# From strategy to data needs in inclusive education

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Unit A4: Analysis and Studies

# European Disability Strategy 2010/2020: a renewed commitment to a barrier-free Europe

Adopted on 15 November 2010. Main objectives:

- Empower people with disabilities to enjoy their full rights
- Create a barrier-free Europe for all
- Comply with the **international commitments** taken by concluding the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- The *UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (UNCRPD) thus is the **first ever legally binding international human rights instrument**.
- Both the Commission and EU Member States are signatories

# EU Strategy on Disability

- Following the now completed Disability Action Plan (2003-2010), this new Strategy 2010-2020 will be implementing the UN Convention on Disability

- Five Headline Targets: Employment, R&D, environment, **education** and poverty reduction

- In Education as one domain (out of 3) the implementation of the UN Convention will be assessed by means of **key indicators** to be developed by 2015.

The Staff Working Document lists key actions. There are 3 such key actions for Education thematic area:

*Increase knowledge on education levels and opportunities of people with disabilities*

- Promote peer reviews on the different definitions at Member State level of inclusive education through the support of the Network of Experts on the Social Sciences of Education and Training (NESSE)

- **Support the work of the European Agency for Development in Special Needs Education to facilitate the collection, processing and transfer of European level and country specific information on education of people with disabilities**

- **Collect data on access and participation of persons with high dependency needs,** including persons with very severe intellectual disabilities**, in the education system**

- Improve e-skills of persons with disabilities

# EU 2020

- Disabled persons are more generally addressed in the five "Flagship initiatives"

- European platform against Poverty

- Agenda for new Skills and Jobs

- Youth on the Move

- Innovative Union

- Digital Agenda for Europe

# Education and Training 2020

Four overall strategic objectives determined by the Council

1. Making LLL and mobility a reality

2. Improving quality and efficiency of education and training

3. Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship

4. Enhancing creativity and innovation

# Strategic objective 3 "promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship"

- …addresses explicitly special educational needs:

- **Educational disadvantage should be addressed by** providing high quality early childhood education and targeted support, and by **promoting inclusive education. Education and training systems should aim to ensure that all learners** — including those from disadvantaged backgrounds, those **with special needs** and migrants — **complete their education**, including, where appropriate, through second-chance education and the provision of more personalised learning.

# DG EAC

- Concentrating the responsibilities for Equity (Special needs education, Migrants, Gender issues, Roma etc.) in a new Unit:

- DG EAC Unit A.2: Equal opportunities and social inclusion

# Implementation: Open Method of Coordination (OMC)

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## Implementation instruments

- National reports on progress towards achieving agreed objectives.

- Learning from each other (Groups of experts on specific topics nominated by MS)

- European reference tools (EQF, Key competences framework, quality assurance etc.)

- The Copenhagen and Bologna processes

- **Monitoring of progress (qualitative and quantitative)**

- **Evidence and data from European Agencies, European networks, and international organisations**

# Monitoring and Analysing Progress

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**FIVE EUROPEAN BENCHMARKS FOR 2020**

95% Participation in early childhood education
10% Early school leavers (young people)
15 % Low performers in PISA (reading, math and science)
40 % tertiary completion (30-34 year olds)
15% Lifelong learning participation (adults)

## SIXTEEN CORE INDICATORS

1.  Participation in pre-school education
2.  **Special needs education**
3.  Early school leavers
4.  Literacy in reading, maths and science
5.  Language skills
6.  ICT skills
7.  Civic skills
8.  Learning to learn skills
9.  Upper secondary completion rates of young people
10. Professional development of teachers
11. Higher education graduates
12. Cross-national mobility of students
13. Participation of adults in lifelong learning
14. Adults' skills
15. Educational attainment of the population
16. Investment in education and training

