

Comenius School Multilateral partnerships

MINT - Mint the Gap: Migration NEEDS Integration

Bulgaria: Module 5: New Ideas



“Educating the Children of Migrants”

“All school students must have the possibility to take an active part in the democratic life of the school,” underlines Giuseppe Beccia, Secretary General of OBESSU, “Civic education and school student participation are measures which help to prevent drop-outs as they raise awareness of the importance of each individual in society and in the school community. For these reasons we encourage all countries to support the idea of a European Charter of School Student Rights.”

Migrants and their children often perform less well in formal education as their peers from non-migrant background do, often putting them at risk of long term social exclusion. The Draft Report on ‘Educating Children of Migrants’ (Rapporteur: Hannu Takkula, MEP – Finland, ALDE) correctly points out that school education is a basic right for children and that it is therefore necessary that the Member States, assisted by the EU, step up their efforts to improve the achievement levels of children from a migrant background. A strong support for student-driven initiatives and a focus on the inclusion of children of migrants within democratic school structures are needed to form an important socialising environment in which children can learn to become active citizens. Furthermore, more attention should be given to the gender aspect, providing special support for migrant girls.

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