Teacher Questionnaire Results


## Who took the survey?

| Country | Teacher | Teaching <br> assistant | Senior <br> Teacher | School <br> manage <br> ment | Admin/ <br> support <br> staff | $\#$ <br> total |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Basque Country | 12 | 2 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 3.2 |  |
| Italy | 198 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 208 |  |
| Lithuania | 22 | 0 | 24 | 0 | 3 | 4.9 |  |
| Malta | 16 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 20 |  |
| Portugal | 28 | 0 | 18 | 3 | 1 | 50 |  |
| UK | 20 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 4.1 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 296 | 8 | 75 | 11 | 10 | 400 |  |

100
50

- Italy

150
MaltaPortugal
■UK

Figures in this table are percentages of the number of teachers who chose these options. So total can add up to more than 100 as some chose more than one thing.

We can use these figures to indicate what percentage of the total number of teachers surveyed for each country believed each choice was a significant problem.

## The greatest problem that teachers face from pupils is...

| Country | Different <br> ability | Disengageme <br> nt | Laziness | Lack of <br> general <br> knowledge |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Basque Country | 71.9 | 15.6 | 28.1 | Disruptive |  |
| Italy | 34.1 | 38.5 | 8.2 | 12.5 | 31.3 |
| Lithuania | 36.7 | 26.5 | 46.9 | 12 | 49 |
| Malta | 70 | 35 | 30 | 16.3 | 26.5 |
| Portugal | 28 | 76 | 10 | 25 |  |
| UK | 29.3 | 41.5 | 28 | 14 | 36 |

- Different abilities identified as greatest problem by two countries
- Disengagement also significant
- Lack of general knowledge not viewed as significant problem


## The greatest problem that teachers face from pupils' families is...

| Country | Lack of <br> support with <br> work at home | Lack of <br> respect for <br> teaching <br> profession | Little value <br> seen in <br> education | Lack of <br> support for <br> school <br> decisions | Unrealistic <br> expectations |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Basque Country | 50 | 12.5 | 28.1 | 25 | 12.5 |
| Italy | 33.2 | 44.2 | 34.1 | 27.9 | 20.2 |
| Lithuania | 40.8 | 53.1 | 18.4 | 18.4 | 44.9 |
| Malta | 55 | 65 | 0 | 10 | 35 |
| Portugal | 42 | 54 | 72 | 12 | 12 |
| UK | 22 | 39 | 9.8 | 31.7 | 43.9 |

- Lack of respect for teaching profession identified as greatest problem by three countries
- Value of education seen as biggest problem for PT - poss linked to high gypsy / traveller population in Serpa - but 0 score from MT. Further research might investigate the contradiction of Maltese teachers feeling that education is valued, but not teachers.


## The greatest problem that teachers face from

 schools is...| Country | Poor facilities | Bureaucratic processes | Low Pay | Poor work / <br> life balance | Poor relationships with colleagues / leadership |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basque Country | 9.4 | 65.6 | 50 | 18.8 | 3.1 |
| Italy | 61.1 | 30.3 | 39.9 | 11.1 | 8.7 |
| Lithuania | 22.4 | 63.3 | 53.1 | 32.7 | 16.3 |
| Malta | 10 | 35 | 70 | 20 | 0 |
| Portugal | 24 | 90 | 46 | 40 | 0 |
| UK | 5 | 30 | 40 | 77.5 | 0 |

- Bureaucratic processes most serious problem in three countries
- Relationships with colleagues / SLT mostly good / not prob at all
- UK and Italy biggest prob scoring more than twice what other countries felt about same option $\rightarrow$ suggests poor facilities for IT and poor work/life balance for UK need country specific solutions (local funding policy, work culture etc)


## The greatest problem that teachers face from wider society is...

| Country | Lack of <br> government <br> funding | Policies <br> made <br> without <br> consultation | Unrealistic <br> expectations | Poor opinion <br> of teaching <br> profession | Little value <br> seen in <br> education |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Basque Country | 84.4 | 9.4 | 25 | 25 | 40.6 |
| Italy | 50 | 40.9 | 5.8 | 52.9 | 34.6 |
| Lithuania | 57.1 | 44.9 | 32.7 | 44.9 | 16.3 |
| Malta | 20 | 50 | 45 | 70 | 25 |
| Portugal | 26 | 48 | 18 | 72 | 50 |
| UK | 51.2 | 39 | 58.5 | 29.3 | 7.3 |

- Lack of Funding and Poor Opinion of Teaching Profession are most significant probs
- Basque Country Policies made without consultation significantly greater problem than other countries - Basque context $\rightarrow$ resistant to French government influence.
- UK choice is only different one - they also chose unrealistic expectations for biggest problem from families. May be due to exam focus of British school culture, may be problem at Hillview specifically as almost all questionnaires from there.


## UK example:

Please consider your previous answers and your opinions about all aspects of the role of 'teacher'. Try to USE ONLY ONE WORD to describe the problem of teaching in your country.

