



TOWARDS A SKILLS REVOLUTION
Results of the European Year of Skills

**EUROPEAN
YEAR OF
SKILLS** 1

1. EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS: CONTEXT



Skills shortages as a *challenge* and skilled workforce as an *enabler*



42
occupations
were classified
as shortages in
2023



74% of
SMEs reported
that they
face skills
shortages in 2023



adult learning
remains low -
with a participation
rate of around
39,5%



over 90% of jobs require
digital skills, however **54%**
of the adult population
in Europe has
basic digital skills



European Pillar of Social Rights

(2021 → 2030)

At least: **78%** of the population aged 20 to 64 should be in employment by 2030
Current level: 73.1% (2019)

60% of all adults should participate in training every year by 2030
Current level: 37.4% (2016)

Reduce by **15 million** the number of people at risk of poverty
or social exclusion by 2030
Current level: 91 million persons (2019)



Why a European Year of Skills?

To further promote a mindset of reskilling and upskilling



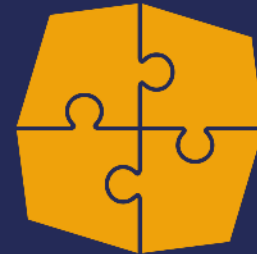
Investment

Increased, more effective and inclusive investment



Skills relevance

Strengthening skills relevance by close cooperation



Matching aspirations

Matching people's aspirations and skills-set with labour market opportunities



Attracting third country talent

Attracting people from third countries with the skills needed



2. EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS: RESULTS



DRIVING SKILLS IN EU POLICY

Skills have been at the centre of EU policies, with over 190 initiatives.

Skills as a strategic asset for EU industrial policy

Green Deal Industrial Plan

A focus on small and medium enterprises

SME Relief Package

Eurobarometer on skills shortages, recruitment and retention strategies in SMEs

Joint action on skills in the EU

Barcelona Joint Tripartite Statement

Action plan on labour and skills shortages in the EU

Skills development in critical technologies

Net-zero skills academies on solar, hydrogen, raw materials and cybersecurity

Digital education and skills package

Supporting job transitions

ESF+ Social Innovation call for proposals for upskilling vulnerable young people

Proposal for a Council Recommendation on a reinforced Quality Framework for Traineeships

ESF+ Social Innovation+ call to address long-term unemployment

Attracting talent

EU Talent Pool

Learning mobility

Recognition of third country nationals qualifications



DELIVERING SKILLS

The **Pact for Skills** has over **2500 members**, and 20 Large-Scale Partnerships in all 14 Industrial Ecosystems. **3.5 million people have taken training courses** set up under the Pact. In the coming years, the aim is to upskill and reskill 25 million people.

15 Member States are using EU funding to develop **Individual Learning Accounts**.

The **European Alliance for Apprenticeships** has reached more than **430 pledges and 40 national commitments**.

There are **53 funded Centres of Vocational Excellence**.

€65 billion EU funding from the European Social Fund+ and the Recovery and Resilience Facility for investment in skills for 2021 - 2027.

Key EU Events
Examples

PUTTING SKILLS CENTRE STAGE

at European, national, regional and local level

Flagship Events



THANKS TO NATIONAL COORDINATORS OF THE YEAR!



European Year of Skills in my country



38 countries appointed a National Coordinator: 27 EU Member States, plus Albania, Georgia, Iceland, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine.



EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS IN NUMBERS

Our messages reached millions of people and businesses all over Europe



2000+
events across
Europe



190
EU led initiatives
on skills



90 million
video views on
YouTube and
Twitch



7 million
readers through
national media
partnership



1.37 million
visitors to 54
events in 23
Member States



41 million
TV viewers
in 5 targeted
countries



69 million
reach on social
media

THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS - CHANGING MINDS*



People who have **seen or heard about European Year of Skills activities and initiatives:**

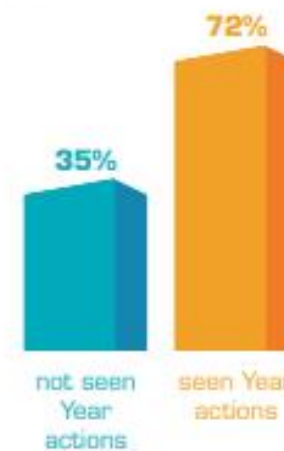
Are more aware of EU skills policies



Are more willing to take a training course



Say that the **Year has an impact on their lives**



* European Year of Skills communication activities survey results (March 2024)

SKILLS CHANGE LIVES

Above all, the European Year of Skills is about empowering people to develop their professional lives. Better skills mean new opportunities, higher quality jobs, and a more competitive European economy. These are some of the people whose lives were changed by the Year.



Read more inspiring stories



Aline Sinzo, Belgium

After a decade in a comfortable job, I decided to change my career path. Learning to code opened doors in the digital sector and boosted my confidence.

Taking the first step was challenging, but it paved the way for progression and I know the best is yet to come.



Barry Williams, Ireland

When my business folded, I had no formal qualifications so I decided to follow a computer course.

As I progressed, I found my calling as a further education teacher and I'm now helping to support adult learners. Imparting knowledge to those who find themselves in a similar position to mine is a truly fulfilling experience.



Sylwia Krębuszewska-Koziel,
Poland

I inherited my business from my great-grandfather. Combining over a hundred years of bakery tradition with modern trends, I focus on always improving my own and my staff's skills. Keeping up to date is key and nourishing my staff's ambitions, curiosity, and hunger for knowledge is very important to me.

WHAT'S NEXT

The future for skills - emerging themes from the year

Empowering everyone to train

Implement Individual Learning Accounts

Strategic dialogue on skills

Give prominence to skills across policies
Promote public-private partnerships

Skills First

Encourage skills-based recruitment, talent management, and skills validation

Attracting International Talent

Promote skills as an investment, not a cost

Explore ways to further incentivise financing of upskilling and reskilling

Strengthening VET for Competitiveness

Promote excellence
More women in VET professions
Integrate AI in training

Help us understand the results of the Year by participating in a brief online survey by 12 June!

