

The Situation of Inclusive Education in Europe



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Inclusion Europe

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Introduction

4 questions:

- 1) What do we mean by 'inclusive education'?
- 2) Where have we progressed and where are we lagging behind?
- 3) What are the remaining challenges?
- 4) What is the way forward to realise inclusive education in Europe?

1. Inclusive Education

What do we mean by 'inclusive education'?

1. Inclusive Education

There is no full answer to the question
...

It is **not**:

- Segregation
- Integration

1. Inclusive Education

It is not a destination but a **process!**

1. Inclusive Education

Inclusive education:

- Recognises human diversity
- Is a 'change of culture'

1. Inclusive Education

The **real** question is:

What do we expect from education?

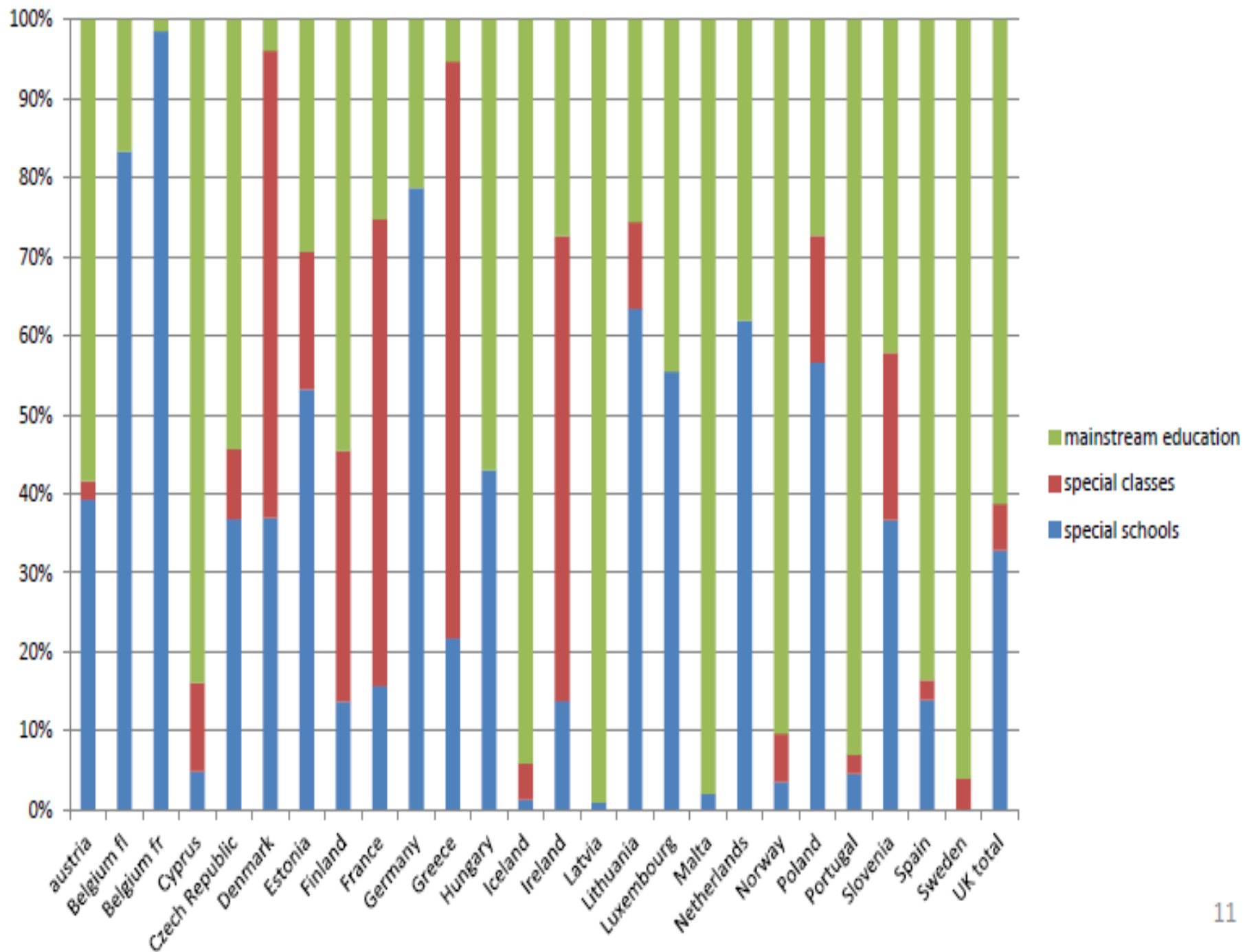
2. Situation in Europe

*Where have we progressed
and where are we lagging
behind?*

2. Situation in Europe

Different paths:

