



Switzerland Case as an Example of Success in Multicultural Education

Dear Readers,

Switzerland has a population of about 8.5 million and the country consists of 26 cantons. Neighbouring Germany, France, Italy, Austria and Liechtenstein, Switzerland embraces different cultures with the diversity of its geography. These cultures significantly affect the country's languages and culture. Switzerland has four official languages. German, French, Italian and a little Romani are spoken in the country. Cultural diversity is clearly visible in literature, art, architecture, music etc. Cultural diversity among cantons (such as speaking different languages) and the different requirements of rural areas and cities have revealed different school structures.

You can easily see different cultural items on the streets. Immigrants from many parts of the world and dozens of different countries have created the mosaic of life.

Students from different cultures can attend native language and culture courses from the first year to the ninth academic year. Efforts are made to harmonize children who speak different languages. Adequate command of the mother tongue is seen as an important basic factor in learning other languages. For this reason, these courses are supported and the facilities of schools are used. These courses are held in the classrooms of the schools apart from class hours and the course schedules are arranged so that students can attend the course.

Teachers are asked to know more or less about the culture of all students in their class. There are special “harmony classes” that teach students to live smoothly, regardless of language, religion and culture. Students of different ages can attend these classes. There is also an hour of “classroom lesson” per week in schools, where teachers and students discuss their thoughts or do something common.

Children and young people in different conditions go to schools. Cultures and social environments of these children are diverse and each of them has different personal abilities. In the education system, it is aimed to give children the right to equal education, to develop their talents and to increase their success. Schools support different abilities based on achievement that emphasizes individual differences and offer personalized opportunities.

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Summer University 2020 at the Institute of Federalism

There are successful practices related to multicultural education in universities. One of them is the Fribourg University Federalism Institute. The Institute of Federalism has an extensive program of [guest researchers](#) and it is open to researchers from all over the world. Guest researchers can benefit from the specialist library and expert academics. The Federalism Institute also organizes a [summer university](#) where participants from all over the world are selected each time. The summer university is a platform for learning, information exchange and broadening the horizon. The Institute of Federalism successfully provides researchers and participants from different cultures with opportunities to research and receive education together.

Sincerely,

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