



Commission Green paper on Education and Migration

OECD 21-22 January 2008

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A Green paper (April 2008)

It will take stock of research, open a debate so as to define an agenda:

- Underline the central role of education for integration.
- Raise awareness on the problems and outline possible solutions and good practices.
- Open a debate on inclusive education.
- Reflection on what can be done at EU level, possibly also through a debate on the 1977 directive



Possible structure

- Description of the issue: PISA/ESL, deep changes in education systems (need for new skills, « white flight »), diversity as a resource
- Analysis of the reasons for educational disadvantage: individual/personal - systemic/societal
- Outline of possible solutions as from research and practice: compensatory measures to tackle individual disadvantage, systemic measures for inclusive education
- Action at EU level (also directive 486/77)



The subject

Pupils who are marked *"both by the linguistic and cultural differences between homes and schools, and by the low status of parents and ethnic identities in the host society"* (Glenn-de Jong)

ALSO inclusion of minorities (Roma)



The causes of educational disadvantage

Individual factors: socio-economic background,
language, “attitudes”

Systemic and societal factors: early tracking;
segregation; stereotypes and representations



Possible policy solutions

An overall equity problem :

Need to assess and improve overall equity in education systems (costs of inequity!!!)

Need for a comprehensive (interdepartmental approach), addressing all social inclusion issues.



Possible relevant measures

- Preschool (problem: how to ensure that the most disadvantaged access it at the right age? How to ensure that benefits persist in the long term?)
- Support activities - mentoring
- Partnerships with families and communities
- Language



Relevant measures

_Desegregation, above all by improving the attractiveness of disadvantaged schools

Positive discrimination?

Quality of schools

Upgrading teachers' competences

Intercultural education



Addressing the issue at the European level

Promote exchange and support implementation through:

- Projects in programmes (LLL, Youth, Progress, Integration fund) and structural funds (also “Regions for economic change” initiative)
- European years 2007-2008
- Besides, an indicator/benchmark on school performance and/or ESL for migrants in future Education and Training 2010?
- Follow up to Directive 77/486/CEE