

# Improving the position and performance of students with special needs at universities

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The number of students with disabilities in higher education increases year after year due to better study opportunities, support plans and services at higher education institutions, better financial support for inclusive processes and changes in legislation and policies on international, national and higher education institutional levels. Inclusive higher education is a path to protect the educational rights of university students with disabilities. Therefore, higher education institutions must design policies and strategies to encourage students with disabilities to enrol and complete their degree courses successfully.

This paper deals with Erasmus +, K2 project inclusive university, which is being implemented by partner organizations from Poland, Slovenia and Cyprus. The main goal of the project Inclusive University is to contribute to improving the position and performance of students with special needs at universities. Organizations involved in the project are developing a set of tools that will enable higher education institutions to better respond to the needs of students with disabilities. Part of the results is training for academics, students, and administrative staff. Thus three stakeholders are responsible for the successful inclusion of students with disabilities. First, in Slovenia, will be piloted training with academic staff and students in October 2021. Training for academics is designed and delivered to equip academics for work with disabled students better. The primary purpose of the training for students is to raise awareness that disabled students are included in universities, the labour market and contribute to society. After delivery of piloting, detailed analyses will be prepared.