



CONFERENCE

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BERLIN



DAAD'S HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMMES FOR REFUGEES IN GERMANY

The DAAD wishes to strengthen the potential of academically qualified refugees and provide them access to higher education in Germany. In collaboration with universities and partner organizations, the DAAD has developed various programmes to promote integration of refugees at German universities.

AT A GLANCE

- To support refugees to take up study in Germany, DAAD has developed a range of measures with funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).
- Since 2016, three components have been funded with 100 M euro:
 - Recognising skills and qualifications
 - Ensuring academic qualification - language and subject-related preparation
 - Supporting integration at universities

CORE OBJECTIVES

- Recognising skills and qualifications. TestAS, uni-assist and onSET for refugees → Refugees can take part in those language and subject-related tests free of charge to check their academic entrance qualification.
- Ensuring academic qualification: The programme "Integra" (Integrating Refugees in Degree Programmes) provides special language and subject-related courses for refugees to prepare them for a degree course.
- Supporting integration at universities: The programme "Welcome - Students Helping Refugees" professionalizes voluntary student initiatives who support fellow students with refugee background.

ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

- Since 2016; the Integra programme has provided 27,000 places in preparatory courses for refugees.
- Currently, 163 German HEIs take part in the programme Integra, 137 in the programme Welcome.
- Alone in 2018, about 1,000 student assistant positions were implemented to support 500 initiatives of the Welcome programme. 102 of those have a refugee background themselves.
- In 2018 alone, more than 50,000 refugee students were reached by initiatives of the Welcome programme.

LESSONS LEARNT

- First and biggest obstacle for refugee students is learning the German language. Therefore, language courses are essential.
- Learning technical terminology and academic language use are crucial and make language courses at universities so meaningful.
- An intense guidance and counselling for refugee students are essential, as they do not know the German university system and need orientation.
- Support must not stop when refugees are enrolled. To ensure success of studies, accompanying measures are necessary.
- Collaboration and mutual support of student initiatives and university led measures create the best possible support for refugee students.

FURTHER INFO

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