

# Citizens' summary

## EU Communication on the future of vocational education and training

### WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

Vocational education and training in Europe needs to be modernised to make it a more attractive and high-quality learning option, providing:

- young people with the right skills to find a suitable job and
- adults with an opportunity to update skills they will need throughout their working life.

### WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

With this proposal the Commission is mapping out responses to challenges for vocational education and training over the next 10 years. It outlines possible ways to:

- give people opportunities to learn at any stage in life (lifelong learning)
- make it easier to gain experience abroad during vocational education/training
- improve the quality of vocational education/training, making sure it gives learners the right skills for specific jobs
- make vocational education/training more inclusive, and accessible to disadvantaged people in our societies
- nurture creative, innovative and entrepreneurial thinking in students

### WHO WOULD BENEFIT AND HOW?

- Individual trainees, apprentices and students would obtain the skills they need on the labour market
- Employers would find it easier to recruit staff
- Governments would see fewer mismatches between skills and job vacancies on the labour market.

### WHY DOES ACTION HAVE TO BE TAKEN BY THE EU?

In Europe, systems of vocational education and training differ from country to country, but they share certain weaknesses. Collaborating at European level can be an effective way for countries to solve problems together.

The EU can make it easier for people to move between different countries, sectors and jobs by ensuring that their knowledge, skills and qualifications are recognised when they make a move.

### WHEN IS THE PROPOSAL LIKELY TO TAKE EFFECT?

The Commission's proposal is a contribution to a new 10-year programme of reforms in vocational education/training, which EU ministers are expected to agree on in December 2010.

| <b>Data for search engines</b>   |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Title tag</b>                 | EU – future of vocational education and training in Europe 2010-2020   |
| <b>Description</b>               | Summary – agenda for modern, high-quality vocational education / training matching skills to needs of EU job market. |
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