How the 2011 Tokyo Convention Helps Students in Asia-Pacific

Student Mobility Trends in Asia-Pacific

- Between 1999 & 2013, Asia-Pacific’s global share of inbound mobile students grew by 164%.
- Intraregional student mobility is obstructed by a lack of trust, mutual understanding, and transparent assessment criteria.

What is the 2011 Tokyo Convention?

- The 2011 Tokyo Convention sets transparent, fair, and shared norms for qualifications assessments in Asia-Pacific.
- The Convention’s standards encourage student mobility through trust, mutual understanding, and information sharing.

Who ratified the Convention?

- As of January 2017, three Member States have ratified the 2011 Tokyo Convention.
- We need a total of five ratifications before the Convention comes into force.
- Ratified

What are the benefits of ratifying the 2011 Tokyo Convention?

Benefits for Member States

- Ratification shows commitment to improved mobility, employability, and collaboration in Asia-Pacific.
- Ratification aligns Member States with a strategy for improved information sharing, qualifications recognition, and quality assurance measures.
- Ratification encourages fair and transparent recognition so that all Member States can benefit from qualified students and labour and improved economic productivity.

Benefits for Students

- The Convention’s shared standards help students navigate our region’s diverse education systems.
- The Convention’s information sharing strategy helps assessments remain fair and transparent for all students.
- The Convention supports a student’s right to appeal a denied assessment, which assures fairness and fights discrimination.

What is the implementation status of the 2011 Tokyo Convention in Asia-Pacific?

- Is your higher education system’s information online? 10 Yes, 26 No
- Do you have a national information center? 23 Yes, 13 No
- Is assessment criteria published online? 14 Yes, 22 No
- Can students appeal a denied assessment decision? 7 Yes, 25 No
- Is information about appeals online? 27 Yes, 9 No

Results from Country Reports submitted to the 14th Session of the Regional Committee.

How do UNESCO’s Five Areas of Work support ratification of the Convention?

- Raise Awareness of the Convention’s benefits through supporting visibility & information sharing.
- Implement technical support, capacity building & resource mobilisation towards ratification.
- Monitor implementation procedures & challenges faced by Member States.
- Share opportunities for regional knowledge sharing, networking, & peer learning.
- Provide country-relevant technical support workshops & expertise.

Contact UNESCO for next steps towards ratification

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