SLiCE 2 (Student Life Cohort study in Europe II.)

SLiCE 2 is a continuation of the original SLiCE study with an extended scope and consists of two main research aims.

The first aim: Data-based prevention

The first aim of the project is to build on and further develop a data-based prevention of substance use among schoolchildren (UNPLUGGED) and university students (PUNAV). Particular attention is paid to the exploration of the short-term as well as long-term effectiveness of the Unplugged program (up to 3 years following the program implementation).

One of the main extensions of the original project, related to the current trends in the field, is the inclusion of the risk behavior of parents as well as a deeper analysis of the context of family processes designed in terms of paired parent-child data.

The effectiveness of the universal prevention program of substance use Unplugged is explored in the context of booster sessions which can contribute to the quality of the implementation process.

This first part the project follows educational and research activities of the EU-Dap Faculty Network and SPAN/The Science for Prevention Academic Network (our team is a part of these networks) in the field of substance use prevention and further develops the research conducted within the project APVV-0253-11.
Specific goals of the first aim:

• To explore the direct and indirect (mediation, moderation, moderated mediation) effect of the program of universal prevention of substance use among university students (PUNAV)

• To explore the short-term and long-term direct and indirect (mediation, moderation, moderated mediation) effect of the EU program of universal prevention of drug use Unplugged among schoolchildren. Secondly, it is to explore the direct and indirect (mediation, moderation, moderated mediation) effect of the Unplugged program with and without booster sessions.

• To explore the risk behavior of the parents of the schoolchildren (alcohol use, smoking) and analyze it within the context of family processes (communication, monitoring, support, conflicts) in a paired parent-child design.
The second aim: Students’ migration tendencies

The second part of the project focuses on the exploration of university students’ intentions regarding migration (national) and emigration (international) and the changes in these intentions in Slovakia and other participating EU countries. This is addressed in the context of relevant personal and environmental resources and factors with the emphasis on the level of psychological explanation.

This part of the project significantly extends the scope of original SLiCE study with a new and very relevant topic of increased national and international mobility of young adults (university students). It is addressed this in an innovative way of testing possible links with risk behavior. A further aim of the second part of the project is to explore opinions about migration and emigration of schoolchildren and their changes in relation risk behavior and their predictors.
Universities cooperating on a research of emigration intentions:

- Sofia University
  - Bulgaria
- Charles University
  - Czech Republic
- University of Miskolc
  - Hungary
- University of Health Sciences
  - Lithuania
- University of Antwerp
  - Belgium
- Uzhhorod National University
  - Ukraine
- Chernivtsi National University
  - Ukraine
Specific goals of the second aim:

• To explore the level of risk behavior of university students and their willingness to take risks in general in relation to their intention to migrate (national level) and emigrate (international level) as well as their predictors.

• To explore the relationship between intentions to migrate among university students in relation to their opinions about migration on a general level.

• To explore the level of risk behavior of schoolchildren and their willingness to take risks in general in relation to their opinions about migration (national level) and emigration (international level) as well as their predictors.

Acknowledgement

In Slovakia, SLiCE 2 is supported by the Slovak Research and Development Agency under the contract APVV-15-0662 and the MŠVVaŠ under the contract VEGA 1/0713/15 and KEGA 016UPJŠ-4/2017.
Key publications:

Orosova, O. et al. Gender, Rootedness, Normative Beliefs and Emigration Intentions of Slovak University Students, International Migration, 56, 172-196, 2018 https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.12441

Abstract

The aim of this article is to explore normative beliefs (descriptive, injunctive, personal, subjective), rootedness (desire for change, home/family satisfaction) and their interactions in relation to emigration intentions among university students. Binary logistic regression was used to analyse the data obtained from 375 Slovak university students (75.5% females, mean age 22.9, SD=3.0). The analysis showed that personal normative beliefs and desire for change were significantly positively associated with emigration intentions. A subjective normative belief about friends, a descriptive normative belief about family, a descriptive normative belief about students, and home/family satisfaction contributed to the probability of having emigration intentions only among females. The interaction analysis showed that a lower level of a personal normative belief among females and males, a descriptive normative belief about family among females and a subjective normative belief about friends among females increased the probability of not having emigration intentions, especially among those with a lower level of desire for change. These findings could help to understand the possibilities for preventing ‘brain drain’, especially regarding its psychological aspects.
In 2018 our research team also joined the international study: The International study of emotional intelligence:

University of Ljubljana
Slovenia

University of Rijeka
Croatia