Refugees & Higher Education

15 May 2017

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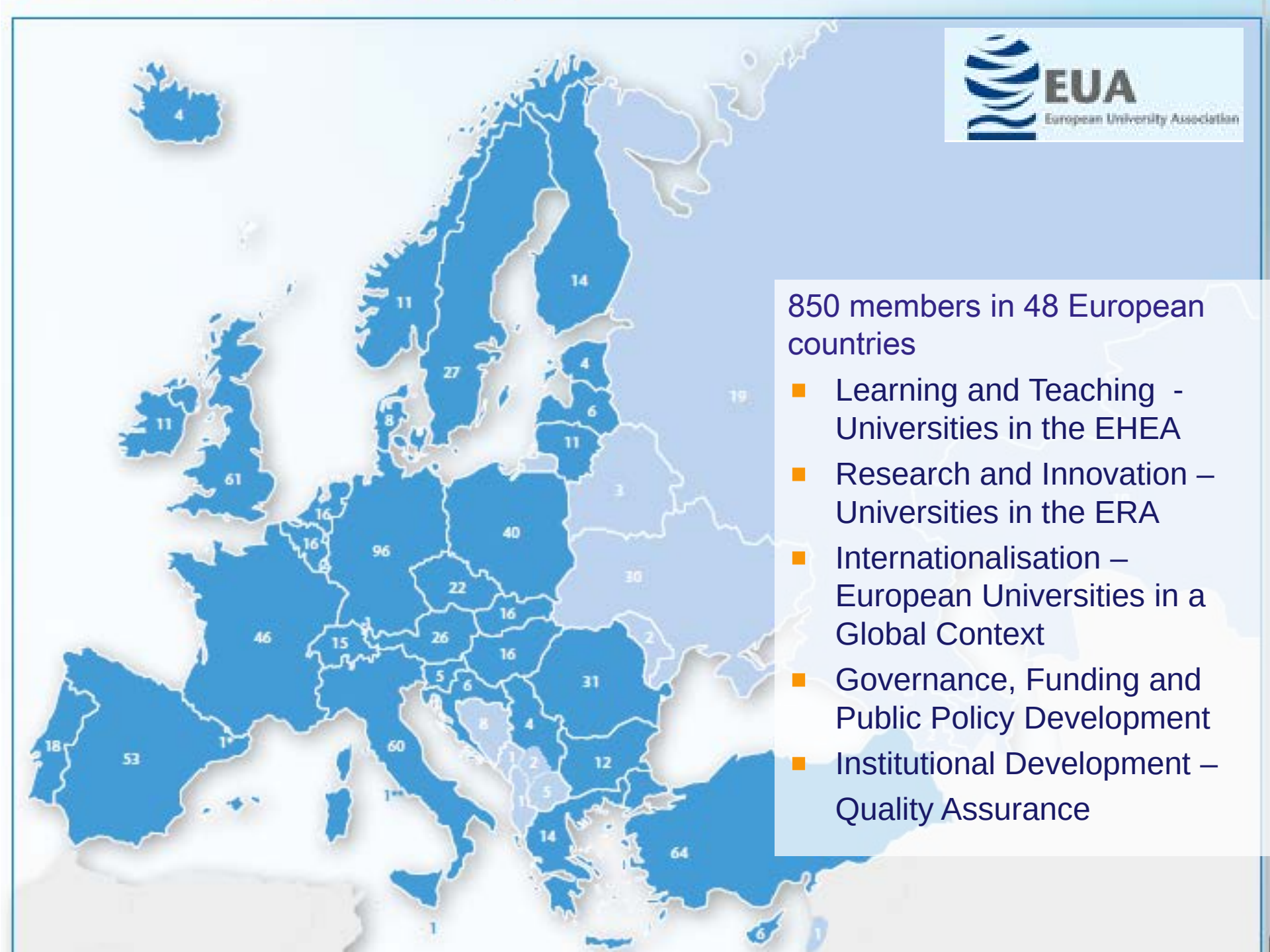
European University Association


EUA
European University Association
850 members in 48 European countries
Learning and Teaching - Universities in the EHEA
Research and Innovation – Universities in the ERA
Internationalisation – European Universities in a Global Context
Governance, Funding and Public Policy Development
Institutional Development – Quality Assurance

