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Making Universities Ready for Social Inclusion and Cultural Diversity

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Universities are facing an increasingly heterogeneous student body. This circumstance can be traced back to the immigration to Europe which has been taking place for decades, the so-called "refugee crisis" in 2015 and 2016 as well as the generally increasing internationalisation of universities, driven by numerous initiatives. While this development offers many opportunities, it also presents universities with new challenges.

To guarantee that all students are able to participate successfully in university life, all employees in the complex university system are of great importance. In addition to administrative staff, this also includes groups of people such as lecturers and those involved in student groups who have rarely been considered a target group in the past.

OJECTIVES



In order to address the challenges posed by migration and internationalisation at universities, the project aims to develop a teaching/learning concept that is targeted at administrative staff, lecturers, student organisations and student employees. The concept focuses on:

- raising awareness of conscious and unconscious assumptions towards refugees and international students
- strengthening communication strategies in intercultural contexts
- raising awareness of the concepts of cultural diversity and social inclusion
- providing target group-specific activities, geared towards the specific needs of different professional groups at the university

The teaching/learning concept will be offered as a webinar during the project period and published as a manual in the form of an open educational resource on the project website. In addition, video tutorials on selected methods will be created and published.

