

Gifted Education in 21 European Countries - Inventory and Perspective

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Contents

- Giftedness and gifted education is not a new topic
- First definition and numbers: how many children are gifted?
- Curriculum: contents of school education – are all children included?
- Progress of policy concerning gifted education in Europe
- 21 participating countries
- Correspondents and comparability of the results
- Main topics of the inventory
- Results of the inventory and perspective

„The diversity of individuals is the main obstacle of every education in schools.

Not taking into account individual differences is the main failure of all educational legislation“

[„Die Verschiedenheit der Köpfe ist das größte Hindernis aller Schulbildung. Darauf nicht zu achten ist der Grundfehler aller Schulgesetze“]

Johann Friedrich Herbart (1776-1841)

Deutscher Ausschluß für Erziehung
und Unterricht

The Rise
Of
the Gifted

*

Vorfragen

Im Auftrag herausgegeben und eingeleitet

von

Peter Petersen

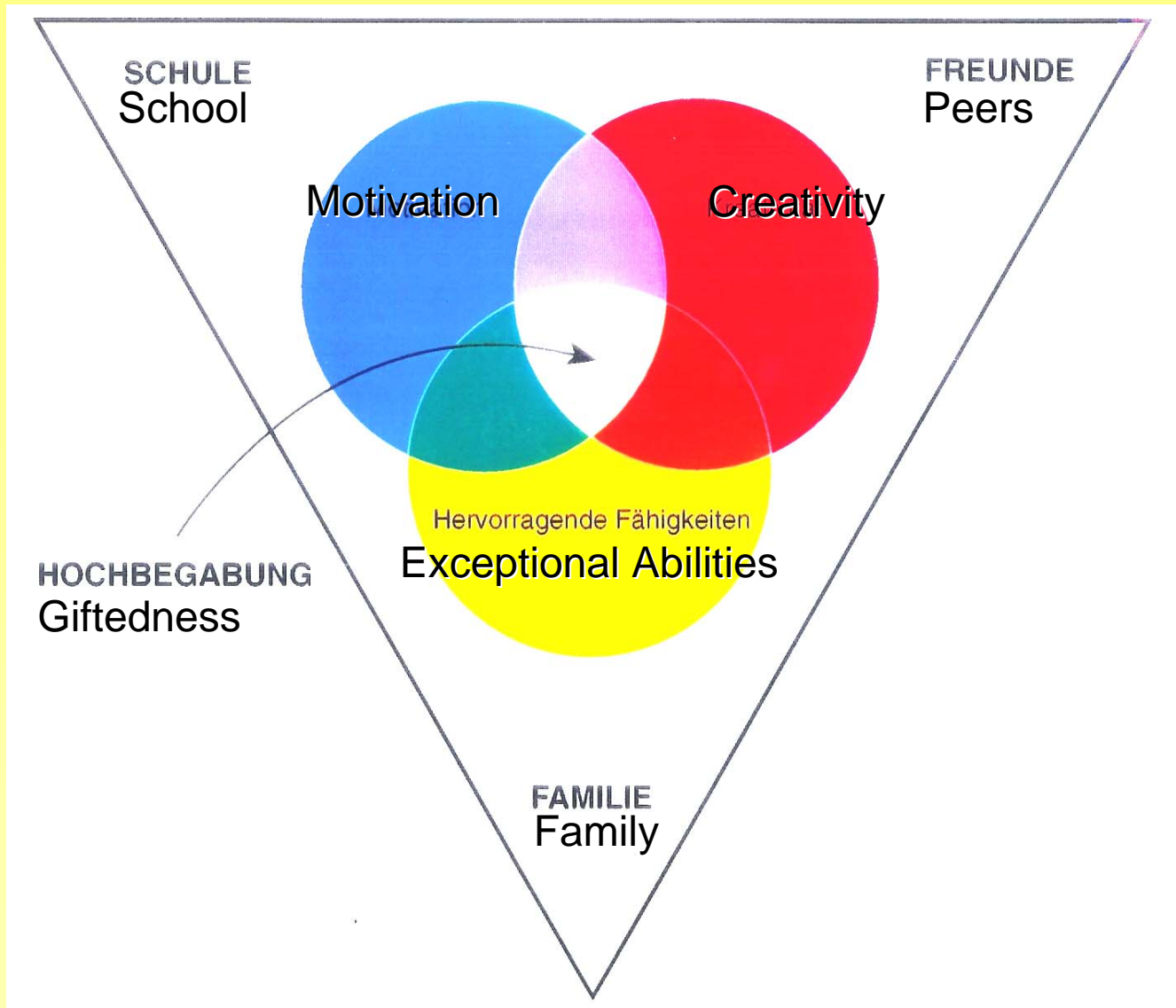
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“Giftedness as such is always only a possibility of achievement, a necessary condition, it is not yet the achievement itself”

