

---

**Erna NAIRZ-WIRTH<sup>1</sup> & Daniel ECKERT (Wien)**

## **Classification of European Education Systems Using OECD Education Indicators**

### **Abstract**

The aim of the present study is to classify national education systems using exploratory profiling of OECD education indicators (OECD 2005). In addition to the EU-15, the following other countries for which the actual education indicators selected were available in full were also included in the analysis: Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Republic of Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary. By means of a factor analytical process, the fourteen selected OECD education indicators were reduced to three dimensions ("Social Significance", "Investment in Education per Student" and "General Level of Education") and the positions of their national education systems calculated and compared graphically with regard to each of these three factors. A cluster analysis was carried out to classify the countries, which was then used to group the national education systems into seven country clusters.

### **Keywords**

Education systems, education indicators, classification, OECD

---

<sup>1</sup> e-Mail: [enairz@wu-wien.ac.at](mailto:enairz@wu-wien.ac.at)

## References

- Bacher, J.** (1996): Clusteranalyse. München/Wien: Oldenbourg.
- Backhaus, K. et al.** (2006): Multivariate Analysemethoden. 11. Auflage. Berlin u.a.: Springer.
- Bortz, J. (1993)**: Statistik für Sozialwissenschaftler. Berlin u.a.: Springer.
- Fahrmeir, L. & Tutz, G. (Hrsg.)** (1996): Multivariate statistische Verfahren. Berlin u.a.: Springer.
- Gabler-Wirtschafts-Lexikon** (1997). Wiesbaden: Gabler.
- Heimann, P. & Schulz, W & Otto, G.** (1965). Unterricht. Analyse und Planung. Hannover u.a.: Schrödel.
- Huber, L.** (1983). Enzyklopädie Erziehungswissenschaft. Ausbildung und Sozialisation in der Hochschule. Band 10. Stuttgart: Klett-Cotta.
- Lassnigg, L., Pollan, W.** (1996). Das österreichische Qualifizierungssystem im internationalen Vergleich. WIFO-Monatsberichte, 12/96, S. 763-780.
- OECD** (1998a). Bildung auf einen Blick. OECD-Indikatoren. Paris: OECD.
- OECD** (1998b). Bildungspolitische Analyse. Paris: OECD.
- OECD** (1998c). Human Capital Investment. An International Comparison. Paris: OECD.
- OECD** (2004). Education at a Glance. OECD-Indicators 2004. Paris: OECD.
- OECD** (2005). Bildung auf einen Blick. OECD-Indikatoren 2005. Paris: OECD.
- Wolhuter, C.** (1997). Classification of National Education Systems. A Multivariate Approach. Comparative Education Review 41, 161-177.