

Erasmus mobility - in what ways has the pandemic affected different age groups

University of Education Salzburg

Prof. Mag. Dr. Hilde Kletzl



My background

- Initial Trainings for Mathematics teachers
- Teacher Trainings for Erasmus visiting Students
- Trainer at the University of Education Salzburg

- Professor at a Technical College of upper sec. Education HTBLuVA Salzburg

- I work in two sectors with different age groups – teenagers, young adults and adults



What happened to university students and their mobility?

Spring 2021 – Erasmus students had already arrived, they completed their studies online, they also received their funds, as they had started the semester on the spot


Winter 2020 was close to a complete stop of all exchange programmes

- The University of Pedagogy supported the Erasmus programme – for instance accepted smaller groups in teaching
- extremely low numbers in incoming and outgoing students
- Difficulties for students: Lodgings, flights, quarantines




Outlook - Universities

- Spring 2021 – picking up again
- Many did not want to miss opportunity
- Winter 2021 looking good again
- Students can get a vaccination – makes travelling possible, some are catching up
- Brexit – no Erasmus funds, Visa necessary



School – what happened to their mobilities

- Summer 2020 and 2021 put a complete hold on them
- Upper secondary schools are restarting again but they make a vaccination a prerogative
- Problem – partnerships have been lost
- The financial support is slimmer than for universities
- Schools cannot work with smaller numbers that push costs up

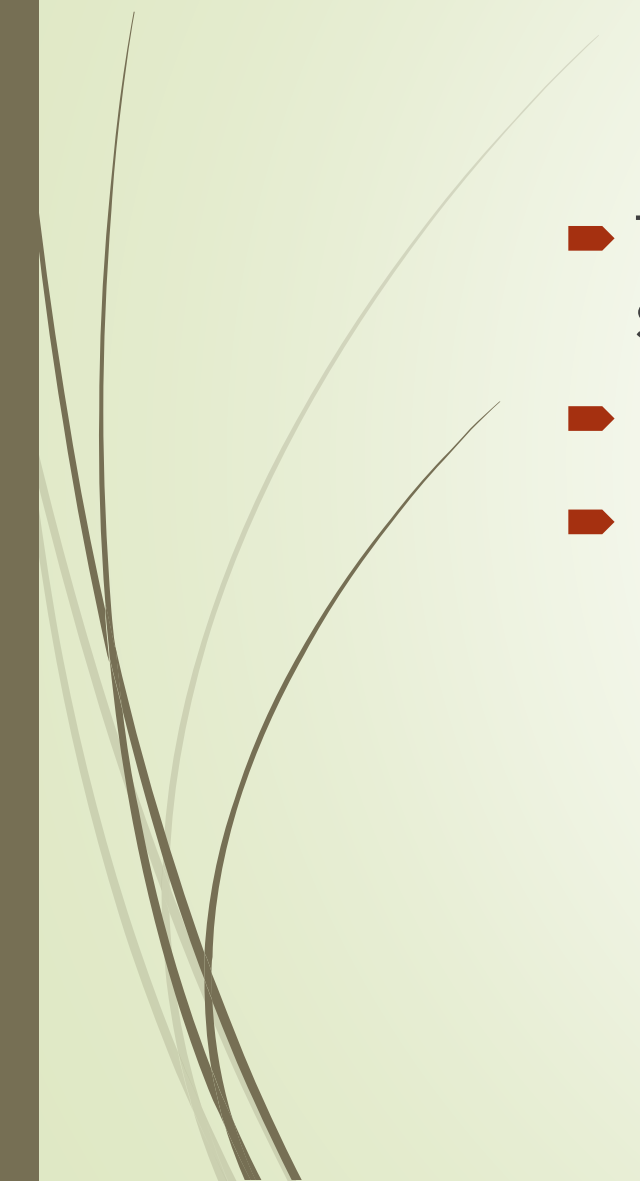


Outlook - Schools

- Schools have been most affected as many exchanges are short term
- 1 week, 2 weeks, 4 weeks exchanges were most affected by travel restrictions – quarantines „pay off“ for long term stays – for instance a university semester etc.
- The school programmes are gradually coming back but there is a lot of red tape and this varies from country to country



Further Effects on Schools

- Teaching assistants were not available for language support
 - Brexit has made it hard to find English assistants
 - US has many travel restrictions
- 



General Outlook

- Exchanges are worth the hassle
- Erasmus support and funding is there which is a good indication that also schools will restart exchanges
- Thank you for your time!

- Hilde Kletzl, University of Pedagogy Salzburg, Austria