(Stern, 1916, S. 110)

“For 2 % most gifted and another 10% gifted elementary pupils we have to establish ‘additional study opportunities in our schools’”

(Stern, 1916, S. 109)



Multifactor model of giftedness (Mönks, 1985)



Curriculum is made for the average.

What about the students who have learning capacities above the average?

Country	Annual Birth-rate (1990 – 1995)	Students how have learning capacities above the average.
Germany	770000	80000
The Netherlands	190000	20000
Austria	92000	10000

In the year 2003=713.000
in the year 2006=670.000
in the year 2007=685.000

How can we meet the learning needs of the above average ability student?



The Frame of Education



-the Curriculum-

Definition

- A) A curriculum is a plan for learning
- B) Curriculum must consist essentially of disciplined study in five great areas: (The International Encyclopedia of Curriculum, 1991, p. 15):
 - 1) command of the mother tongue and the systematic study of grammar, literature, and writing;
 - 2) mathematics;
 - 3) sciences;
 - 4) history;
 - 5) foreign language
- C) Curriculum is what is taught to students, i.e. intended and unintended information, skills, and attitudes that are communicated to students in schools (Sowell, 1996, S. 5)



Curriculum Conception

Purpose of Education

Primary Source of Content

Cumulative tradition of organized knowledge

To cultivate cognitive achievement and the intellect

Academic disciplines, subject matter

Social relevance-reconstruction

To prepare people for living in an unstable, changing world; to reform society

Needs of society and culture

Self-actualization

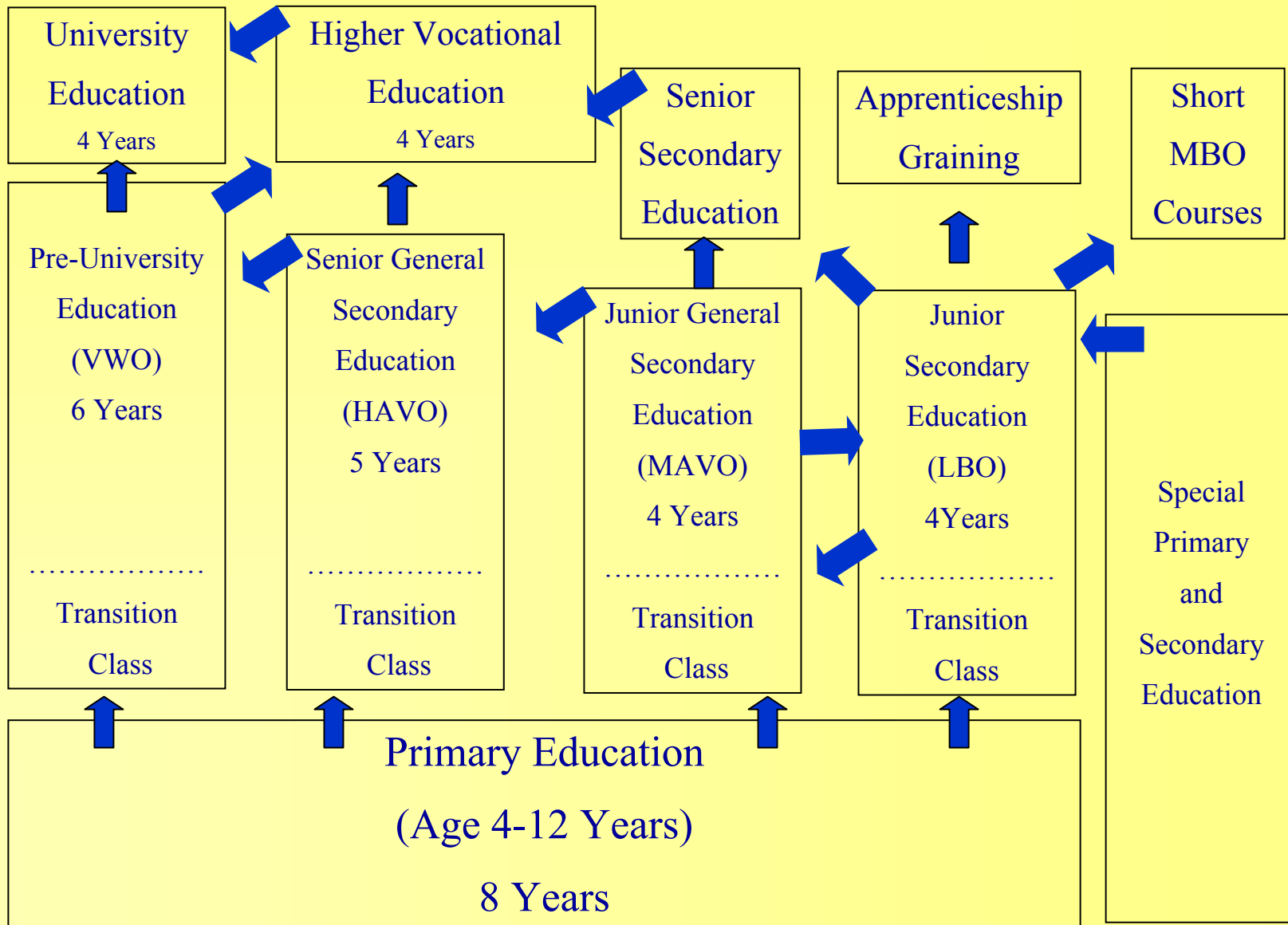
To develop individuals to their fullest potentials

