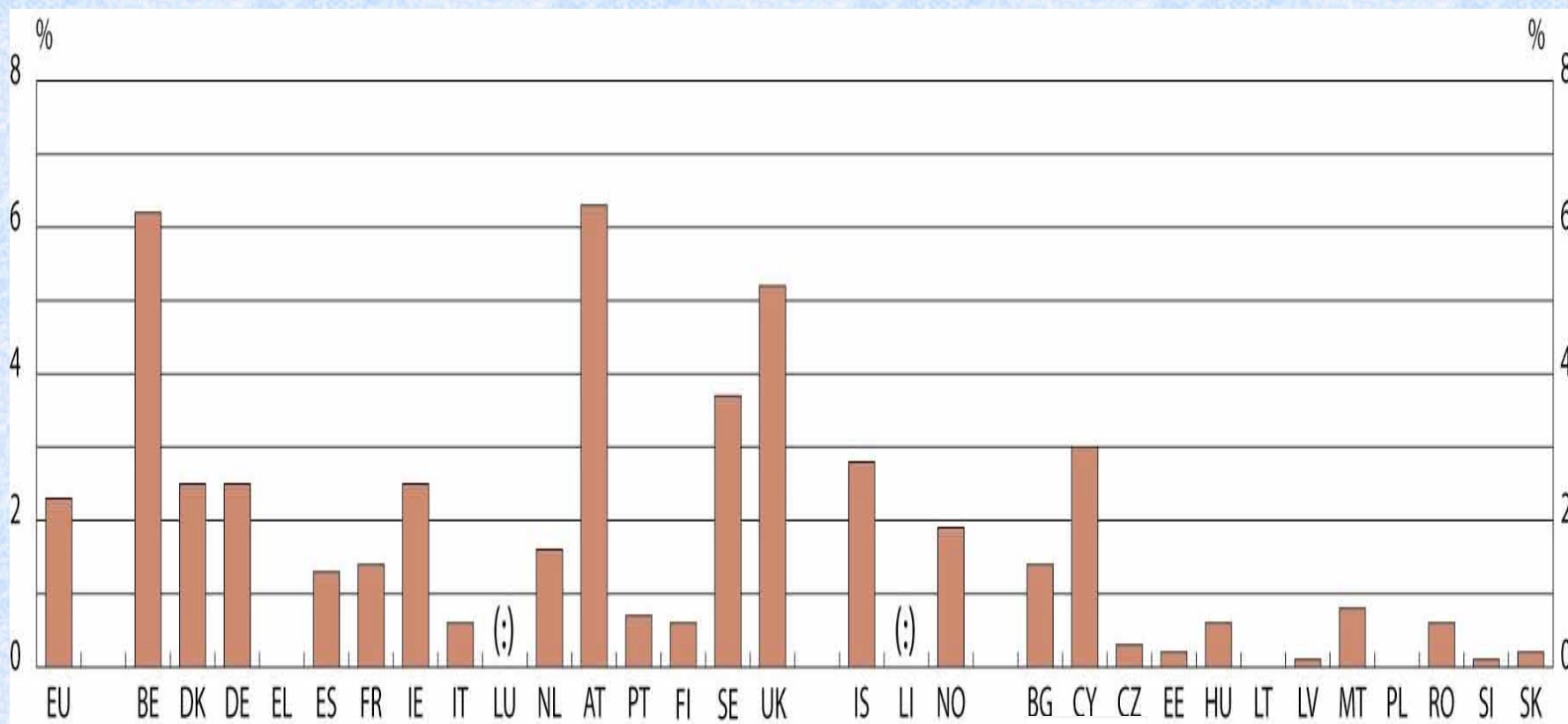
# Percentage of population aged 25-64 participating in education and training in 4 weeks prior to the survey, 2002



# Share of the population aged 18-24 with only lower secondary education and not in education or training, 2002



# Foreign students enrolled in tertiary education (ISCED 5 and 6) as a percentage of all students enrolled in the country of destination, by nationality (European country or other countries), 2001



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