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Education in a hidden market place – monitoring private tutoring

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Structure of the presentation:

- General info about comparative study
- Main findings related to BiH
- Comparative international findings



Cross-national study on private tutoring:

- Countries involved: Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Slovakia, Poland and Ukraine

- Time period: 2004/2005

Goals and objectives of the study

- To examine the complexity of the private tutoring practices
- To analyze its consequences for the mainstream education system and overall social structure, including its stability and stratification
- To offer policy options and alternative approaches

Definition of private tutoring:

Fee-based instruction in academic school subject that is supplementary to instruction mainstream schooling provide free of charge

Private tutoring lessons

Preparatory courses

METHODOLOGY

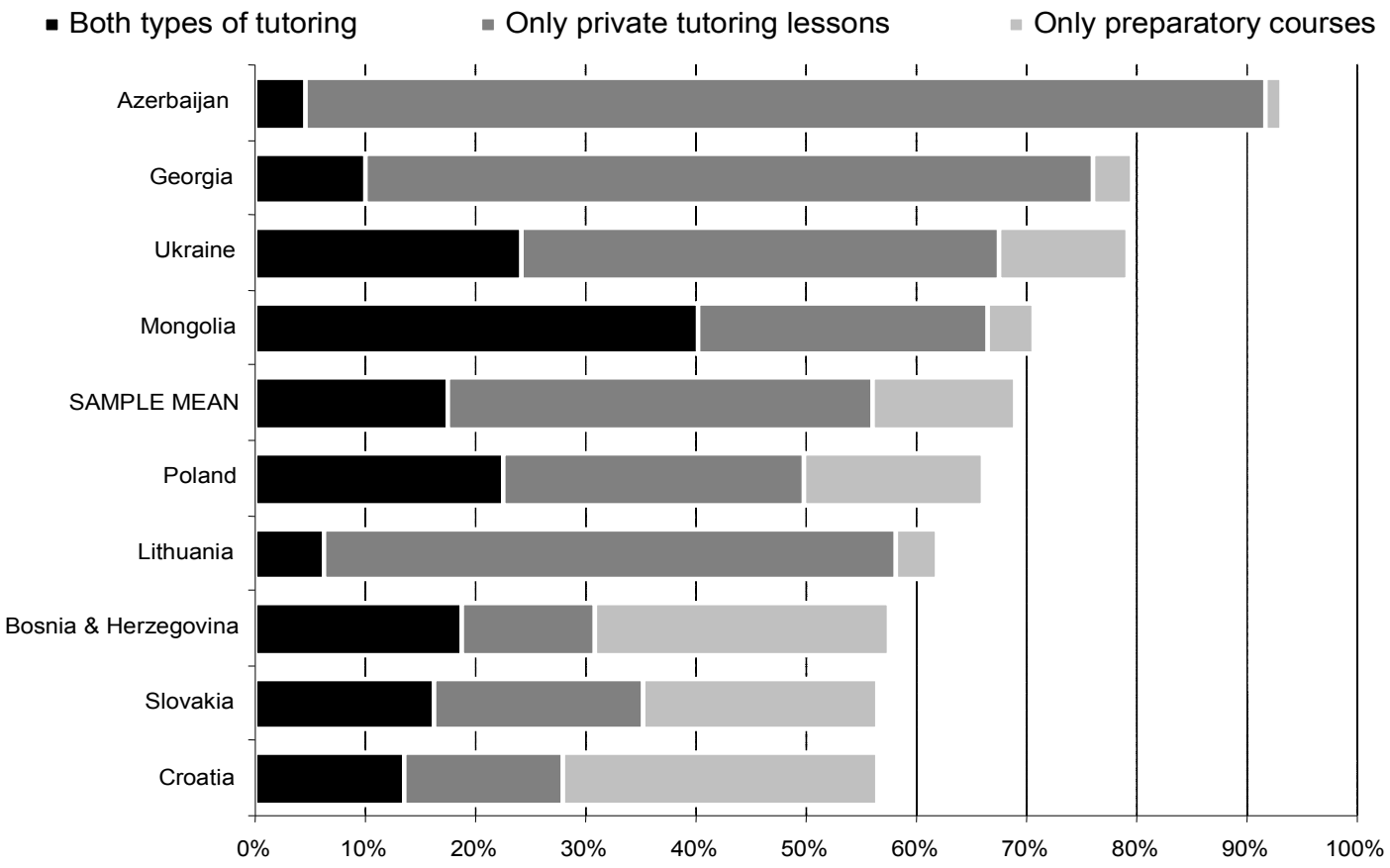
- Unit of analysis: the country
- Sample: first-year university students
- Sample size: 8,713 total (approx. 1,000 per country)
- Quantitative and qualitative data combined
- Instruments: questionnaire + document analysis, focus groups discussions, interviews

