

AUSTRIA

Social inclusion in mobility programmes

INCLUSIVE MOBILITY STRATEGY

Definition of disadvantaged and underrepresented students in mobility programmes

Students w/ disabilities	⋮	Ethnic/cultural migration background
Students w/ a socio-economic background	⋮	Geographical local/rural areas
Gender identity or sexual orientation	⋮	Caring responsibilities
Age	⋮	Non-traditional educational background

Higher Education Mobility Strategy:

- Doesn't refer to underrepresented groups (yet)
- Follows more holistic approach to promote international mobility for all students

Targets for the participation of disadvantaged students in mobility programmes

National Strategy on the Social Dimension of Higher Education:

- 1 Increase participation in mobility students from educationally disadvantaged social groups
- 2 Students w/ parents without a 'Matura' school leaving certificate → 18% by 2025 (now: 14%)

Strategies and policy measures at National level to ensure Inclusive Mobility of disadvantaged students

Higher Education Mobility Strategy (2016):

- ▶ Improve quality & accessibility of information on international mobility
- ▶ Develop & test ways to promote mobility that focus on the social dimension
- ▶ Review funding requirements w/ respect to mobility in Students Support Schemes
- ▶ Increase participation in mobility programmes by students from "educationally disadvantaged" social groups

Initiatives to promote the mobility for disadvantaged and underrepresented students

- 1 Erasmus+
 - "Extra grants" for students with disabilities or students going abroad with their children
 - Homepage & Information leaflets
- 2 Annual Conferences - Workshops for higher education community:
 - Information sessions for students
 - Reports, interviews w/ testimonials
 - Cooperation with myAbility Talent Programme - Talents program for high potential students w/ disabilities

Specific public support services and/or public grants for disadvantaged students

Student Support Act (1992)

- ▶ Students entitled to receive study grants can apply for grants for studies abroad
- ▶ Special conditions and for a maximum of 20 months ('credit mobility')
- ▶ Mobility Grants: students can be supported outside Austria but within the EEA and Switzerland
- ▶ Complete course of their bachelor or master programme at a state approved HEI

BARRIERS CURRENTLY FACED

Financial resources	⋮	Fear of leaving the usual setting
Lack of information	⋮	Lack of awareness rising within Higher Education Institutions at various levels
Lack of national regulations regarding inclusion in the Higher Education Area	⋮	

GOOD PRACTICE

We provide an annual national Erasmus ambassador, elected by the Austrian National AgencyCounselling services oead4refugees.

