

FASTER

Financial and Accounting Seminars Targeting European Regions

User requirements on FASTER platform:

Survey outcomes

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Aim of survey

- Potential users' evaluation of:
 - usefulness of such platform
 - planned options and job seeking environment of FASTER platform
- Record of additional requirements users of the FASTER platform
- Survey was conducted at the same time in four cooperating countries in form of electronic questionnaire and structured interviews

Analysis of survey results

- Outcomes from Slovakia:
 - Average evaluation from 4 groups of respondents regarding of 2 part of FASTER platform (educational and job seeking).
 - Ranking of educational platform features from the average evaluation of the groups' answers.
 - Ranking of job-seeking features from the average evaluation of the groups' answers.

Analysis of survey results

- Outcomes from partners:
 - Average evaluation from 4 groups of respondents regarding of 2 part of FASTER platform (educational and job seeking).
 - Ranking of educational platform features from the average evaluation of the groups' answers.
 - Ranking of job-seeking features from the average evaluation of the groups' answers.

Target groups

- **Students (undergraduate and postgraduate) in finance and accounting**
- **People interested in vocational training**

- **Academics**
- **Employers**

Survey outcomes in Slovakia



Sample characteristics

- 95 students
 - 89 undergraduate students
 - 6 postgraduate students
 - 68 women
 - 27 men

- 21 academics
 - 14 women
 - 7 men
 - 12 of them with practical experience

- 20 people interested in vocational training
 - 12 women
 - 8 men
 - 18 currently working in area of finance and accounting

- 20 employers
 - 11 women
 - 9 men
 - managers, executives at accounting firms etc.

Significance of educational platform and job-seeker

Do you believe that the existence of:

1. an online internet-based educational platform with theoretical courses on accounting and practical accounting applications would be useful in the teaching of accounting
2. and the platform operated as a job seeking environment on the field of accounting?

Slovakia	Students	Academics	Employers	People interested in vocational training
Educational platform	4,08	4,83	4,95	4,55
Prostredie pre hľadanie zamestnania	3,95	5,00	5,00	4,45

1-5 Likert scale (1: no important – 5: very important)

Proposed features of educational platform

Concise presentation of the theory in the form of text (Theory)

Concise presentation of the material in the form of slides (Slides)

Examples – practical applications in various accounting subjects and case studies (Examples)

Self assessment multiple choice questions (Multiple choices)

Self assessment true/false questions (True/false)

Links to electronic accounting databases (Databases)

Links to national and international accounting sites (Sites)

Proposed further reading for various accounting subjects (Further reading)

Links to accounting journals (Journals)

Links to E.U. and national regulations and legislations (Legislation)

Glossary of accounting terminology in Slovak and in English (Glossary)

Ranking of educational platform features

	Slovakia	Students	Academics	Employers	People interested in vocational training
1	Examples	1	1	1	1
2	Glossary	2	5	6	5
3	Databases	3	7	7	5
4	Multiple choices questions	10	11	10	10
5	Sites	5	4	5	5
6	Slides	6	6	8	8
7	Legislation	4	2	2	3
8	True/False	11	10	9	11
9	Further reading	7	3	4	4
10	Journals	9	9	11	9
11	Theory	8	8	3	2

Further proposed features of educational platform

- Students
 - Frequently asked questions, Feedback from users
 - Instructional videos
 - Online communication between users (forum)
 - Consultations with lecturers
- Employers
 - Consultancy in area of accountancy legislation
 - Questions and answers by email
 - On-line advisory

Proposed features of job-seeking environment

Job seekers could upload their CVs (Uploading CV)

Job seekers could complete a predefined CV template (Predefined CV template)

Job seekers could upload a job-seeking ad (job-seeking ad)

Firms in Slovakia could upload announcements of job offers (Firms from Slovakia)

Firms from abroad could upload announcements of job offers (Firms abroad)

Job seekers could have direct (on-line) communication with employers (Direct communication)

Interviews could be arranged (Interview)

Ranking of job-seeking environment features

	<i>Slovakia</i>	Students	Academics	Employers	People with interest in vocational trainings
1	Firms abroad	4	3	3	2
2	Firms from Slovakia	1	1	1	1
3	Direct communication	3	5	5	5
4	Uploading CV	6	4	4	5
5	Interview	2	6	6	4
6	Predefined CV template	7	7	7	7
7	Job-seeking ad	5	2	2	2

Further proposed features of job-seeking environment

- Students
 - Tips for job interviews
 - Information on upcoming seminars
 - Advices about form of CVs
- Academics
 - Information about upcoming seminars in the field of accounting

Ratings from other partner countries

Survey was attended in following countries:

- Poland
- Greece
- Bulgaria
- Slovakia

Rating of educational platform and job-seeking environment

<i>Students</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
Educational platform	4,08	3,87	3.24	4.42
Job-seeking environment	3,95	4,27	3.92	4.49
<i>Academics</i>				
Educational platform	4,83	4,39	4.14	3.94
Job-seeking environment	5,00	4,27	4.29	3.43
<i>Employers</i>				
Educational platform	4,95	4,33	3.65	4.44
Job-seeking environment	5,00	4,27	3.20	3.48
<i>People interested in vocational training</i>				
Educational platform	4,55	4,03	3.40	4.65
Job-seeking environment	4,45	4.20	4.00	4.06

