



Resolution on Discontinuation of the Quota Scheme

The Quota Scheme Program

- The Quota Scheme is a funding program by the Norwegian Government that gives students from developing countries and countries in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia the opportunity to study in Norway.
- The objective of the program is to provide an education that will benefit the students' home countries when they return. It also promotes the internationalization of higher education in Norway.
- The scheme provides funding for 1,100 students and places are filled each year. Higher education institutions in Norway are responsible for the selection and admission of students, and the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund is responsible for the funding.
- Students in the Quota Scheme range from Bachelor's, Master's and PhD levels, with a duration of stay in Norway usually around one year minimum to four years in total.
- The funding is given to the students on an approximate scale to the Lånekassen that Norwegians receive while they study.
- The program is split with 800 students from developing countries and 300 from Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Quota Scheme Discontinuation

- In the 2016 State Budget, the government chose to discontinue the program and divert an immediate NOK 18 million towards two new programs.
- The first program is the 'Panorama' strategy with the BRICS countries where there will be increased interaction between higher education cooperation and cooperation in research, strong links to employment and business, upward student mobility, and bilateral and multilateral cooperation in education and research will be prioritized.
- The second is a program that encourages academic cooperation and student mobility. This program will be significantly different than the Quota Scheme in that mutual mobility between Norwegian universities and Global South universities is desired, but will not be a required. The program will also focus on short-term exchanges rather than full degree programs.

ISU Believes

- It can be confidently assessed that without the Quota Scheme funding, the amount of students fully enrolled in institutions of higher education in Norway will significantly decrease due to the high requirements of attaining a study permit for citizens from outside the EU/EEA (Over NOK 100,000 needed per year).
- Without the Quota Scheme, only students that have the wealth to study in Norway will be enrolled in full degrees, creating a lack of presence of students from lower-income families. This creates a form of selective internationalization that doesn't include all view points.
- The new programs are favorable and positive developments for academia, both in Norway and abroad. However, they should have full degrees included in the programs so students from developing countries are able to have an opportunity to take a full degree in Norway.