



GEORGIA

Social inclusion in mobility programmes



INCLUSIVE MOBILITY STRATEGY

Definition of disadvantaged and underrepresented students in mobility programmes



Socio-economic background

Disability

Gender

Age

Non-traditional educational background

Geographical local/rural areas

Faith, religious background and beliefs

Gender identity or sexual orientation

Caring responsibilities

Special educational needs



Targets for the participation of disadvantaged students in mobility programmes

No targets or data collection at national level

Erasmus+ ICM (International Credit Mobility):

- ▶ Encourages HEIs to set special quota for national minority students
- ▶ Three big Georgian HEIs implemented this approach

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



Law on Higher Education of Georgia

- ▶ Legislation embedded in declarations of fundamental human rights
- ▶ Framework for safeguarding the rights of underrepresented/disadvantaged students

External quality assessment standard & criteria

- ▶ Demands HEIs to have mechanisms in place that safeguard students rights
- ▶ Ensures that regulations of student mobility are transparent, fair and in line w/ current legislation
- ▶ Requires HEIs to implement social programmes and participate in the discussion of important social issues, e.g. the inclusion of students in mobility in internationalization strategies

Initiatives to promote the mobility for disadvantaged and underrepresented students

1

Some HEIs:

- ▶ Quantitative targets in strategic development plans
- ▶ Channels to promote mobility for disadvantaged students and underrepresented students

2

External quality assessment standards and criteria:

- ▶ Require HEIs to have mechanisms in place that safeguard students' rights
- ▶ Information on this should be public, up-to-date and accessible to students and other stakeholders

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



Need-based grants for students from lower socio-economic background

BARRIERS CURRENTLY FACED

Financial barriers for Erasmus+ ICM students

- ▶ High visa costs
- ▶ Late payments of scholarships



GOOD PRACTICE

External QA mechanisms in higher education in Georgia address the social dimension and inclusion of disadvantaged and underrepresented students in mobility programmes and internationalization. There is a thematic analysis on practices in inclusion of disadvantaged and underrepresented students in mobility available, based on the external QA activities.

