

NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION EQUITY POLICY

Slovakia



Policy Frameworks

Does equity with regard to supporting students from low-income or marginalized populations to enter or succeed in higher education feature in any government produced policy documents? If so, which government policy document(s) are these and can you provide website link(s) to them?

- ➔ Long-term objectives in education, research and development, and other activities concerning higher education institutions for the period 2016-2021 (Dlhodobý zámer vo vzdelávacej, výskumnej, vývojovej a ďalšej tvorivej činnosti pre oblasť vysokých škôl na roky 2016 - 2021)

<https://www.minedu.sk/dlhodoby-zamer-ministerstva-a-jeho-aktualizacie/>

What policies and actions are described in these government policy documents in terms of supporting students from low-income or marginalized populations to enter or succeed in higher education?

The document Long-term objectives in education, research and development, and other activities concerning higher education institutions for the period 2016-2021 sets out the continued implementation of the system of social scholarships for low-income students and the system of loans to ensure access to higher education despite financial barriers.

In order to create a universally accessible academic environment, the objective is to identify existing barriers for special-needs students and propose measures for their systematic removal.

Is there a standalone policy document dedicated to equity promotion in higher education? If so, which document(s) is/are these? Can you provide a link(s)?

No.

Which equity target groups are identified in the policy documents? (Please choose as many groups as apply in your own country)

- ➔ Low-income or lower socio-economic background students
- ➔ Students with disability

Does the country have concrete targets for the participation of specific equity groups in higher education?

No.

Which agency has responsibility for policies related to equity in student participation/success in higher education?

The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport.

Which stakeholder groups are consulted during the equity policy formulation? (Please choose all the stakeholders that are invited to the consultation process in your own country)

- ➔ Higher Education Institutions' Associations
- ➔ Student Organisations/Association

Achieving Policy Targets

Are there any non-monetary instruments such as outreach work between schools and universities, reforms to university admission etc. used to promote access/success for students from specific equity groups in higher education? If so, can you describe what they are?

No.

Are there any financial instruments such as bursaries, scholarships and loans used to promote access/success for students from specific equity groups in higher education? If so, can you describe what they are?

No.

Who is responsible for monitoring the impact of measures used to promote access/success for students from specific equity groups in higher education?

No information was available.

What instruments, methods and data are in place to carry out the monitoring and evaluation?

No information was available.

What kind of autonomy do higher education institutions enjoy in reaching the policy targets set by government?

No information was available.

How do you see the role of inter-governmental/international organisations in supporting higher education equity policies? In which areas would be their contribution the most valuable? (1= most valuable contribution 4=least valuable contribution)

1. Facilitating peer learning, exchange of experience among countries
2. Technical assistance and capacity building
3. Policy setting
4. Financial assistance (grants, loan financing, scholarships)

COVID-19 and Equitable Access and Success in Higher Education

How, if at all, has Covid-19 affected the existence and implementation of policies designed to encourage greater access and success on higher education of those from low-income/marginalized groups?

Covid-19 has not affected the provision of social scholarships to low-income higher education students.

Sources

This country brief was prepared as part of the [“ASEM National Equity Policies in Higher Education”](#) report, a collaboration between the [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#) and the [National Education Opportunities Network \(NEON\)](#). The report was launched at the [8th ASEF Regional Conference on Higher Education \(ARC8\)](#) on *“Inclusive and Diverse Higher Education in Asia and Europe”* on 10 September 2021.

All information in this country brief was provided by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic, as of 26 September 2020.