

Inclusive Education: An International Perspective on Policies and Practices

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www.european-agency.org



Member countries of the Agency

- Presently, the Agency has 27 full member countries: Austria, Belgium (French), Belgium (Flemish), Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales).
- We expect that Romania, Slovak Republic and Bulgaria will soon join us



The Agency

- 13th year of operations
- Main secretariat in Odense, Denmark and European Liaison office in Brussels, Belgium



Funding

The Agency is financed by:

- The member countries' Ministries of Education
- European Commission as one of the 6 organisations supported by the Lifelong Learning Programme



The Agency's Mission

- Member countries' platform for collaboration in the field of special needs education (SNE)
- Our ultimate aim is to improve educational policy and practice for learners with special educational needs



International Policy Context for SNE

- UNESCO Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action in Special Needs Education (1994)
- UN Convention on Rights of People with Disabilities (2006)



Selection of Agency Priority Themes

- Early Childhood Intervention
- Provision of special needs education
- Financing and inclusion
- Transition from school to working life
- Classroom Practice to support Inclusive Education
- Assessment of learners with Special Educational Needs
- Students with SEN and an Immigrant background





Inclusive Education and Effective Classroom Practices

Integración Educativa y Prácticas Eficaces en el Aula

Integrative Schulbildung und Unterrichtspraxis

Eksempler på god praksis i den inkluderende undervisning

Agency Work 2009 - 2013

- New Priority themes
 - Teacher Education for Inclusion
 - Organisation of Provision for SNE
 - Vocational Education - policy and practice in the field of SNE
- Information Provision
 - Qualitative and quantitative indicators
 - Key Principles for policy and practice
 - Higher Education Accessibility Guide



Inclusion in Europe

- Developments and challenges



Percentage of pupils in the compulsory school sector recognised as having SEN in 2008 (in all educational settings)

0% - 2%	2% - 4%	4% - 6%	6% - 10%	> 10%
Bulgaria	Austria	Belgium (Fl)	Czech rep.	Estonia
Greece	Denmark	Belgium (Fr)	Finland	Lithuania
Sweden	France	Cyprus		
	Ireland	Germany		
	Italy	Hungary		
	Luxembourg	Iceland		
	Netherlands	Latvia		
	Poland	Malta		
	Portugal	Norway		
	Slovenia	Switzerland		
	Spain	UK (Scotland)		
	UK (England)			
	UK (Wales)			

Percentage of pupils with SEN in segregated settings

Up to 1.0%	1.01 %- 2.0%	2.01%- 4.0%	4.01% and above
Cyprus	Austria	Denmark	Belgium (Fl)
Greece	Bulgaria	Finland	Belgium (Fr)
Ireland	France	Hungary	Czech Rep.
Italy	Iceland	Latvia	Estonia
Malta	Lithuania	Netherlands	Germany
Norway	Luxembourg		Switzerland
Portugal	Poland		
Slovenia	Sweden		
Spain	UK (England)		
	UK (Scotland)		
	UK (Wales)		



Inclusion: Developments in Europe

Progress

- More continuum of services
- Funding
- Resource centre

Challenges

- Output and SEN
- Secondary education
- 2% in separate settings



UN convention on the rights of people with disabilities (2006) Article 24 - Education

States parties are requested to ensure an inclusive education system at all levels

- 142 signatories to the Convention
- 85 signatories to the Optional Protocol
- 66 ratifications of the Convention
- 44 ratifications of the Optional Protocol

