

Policy Research Alert

FROM FLASH-IT, A DISSEMINATION PROJECT RELATING EUROPEAN POLICY PRIORITIES TO EU-FUNDED RESEARCH IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

POLICY RESEARCH ALERT N° 3
AUGUST 2012

Handbook on cultural diversity offers guidance for inclusive societies

A new publication on cultural diversity offers vital orientation for teachers and students coping with an increasingly pluralistic Europe. Resulting from the EU-funded ACCEPT PLURALISM project, the *Handbook on Tolerance and Cultural Diversity in Europe* is designed to serve the needs of high school and university students as well as teacher trainers. The publication is being translated into multiple languages and has been adopted worldwide by the teacher-training programme of The International Baccalaureate Programme.

Explaining essential terminology used in diversity discourse, the 56-page booklet casts light on a range of sensitive issues. Frequently confused terms such as *racism*, *xenophobia* and *ethnic prejudice* are defined and applied in context. Normative concepts such as *multiculturalism* and *inter-culturalism* are also explained, providing helpful reference points for untangling complex discussions about integration.

Alongside its many helpful definitions, the handbook includes statistical information on native minorities and migrant populations in 14 European Union Member States plus Turkey. It also provides capsule summaries of case studies, describing how diversity conflicts have been handled in different cultural settings, especially in schools. Topics of contentious public debate - such as those involving religious symbols and apparel - are carefully explored.

While emphasising human rights and democratic principles throughout, the handbook also recognises the need to develop context-specific solutions. Centred on the priorities of social cohesion and inclusive growth, the publication offers a constructive approach to co-existence of different ethnic and religious traditions in Europe.

Written by Anna Triandafyllidou (the scientific coordinator of the ACCEPT PLURALISM project), The Handbook on Tolerance and Cultural Diversity in Europe is published by the European University Institute. If you would like to read the handbook in electronic form, click [here](#). Find out more about the ACCEPT PLURALISM Project at www.accept-pluralism.eu.

You have received this message because you are a valued member of the international research/policymaking community. If you prefer not to receive future issues of the FLASH-IT Policy Research Alert, please send a message to flash-it@apre.it

To access more resources on policy-relevant SSH research, please register to the FLASH-IT website: <http://flash-it.eu/register>. The views expressed in this Policy Research Alert do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission. FLASH-IT has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) under grant agreement number 290431.