Characteristics of private tutoring

- SCOPE
- ITENSITY
- TYPES (PT lessons and preparatory courses)
- TYPE OF ACADEMIC SUBJECT
- COSTS AT SECONDARY SCHOOL LEVEL

Scope and types of private tutoring international

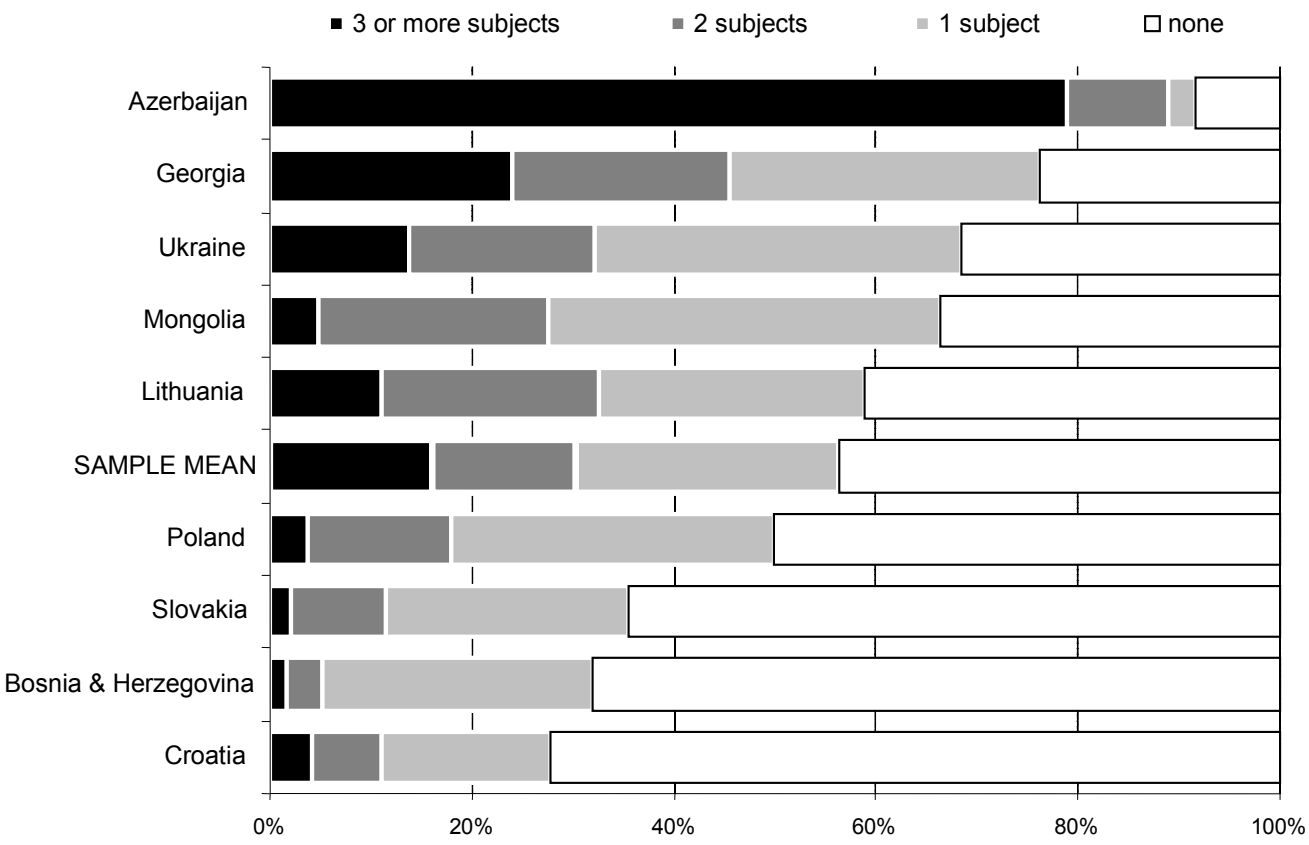
(based on the international part of the report, Bray M. and Silova I.)



