

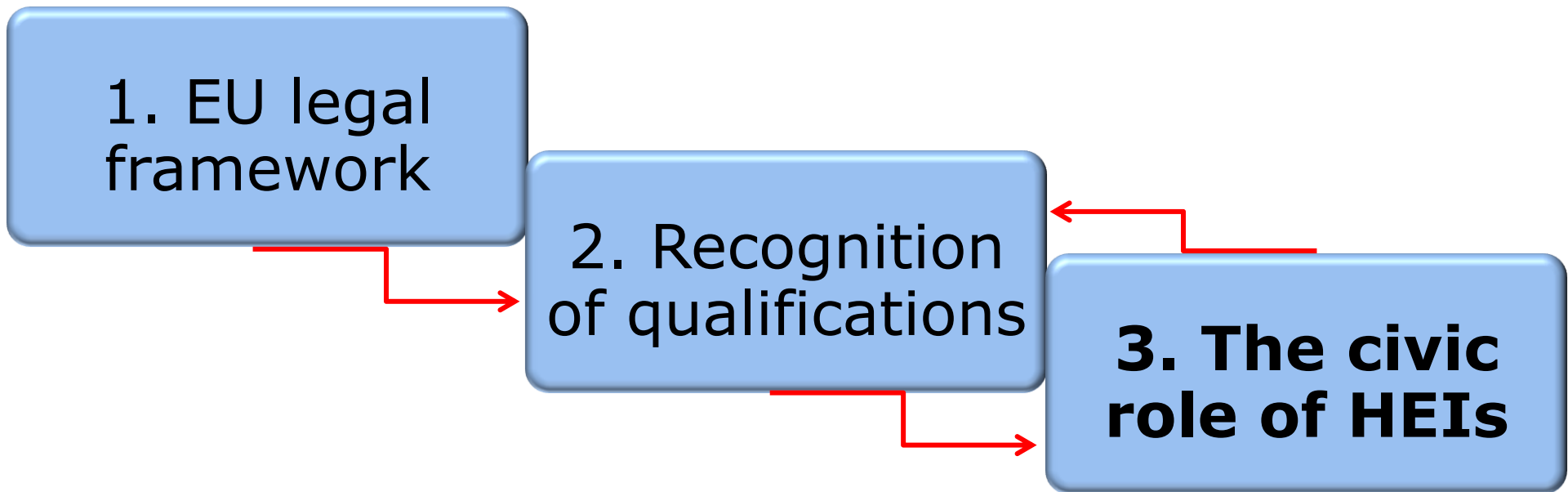


European  
Commission



# The role of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the integration of third-country nationals (TCN)

Brussels, 12 May 2017



# 1. EU legal framework

## EU competences on the integration of TCN

- Limited competences: Article 79.4 TFUE

*"The European Parliament and the Council, acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure, may **establish measures to provide incentives and support for the action of Member States** with a view to promoting the integration of third-country nationals residing legally in their territories, excluding any harmonisation of the laws and regulations of the Member States".*

2009 Blue card  
Directive

**2016 Revision**

2004 Students &  
2005 Researchers  
Directives

**2016 Directive  
for non-EU  
students and  
Researchers**

2016 Action Plan on  
the integration of  
TCN

50 concrete  
measures

## March 2015 Paris Declaration

- **Four pillars:**
  - **social, civic** and intercultural competences;
  - **critical thinking and media literacy;**
  - **disadvantaged children;**
  - **intercultural dialogue** through all forms of learning.

## 2. Recognition of qualifications

# Guide for credential evaluators to recognise qualifications held by TCN

- 1. Set up a fair and transparent recognition procedure** and policy within your institution
- 2. Publish information on the recognition procedure** and policy for documented and undocumented applicants
- 3. Consult additional resources**



