TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements List of figures List of tables

Part I SOCIAL SUPPORT	' NETWORKS AND MOBILIT'	¥
-----------------------	-------------------------	---

Cn	apter 1. Introduction	
1. I	Research questions	5
2 6	Significance of the study	3
3.	Structure of the thesis	8
Ch	napter 2. Theoretical and conceptual frameworks	10
1	Social networks	10
••	1.1 Social support networks	11
	1.2 Friendship networks as a source of social support.	13
	1.3 International doctoral students' friendship networks: an ego-centric approach	14
	1.4 Categorization, identification and the principle of homophily	10
2.	Delineating borders: transpationalism as theoretical ontic and as social practice	19
	2.1 Contested grounds of transpationalism	20
	2.2 Transpational social spaces	44
	2.3 Transpationality and transpational connections: international students	23
	2.4 Cosmonolitanisms	
3.	Conclusions	20
PA	ART II INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY	
		28
	hapter 3. Internationalization of higher education: the German context	
1.	Internationalization, Europeanization, globalization	28
,	Internationalization strategies of Ciermany	
3.	Measures taken to promote studies for international students in Germany	
	3.1 Initiative of Excellence: transforming into an IO-Magnet	
	3.2 And the renercussions?	
4.	Overview and scope of international students in Germany	
5.	International PhD students at a glance	
6.	Conclusions	
PA	ART III METHODS AND METHODOLOGY	
C	hapter 4. Research Design	42
1.	Structure, composition and procedure of the empirical study	43
2	1.2. Social network analysis and the interview guide	45
2.	Selection and depiction of the interview partners Ego-centered network analysis	47
э.	3.1 UCINET version 6.0	49
	3.2. Operationalization of social support.	50
	3.2.1.Micro-level attributes of social support: individual features	51
	3.2.2.Meso-level attributes of social support: individual features	52
4.	Triangulation of the research	54
	Chapter 5. Interacting with the data	
	Access to the field and the realities of the fieldwork	
2	Relation to the respondents and the topic of the study	55
3	Coding and analyzing the data	58
4	Coding and analyzing the data. Limitations and cautions	60
٦.	Districtions and Cautions.	

PART IV ANALYSIS: SOCIAL SUPPORT NETWORKS ORGANIZED ALONG VARIOUS IDENTIFICATIONS

Chapter 6. Multinational friendship networks of international doctoral students providing social support.	62
1. Compositional analysis	62
2. Revisiting the networks: structural analysis.	
2.1 Homophilious relations.	
2.2.Cohesive subgroups within the network	
2.3 Betweenness centrality	
3. Conclusions	
Chapter 7. Analogous trends in divergent support types: emotional and instrumental support	73
1. Emotionally supportive interactions	72
1.1. Influence of identification on networks in multilingual contexts.	
1.2. The comfort of the native language	
2. Instrumental support	
2.1. A closer look to co-national friends and identification.	
2.1. A closer took to co-hadolar mends and identification	ر مو
3. Zooming into relations with co-nationals	
3.1.Illustration of co-national friendship pattern	02
3.2. Similar networks but diverse positions: B201M and B211F.	02
4. Conclusions.	
Chapter 8. Influence of supportive networks on identification: transnationality and transnational social practices.	
1. Transnationality: relations with home	91
2. Bittersweet homecomings.	92
3. Perpetuating mobilities: mediated personal communication as a transnational social practice	95
4. Cosmopolitanisms	
4.1.Experiencing the difference: ways to become tolerant	
4.2.Multifocality	101
4.3.Mediascapes of international PhD students	
5. Conclusions	104
Chapter 9. Party, BBQ and fun but what about money?	105
1. Social activities	105
1.1.Academic/international student identification	
1.1.1.The significance of education abroad and institutional context: perception of 'better careers'	108
1.1.2.Being an academic: empowering or disempowering process?	110
1.1.2.1.Independence	110
1.1.2.2.Isolation - 'a journey everyone goes through alone'	111
1.1.3.Supervisor: the role model and the gatekeeper	
1.2. A community of practice?	
2. Financial support: non-existent type of support?	
2.1. Cosmopolitanism as flexibility in the global market	
3. Conclusions	
PART V. CONCLUSION	
Chapter 10. General discussion and concluding remarks	120
1. Overview of the analysis	120
2. Implications	
Pibliography	124