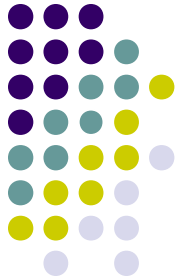
Findings (BiH)– intensity:

- 32% of respondents reported taking PT in their final year of the secondary school
- 54% of them reported that they had other students in the class taking PT lessons

Intensity of private tutoring - international



Findings (BiH)– subject:

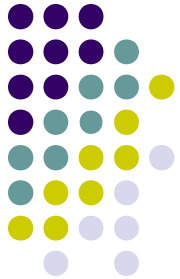


- Usually one subject
- 66% in mathematics
- 10% foreign languages
- 9% physics
- Usually once or twice a week
- Mostly throughout the school year and occasionally during summer holidays, mainly before examinations
- Tutoring was primarily used as a form of examination preparation

Academic subjects used for private tutoring

Country	Mathematics	Foreign language	Mother tongue	History
Azerbaijan	87.6	89.1	89.5	82.4
Bosnia & Herzegovina	30.0	5.7	1.0	0.3
Croatia	87.4	9.0	12.6	2.2
Georgia	59.6	45.2	40.7	26.4
Lithuania	44.5	42.3	32.2	37.2
Mongolia	60.5	11.9	25.2	2.2
Poland	13.5	34.0	14.9	33
Slovakia	16.6	18.3	2.8	8.4
Ukraine	51.4	47.2	41.7	12.1
SAMPLE MEAN (weighted)	**47.4**	**36.9**	**31.8**	**23.9**

Cost of private tutoring lessons - BiH

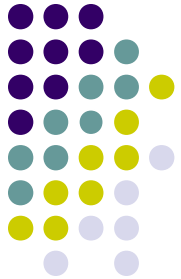


- On average students paid cca. 171$ per year
- A rough estimate on the amount of money spent in one part of Bosnia and Herzegovina on private tutoring lessons is US$1.7 million (€1,400 million) in final year of secondary school

Cost of private tutoring - international

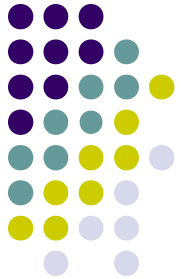
Country	Yearly Costs of Private Tutoring Lessons in One Subject			
	Median		Mean	
	Equivalent of total costs in US$ (2004)	As a percentage of GDP per capita (PPP US$) (2004)	Equivalent of total costs in US$ (2004)	As a percentage of GDP per capita (PPP US$) (2004)
Azerbaijan	180.0	4.31	220.7	5.29
Bosnia and Herzegovina	136.0	1.91	191.9	2.70
Croatia	105.6	0.87	191.1	1.57
Georgia	196.0	6.58	235.0	7.89
Lithuania	154.3	1.19	201.1	1.54
Mongolia	36.0	1.76	54.5	2.67
Poland	319.0	2.47	489.5	3.80
Slovakia	122.0	0.84	175.1	1.21
Ukraine	150.8	2.39	374.8	5.93

Who takes private tutoring - BiH?



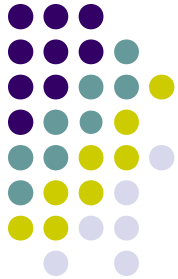
- More women than men
- More students from smaller towns
- More students in high-demand faculties
- More children of well-educated and working mothers
- Father's education level and employment status are not significant

Who takes private tutoring - international?



