

“Mainstreaming Social Dimension in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA): Implementation of a National Strategy“

Wednesday, 7 October 2020, 14:00 – 18:00 CEST (UTC+2)
Online

We therefore commit to developing policies that encourage and support higher education institutions to fulfil their social responsibility and contribute to a more cohesive and inclusive society through enhancing intercultural understanding, civic engagement and ethical awareness, as well as ensuring equitable access to higher education.

Bologna Paris Communiqué 2018

This Peer Learning Activity co-funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and the ERASMUS+ KA3-Project „*INternationalisation/INclusion/INnovation: Towards high-quality inclusive mobility and innovative teaching & learning in an internationalised Austrian Higher Education Area – 3-IN-AT*“ will focus on mainstreaming the social dimension through National Strategies and strategic measures. It is designed as a follow-up to the [Peer Learning Activity](#) that took place in Linz (Austria) in March 2017, when Austria launched its “**National Strategy for the Social Dimension in Higher Education**”. The PLA in 2017 aimed at gathering information on the development and implementation of National Strategies in member countries of the EHEA. Now, we want to look into the implementation of National Strategies on the institutional level, which is why participating countries will be represented by tandems of national authorities and higher education institutions.

During the PLA we want to discuss the following questions:

- What is the current state of play of the implementation of Strategies for the Social Dimension in the participating countries on national level?
- What progress has been made since 2017?
- What is the current state of play of the implementation of Strategies for the Social Dimension in higher education institutions?
- What are examples of good practice of Strategies for the Social Dimension and their implementation on an institutional level?
- How can successful implementation be measured and evaluated?
 - Which quantitative indicators can be used to evaluate access to higher education for underrepresented student groups and groups with specific needs?
 - For example, how can representative student surveys on student success, engagement etc. be used for the evaluation?
- After the development of the Principles and Guidelines to Strengthen the Social Dimension of Higher Education in the EHEA and the focus on social inclusion within Bologna papers – what will be the next steps on European level?
- How do the changes due to Covid-19 impact all of the above questions or issues?

In preparation of the PLA, the participants have been asked to fill in a survey on their efforts in developing national strategies and their implementation on the social dimension in order to create country and HEI profiles. These profiles will be published in a brochure of good practices after the event.

Agenda

13:30 – 14:00 Zoom is open for everyone to connect

14:00 – 14:15 **Welcome & Setting the Scene**

HERIBERT WULZ, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Austria

14:15 – 15:00 Keynote: **Higher Education Equity Across the Globe**

JAMIL SALMI, Global tertiary education expert

15:00 – 15:35 Principles and Guidelines to Strengthen the Social Dimension of Higher Education in the EHEA

ROBERT NAPIER, ESU (European Students' Union)

15:35 – 15:55 National Strategies on Social Dimension: **Croatia**

MARINA MATEŠIĆ, Ministry of Science and Education

ALEKSANDAR ŠUŠNJAR, University of Rijeka

15:55 – 16:15 Coffee Break

16:15 – 16:35 National Strategies on Social Dimension: **Ireland**

ENDA HUGHES, Department of Higher Education, Further Education and Training, Innovation, Research & Science

SEAN O REILLY, Technological Higher Education Association (THEA)

16:35 – 16:55 National Strategies on Social Dimension: **Scotland**

DEBRA MACFARLANE, QAA Scotland

KATRINA SWANTON, Edinburgh Napier University

16:55 – 17:15 National Strategies on Social Dimension: **Austria**

MARIA KEPLINGER, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

SILKE PREYMANN, University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria

17:15 – 17:50 Two parallel breakout sessions

National Authorities (moderated by **HELGA POSSET**)

Higher Education Institutions (moderated by **BEATE TREML**, OeAD)

17:50 – 18:00 Wrapping-Up and Closing

HELGA POSSET, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

Moderator: **HELGA POSSET**, Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research

This event is co-funded by the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Research, as well as by the project „INternationalisation/INclusion/INnovation: Towards high-quality inclusive mobility and innovative teaching & learning in an internationalised Austrian Higher Education Area – 3-IN-AT “ – a KA3-activity of the European Commission. We thank the University of Applied Arts Vienna for their friendly support.