




Studera utomlands utan hinder:  
högskolestudenternas förslag till  
nordiskt samarbete

Opiskele ulkomailla esteettömästi:  
korkeakouluopiskelijoiden ehdotuksia  
pohjoismaiselle yhteistyölle

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# En studie om utbildning, mobilitet och funktionshinder (Nordiska Ministerrådet, 2015):

- Studerande som har funktionsnedsättning i nordiska länder och självstyrande områden ska kunna studera i ett annat nordiskt land på lika villkor som andra.
- Projektet syftar till att förbättra studievillkor och främja fri rörlighet för nordiska studenter.
- Genom att tydliggöra vilka åtgärder som bör tilltas för att garantera studenter med funktionsnedsättning förutsättningar att studera utomlands på lika villkor som andra, stärks de nordiska länder och självstyrande områden bättre upp till den ambitionsnivå man satt för funktionshinderspolitiken genom åtaganden i FN:s funktionshinderskonvention.



# Equity in student mobility in Nordic Higher Education (2015-2016)

- Students/persons with disabilities are those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment which in interaction with various barriers may limit their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others (UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006).
- What factors enable or *hinder participation* of higher education students with disabilities in international mobility?
- How to improve equity in student mobility in the Nordic countries?



# Equity in student mobility in Nordic Higher Education

- Coordinator: Universell, NTNU, Norway
- Nordic Network for Disability Coordinators (NNDC) in higher education
- University of Southern Denmark (Denmark)
- Lærings og kompetancecenteret (Denmark)
- University of Jyväskylä (Finland)
- University of Turku (Finland)
- Luleå Technical University (Sweden)
- Karolinska Institutet (Sweden)
- University of Iceland (Iceland)



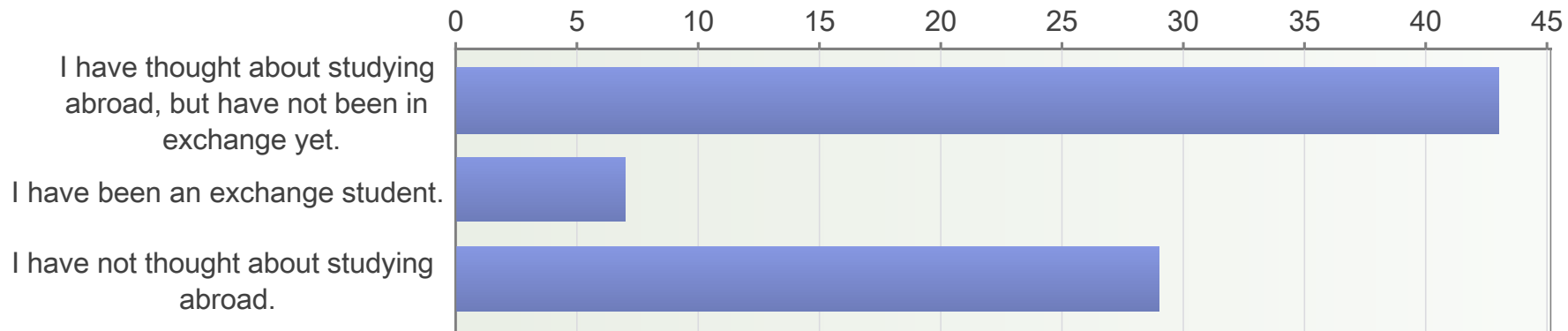
# Equity in student mobility in Nordic Higher Education

- Country reports on HE students with disabilities and international mobility prepared by NNDC in collaboration with the participating HEIs.
- Data collection designed in collaboration with two students who have mobility experience:
  - An accessible questionnaire to students of the participating HEIs (online and in word format)
  - Interviews in Finland, Iceland and Norway (if possible, to be continued later also in Denmark and Sweden)



# Three groups among the questionnaire respondents

Respondents from SDU, Denmark (N=79)