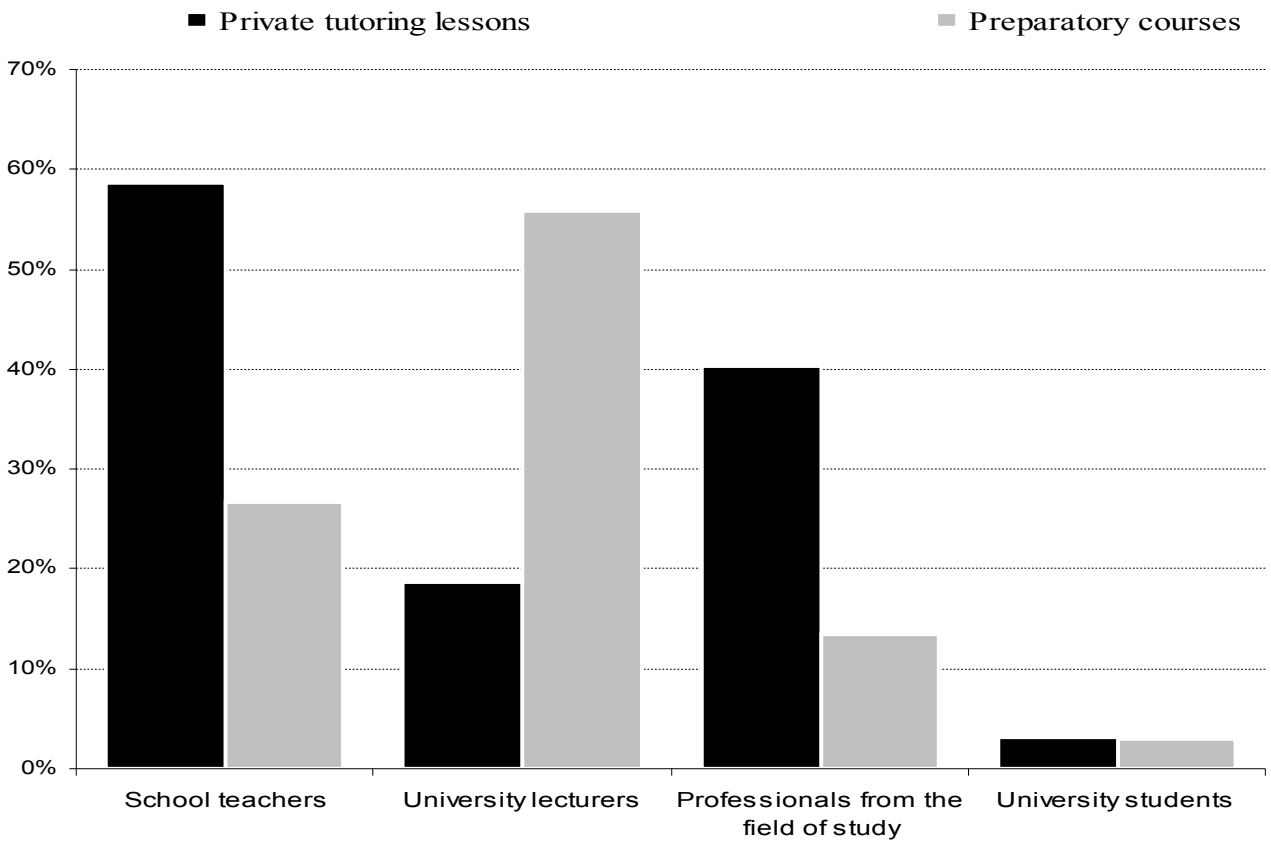
- Primarily good students take PT in former socialistic block (athrough there are differences among countries)
- Students from better off families
- Students from higher educated parents

Who offers private tutoring - BiH?

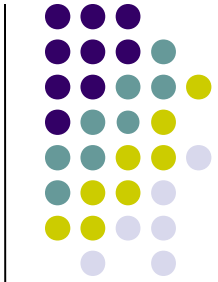


	Location of Secondary school							
	Sarajevo		Bigger town		Smaller town		Other	
Type of tutor	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Your subject teacher	13	8.2	0	0	26	22.0	4	23.5
Teacher from your school	9	5.7	4	17.4	20	16.9	4	23.5
Teacher from other school	26	16.4	10	43.5	15	12.7	1	5.9
University lecturer	46	28.9	5	21.7	29	24.6	2	11.8
Student	13	8.2	1	4.3	6	5.1	0	.0
Professional from a field	52	32.7	3	13.0	22	18.6	6	35.3

Who offers private tutoring - international?

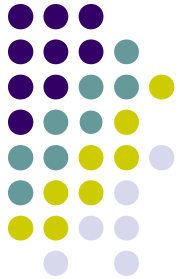


National factors – why is PT more evident in some countries?



- Private tutoring as “enrichment strategy”
- Compensatory function
- Income-generation activities for teachers

Impact of private tutoring



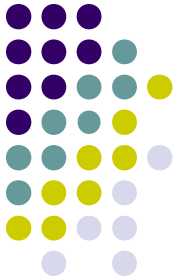
- Educational impact
  - Positive: students learn more, more inovative and individualised aproach
  - Negative: disturbing the teaching process and school curiccula
- Social impact:
  - Increase inequity among students and decrease a chances of students from poorer families to stay in educational system longer
- Economic impact:
  - Potential point for curruption in education
  - Avoiding taxes

Implications and policy options

- Possible responses:
  - Ignoring private tutoring
  - Recognising and regulating private tutoring
  - Actively encourage private tutoring
  - Prohibiting private tutoring

- Usual practise in countries involved in research is ignoring

Recommendations



- Raising public awareness about private tutoring and their implications
- Regulating private tutoring in order to decrease inequities and corruption
  - Check the models in other countries and find the best one for Bosnia and Hercegovina
- Ensuring adequate salaries for teachers or introduce other motivational strategies



thank you