**Percentage of pupils with SEN in segregated settings of total pupils in compulsory education** (2009)

Source: 2010 draft progress report
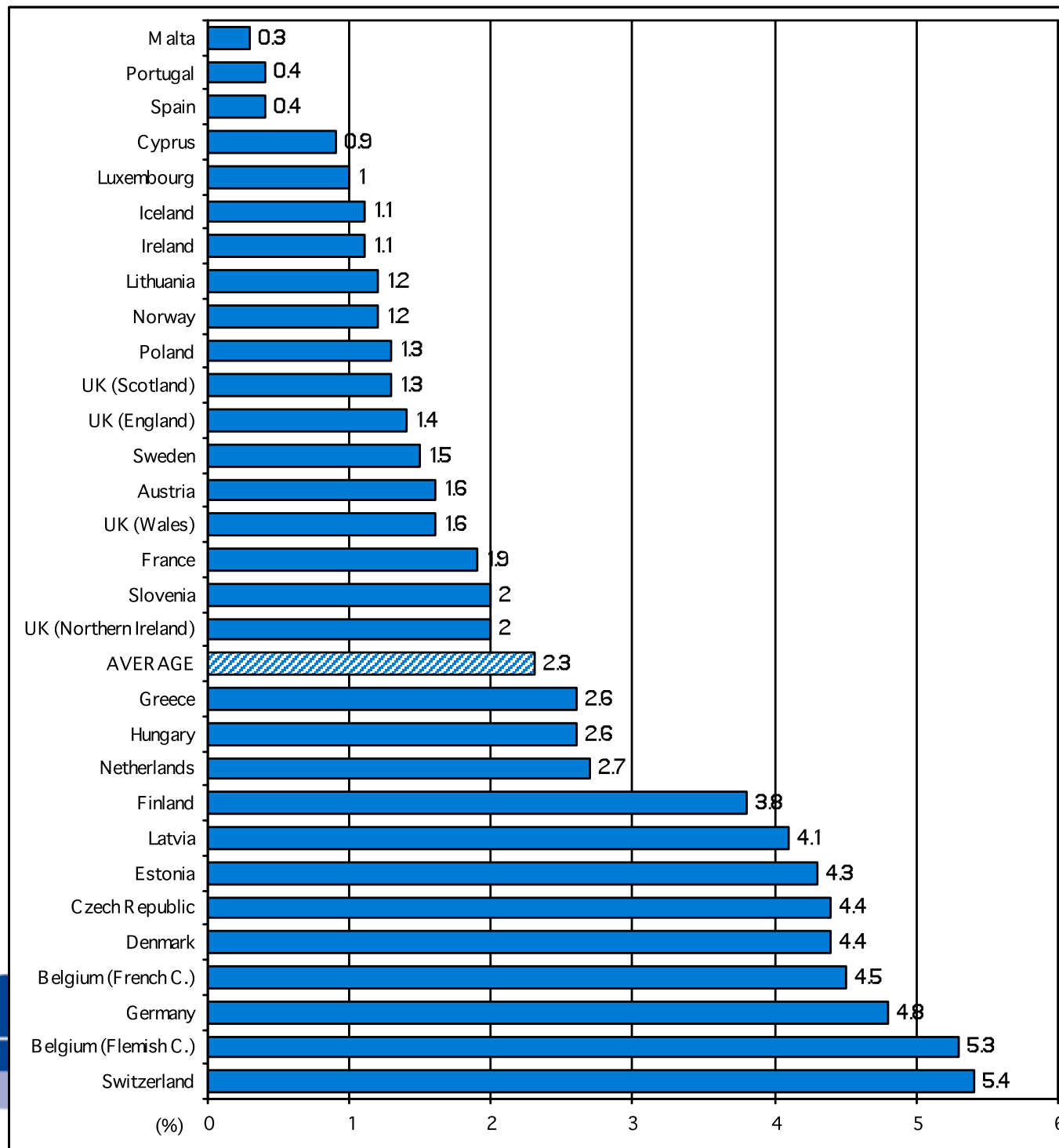
# Pupils with special education needs by category of need and type of setting, 2005 (percentage distribution)
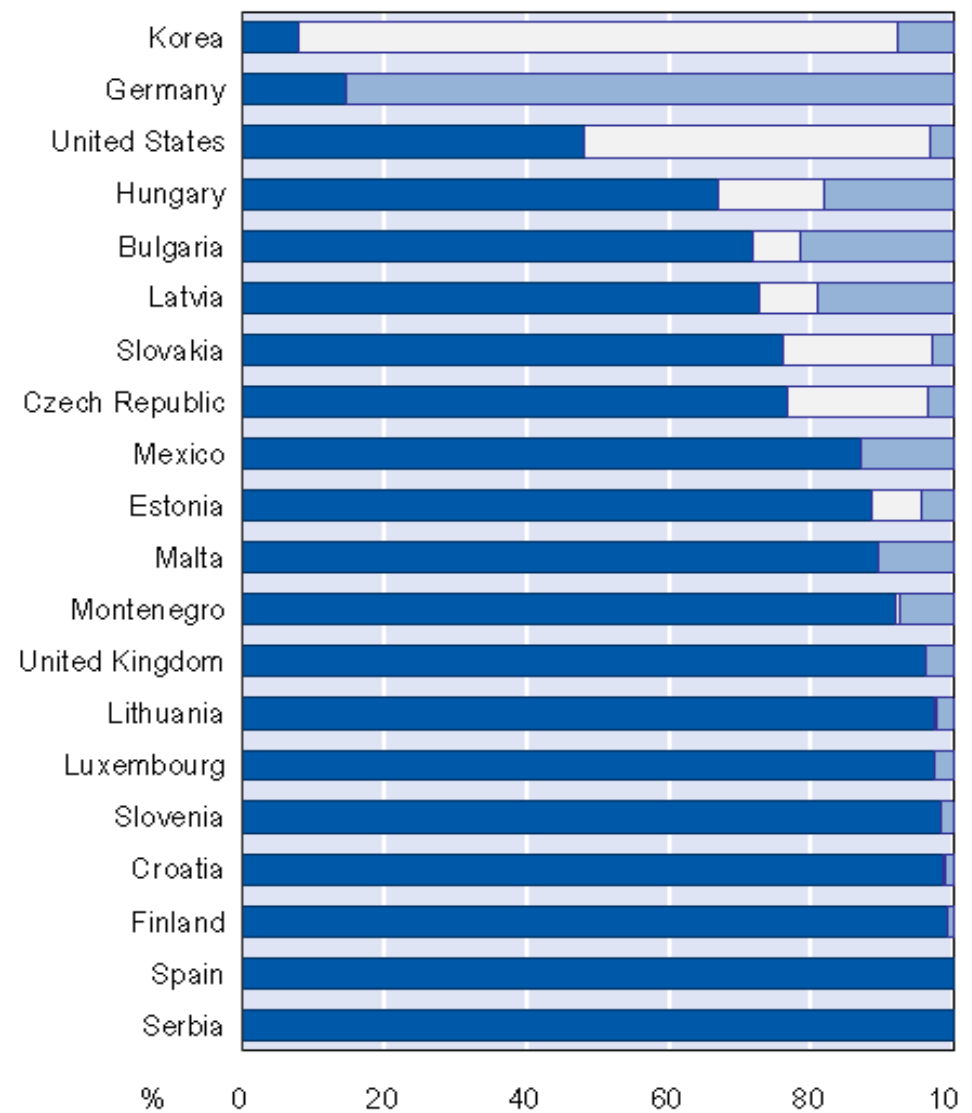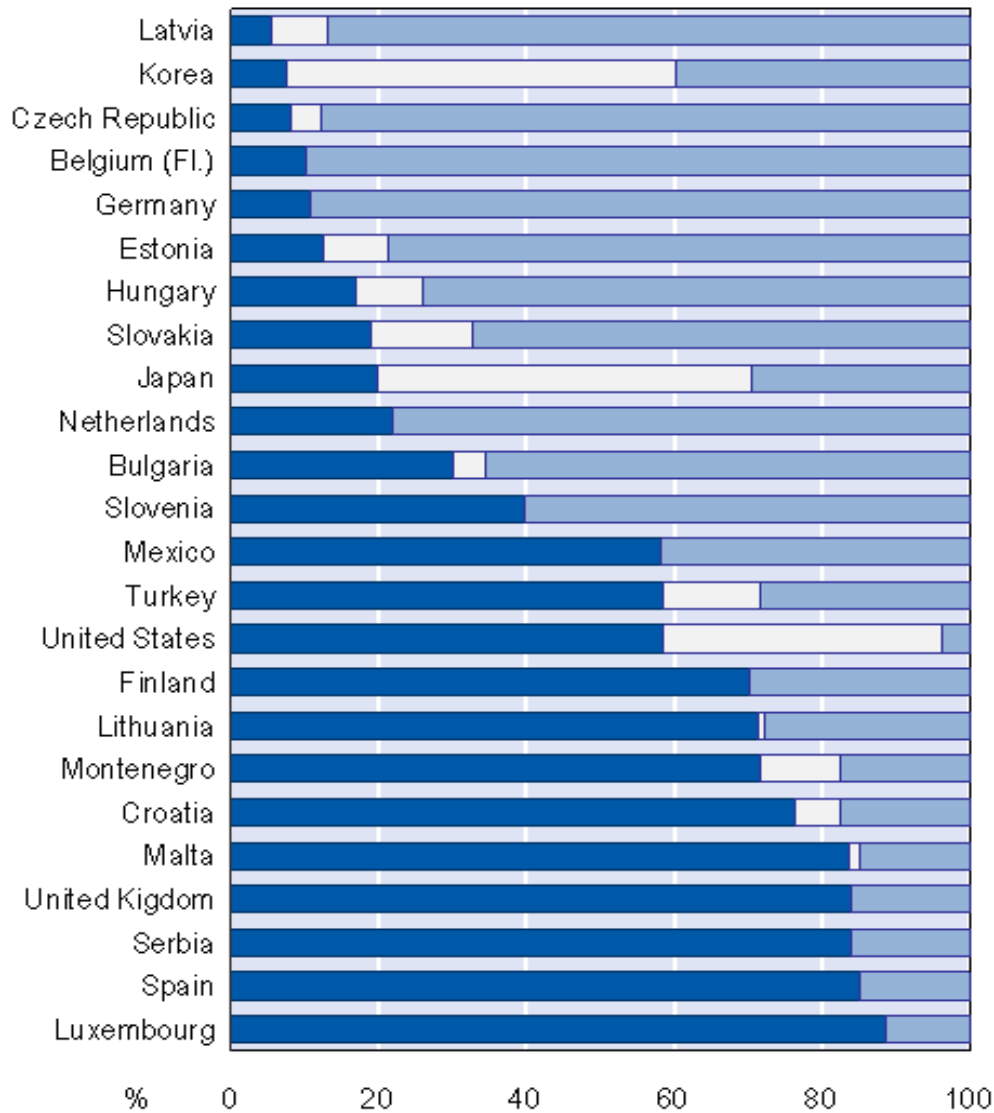## - no longer included in the progress report -

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Pupils with disabilities

Legend: ■ Regular classes  □ Special classes  ▨ Special schools

Countries (top to bottom): Latvia, Korea, Czech Republic, Belgium (Fl.), Germany, Estonia, Hungary, Slovakia, Japan, Netherlands, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Mexico, Turkey, United States, Finland, Lithuania, Montenegro, Croatia, Malta, United Kigdom, Serbia, Spain, Luxembourg

Axis: %  0  20  40  60  80  100



Pupils with learning difficulties

Legend: ■ Regular classes  □ Special classes  ▨ Special schools

Countries (top to bottom): Korea, Germany, United States, Hungary, Bulgaria, Latvia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Mexico, Estonia, Malta, Montenegro, United Kingdom, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Croatia, Finland, Spain, Serbia

Axis: %  0  20  40  60  80  10

# Main messages from the Brussels Conference

- The purpose of data collection as providing evidence of effectiveness (and efficiency)

- The equal value of quantitative and qualitative data

- Tracking the progress of young people

- The need for national data collection, within European level agreements

- Understanding the impact of differences in countries' education systems.

# Thank you for your attention