EUA
European University Association

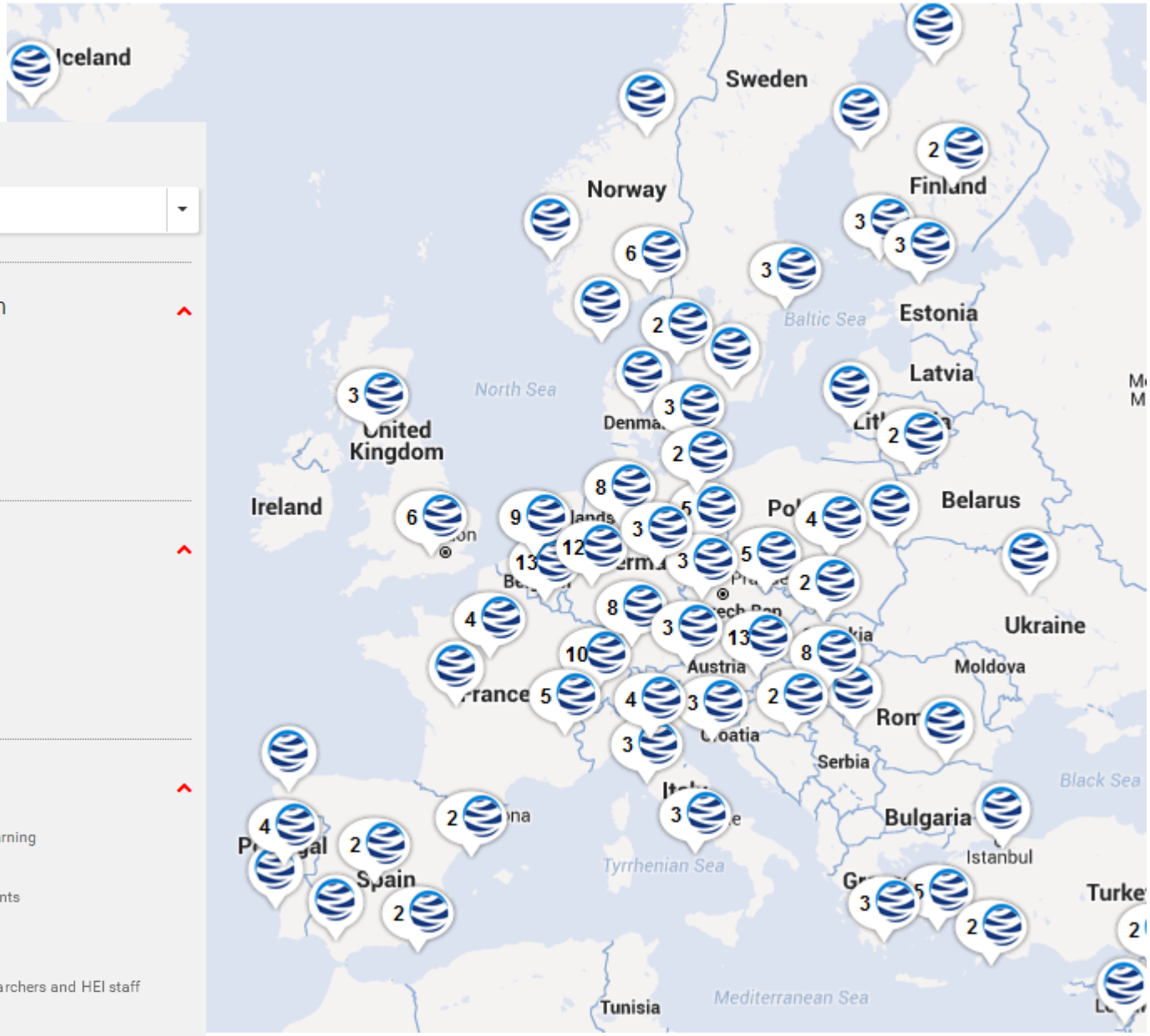
Refugees welcome map

2015 Refugees welcome initiative

Your initiative counts!

- Statement of EUA leadership
- Questionnaires to members (National conferences, individual institutions)
- Results:
  - ✓ Activities in all countries
  - ✓ Many bottom-up: students & staff
  - ✓ coordinated by National Rectors Conferences (Austria)
  - ✓ coordinated in regional/national collaboration (Netherlands)

Refugees welcome map



Country filter Select all / Deselect all

Belgium (8) ×

Filter by kind of organisation

- [x] Higher Education Institution
- [ ] National Rectors' Conference
- [ ] Student Union
- [ ] Network
- [ ] Other

Filter by type of initiative

- [ ] Institutional
- [x] Regional
- [ ] National
- [ ] European
- [ ] International

