Hearing Right to Education: Freedom of Parental Choice

Preventing radicalization through education

European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
26 January 2016
A map of diversity: summary

- Children & Schools
- Some questions: philosophy and law
- Different arrangements: diversity
How many children?
Children in the EU

- Figures for 2014 suggest that there were just under 507 million inhabitants in the EU-28. Of these, 79 million were children (aged 0–14), which was 10 million fewer than the number of young people (aged 15–29). As such, one third of the EU-28’s population - almost 170 million inhabitants - were under the age of 30 in 2014, with children accounting for a 15.6 % share of the EU-28’s population and young people for a slightly higher share, 17.7 %.

Children & Schools
ISCED 02 (pre-primary)

- Ireland 98,3, %
- Germany 65,3%
- UK 52,9%
- Czech Republic 2,4%
- Lithuania 1,9%
- Bulgaria 1%
Children & Schools

ISCED 1 (primary)

- The Netherlands 68,\%
- Belgium 54,3\%
- Malta 42,6\%
- Slovenia 0,6\%
- Romania 0,6\%
- Croatia 0,4\%
Children & Schools

ISCED 2 (lower secondary)

- The Netherlands 79.3%
- Belgium 60.6%
- UK 45.2%

- Romania 0.3%
- Croatia 0.2%
- Slovenia 0.2%
Children & Schools

ISCED 3 (secondary)

- The Netherlands 79.3%
- UK 74%
- Belgium 58.9%
- Romania 2.2%
- Ireland 1.6%
- Lithuania 1.1%
Freedom of parents
The right to establish schools
Public accountability
Freedom of parental choice

COUNCIL OF EUROPE
Article 2
Right to education

No person shall be denied the right to education. In the exercise of any functions which it assumes in relation to education and to teaching, the State shall respect the right of parents to choose such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.

http://www.edr-coe.int/Documents/Convention_ENG.pdf

Prerequisite for the right to education

Convictions
Philosophy
Religion
The right to establish a school

- curriculum
- pedagogy
- ethos

- funding
- headmaster
- teachers
- facilities buildings
Autonomy and accountability

School autonomy and accountability go together
Different arrangements
“what the arrangements for the provision of schooling tell us about how each country conceives the role of the State and Society in Educating the young and thus is shaping the future.”

Glenn, 2011 p.ix
What diversity
Thank you

www.ecnais.org
Sources and resources

• Eurydice

• European Union
  http://europa.eu/
  https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union

• Data
  http://www.pordata.pt/en/
  http://data.uis.unesco.org/

Experts studying Educational systems and comparing
  Charles Glenn (Boston University)
  Jan De Groof (University of Antwerp)

Last but not least:
  www.ecnais.org