1-5 Likert scale (1: not important – 5: very important)

Ranking of educational platform features – Students –

	<i>Students</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Examples	1	1	1	1
2	Glossary	2	2	2	3
3	Databases	3	5	7	2
4	Multiple choices questions	10	3	3	5
5	Slides	6	4	5	5
6	Sites	5	6	9	6
7	Legislation	4	9	8	7
8	True/False	11	7	6	8
9	Theory	8	11	4	7
10	Further reading	7	8	10	10
11	Journals	9	10	11	9

Ranking of job-seeking environment features – Students –

	<i>Students</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Firms abroad	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
2	Firms from Slovakia	(3)	(3)	(1)	(2)
3	Direct communication	4	(2)	(2)	4
4	Uploading CV	6	5	5	(3)
5	Interview	(2)	4	(3)	7
6	Job-seeking ad	5	7	4	6
7	Predefined CV template	7	6	6	5

Ranking of educational platform features – Academics –

	<i>Academics</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Examples	1	1	1	1
2	Glossary	2	5	2	2
3	Databases	5	2	4	3
4	Multiple choices questions	4	6	4	4
5	Slides	7	3	3	5
6	Sites	3	8	6	6
7	Legislation	10	4	2	4
8	True/False	6	10	6	7
9	Theory	8	7	7	6
10	Further reading	7	8	5	9
11	Journals	9	9	3	8

Ranking of job-seeking environment features – Academics –

	<i>Academics</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Firms abroad	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
2	Firms from Slovakia	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)
3	Direct communication	(2)	7	(2)	5
4	Uploading CV	4	(3)	4	4
5	Interview	5	5	(2)	6
6	Job-seeking ad	7	4	(2)	(3)
7	Predefined CV template	6	6	(3)	7

Ranking of educational platform features – Employers –

	<i>Employers</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Examples	1	1	2	1
2	Glossary	2	6	6	2
3	Databases	6	6	6	2
4	Multiple choices questions	5	5	4	7
5	Slides	7	3	5	7
6	Sites	3	8	6	6
7	Legislation	4	7	7	4
8	True/False	11	4	2	3
9	Theory	9	2	4	5
10	Further reading	8	8	3	9
11	Journals	10	8	1	8

Ranking of job-seeking environment features – Employers –

	<i>Employers</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Firms abroad	(1)	(1)	5	(1)
2	Firms from Slovakia	(3)	(2)	(3)	5
3	Direct communication	(2)	5	(1)	4
4	Uploading CV	4	4	4	(2)
5	Interview	5	(3)	6	(3)
6	Job-seeking ad	6	6	(2)	6
7	Predefined CV template	7	7	6	5

Ranking of educational platform features – People interested in vocational training –

	<i>People interested in vocational training</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Examples	1	1	1	1
2	Glossary	5	3	3	3
3	Databases	5	2	3	2
4	Multiple choices questions	3	4	5	4
5	Slides	5	5	4	5
6	Sites	2	7	5	7
7	Legislation	4	9	6	9
8	True/False	8	6	2	6
9	Theory	9	10	2	10
10	Further reading	6	8	5	8
11	Journals	7	11	6	11

Ranking of job-seeking environment features – People interested in vocational training –

	<i>People interested in vocational training</i>	Slovakia	Greece	Bulgaria	Poland
1	Firms abroad	(1)	(1)	(3)	(1)
2	Firms from Slovakia	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)
3	Direct communication	4	(2)	(1)	(2)
4	Uploading CV	4	4	(2)	4
5	Interview	(2)	6	(3)	6
6	Job-seeking ad	(3)	7	(1)	7
7	Predefined CV template	5	5	(2)	5

Conclusion of survey

- Conclusion of respondents ranking:
 - Educational platform – practical examples, glossary of accounting terms, access to accounting databases, self-assessment
 - Job-seeking environment – firms in Slovakia and abroad can upload announcements of job offers, direct communication, possibility of job-interview arrangement

Conclusion of survey

- Request for more practical examples of accounting, more interactivity and better information and communication capabilities of the platform
- Great importance – job-seeking opportunities through FASTER platform
- Through the platform FASTER can be satisfied different needs of various groups of potential users

Additional survey

- Conducted at first FASTER information day in Slovakia
- Conducted in paper form
- Similar to first survey
- Results support conclusions from main surveys

Additional survey results

- Importance of educational platform at significance level of 4.15
- Most important features of educational platform:
 - feedback from users to lecturers
 - instructional videos
 - forum
 - frequently asked questions
- Further recommendations:
 - include video-tutorials
 - solved case studies
 - possibility to consult with lecturers
 - use of accounting software

Additional survey results

- High importance of job-seeking environment
- Significance at 4.70
- Most important features of job-seeking environment:
 - firms in Slovakia and abroad can upload announcements of job offer
 - advices for job interview
 - possibility of job interview arrangement
 - direct communication with potential employer

Thank you for your attention