

## Citizenship Education at School in Europe

Eurydice's latest [report](#) explores developments in citizenship education in schools across Europe.

In recent years, there has been a strong focus on the promotion of citizenship education, as a result of the increasing threats to fundamental values such as peace, equality and human rights facing Europe.

Illustrated by case studies, the report explores questions which include:

- What is citizenship education?
- How is it taught?
- How are students evaluated?
- Can citizenship skills be developed outside the classroom?
- What training and support do teachers receive?

## Erasmus+ update

2017 marks the [30th anniversary](#) of Erasmus+ and its predecessor programmes. The original Erasmus began in 1987 as an exchange programme that gave higher education students a taste of life and learning abroad. Today, Erasmus+ offers opportunities across Europe and beyond to individuals and organisations in education, training, youth and sport. Organisations are invited to [apply for funding](#) each year to undertake creative and worthwhile activities. In 30 years an estimated 9 million people will have taken part, with 600,000 of them from the UK.

Eurydice forms part of [Key Action 3 \(Support for policy reform\)](#) of Erasmus+. As the Eurydice Unit for England, Wales and Northern Ireland, we are separate from, but work closely with, the Erasmus+ [UK National Agency](#), a partnership between the British Council and Ecorys UK.

Erasmus+ runs for seven years, from 2014 to 2020. In the context of the triggering of Article 50, the process for beginning the UK's exit from the European Union, the Erasmus+ UK National Agency has been issuing occasional [Brexit updates](#). The most recent of these (29 September), notes that the Government position is that UK participation in some EU programmes 'promoting science, education and culture' may continue, subject to negotiations, as stated in the [Prime Minister's speech](#) delivered in Florence on 22 September 2017.

## Welcome

Eurydice Direct is published by the Eurydice Unit at NFER, the unit for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in the Eurydice network. It includes information about Eurydice network activities, reports and resources.

We welcome feedback of any kind, so please [email](#) us with comments, questions or suggestions.

## Tuition fees and student support

The latest edition of this [report](#) was published in October. It describes the main features of national tuition fee and student support systems for higher education in Europe in 2017/18. Student support systems considered include grants, loans, tax benefits and family allowances. The information covers both undergraduate (first cycle) and postgraduate (second cycle) full-time and part-time students.

## Recent publications

[Citizenship Education at School in Europe – 2017](#)  
(November 2017)  
[National Student Fee and Support Systems in European Higher Education – 2017/18](#)  
(October 2017)

## Briefing on academic staff in higher education

A new [Eurydice Brief: Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Academic Staff – 2017](#), presents the main findings from Eurydice's [full report](#) (June 2017) examining the realities for academic staff in the changing higher education landscape. In recent years, student numbers have continued to increase, new steering and funding mechanisms have been established, quality assurance systems have been further developed and societal demands have expanded. Yet there has been too little focus on the impact and implications of these developments for academic staff, who play a vital role in higher education institutions and systems.

Drawing on data gathered by the Eurydice Network in 35 countries, the brief focuses on topics including human resource policy planning, academic careers, working conditions and teaching. It concludes by highlighting three key concerns for policy-making:

- levelling the playing field for academic careers
- balancing institutional autonomy and government oversight
- improving information gathering on academic staff.

## School and academic calendars

Latest updates of these annual reports covering 37 countries were published in September. [The Organisation of School Time in Europe](#) covers primary and secondary education in 2017/18. It sets out the timing and length of school holidays and the number of school days. [The Organisation of the Academic Year in Europe](#) describes how the year is structured in higher education institutions, covering term times, holidays and examination periods.

[Eurydice Brief: Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Academic Staff – 2017](#)

(October 2017)

[Eurydice Brief: Key Data on Teaching Languages at School in Europe – 2017 Edition](#)

(September 2017)

[The Organisation of the Academic Year in Europe – 2017/18](#)

(September 2017)

[The Organisation of School Time in Europe. Primary and General Secondary Education – 2017/18](#)

(September 2017)

### Forthcoming

Structure of European Education Systems (diagrams) 2017/18 (16 November 2017)

Thematic Report on Teachers (January 2018)

Bologna Implementation Report 2018 (Spring 2018)

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