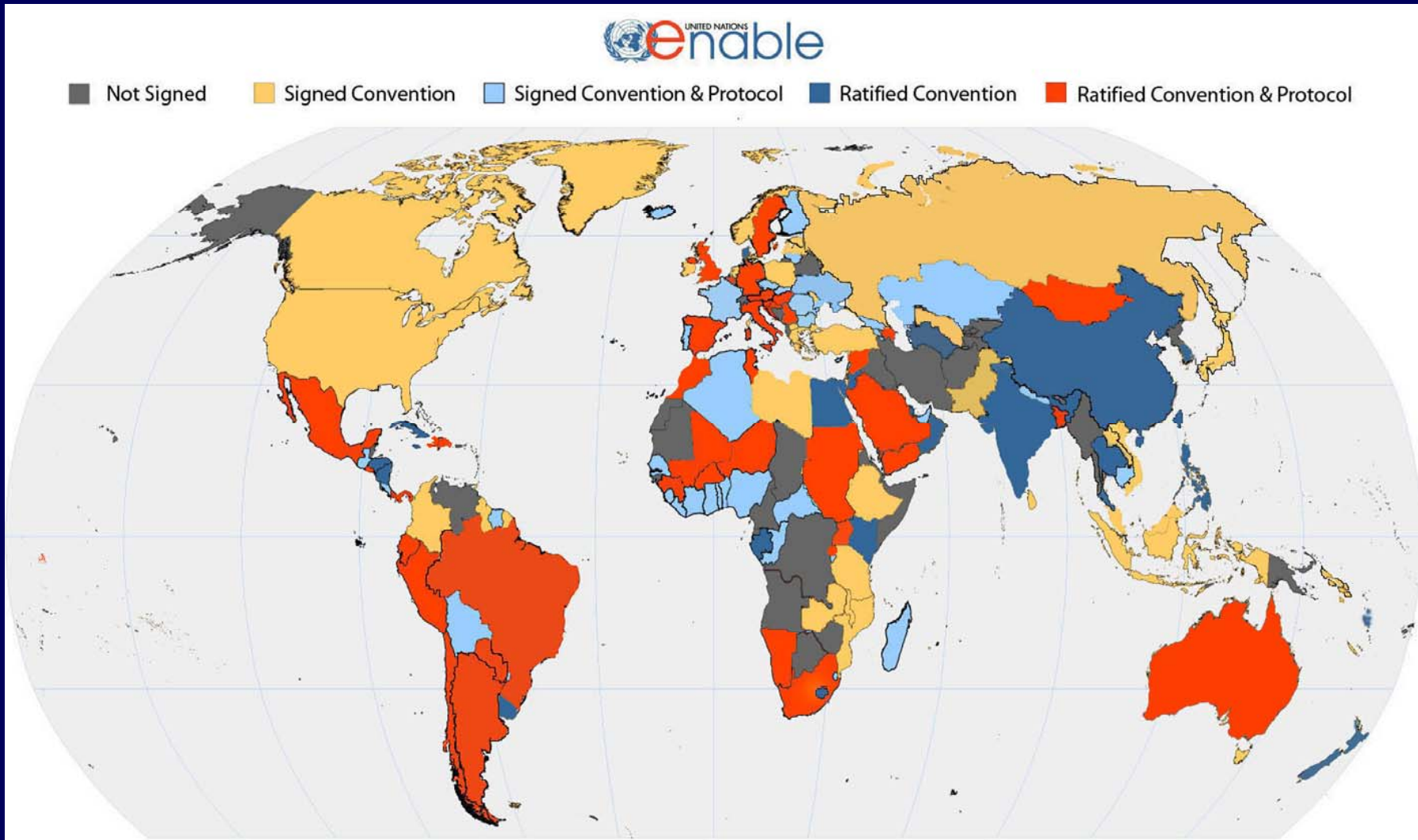


Ratification of the optional protocol by European Agency member countries

- **Austria** – 26 September 2008
- **Belgium** – 2 July 2009
- **Germany** - 24 February 2009
- **Hungary** - 20 July 2007
- **Italy** - 15 May 2009
- **Slovenia** - 24 April 2008
- **Spain** - 3 December 2007
- **Sweden** - 15 December 2008
- **UK incl. Northern Ireland** – 7 August 2009



Map of signatures and ratifications, 01.09.09



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