



## Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture

The Commission's Contribution to the Leaders' Working Lunch  
Gothenburg, 17 November 2017

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## INNOVATION AND DIGITAL IN EDUCATION

### WHAT EXISTS TODAY

<b>44%</b> 	<b>90%</b> 	<b>40%</b> 	<b>65%</b> 
of Europeans <b>do not have basic digital skills</b> (169 million Europeans between 16 and 74 years — 44% — do not have sufficient digital skills; the greatest lack is in Bulgaria — 74% — and the smallest in Luxembourg — 14%)	of <b>jobs</b> in the future will require some level of <b>digital skills</b>	of European businesses seeking to <b>recruit ICT specialists</b> struggle finding them	of children entering primary school will find themselves in <b>occupations that do not exist today</b>

- ▶ December 2016: launch of the **Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition** to train people in digital skills. To date, **7 million training sessions** have been delivered in all EU countries thanks to the Coalition and its 282 members (companies, non-profit organisations, educational providers, social partners and Member States).
- ▶ **EU Code Week** is an awareness-raising campaign that encourages people to develop computer apps or hardware or to program robots. The EU Code Week involved millions of people across the EU and celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2017.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

- ▶ **18 Member States have adopted digital skills strategies aimed at enhancing digital literacy and skills or are in the process of doing so:** Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and the United Kingdom
- ▶ The **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions** support the mobility, training and career development of leading researchers in Europe and beyond. Over the past 20 years, they have supported 100,000 researchers with a budget of EUR 14 billion (1984-2020). These actions helped build a highly skilled generation of researchers who have contributed and continue to contribute to major scientific discoveries such as the Higgs boson at CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research) and the detection of gravitational waves (nine Nobel Prize winners are associated with the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions).

## CHALLENGES



Links between education, research, innovation and business remain underdeveloped



School systems take too long to react to new, innovative approaches

## WHAT CAN BE DONE IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS?

⚙️ **January 2018: developing a Digital Education Action Plan** with concrete measures:

- ▶ **Boost media literacy** through the upcoming Key Competences Recommendation for Lifelong Learning (January 2018).
- ▶ Increase **blended learning** combining mobility and online cooperation (eTwinning).
- ▶ **Strengthen the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition** by boosting the number of training courses.
- ▶ **EU Code Week**: reaching out to more schools and young people with a target of at least 50% of schools participating by 2020.
- ▶ **Launch in 2018 of the 'Digital Opportunity scheme'**, a voucher-based system worth a total of EUR 10 million offering cross-border traineeships to students and recent graduates to develop their digital skills.
- ▶ **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions**: increasing the level of participation of researchers from all Member States.

## POSSIBLE INITIATIVES WITH A 2025 PERSPECTIVE

- ▶ **Mainstream innovation and digital** in all learning contexts.
- ▶ **Personalised digital education for all in every Member State**: acquisition of skills through a tailored learning experience for all individuals.
- ▶ **EU scholarships for master's programmes in computing**: aiming at increasing the number of specialists in cybersecurity, big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning; earmarking some of these scholarships for women.
- ▶ **High connectivity for schools in the EU**: all schools should have ultra-fast broadband access.

*The political ambition would need to be aligned with the means to act and reflected in the future discussions on EU finances.*