

European Centre for Refugee Integration in Higher Education - EUCRITE

Refugees in Higher Education, Torino, 14th June 2018



CLUSTER
Leading Universities of
Science and Technology



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



- Lack of integrated strategies and coordinated efforts in/among European Higher Education Institutions (HEI)
- Academic and administrative staff is hardly addressed

What is needed?

- Facilitation of university entrance
- Prepared and trained university staff
- Possible alternative routes for admission

→ *To enhance social inclusion and increase employment opportunities*

Work packages

O1: State of the Art (review, situation analysis): *TUDa*

O2: Identification of Needs (interviews, needs analysis): *INP*

Open mid-term conference at POLITO

O3: Training Package

(development, pilot):

TUG

Staff training event (TUG)

Staff training event (TUDa)

O4: Tool-Kit for Alternative
Admission Routes

(collection, manual):

Aalto

O5:

Website with Open
Access Materials

(wikis, training
material, videos):

KUL

Open final conference: CLUSTER symposium at KUL / Final report



Target groups

1.) Supporting university staff / coordinators

- Interviews (O2), training (O3), Tool-kit (O4), Website (O5)

2.) Academic university staff / teachers

- Interviews (O2), training (O3), Website (O5)

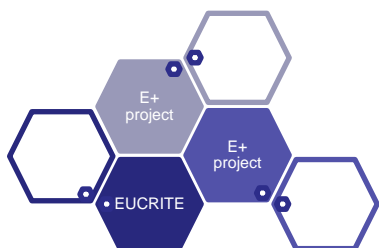
3.) Student workers / representatives of student associations

- Interviews (O2), Website (O5)

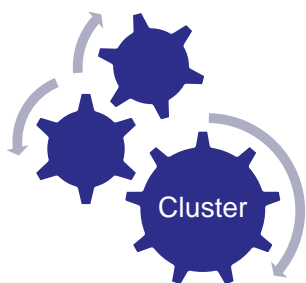
Indirectly:

4.) (Prospective) students with refugee background

5.) Policy makers at respective universities & local, national, European officials



- **Programme:**
- Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships



- **Umbrella:**  **CLUSTER**
- CLUSTER Consortium & TU Graz



- **Eligibility Period:**
- September 1st, 2017 – October 31st, 2019

Who?



- **TU Darmstadt (DE)**
- **INP Grenoble (FR)**
- **TU Graz (AU)**
- **Aalto University (FIN)**
- **KU Leuven (BE)**
- **Politecnico di Torino (IT)**



EU Policy priorities



- HORIZONTAL: Social inclusion
- HIGHER EDUCATION: Supporting the social engagement of higher education institutions and promoting intercultural and civic competences of students
- HIGHER EDUCATION: Promoting internationalisation, recognition and mobility, supporting changes in line with Bologna principles and tools.

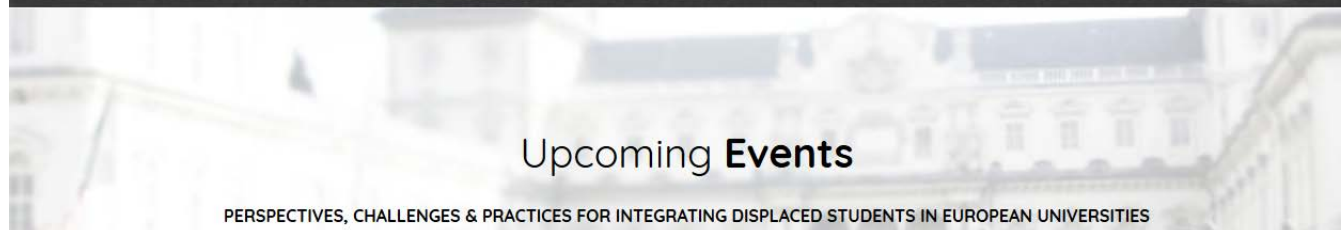
<http://www.eucrite.eu/>



Home

About EUCRITE

Contact



IO1 State of the Art: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS



- International Offices
- Mostly permanent positions with few dedicated exclusively to refugee integration

IO1 State of the Art: OFFERINGS

- Pre-study courses
- Language
- Support (legal, psychological)

Partners use pre-existing infrastructure to cater to the needs of refugee applicants/students

HEIs work in close collaboration with local municipalities, volunteer organizations, NGOs, and non-profits

IO1 State of the Art: ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Same as international students with exceptions (Belgium → local)
- Exemption from tuition fees (Graz, PoLITO, INP Grenoble)
- Sometimes flexible, longer deadlines
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): partner universities created groups working on finding solutions
 - Case by case (Aalto)
 - Alternative Route to Admission (INP)
 - Academic Pass (POLITO)
 - Working group Hessen (TuD)

IO1 State of the Art: FINANCIAL SUPPORT



- German HEIs are getting extensive financial support
- Other partners operate without additional financial support from central administration/local or national governments

IO2 Identification of Needs: STAFF TRAINING



- Intercultural, trauma, RPL training workshops
- Some specific trainings

IO2 Identification of Needs:

Difficulties and needs of asylum seekers and/or refugee students



- Housing
- Language
- Admission
- Recognition of Prior Learning
- Psychological fragility

IO2 Identification of Needs:

Difficulties and needs of the administrative staff and faculty



- Coordination and Cooperation
- Welcoming
- Communication

IO2 Identification of Needs:

Defined needs for IO3 and IO4

IO3

- Psychological Training
- Intercultural Training (welcoming & inclusion)
- Legal Training (based on national frameworks)

IO4

- Admission & Alternative Routes (based on national frameworks)
- Recognition of Prior Learning

Discussion & reflections from the workshops



<https://padlet.com/eucrite/w1>
<https://padlet.com/eucrite/w2>
<https://padlet.com/eucrite/w3>

Panel discussion: Perspectives, challenges and practices



- Katrien Bardoel, Nuffic
- Helena Barroco, Diplomatic Advisor Portugal
- Martha K. Ferede, UNESCO
- Arianna Montorsi, Politecnico di Torino
- Mathieu Schneider, University of Strasbourg