Needs and interest of learners

Curriculum conceptions, purposes of education and primary sources of content (E.J. Sowell (1996). Curriculum – An Integrative Introduction. Egglewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, p. 41)

Organizational Frame

-the school system-





Policy for the Gifted in Europe

- 1991 Council of Europe; Center for the Study of Giftedness
Educational Research Workshop On Gifted Children and Adolescents in Europe; Nijmegen
23-26 July 1991
- 1992 “Education of the Gifted in Europe: Theoretical and Research Issues”
(F. Mönks, M. Katzko & H. v. Boxtel)
- 1994 Recommendation “1248”
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
on Education for Gifted Children
- 2003 “Gifted Education in Schools: An Inventory of 21 European countries”
(F. Mönks, W. Peters & R. Pflüger)

Policy for the Gifted in Europe

2003 “Gifted Education in Schools: An Inventory of 21 European countries”

(F. Mönks, W. Peters & R. Pflüger)

2003 Recommendation “1248”

Written request for the Parliamentary Assembly

(Member from Spain: Varela i Serrra)

2004 European Seminar: Donaueschingen, 15 – 19. Nov 2004
Substantial progress of gifted education

2005 Report: “Gifted Education in 21 European Schools - Inventory and Perspective”

(F. Mönks & R. Pflüger)

Gifted in Europe






















Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries

Country

Austria	
Belgium	
Switzerland	
Germany	
Denmark	
Finland	
France	
Greece	
Spain	
Hungary	
Ireland	
Italy	
Luxembourg	
Latvia	
The Netherlands	
Poland	
Portugal	
Romania	
Sweden	
Slovenia	
United Kingdom	



Country		Total Population (Million; 2001)
Austria		8.1
Belgium		10.3
Switzerland		7.2
Germany		82.0
Denmark		5.3
Finland		5.2
Greece		10.6
Spain		39.9
Hungary		9.9
Ireland		3.8
Italy		57.5
Luxembourg		0.5
Latvia		2.4
The Netherlands		15.9
Poland		38.6
Portugal		10.00
Romania		22.4
Sweden		8.8
Slovenia		2.0
United		59.5

