

Press release, 15 July 2015



## **StudyPortals joins forces with Uniplaces to bring transparency to student accommodation**

Lisbon, 15th July, 2015 - StudyPortals, the international study choice platform, and Uniplaces, the global student brand for booking student accommodation, are joining forces to bring transparency to student accommodation, by offering students not only the widest choice in education offers, but also verified student accommodation through a safe booking process in order to enhance their international study experience.

“Only months after launching the StudyPortals platform, students started to ask us: *Great that we now can find universities internationally, but how about accommodation?* – StudyPortals had kept on focusing on perfecting education choice and we still have a few countries to cover. Therefore we are very happy that Uniplaces started two years ago to fill the gap in student accommodation. As there is such a big need amongst our students and universities, we have decided to join forces and tackle this problem together,” says Edwin van Rest – CEO of StudyPortals.

Student accommodation is a central part of students’ study experiences, with direct impact on their quality of life, and education outcomes. Universities themselves often face challenges in accommodating an increasing number of students, as well as finding reliable landlords offering quality and safe student accommodation. In the reviews of the StudyPortals’ students on their experience - on [www.Stexx.eu](http://www.Stexx.eu) – accommodation is featured within 15% of all negative student experiences, with students bringing up issues such as chaotic accommodation systems, overbooked rooms, corrupt and unfair landlords, living in dangerous areas, bureaucracy, long commutes, or difficulty in recovering rent deposits.

That is what motivated StudyPortals to join forces with Uniplaces whose purpose is to make booking study accommodation easier and more efficient. The goal is to take away the main problems students face when studying abroad, and allow them to find good and safe

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accommodation before their arrival. In order to make the best choice for themselves, students can browse through the thousands of options currently available on the Uniplaces website, in over 39 student cities across Europe. StudyPortals and Uniplaces do not only share a common background and values, but also have an important common goal: eliminating barriers in international education, and enabling students who want to study abroad to fulfill their dreams and have the best study experience possible.

Ben Grech – CEO of Uniplaces: “Through the Uniplaces platform, we can make booking student accommodation online simpler and safer than it's ever been. All the apartments are verified by us, the photographs are reliable (they're taken by our own photographers) and the descriptions are really complete - we write them ourselves! Uniplaces is here to help students leave home, study abroad and have a blast while they're at it. We're expanding across Europe: we're active in 39 cities in 8 countries, and we'll be in many more before the end of the year. That's why we value our partnership with StudyPortals so much: it's a collaboration between the leader in study choice in Europe and us, the first and only global brand for student accommodation.”

For more information about Uniplaces, [click here](#), or follow Uniplaces on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

For more information about StudyPortals, [click here](#) or follow StudyPortals on [LinkedIn](#).

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### **About StudyPortals**

StudyPortals is the international study choice platform, enabling students to find and compare their study options across borders. With over 45,000 published courses from over 1,800 participating universities and over 9 million unique users in 2014, StudyPortals is a leading information source for study seekers. Initially StudyPortals focused on the European education market, but has the ambition to make study choice transparent, globally. For universities, StudyPortals offers a low-effort and result-based channel for international recruitment.

### **About Uniplaces**

Uniplaces is creating a trusted, global brand for student accommodation. Since launching in 2013, Uniplaces became the fastest-growing international website for booking student accommodation. Uniplaces has been making the process of finding accommodation easier for students. It also provides landlords with an easy way to rent their accommodation online to students from all over the world and to benefit from higher-than-average rental yields. Uniplaces works closely with Universities and professional accommodation providers. Backed by top investors including Octopus Investments and the founders of Zoopla and LOVEFiLM, Uniplaces has its sights firmly set on becoming the number one booking site for students around the world.