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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Minzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.12.2025)

In full respect of the division of competences in education set out in Article 165 of Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union¹, the Commission promotes inclusive education under European Education Area (EEA) through initiatives such as Pathways to School Success², aimed at improving learning outcomes for all learners. Recommended measures include support to learners with disabilities or special educational needs in mainstream schools through accessible environments and learning materials, diverse teaching methods, and teacher training. The Commission supports implementation by fostering mutual learning within EEA Working Groups³, providing policy guidance⁴ to Member States, and promoting progress towards EEA targets and indicators.

The Commission continues to implement the EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030⁵, also guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)⁶, to which the EU and Member States are parties to the extent of respective competencies. The Strategy promotes inclusive and accessible education and calls on Member States to ensure their education systems at all levels comply with the UNCRPD to advance on supported learning in inclusive mainstream settings⁷.

Furthermore, EU Cohesion Policy Funds can support accessible infrastructure and teaching methods and technologies tailored to diverse learners. Inclusion is also one of the priorities of Erasmus+ programme, which supports cooperation among stakeholders for developing innovative teaching materials enhancing inclusion, and for building capacities, while seeking to promote equal opportunities and access to organisations and participants with fewer opportunities themselves.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX%3A12012E/TXT>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022H1209%2801%29>.

³ <https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/spaces/EAC/pages/55903445/Equality+and+Values> and
<https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/spaces/EAC/pages/44165724/Pathways+to+School+Success>.

⁴ <https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/spaces/EAC/pages/55903445/Equality+and+Values+Documents> and
<https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/spaces/EAC/pages/80183589/Pathways+to+School+Success+Documents>.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52021DC0101>.

⁶ <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html>.

⁷ See section 5.3 of the Strategy.