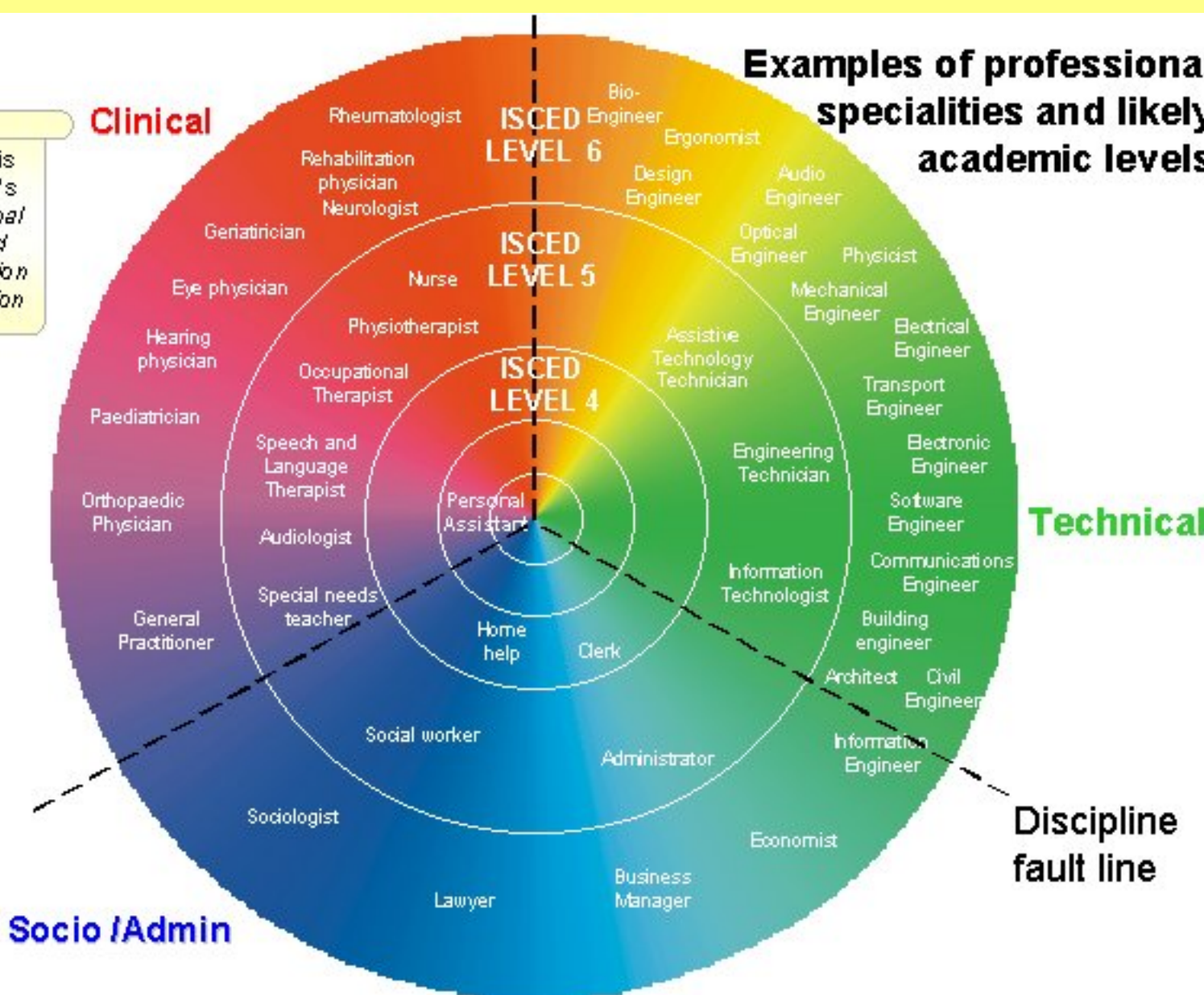
Total Population (Million; 2001)	
21 EU Countries	459.4
USA	285.9

Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97)

Examples of professional specialities and likely academic levels

"ISCED" is UNESCO's *International Standard Classification of Education*



Technical

Socio /Admin

Discipline fault line

Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries

- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)

- Level 0: Pre-primary education
- Level 1: Primary education or first stage of basic education
- Level 2: Lower secondary or second stage of basic education
- Level 3: Upper secondary education

Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)

- Questionnaire with 6 main topics
 1. School legislation, regulations and guidelines
 2. Specific provisions
 3. Identification criteria
 4. Teacher training and/ or teacher upgrading and networks of experience exchange
 5. Research and professional care and counseling
 6. Priorities and expectations

Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)
- Questionnaire with 6 main topics

Educational Research Workshop

‘Education of the Gifted in European Schools’

5 – 9 June 2002

Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)
- Questionnaire with 6 main topics
- Educational Research Workshop (2002)

Final report 2003

Gifted Education in Europe: Inventory and perspective (German)

Schulische Begabtenförderung in Europa: Bestandsaufnahme und Ausblick

Methode

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
 - International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)
 - Questionnaire with 6 main topics
 - Educational Research Workshop (2002)
 - Final report “Gifted Education in Europe: Inventory and Perspective” (2003)
-
- Update of the inventory!
 - Same correspondents
 - Data collection until December 2004

Method






















- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)
- Questionnaire with 6 main topics
- Educational Research Workshop (2002)
- Final report “Gifted Education in Europe: Inventory and Perspective” (2003)
- Update of the inventory (2004)






Report: Gifted Education in 21 European Countries - Inventory and Perspective (2005, English)

Method

- Correspondents of 21 European Countries
- International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (OECD, 2000)
- Questionnaire with 6 main topics
- Educational Research Workshop (2002)
- Final report “Gifted Education in Europe: Inventory and Perspective” (2003)
- Update of the inventory (2004)
- Report: Gifted Education in 21 European Countries: Inventory and Perspective (2005)

Results!

Country	The term 'giftedness' (or a synonym) is explicitly named in the law of the country	Gifted students are recognized as a part of a subgroup (e.g. children with special needs ...)	Guidelines are set by the school inspectorate or other relevant authorities regarding gifted education
Österreich	 ●	-	●
Belgien (Flämisch)	 -	●	●
Schweiz*	 ●	●	●
Deutschland*	 ●	●	●
Dänemark	 -	-	●
Spanien	 ●	●	●
Finnland	 -	-	●
Frankreich	 -	+	●
Griechenland	 +	+	●
Ungarn	 ●	●	●
Irland	 -	●	●
Italien	 -	-	●
Luxemburg	 -	●	●
Lettland	 -	-	●
Niederlande	 -	●	●
Polen	 ●	-	●
Portugal	 - a)	- a)	●
Rumänien	 ●	-	●
Schweden	 -	●	●
Slowenien	 ●	●	●
England	 -	-	●

Country	The term 'giftedness' (or a synonym) is explicitly named in the law of the country	Gifted students are recognized as a part of a subgroup (e.g. children with special needs ...)	Guidelines are set by school inspectorate or other relevant authorities regarding gifted education	
Germany*		●	●	●
Finland		-	-	●
Hungary		●	●	●
Netherlands		-	●	●
United Kingdom		●	●	●

School intern






Acceleration




















- Early entrance
- Skipping classes
- Shared classes with higher grades
- Groupwise acceleration
- Workshops
- Cooperation with companies or non-profit organizations
- Extra - curricular
- Individual mentors
- Self study







Enrichment

School extern

- Competitions
- Psychological counseling
- Summer camps
- Festivals
- Exhibitions
- Performances/ Shows (artistic, sport...)
- Following courses at ISCED level 4-6
- Special schools

Specific provisions	ISCED Niveau	Deutschland* 	Finnland 	Spanien 	Luxemburg 	England 
Early entrance	0		•			•
	1	•	•	•	•	•
	2		•	•	•	•
	3		•	•	•	•
Skipping classes	0		•		•	
	1	•	•	•	•	•
	2	•	•	•	•	•
	3	•	•		•	•
Shared classes with higher grades	0		•		•	
	1	•	•		•	•
	2	•	•		•	•
	3	•	•		•	•
Groupwise acceleration	0		•			
	1	•	•		+	
	2	•	•		+	
	3	•	•		+	

Criteria																						
School grades	•		•	•					•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
School external achievement (Competitions...)	•			•					•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Achievement tests	•		•	•							•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Psychological Assessment	•	•	•	•		•		•		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Observation lists/ Checklists	+		•		+								+	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Teacher nomination	•		•		+			•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Parents nomination			•	•	+			•	•		•	•		•	•	+	+	0	+	•	•	•
Expert	•	•	•	•	+			•	•	•	•		•		•	•			+	•	•	•
Recommendation of third party	•		+	•	+			•			•				•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Self nomination	•		+	•		•			•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•
Institution specific criteria	+	•		•			•		•		•			•	•	•	•	•	•			•

