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**Abstract**

In this paper, employability is regarded as an aspect of quality of higher education, or more precisely, the benefit and usefulness of the study programme for career and work tasks. The analyses are based on a comparative survey among graduates in 13 countries, five to six years after graduation. The information about employability, or the usefulness of the study programme related to work is based on the graduates' own perceptions. The extent to which employability is related to characteristics of the study programme is investigated, in addition to country differences and to what extent the differences are affected by the graduates' labour market experiences. The analyses show that study programme characteristics have great impact on the value of the programme in the world of work. These characteristics also have an impact on the initial country differences with regard to employability. The quality indicators have minor influence on the chance of obtaining a job but significant effect on doing the job. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)