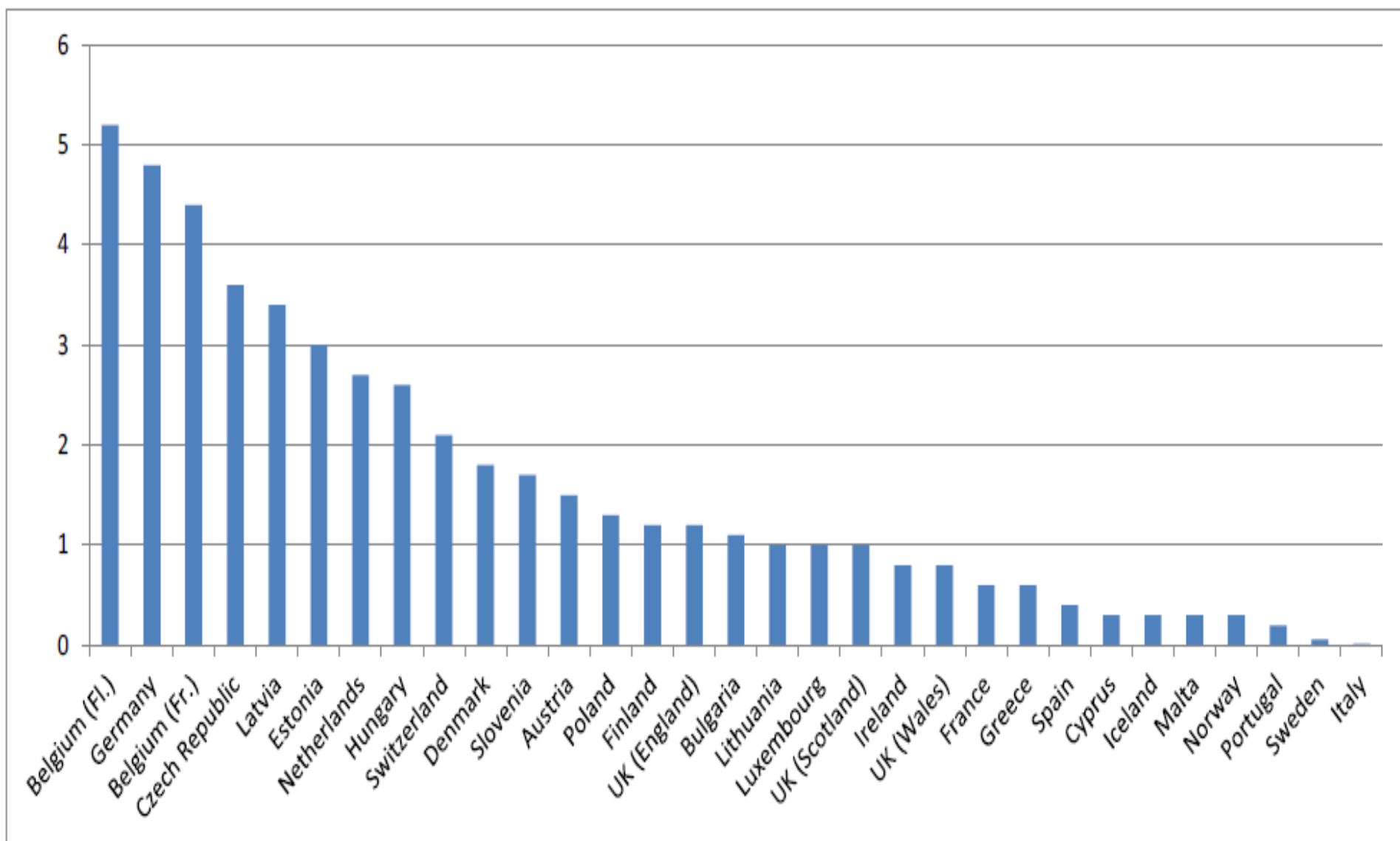
- Enrolment in mainstream schools
- Special classes in regular schools
- Enrolment in special schools
- Special schools turned into resource centres in regular schools
- Mix



2. Situation in Europe

Evidence shows there is an **increase** in the numbers of disabled children in regular schools

Figure 2: Number of pupils in segregated special schools as a percentage of total pupil population in selected European countries



2. Situation in Europe

However:

- Historial developments
- Not a question of numbers

2. Situation in Europe

We have to look behind the numbers.

2. Situation in Europe

Overrepresentation (in special schools):

- Cognitive disabilities
- Children from migrant families

2. Situation in Europe

Progress has been made mainly in terms of legislation.

What about **practice**?

2. Situation in Europe

The CRPD Committee has expressed its concern about the absence of measures to realise the right to inclusive education.

3. Challenges

What are the remaining challenges?

3. Challenges

Accessibility:

- Buildings
- Infrastructure
- Transport

3. Challenges

Support measures:

- Personal assistance
- Equipment
- Teacher support

3. Challenges

Teacher education:

- Core training
- Continuing education

3. Challenges

Social attitude:

- Promotion
- 'Anti-bullying' strategies

4. Way Forward

What is the way forward to realise inclusive education in Europe?

4. Way Forward

Comprehensive approach:

- Coordination
- Monitoring
- Participation

4. Way Forward

“It does not matter how slowly you go
as long as you do not stop”
(Confucius)

4. Way Forward

Thank you for your attention!

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