

Voices of International Students at ASH

ABSTRACT

This report presents the outcomes of a human rights praxis project undertaken at Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin (ASH) from July 2022 to July 2023. The project, "Voices of International Students at ASH," aimed to document and improve the experiences of international students studying a full degree program at ASH. The theoretical framework included the following key concepts: internationalization, acculturation, integration, inclusion, participation, and a human rights perspective. The research phase identified various institutional barriers faced by international students, such as language issues, limited support, and lack of inclusion and participation opportunities. Through advocacy efforts, the project increased the visibility of these challenges and initiated discussions with stakeholders, leading to positive outcomes such as the allocation of a budget for translation and the creation of the International Student Initiative (ISI). While progress has been made, the report emphasizes the need for continued advocacy to implement crucial changes, including an internationalization audit and signing the National Code of Conduct for German Universities regarding International Students. The project exemplifies the importance of using a human rights perspective and participatory approach to foster inclusivity and social support within higher education institutions.

Key words:

Human Rights, Social Work, International Students, Higher Education, Acculturation, Inclusion, Participation, Internationalization, Advocacy, Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR)