

pro familia Survey

**“COSTS FOR AND ACCESS TO
CONTRACEPTION IN EUROPE”**

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in cooperation with IPPF EN

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The Questionnaire of 2008

Part I: Costs

A. Oral contraceptives (box of three cycles)

Costs

What is the average price for the Pill (box of three cycles) in your country? _____

Do women have to pay consultation costs?

Yes, all women , amounting to _____ No

Exceptions: _____

Do all women have to bear the costs for the Pill by themselves? Yes No

Do all women get a discount?

Yes, full refund Yes, partial refund , amounting to _____ No, not all

Is there a discount for young women (under 21 years)?

Yes, full refund Yes, partial refund , amounting to _____ No

Is there a discount for social reasons?

Yes, full refund Yes, partial refund , amounting to _____ No

Is there a discount for medical reasons?

Yes, full refund Yes, partial refund , amounting to _____ No

Is there a discount for other reasons?

Yes, full refund Yes, partial refund , amounting to _____ No

Reason? _____

The Questionnaire of 2008

Part II: Access

Access

Do women need a prescription for the Pill? Yes No

Where do women get the Pill?

Hospital or medical practice Family planning centers At school nurses

In pharmacies In other shops (What shops? _____)

Nowhere

Is it difficult to get the Pill for a teenager? Yes No

If yes, why?

Too expensive Difficult without support of the parents Large distances Other reasons

(What reasons? _____)

Is it difficult to get the Pill for other groups? Yes No

If yes, for what groups and why?

Migrants because _____

Poor because _____

Religious groups because _____

Other groups because _____ (what groups? _____)

Excel-file Costs of Contraception

Costs and reimbursement of contraception in Europe								
black=questionnaire 2007 red=reviewed 2008 orange=new 2008								
		oral contraceptives box of 3 cycles	condoms 1 (10)	emergency contraception	IUD copper + insertion costs	IUD Mirena + insertion costs	sterilisation male	sterilisation female
Cyprus	costs	20,00 €	0,80 € (7,50 €)	10,29 €	265 € (15+250 ins.)	390 € (140+250 ins.)	1.000,00 €	1.500,00 €
	reimbursement	no	free for some groups: army, teenager, sex worker	no	no	no	no	no
	discount (under 21+B12 years)	no	free at family planning centers	no	no reduced for young women (<25) at the Family Planning Clinic	no reduced for young women (<25) at the Family Planning Clinic	no	no
	discount (social indication)	no		no	no when referred from the Welfare Department in some cases free	no when referred from the Welfare Department in some cases free	no	no
	discount (medical indication)	no		no	no	no	yes, full refund	yes, full refund
	consultation costs	40,00 €					40 € exc.: at the State Hospital for people who get free medical care	40 € exc.: at the State Hospital for people who get free medical care

Excel-file: Access to Contraception

Access to contraception							
black=questionnaire 2007 red=reviewed 2008 orange=new 2008							
		oral contraceptives	condoms	emergency contraception	IUD copper or Mirena	Sterilisation	Notes
Austria	only on prescription	yes		yes			
	in hospitals or medical practice			yes	yes	yes	
	family planning centers	yes	yes		yes		
	at school nurses						
	in pharmacies	yes	yes	yes			
	vending machines		yes rare				
	in other shops		yes supermarkets, drugstores				
	access difficult when shops are closed		yes	yes			
	access difficult for teenagers	no	no	yes too expensive	yes too expensive	illegal for <25	
	access difficult for other groups	yes poor	no	yes lack of information	yes poor, migrants		

List of the European countries that answered the questionnaire (sorted according to the annual per-capita-income)

Low per-capita-income (< 7.000 €)	Moderate per-capita-income (7.000-14.000 €)	High per-capita-income (14.000-20.000 €)	Very high per-capita-income (> 20.000 €)
1. Albania (3.880 €) 2. Bosnia-H. (5.133 €) 3. Macedonia (5.256 €) 4. Turkey (6.137 €) 5. Bulgaria (6.593 €)	6. Latvia (9.961 €) 7. Poland (10.108 €) 8. Lithuania (10.580 €) 9. Estonia (11.299 €) 10. Hungary (13.058 €)	11. Czech Republic (14.993 €) 12. Cyprus (16.570 €)	13. Germany (21.507 €) 14. France (22.182 €) 15. Finland (23.472 €) 16. Great Britain (24.264 €) 17. Belgium (23.447 €) 18. Sweden (23.743 €) 19. Netherlands (23.859 €) 20. Denmark (24.800 €) 21. Austria (24.601 €) 22. Switzerland (26.012 €) 23. Iceland (26.652 €) 24. Norway (30.237 €)

Consultation Costs in Europe

	Consultation free of charge	Consultation with costs	unknown
Low per-capita-income (< 7.000 €)	Albania Bosnia-Herzegovina+ Turkey	Bulgaria (5 €)** Macedonia (7,15 €)	
Moderate per-capita-income (7.000-14.000 €)	Estonia Poland+	Latvia (??)	Lithuania Hungary
High per-capita-income (14.000-20.000 €)		Czech Republic (1,20 €) Cyprus (40 €)	
Very high per-capita-income (> 20.000 €)	Belgium Denmark Finland+ France Great Britain Iceland Netherlands Norway Austria Sweden	Germany (10 €)*** Switzerland (44 €)	

+in special institutes

**for poor free of charge

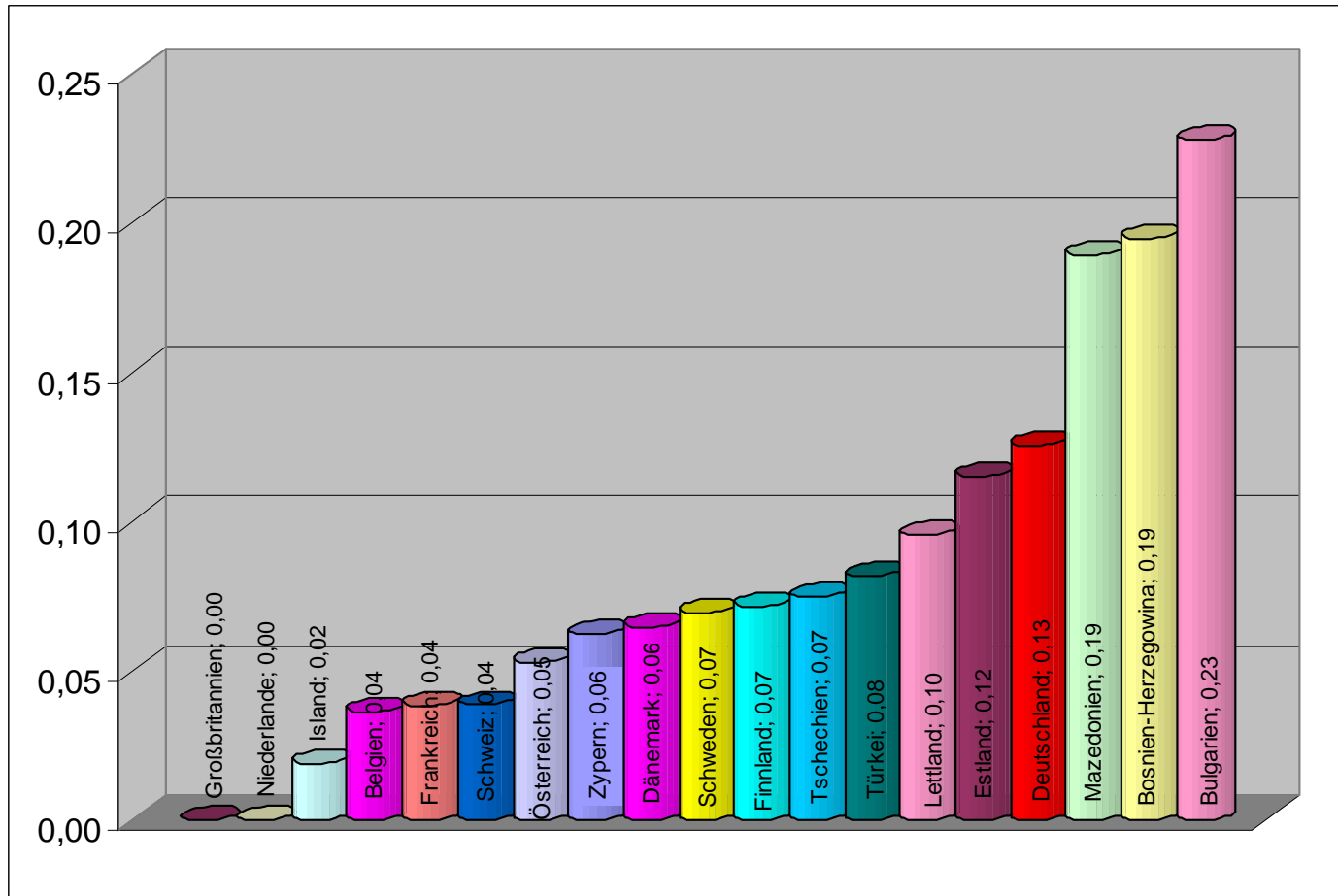
***for < 18 free of charge

Costs for Emergency Contraception in Europe

	Low per-capita-income (< 7.000 €)	Moderate per-capita-income (7.000-14.000 €)	High per-capita-income (14.000-20.000 €)	Very high per-capita-income (> 20.000 €)
free of charge				Netherlands Great Britain
up to 10 €	Macedonia Turkey	Latvia		Belgium France* Iceland Switzerland
10 to 20 €	Bosnia Bulgaria	Estonia	Czech Republic Cyprus	Denmark Finland Austria Sweden*
20 to 30 €				Germany*

*refund for young women

Prices for Emergency contraception as percentage of the per-capita income



Reimbursement of Emergency Contraception

	Reimbursement of EC	No reimbursement / just for special groups
Low per-capita-income (< 7.000 €)		Bosnia-Herzegovina Bulgaria Macedonia Turkey
Moderate per-capita-income (7.000-14.000 €)		Estonia Latvia
High per-capita-income (14.000-20.000 €)		Czech Republic Cyprus
Very high per-capita-income (> 20.000 €)	Netherlands Great Britain	Belgium Denmark Germany* Finland France* Iceland Austria Sweden* Switzerland

*full or partial reimbursement for young women

List of the European countries that answered the second questionnaire (sorted according to the per-capita-income)

Low per-capita-income ($< 7.000 \text{ €}$)	Moderate per-capita-income ($7.000\text{-}14.000 \text{ €}$)	High per-capita-income ($14.000\text{-}20.000 \text{ €}$)	Very high per-capita-income ($> 20.000 \text{ €}$)
1. Macedonia (5.256 €) 2. Bulgaria (6.593 €)	3. Estonia (11.299 €)	4. Czech Republic (14.993) 5. Cyprus (16.570 €)	6. Germany (21.507 €) 7. Finland (23.472 €) 8. Great Britain (24.264 €) 9. Sweden (23.743 €) 10. Netherlands (23.859 €) 11. Denmark (24.800 €) 12. Austria (24.601 €) 13. Switzerland (26.012 €) 14. Iceland (26.652 €)

The „Pill“

- ❖ **The NHS in UK pays 3,80 € for a box of three cycles of the pill whereas in Albania, the country with the lowest per-capita-income examined in this survey, women have to pay 5 €**
- ❖ **In relation to the per capita income women in Cyprus have to pay the highest price for the pill, followed by Switzerland. In both countries this is due to the high consultation costs of 40 resp. 44 €**
- ❖ **In all countries with low, moderate and high per capita (besides Estonia) the „pill“ is not reimbursed.**
- ❖ **The financial barrier seems to be the most important barrier concerning the access to the “pill”.**

Condoms

- ❖ **The price for condoms doesn't vary very much in Europe (3 € in Lithuania to 10 € in the Netherlands and Poland for 10 condoms), so it is relatively higher for people in poor countries.**
- ❖ **In many European countries, vending machines for condoms are quite rare or not at all available (in 5 countries frequent, in 5 countries rare and in 4 countries not at all available).**
- ❖ **In Macedonia, Austria and Sweden the purchase of a condom after shop closing time is difficult – vending machines in these countries are rare or nonexistent.**

IUD

- ❖ **For Mirena the costs differ from 10 to 390,- €, the price seems to be independent from the economic situation of the country.**
- ❖ **There is a strong disadvantage for women in poor countries to obtain an IUD.**
- ❖ **Poor women can hardly afford an IUD in Germany, Iceland, Macedonia, Austria and Cyprus.**

Sterilisation

- ❖ **The price difference for sterilisation is enormous: from 100 to more than 1.000 € for male and up to 2500 € for female sterilisation.**
- ❖ **The costs for sterilisation are reimbursed in six countries.**
- ❖ **Three countries, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Poland, even ban sterilisation by law.**
- ❖ **In most of the countries sterilisation is not allowed under a certain age (> 25).**
- ❖ **Financial reasons are not quoted as impediment for sterilisation – perhaps because many countries actually refund sterilisation.**

Conclusions

- ❖ **Data concerning costs and access of contraceptives within European countries show big divergencies comparing absolute prices and relative prices. (Especially the pill, the IUD and Sterilisation).**
- ❖ **Tendency can be confirmed, that people in countries with lower per-capita income have to burden higher costs.**
- ❖ **Contraception free of charge for adolescents or other groups is only offered exclusively by some “rich” countries.**
- ❖ **Costs for the contraceptives are an important obstacle in access, affecting mainly young and poor people.**

Conclusions

- ❖ **The comparison of costs and access can be considered as a valuable tool**
- ❖ **for health policy debates and**
- ❖ **For advocacy efforts to implement sexual and reproductive rights**



Thank you