## 3. The civic role of HEIs



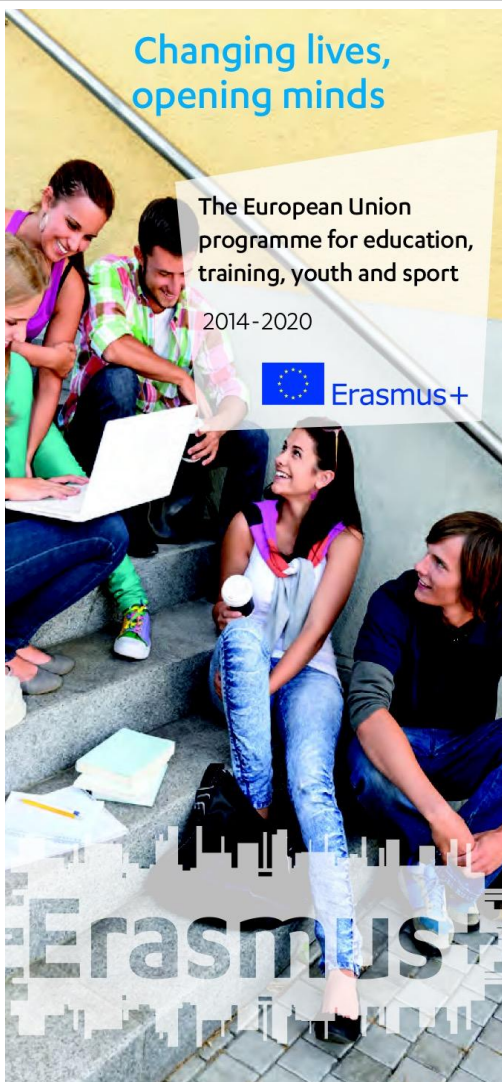
**Engage with local communities**



**Recognise and encourage student engagement:  
award student credits for volunteering**

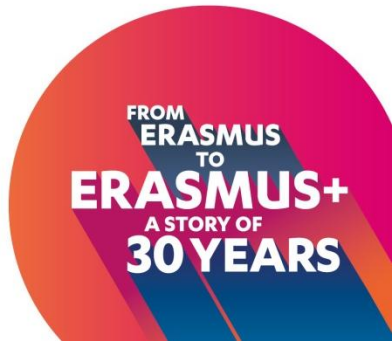
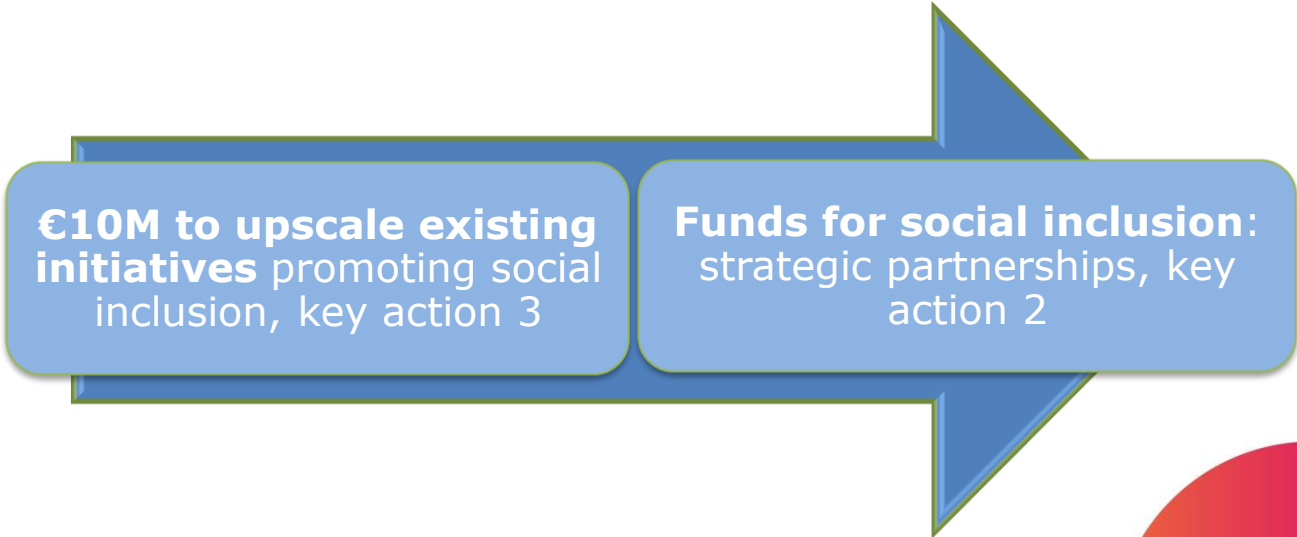


**Develop curricula** that combine academic content with civic engagement




## Erasmus+ support

Erasmus+  
internal dimension



## Erasmus+ external dimension



Capacity-building projects  
International Credit Mobility  
Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Degree



**Shortcomings:**  
limited actual participation  
not targeting refugee students or researchers



**International capacity-building:**  
transversal priority on refugees

Erasmus+

- **Voluntary traineeships** included in Erasmus+ learning agreement for traineeship;
- **Diploma Supplement:** recognition of volunteering;
- Best practices from Erasmus+ national agencies.

Training  
materials  
for HEIs

- **Online course** on “Internationalisation and quality enhancement in higher education institutions”;
- **MOOC for HEIs** on awarding ECTS for non-formal learning.

ECHE

- **"Make it work for you"**

## Useful links

General website  
[ec.europa.eu/education/](https://ec.europa.eu/education/)

HEIs initiatives for refugees  
[ec.europa.eu/education/policy/migration/higher-education-refugees\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/education/policy/migration/higher-education-refugees_en.htm)

Contact  
[eac-higher-education-for-refugees@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eac-higher-education-for-refugees@ec.europa.eu)



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# Questions?