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4 1 \text { responses}
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Workload


| 2 <br> $\vdots$ <br> 0 <br> 0 | $\begin{aligned} & \overline{0} \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & i=1 \\ & i=1 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 0 \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & \frac{2}{2} \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & 0 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\stackrel{.0}{\text { ¢ }}$ | - |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Basque <br> Country | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Italy |  |  | 13 | 19 | 16 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lithuania |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Malta |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Portugal |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6 | 3 | 4 |  |  |  |
| UK |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 | 2 | 2 |

'Undervalued' (and comparable translations) is the most frequently selected word.

## Some conclusions from teachers' opinions

- We all have similar problems, but severity of the top five probs varies between schools / countries.
- However, we all share a problem with funding.
- We also feel undervalued in most places. Why?


On a scale of 1-7, how important is a good relationship between school and home?

| Importance 1-7 | EH | IT | LT | MT | PT | UK |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1 |  |  |  | 3.7 |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  | 1.1 |
| 4 |  |  | 2.1 |  |  | 3.4 |
| 5 | 10.5 | 5.3 | 8.5 |  |  | 12.6 |
| 6 | 42.1 | 23.7 | 31.9 | 9.3 | 26.5 | 19.5 |
| 7 | 47.4 | 69.6 | 57.4 | 87 | 73.5 | 63.2 |

Over $80 \%$ of parents from every country selected 6 or $7 \rightarrow$
All countries' parents generally agreed that good relationship = quite/extremely important.

MT had highest percentage for 7 score.
Unusually, $3.7 \%$ of MT parents also thought the relationship was 'completely unimportant'! Possible error?

| Parents think biggest problem <br> (\% by country) | EH | IT | LT | MT | PT | UK |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Pupil Disengagement | 23.7 | 22.7 | 44.7 | 22.2 | 38.2 | 31 |
| Unrealistic Expectations | 26.3 | 5.3 | 14.9 | 9.3 | 8.8 | 17.2 |
| Work / life balance | 13.2 | 3.9 | 12.8 | 31.5 | 8.8 | 19.5 |
| Lack of recognition of role | 13.2 | 33.8 | 17 | 22.2 | 11.8 | 8 |
| Lack of government support | 23.7 | 34.3 | 10.6 | 14.8 | 34.4 | 24.1 |

Pupil Disengagement

Findings:

1. Results varied
2. Disengagement $=$ biggest prob from parent point of view
3. LOR $3^{\text {rd }}$ highest total
4. WLB least selected problem

Unrealistic Expectations

Additional question to compare: what do parents think TEACHERS think is the biggest problem

| Parents think TEACHERS think <br> biggest problem (\% by country) | EH | IT | LT | MT | PT | UK |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Pupil Disengagement | 34.2 | 28.5 | 23.9 | 25.9 | 23.5 | 20.7 |
| Unrealistic Expectations | 10.5 | 2.4 | 17.4 | 3.7 | 8.8 | 14.9 |
| Work / life balance | 2.6 | 1.9 | 8.7 | 14.8 | 5.9 | 23 |
| Lack of recognition of role | 34.2 | 44.4 | 23.9 | 42.6 | 26.5 | 6 |
| Lack of government support | 18.2 | 22.7 | 26.1 | 13 | 35.3 | 34.5 |

Pupil Disengagement


## Some conclusions from comparing the parents' opinions with

 their ideas of teachers' opinions- In no country was the biggest problem identified by parents the same as the one they thought teachers would choose
- Do parents think teachers are wrong in their concerns? What are the greater implications for this? A more detailed analysis of individual results might be interesting...
- UK was only country in which the score for lack of recognition started low and went DOWN
- Teachers in all countries apart from UK are possibly considered by parents to be overly concerned about the recognition they receive!
- Parents and teachers in the UK have completely different ideas about the problems with recognition, as teachers in the UK felt 'undervalued'!


| Average percentage comparison between views | Comparison between parent and what parents think teachers think | Comparison between <br> what parents <br> think <br> teachers <br> think and teachers | Comparison between parents and teachers |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| UK | 5.52 | 7.32 | 7.32 |
| Portugal | 7.04 | 10.55 | 9.84 |
| Italy | 6.56 | 8.98 | 4.25 |
| Lithuania | 9.96 | 12.93 | 4.61 |
| Malta | 9.64 | 6.52 | 10.26 |
| Basque | 12.70 | 20.35 | 14.02 |
|  | 8.57 | 11.11 | 8.38 |

My esteemed colleague, Miss Steph Rukin, was able to organise the data in such a way that the results of the parents and teacher perspectives might be compared.

This was a challenge due to the face that questionnaires were structured slightly differently.

Full data available on request!

### 4.25

On average parents and teachers in Italy differed the least with results showing an average disparity of just 4.25\%
14.02

On average parents and teachers in Basque Country differed the most with results showing an average disparity of $14.02 \%$

## Questions for future research?

- Why is the different ability of students a problem are inclusivity strategies working?
- Are SCHOOLS doing enough to minimise effect of bureaucracy on teachers?
- Why are teachers feeling undervalued? What would make teachers feel more valued?
- If parents think disengagement is biggest problem, do they think this has an internal or external cause?

