The Seventh Eurostudent Survey has analyzed the life and learning conditions of students enrolled in the academic year 2011-2012 to bachelor, master and 5-years master degrees in public and legally recognized universities (online universities have not been considered). The survey has been based on interviews undertaken through the CATI methodology (Computer-assisted telephone interviewing) in a sample of a 5,403 units, representative of the whole student population of reference.

The Survey has been fostered and co-financed by the Miur – Ministry for Education, University and Research, and has been realized by the Rui Foundation with the collaboration of the University for Foreigners of Perugia. The Italian survey has been undertaken within the project of the comparative analysis “Eurostudent V 2012-2015 - Social and economic conditions of student life in Europe”. The international comparison regarded, together with Italy, 28 European countries and its findings have been published in the Report “Eurostudent V 2012-2015 Synopsis of indicators”, presented during the Conference “The social dimension in European Higher education” (Vienna 25-27 February 2015).

After a synthetic display of the structural features of the sample of students under inquiry, the presentation will focus on the description of student conditions with special regard to the size typologies of academic cities in Italy and Europe. The classification of academic cities refers to the size based on number of inhabitants, with 5 modalities: small cities (<100 thousands inhabitants), medium (100-300 thousands), medium-big (300-500 thousands), big (>500 thousands), capital city (Roma for Italy).

With regard to the size typologies of the academic cities, the analysis will consider: the place of living (in loco/outside); the different ways of inhabiting (family of birth, new family, flat alone, flat shared with other students, academic lodging); the working condition (jobless, casual job, steady job); the balance of time measured by the ratio hours/week (classes and exercises, self-learning, work); the students’income (in Euro and in %); the students’expences (in Euro and in %).

For each topic comparisons will be possible with the data coming from other European countries.