MOOC and student mobility

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“Profile” of a mobile student

Any ideas?
a female
21-26 years old
Bachelor’s in Business and management studies
Privileged socio-economic group
ERASMUS+ student going to Italy coming from Spain
Academic background
Some numbers

65% of mobile students are female
80% of mobile students are in the age group 21-26
55% are studying in their 1st cycles
21% are studying business-related programmes
47% come from non-academic background
the majority comes from privileged socio-economic background
most of them are involved in ERASMUS+ programmes
State of art

- Participation in mobility does not reflect diversity of student population.
- Mobility does not constitute a real opportunity for all.
- Current situation causes imbalances in mobility flows, which add to brain drain and brain gain.
- Although countries show interest and take up initiatives to increase the number of mobile students they rarely take a look at the backgrounds of mobile students.
- Accessibility is also an important topic regarding mobility.
So can digitalisation and e-learning help?

Objective - what do we want to achieve?

Participation of diverse students in HE and in mobility - first we should be asking why some groups of students are not mobile

Diversification of learning methods - Student centred learning
Support and interaction in e-learning

Why drop-out rates are that high?

Important to remain trustful and critical dialogue between students and teachers
Further Challenges

- Expansion of funding gap and shift of public funding schemes to private ones
- Physical mobility and sufficient funding for it
- Broader approach to digitalisation and use of digital tools
- Breaking division between 2 classes of education - physical and virtual
Further Challenges

Online courses that are part of the curriculum in university vs openly accessible:

- Quality assurance
- Recognition
- Perception of 2nd class education
Conclusions

E-learning can support mobility and access to education, but it requires a lot of work and resources!
Clear quality assurance procedures need to be in place in order to foster the recognition of e-learning and help preventing a two class education system.
Foster use of blended learning, use e-learning as a complement in diverse forms and not only in order to totally replace the face-to-face education.
Support teachers through trainings in e-learning – especially regarding the accessibility of it. Students shall be trained in the use of e-learning as well.
Thank you!

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