Dear student,

Have you planned to study abroad? Have you been abroad? Have you doubted about studying abroad?

You have received this questionnaire, because your thoughts and experiences as a student, whether you have been abroad or not, are important.

This study is a part of the newly started project “Equity in student mobility in Nordic Higher Education”. The project is to inform several institutions in the Nordic countries dealing with higher education like the Nordic Council of Ministries, national ministries and higher education institutions about successful student mobility, and guide how to offer appropriate support to students with disabilities, when and where needed. The project is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministries.

Higher education institutions participating are from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

We emphasize equity in accessibility and participation in higher education including international mobility. By the term students/persons with disabilities we mean 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, 2006).

We would like to kindly ask you to respond to a short questionnaire. A link to the online questionnaire: xxxxx

Your responses are very important.

The responses are only for the research purpose. They will be analysed respecting your dignity and no personal details will be included in the analyses and reporting. If you offer us your contact details, you may receive brief information about the results. You have the right to get information about the research and may contact us at any point, if you have questions. Feel free to avoid questions you are not comfortable with.

The outcomes of this research will be published in (NVC, NMR websites? In Finland ESOK and JYU websites).

Thank you for your cooperation and we are looking forward to hear about your experiences.

Yours sincerely,

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Questionnaire for students

First of all, we ask for your informed consent and willingness to voluntarily participate in this study on international mobility.

Yes, I have been informed about the purpose of the study and I am willing to participate.

Please, choose the questions that you think concern you and respond to this short questionnaire.

If you have thought about studying abroad, but have not been in exchange yet, please, respond to the questionnaire A.

If you have been an exchange student, please, respond to the questionnaire B.

If you have not thought about studying abroad, please, respond to the questionnaire C.

A. Questions for students who have thought about studying abroad but not yet been abroad

1. What did motivate you to think about studying abroad?
2. How common is it in your field of study to go abroad?
3. What countries you have considered? Why? Please specify.
   1. Nordic countries
   2. other European countries
   3. out of Europe
4. What information about student exchange and funding have you got? From where did you get the information?
5. How would you assess your language skills? Would they be sufficient to study abroad?
6. What information have you got about services for students with disabilities in the country and institution you planned to visit?
   1. How accessible was the information for you?
   2. Have you experienced any barriers when searching for the relevant information?
7. What have you learnt from other students who are/have been in exchange?
8. Do you personally know any person with disability studying/living abroad?
9. How do you think you would arrange your life and studies abroad (e.g. getting study materials, accommodation, transport, support)?
10. In your opinion what information about disability is needed to be explained when studying abroad?
11. What additional comments do you have regarding student exchange?

B. Questions for students who have studied abroad. Please, note how many times you have been on exchange period\_\_\_\_\_.

1. What did motivate you to participate in student exchange?
2. What factors did you consider when planning to go abroad for your exchange period?
   1. quality of education in the given institution
   2. accessibility of materials, lessons and aids in the given institution
   3. information about accessibility, services and students/peers at the host university
   4. responses to enquiries from the host university
   5. accessible accommodation
   6. possibilities of financial aid for students/students with disabilities
   7. quality of services for disabled students in a given institution
   8. other factors, please describe
3. What countries did you consider? Why? Please specify.
   1. Nordic countries
   2. other European countries
   3. out of Europe
4. Have you received any support from your home university while applying for your exchange period?
   1. searching for/applying for a specific accessibility grant
   2. checking the accessibility situation in the host institution
   3. organizing special study arrangements (e.g. extra time in exams, possibilities for accessible accommodation etc.)
   4. other support, please describe
5. What services have been provided to you after arrival to your host university?
   1. tutoring to solve the practical issues concerning arrival to a foreign country like creating a bank account, registration at the police etc.
   2. personal assistant provided by the university
   3. services provided by NGOs (e.g. volunteers, equipment), please, specify what
   4. services from the university disability unit or coordinator
   5. other services, please describe
   6. I didn’t get any services and had to find support on my own
6. How would you describe your experiences in studying abroad? Please, describe what this experience brought to you.
7. How would you describe the attitudes of your study group/cohort/staff members of your host institution towards you at the university abroad?
8. Did you receive enough information about the options how to finance your exchange period?
   1. If yes, where did the information come from?
   2. If no, how did you carry out financing of your mobility?
9. What advice would you like to give to those students with disabilities who would like to study abroad?
10. How would you improve student exchange programmes and options?
11. What additional comments do you have regarding mobility/student exchange?
12. If you had been on the exchange period, would you consider another exchange?
    1. If yes, please, describe what factors would influence your decision?
    2. If no, please describe what factors would influence your decision.
13. In your opinion what information about disability is needed to be explained when applying to study abroad?

C. Questions for students who have not thought about studying abroad

1. Do you remember whether you have got information about possible options to go for mobility and funding of such mobility? If yes, where the information came from?
2. What are your personal reasons for not going abroad?
   1. language skills
   2. lack of financial aid
   3. lack of support from your institution
   4. health issues
   5. other reason, please describe
3. If you are at the end of your studies, have your thoughts about student exchange changed? If yes, how?
4. If your circumstances changed and you decided to go study abroad what countries you would consider? Why?
   1. Nordic countries
   2. other European countries
   3. out of Europe
5. Do you know any disabled person who has studied abroad? If yes, describe what you have learnt about their experiences.
6. In your opinion what information about disability is needed to be explained when studying abroad?
7. What additional comments do you have regarding mobility/student exchange?

FOR ALL

Background:

Gender:

* + - 1. Female
      2. Male
      3. Prefer not to answer

Age \_\_\_

Field of study \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to tell us about your experiences and views in an interview?

Yes. Contact details:

No.