

## DESEGREGATION POLICIES IN THE EU: A PATHWAY TO SCHOOL SUCCESS

In November 2022, the Council of the EU adopted the *Council Recommendation on Pathways to School Success*, which replaces the 2011 *Council Recommendation on policies to reduce early school leaving*. In its policy framework, Member States were again encouraged to promote active anti-segregation policies as one of their measures. By 2025, EU Member States are called to develop 'integrated and comprehensive strategies towards school success' to minimise the effects of socio-economic status on education and training outcomes, promote inclusion in education and training, further reduce early school leaving from education and training, and reverse underachievement in basic skills.

### Proposals and recommendations at the level of the European institutions

- Give special attention to school desegregation policies in support of the development and follow-up of *integrated and comprehensive strategies towards school success*.
- Prioritise school desegregation measures as part of policies for school success in the framework of the European Education Area agenda.
- Cooperate with Member States to develop common school segregation indicators at EU level, based on available international sources that allow for comparability, and incorporate them in the monitoring mechanisms of educational actions.
- Promote the development of measures to address school desegregation in the framework of the current programming period of the EU Cohesion Policy Funds 2021-2027, both under the programming of the specific education objectives and in possible reprogramming of funds, as well as through other EU relevant programmes and initiatives.
- Develop guidelines on school desegregation plans and policies to support Member States in the development of their national *integrated and comprehensive strategies towards school success*.

- Commission specific reports and research on national policies and effective approaches to school desegregation, for example through Eurydice, the European Expert Network on Economics of Education (EENEE) and the Network of Experts working on the Social dimension of Education and Training (NESET).
- Pay specific attention to school segregation in future editions of the Education and Training Monitor, and in the follow-up processes linked to the European Semester.
- Encourage more peer learning on active desegregation policies within the cooperation processes of the European Education Area Strategic Framework.
- Prioritise cooperation, research, knowledge and innovation on school desegregation in European programmes' calls such as Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe.

#### **Proposals and recommendations at member state level**

- Include school desegregation as a strategic objective of the “integrated and comprehensive strategies towards school success” to be developed or strengthened by 2025, as foreseen in the *Council Recommendation on Pathways to School Success* of 28 November 2022.
- Carry out an assessment of the situation, monitor school segregation, also with common indicators using international sources that allow comparability between regions and in the European Union, and evaluate interventions.
- Use European funds to adopt measures that contribute to reducing and eliminating school segregation in education and training systems, and ensure appropriate approaches and sufficient budget allocations for their deployment.
- Promote social awareness campaigns in favour of cohesion, inclusion and diversity at school.
- Firmly implement and develop regulatory frameworks to deploy effective and sustainable measures against school segregation.
- Promote coalitions and social agreements involving civil society and education and training stakeholders, at national and sub-national levels.