

The Erasmus+ programme, a flagship initiative of the European Union, aims to promote educational and cultural exchange across Europe and beyond. A key focus of this programme is ensuring inclusivity and equal access for all participants. Within this framework, the term "people with fewer opportunities" holds particular significance. This category encompasses individuals who face various barriers that may impede their ability to fully participate in international mobility opportunities.

Recognizing these challenges, Erasmus+ has established specific criteria to identify and support these individuals. By doing so, the programme seeks to provide additional assistance and resources, ensuring that all participants can benefit equally from the enriching experiences offered by international exchanges.

The following list outlines the European commission's criteria for identifying and reporting the participation of students with fewer opportunities in the Erasmus+ programme:

#### **Definition of people with fewer opportunities**

**People with disabilities:** this includes physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments, whose interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on the same footing as others.

**People with health problems:** this includes severe illnesses, chronic disease, or any other physical or mental health-related situation that makes it difficult to participate in the programs.

**Barriers linked to cultural differences:** this includes differences that may represent significant barriers to learning in general, but are amplified for people with a migrant or refugee background, especially newly arrived migrants, people belonging to national or ethnic minorities, language learners, people facing linguistic adaptation challenges, and those with cultural inclusion difficulties, etc.

**Barriers to education and training systems:** this includes individuals struggling to perform in education and training systems for various reasons, such as early leavers from education and training, people not in education, employment, or training (NEET), and low-skilled adults who may face barriers.

**People facing social barriers:** this includes individuals with social adjustment difficulties, such as limited social competencies, antisocial or high-risk behaviors, former offenders, drug or alcohol abusers, or those for whom socialization represents a barrier. Other social barriers may stem from family circumstances.

**People facing economic barriers:** this includes individuals experiencing economic disadvantages, such as a low standard of living, low income, learners who need to work to support themselves, dependence on the social welfare system, long-term unemployment, precarious situations, poverty, homelessness, debt, or financial problems, etc., which may represent barriers.

**People facing barriers linked to discrimination:** this includes individuals facing discrimination linked to gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, ethnicity, religion, belief, sexual orientation, or disability.