Criteria	Germany*	Finland	Netherlands	Poland	Slovenia	United Kingdom
						
School grades	•		•	•	•	•
School external achievement (Competitions...)	•			•	•	•
Achievement tests	•		•	•	•	•
Psychological Assessment	•		•	•	•	•
Observation lists/ Checklists			•	•	•	•
Teacher nomination	•		•		•	•
Parents nomination	•		•	+	•	
Expert	•		•	•	•	•
Recommendation of third party (art teacher; trainer...)	•	•	•	•		•
Self nomination	•	•	•	•		•

Teacher training

Initial teacher training

Retraining and further education of teachers

Training of experts as psychologists, educators...



ECHA-Diploma (European Council for High Ability)

	Österreich	Belgien (Flämisch)	Schweiz*	Deutschland*	Dänemark	Spanien	Finnland	Frankreich	Griechenland	Ungarn	Irland	Italien	Luxemburg	Lettland	Niederlande	Polen	Portugal	Rumänien	Schweden	Slovenien	England
0			+							•			+							•	•
1	•		+	•		•				•			•		•			•	•	•	•
2	•		+	•		•				•			•		•			•	+	•	•
3	•		+	•		•				•			•		•			•	+	•	•
0	+		•	•			•			•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
1	+	•	•	•		•	•	•		•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2	+		•	•		•	•	•		•	•		•	•	•	•	+	•	+	•	•
3	+		•	•		•	•	•		•	•		•	•	•	•	+	•	+	•	•
0			•	•						•					•						
1	•		•	•		•				•					•						
2	•		•	•		•				•					•				+		
3	•		•	•		•				•					•						

Teacher training	ISCED Level	Austria	Switzerland*	Germany*	Denmark	Finland	Hungary	Italy	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Slovenia	United Kingdom
Initial teacher training	0		+				.		+		.	.
	1	.	+	.			.		.	.	.	.
	2	.	+	.			.		.	.	.	.
Retraining and further education of teachers	3	.	+	.			.		.	.	.	.
	0	+	.	.		.	.		.	.	.	.
	1	+	.	.		.	.		.	.	.	.
	2	+	.	.		.	.		.	.	.	.
Training of experts as psychologists, educators...	3	+	.	.		.	.		.	.	.	.
	0	+	.				.		.		.	.
	1	+	.				.		.	.	.	.
ECHA-Diploma (European Council for High Ability)	2	+	.				.		.	.	.	.
	3	+	.				.		.	.	.	.
	0		.	.			.			.
	1	.	.	.			.			.
	2	.	.	.			.			.
	3	.	.	.			.			.

Topics	Austria	Belgium (Flemish)	Switzerland*	Germany*	Denmark	Spain	Finland	France	Greece	Hungary	Ireland	Italy	Luxembourg	Lietvia	Netherlands	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Sweden	Slovenia	United Kingdom	Total
<u>School Legislation, Regulations and Guidelines</u>																						
Recognition of Gifted Students and their neediness by law	●	●		●	●		●	+	●		●		●	●		●		●	+			13
Giftedness as a topic in initial teacher training	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	19
<u>Initial Teacher Training, Retraining and further Education</u>																						
Initial teacher training and retraining in gifted education			●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●		●	16

EU-weather conditions 03

Austria		
Belgium		
Switzerland		
Germany		
Denmark		
Finland		
France		
Greece		
Spain		
Hungary		
Ireland		
Italy		
Luxembourg		
Latvia		
The Netherlands		
Poland		
Portugal		
Romania		
Sweden		
Slovenia		
United Kingdom		



EU-weather conditions 04

Austria		
Belgium		
Switzerland		
Germany		
Denmark		
Finland		
France		
Greece		
Spain		
Hungary		
Ireland		
Italy		
Luxemburg		
Latvia		
The Netherlands		
Poland		
Portugal		
Romania		
Sweden		
Slovenia		
United Kingdom		



Gifted Education in European Schools

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An Inventory of 21 European Countries



Franz Mönks
Robin Pflüger

Thank you ☺