Filter by category

- [ ] Recognition of studies and prior learning
- [ ] Access to higher education
- [ ] Financial support for refugee students
- [ ] Preparatory and bridging courses
- [x] Integration measures
- [ ] Employment opportunities for researchers and HEI staff
- [ ] Other

University engagement: flexible response to changing needs

First aid in 2015/16

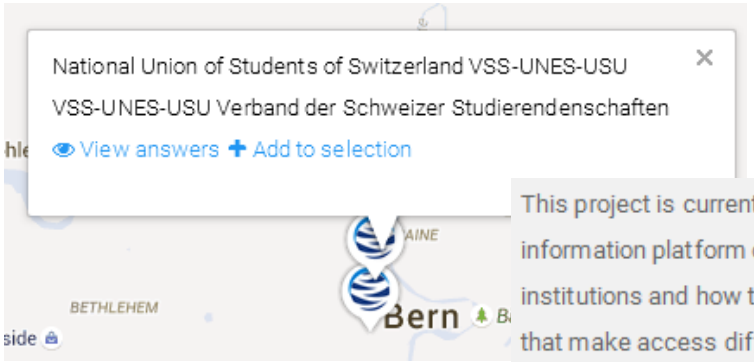
- Shelter, food, health,
- Language support, helping with authorities etc.
- Culture, sports
- Education & training
  - ✓ language courses, intercultural/social skills for refugee & domestic population
  - ✓ Training of language teachers, helpers …

2016-2017

- Recognition
- Study places
- Language/ study skills
- Guidance
- Retention/ study success
- Institutional strategies

Guidance and consultation

- Dissemination of study opportunities
- Comprehensive information on HE system (& labour market), application procedures, recognition …
- Collaboration/training e.g. reception centre staff, study buddies, mentors....



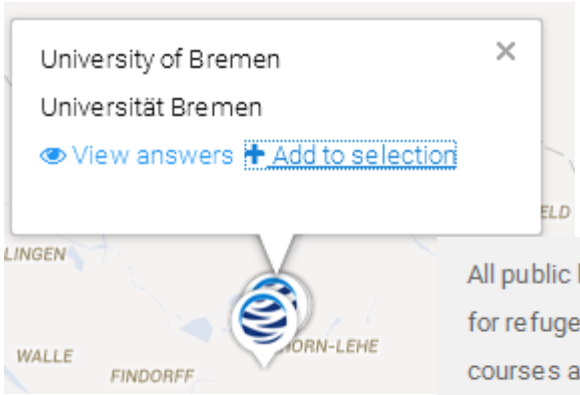
This project is currently in construction. This is the concept : The project works on two levels : An online information platform collects and provides information about the access conditions of Swiss higher education institutions and how to get fit to meet them. It informs about existing institutions and offers in the three domains that make access difficult: finding out how to finance the studies, meeting the language requirements and getting through administration. It also informs about the different existing initiatives of students for refugees. To help with the administrative process the project provides interested refugees with a student mentor in the same field of

Language and preparatory courses

Language – a precondition for

- educational success
- successful societal integration

- 50%+ of the HEI one the map provide such training in diverse forms

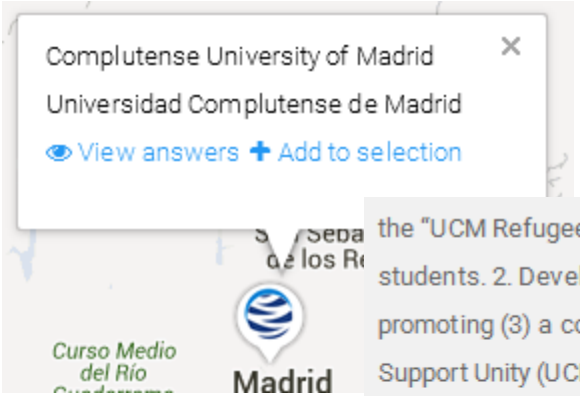


All public higher education institutions in Bremen will offer a joint preparatory programme including bridge courses for refugees without documentation or without sufficient access to German higher education, including language courses and integration. The programme will most like be starting in fall 2016. In summer 2016 a language only option will start.

Institutional strategies

Welcoming refugees as part of the HEI's third mission, social responsibility – or general internationalisation activities?