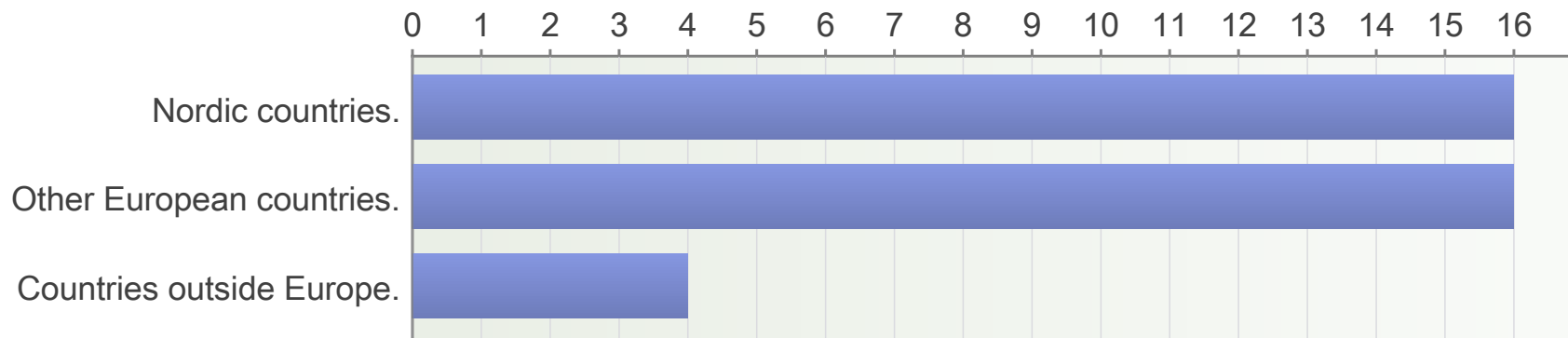


# Why students consider but do not participate in mobility?

- ❏ Students have little or no information about how mobility could be arranged in practice, e.g. at SDU in Denmark 90% of the respondents who had considered mobility (n=44) did not have information about funding.
- ❏ During the last 15 years no student has applied for special educational support funds for mobility at LTU in Sweden.
- ❏ “I have received a social support provided by my home municipality covering approximately 15 hours of the mobility training. However, due to the fact it was not sufficient, I had to apply in several foundations for further funding.” (Student 2, JYU, Finland)
- ❏ “I might be able to finish all my courses or then just one if have a bad period. I do not know who I could ask about these kinds of things.” (Student 4, Iceland)



Imagine that your circumstances changed and you decided to go study abroad. What countries would you consider first? (SDU, n=36)





# Students' suggestions to HEIs:

- Appoint a contact person for accessibility/disability issues.
- Provide information on the HEI websites about accessibility, services, equipment available, flexibility options in teaching and learning, and contact persons for students with disabilities.
- Initiate or strengthen collaboration between international offices and accessibility/disability coordinators.
- Advise students how to apply for funding to cover additional costs, e.g. assistance, therapies, medical care.
- Ensure that teachers and programmes allow additional time for completing studies.



# Students' suggestions to mobility organizations

- More information about practical enabling factors, especially on eligibility to additional funding.
- Develop instruments to offer sufficient funding.
- Short-term exchange options, e.g. one or two weeks or months would be easier to arrange in practise (related to issues such as assistance, interpretation, medical care, therapies).
- Mobility to HEIs in the neighbouring Nordic countries would be easier to arrange.
- Recruit and use role models, i.e. mobility ambassadors with disabilities (good experiences in Erasmus+).



# Students' suggestions for other students

- Start the process as early as possible, because you need time for checking accessibility (of accommodation, studies) and available services, and for securing sufficient funding.
- Inform the host HEI about your needs and check what their services cover.
- Contact and learn from other students with disabilities who have studied abroad.
- Create a forum for sharing experiences.



“I think that if you have the chance to go abroad, then grab it. As a disabled person, the competition for a job will be very tough when you have to compete against people WHO do not really have any disabilities. So by going abroad, I think that you strengthen yourself and your chances at getting a job.” (A student at SDU, Denmark)



# Fri rörlighet och funktionshinder

## Torsdag 3 november 2016

[Nordiska ministerrådets sekretariat, Ved Stranden 18, Köpenhamn](#)

**FRI RÖRLIGHET** är en hjärtefråga inom det nordiska samarbetet. Trots tillfälliga gränskontroller förväntar sig nordbor att det ska vara möjligt att röra sig fritt mellan de nordiska länderna. Den fria rörligheten ska också omfatta personer med olika typer av funktionsnedsättningar.

**DETTA SEMINARIUM** ska synliggöra kunskap, erfarenheter och diskutera förbättringar som kan genomföras inom ramen för det nordiska samarbetet. Dessutom blir det en fördjupning i två aspekter av temat, studenters mobilitet och ökad fysisk tillgänglighet genom harmoniserade byggregler.

**Seminarium arrangeras i samarbete mellan Rådet för nordiskt samarbete om funktionshinder, Gränshinderrådet, Hallå Norden och Norden i Fokus.**

**MER INFORMATION OCH ANMÄLAN**  
via [nordicwelfare.org/frirorlighet2016](http://nordicwelfare.org/frirorlighet2016) senast den 30 september.



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