WELCOME TO THE WEBINAR
FOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Inclusion of higher education students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions in the Erasmus+ programme
Who is connected with us today?

- Higher education institutions
  a) International Officers / Erasmus+ Coordinators
  b) Disability Officers
  c) Other
- Erasmus+ National Agencies
- Student representatives
Who's running the webinar?

Daphne EAC-B1
Francesca EAC-B1
Céline EAC-B1
Catherine EAC-B1
Ben DG HR
Gerry IE NA
Thomas ESN

In cooperation with the Members of the Erasmus+ Higher Education Working Group on special needs / persons with disabilities (Erasmus+ National Agencies, stakeholders, European Commission)
Agenda for the webinar

Erasmus+: what's new
Recommendations for Higher Education Institutions
Questions and Answers

Coffee break
Questions and Answers - continued
Outstanding issues
Feedback and next steps
Erasmus+: what's new?
ERASMUS+: more strategic

Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE)

Higher Education Institutions commit to ensuring equal access and opportunities to participants from all backgrounds.

Students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions can benefit from the support services that the receiving institution offers to its local students and staff.
ERASMUS+: more transparency

Reinforced inter-institutional agreements

Higher Education Institutions to specify their infrastructure to welcome students and staff with special needs

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D. Additional requirements

[To be completed if necessary, other requirements may be added on academic or organisational aspects, e.g. the selection criteria for students and staff; measures for preparing, receiving and integrating mobile students and/or staff]

[Please specify whether the institutions have the infrastructure to welcome students and staff with disabilities.]
ERASMUS+: Definition of target group

Special Needs / Persons with Disabilities

The Erasmus+ Programme Guide refers to "a person whose individual physical, mental or health-related conditions are such that his/her participation in Erasmus+ would not be possible without extra financial support"

From here on referred to as: students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions

NAs rely on national definitions of persons with disabilities, if applicable
ERASMUS+: more accessible

Special needs support

Up to 100% of eligible costs to students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions

Participants can cover higher travel or accommodation costs, special equipment or services, or a personal assistant for their mobility period
ERASMUS+: more accessible

Special needs support

- National Agencies put aside KA1 budget
- Sending HEIs in charge of asking for budget
- NA amends the contract with the HEI to allocate this as extra budget

For any question/issue: contact the NA of the sending country
Erasmus+: preliminary results

Over 1000 higher education students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions under 2014 and 2015 calls
Erasmus+: what's new?

Erasmus+ Higher Education Working Group on special needs / persons with disabilities:

- Gather and share best practices
- Contribute to a self-assessment for Higher Education Institutions (*ECHE: Make it work for you!*)
- Identify current obstacles, gaps and needs for improvement

... and ...
Recommendations on the inclusion of higher education students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions in the Erasmus+ programme

- for Erasmus+ National Agencies (NAs)
- for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

Draft website text for HEIs provided with the recommendations for HEIs
Recommendations on the inclusion of higher education students and staff with physical, mental or health-related conditions in the Erasmus+ programme for Higher Education Institutions

Promotion and Guidance

- Prominent display of information on websites and other communication channels
- Provide tangible practical support and draw from other countries practices
- Emphasise the employability benefits (alumni)
- Be conscious of the need to use appropriate imagery

Practical examples from HEIs
• Use [Mapped.eu](http://Mapped.eu) - online map of accessible HEIs developed by Erasmus Student Network (ESN)
Student and Staff Selection

• Appoint a person to act as liaison officer between the International Office and the Disability Office

• Include an optional question in the Erasmus+ application form inviting participants to disclose their access needs (physical, mental or health-related conditions)

• Cooperate closely with Erasmus+ participants and partner institutions at all stages of the mobility
• Be specific in the Inter-Institutional agreements about what measures are available to deliver an inclusive environment at the HEI

➢ Specify whether your institution has the infrastructure to welcome students and staff with disabilities, e.g.: 

| University of Valencia (Spain) | The Unit for the integration of people with disabilities at the University of Valencia promotes equal opportunities for people with disabilities. Both students and staff with disabilities or special needs can access to the services provided by this Unit. Website: [http://www.fundaciouv.es/upd/index.asp?idioma=eng](http://www.fundaciouv.es/upd/index.asp?idioma=eng) |
| University of Gothenburg (Sweden) | The University of Gothenburg has the appropriate infrastructure to accept students and staff with special needs. Information and assistance can be provided by email address and phone number. Website: [http://studentportal.gu.se/english/help-and-guidance/disability](http://studentportal.gu.se/english/help-and-guidance/disability) |
Monitoring and Support

- Use Erasmus+ staff mobility for professional development of International Officers, Disability Officers and other administrative staff.

- Draw from the Organisational Support to support promotional activities, organise short preparatory visits, etc.

- Exploit the reporting facility in the MobilityTool+ to monitor the indicators of access and inclusion.
Higher education institutions will describe on their website how students and staff with special needs can request such additional grant support (Erasmus+ Programme Guide).
Questions and Answers
Outstanding issues

• Disclosure?
  ➢ Ahead - Guide for disclosure

• Studies VS traineeships?
• Staff mobility?
What is the first action you will do after this webinar?

a. Set up a meeting between the International Office(r) and the Disability Office(r)
b. Add the draft text on my institution's website
c. Send the link to the recommendations to a colleague
Was the webinar useful?

YES  ✓

NO  ✗
Ideas for next webinar?
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus
https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node/87_en

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We will send the webinar recording link and the PPT to NAs. In case you don't receive it, please contact us at EAC-ERASMUS-QUALITY@ec.europa.eu