

HRK

**Measures to support
integration of refugees at
German universities**

Poll of German universities

Period: May/June/July 2015

Responses from over 70 universities

Questions

- What initiatives / projects are there at your university to support the integration of refugees, especially from Syria and Iraq?
- Who is responsible for these measures within the university?
- What is the aim of the measures?

Poll of German universities

- Supporting the social integration of refugees (accommodation, language/translation, help dealing with authorities, advice, counselling etc.) ?
- Assistance with psychosocial support following traumatic experiences ?
- Information at refugee centres about opportunities to study at German universities ?
- Support for university admissions (use of legal leeway in admissions process) ?
- Language support and subject-related support in preparing for a course of study ?
- Special support during university courses ?
- Financial assistance (grants, payment of semester fees , hardship schemes for financial support) ?
- Other ?

Results I

Social integration / psychosocial support

- Cooperation and networking with local and private initiatives
- Free legal advice on asylum issues
- Assistance with finding accommodation
- Accommodation of refugees on university grounds
- Language and homework assistants
- Accompanying individuals when attending appointments with authorities
- Sports and music events, festivals etc.
- Counselling for traumatised refugees

Results II

Information / advice on study opportunities

- Information events at refugee centres and universities on study opportunities
- Special websites for refugees and refugee officers

Access to university

- Advice / individual assessment / suitability testing / writing of educational biographies for individuals with incomplete documentation of qualifications
- Introduction to student life through study taster sessions or guest student status
- Opening-up of supplementary and bridging courses

Results III

Language / subject-related study preparation

- Intensive German courses / writing workshop for refugees
- Facilitated access to preparatory courses

Study

- Industrial, social and training placements in refugee centres
- Lectures for students and refugees at refugee camps
- Topic-based research projects

Financial assistance

- Free German courses, free public transport passes, waiving of semester fees / guest student fees, grant programmes, university hardship funds, federal state emergency funds