- Diversity management engrained in institutional mission
- Intentional, needs-based
- Overarching: outreach/recruitment – teaching and learning – services



the "UCM Refugees Welcome Plan" is aimed to: 1. Social and educational reception of refugees, especially students. 2. Development of values, attitudes and solidarity actions among UCM Community and Madrid's society, promoting (3) a conscious critical and committed society. The Plan is developed from the Diversity and Inclusion Support Unity (UCMD + I) headed by Mercedes Garcia Rector's Delegate. It has two mails: arae@ucm.es & atencionrefugiados@ucm.es attention, & a Website www.ucm.es/refugees-welcome, and an office staffed with skilled personnel (Clara Guilló Coordinator & Marta Amador Assistant coordinator) and volunteers. It develops throughout 4 interrelated lines of action: L1. Awareness and information. L2. Promotion of welcome actions. L3. College acceptance and university social action. L4. Cooperation with experts' institutions & actors. Within L.2: We

Some challenges & lessons learned

Operation

- Coordination, cooperation, pooling resources
  - ✓ "A lot of good intention, but …"
  - ✓ between universities – e.g. language & preparation courses
  - ✓ With GO and NGOs
  - ✓ Welcome centres: accommodation, job, school, university etc.
- Not a recognised institutional goal & activity
  - ✓ done by individuals, small groups
  - ✓ tolerated, but not supported
  - ✓ No real leadership support
  - ✓ Not linked to the institution's strategy & mission

Perception, conditions

- National situation: legislation, policies
- Public perception
- Hostile reactions
- Refugees – or "migration" in general
- knowledge about migration

Refugees/ Migration – a mission for universities

1. Research & research dissemination
   - ✓ Research on refugees & migration
   - ✓ Contribute to a differentiated debate
   - ✓ Better political and social preparedness (migration savy systems)
2. Learning & teaching:
   - ✓ Litmus text for L&T, recognition … - alternative routes
   - ✓ Diversity, social inclusion, diversity management
   - ✓ "internationalisation"
3. Third mission: contribution to society
4. Internationalisation
   1. Who is an international student and researcher
   2. a global mission: bring HE to refugee camps?

UNHCR 2016:
only 1% of refugees access higher education

Erasmus+ Midterm review

EUA's recommendations:

8. Increase flexibility to respond to emerging challenges, such as support for refugee students and staff

- Student grants for full study
- Fellowships for university staff

http://www.eua.be/Libraries/publications-homepage-list/erasmus-recommendations

- peer learning webinars
- collaboration (institutions, with region, municipality, refugees and displaced persons)
- transferability from & to internationalisation, social inclusion
- institutional diversity management
- good practice catalogue

Join the Refugees welcome map

inHERE

UNIMED, Sapienza, University Barcelona Campus France, UNICA

https://www.inhereproject.eu/

TRENDS IN EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION

- EUA's flagship initiative that maps developments in Europe's changing higher education landscape.
- 2018: focus on learning and teaching
- Questionnaire in EN, FR, RU
- Participate in EUA's **Trends 2018** survey!

http://bit.ly/eua-trends2018-survey

*Results of the survey will feed into the **TRENDS 2018 report**, which EUA will submit to the 2018 Bologna Ministerial Conference.*

Myth of migration

“A tramp steamer leaving for Italy from Libya. …. The next step is a Muslim Europe.”

Real facts – build another narrative

Correction: 1991 Albanians traveling to Italy

“A tramp ing for Italy from Libya. . op is a Muslim Europ

ttp://www.snopes.com/tramp-steamer-italy-libya/

Research

- Need for research & research dissemination: education, sociology, anthropology, economy, law, medicine/health ...
- Citizen science – including refugees
- Research dissemination: facts – not just views & opinions

Demographic developments:

policies & realities

Asylum seekers:

- EU average **260 applications per 100.000 residents**
- Germany: **587;** UK **60** (BBC, 4/3/2016)

Regular third country-EU migration:

- 1.4 Mill per year (excluding asylum seekers - 2010-2013)
- Family, marriage, students

EU migration

- citizens moving for study, work, ...
- internationalisation : students and staff

Third mission/ contribution to society

- Staff & student engagement
- Working with refugees/ migrants
- Collaboration with authorities, NGOs, citizens
  - ✓ accommodation, work, school, university, social & cultural integration etc.
  - ✓ Policy priorities, good practice & research
  - ✓ Local & national strategies & policies
- If not: isolation, social fragmentation etc. at high economic & social costs
- Migration savvy institutions & societies

Links and further information

- **Browse EUA's Refugees Welcome Map**

http://www.eua.be/activities-services/eua-campaigns/refugees-welcome-map/

- **Showcase your own university's initiative on the map:**

http://refugeeswelcomemap.eua.be

- **European Universities for an Open World campaign**

http://www.eua.be/activities-services/eua-campaigns/european-universities-for-an-open-world