



SKILLS AGENDA for Europe

#EUSkillsAgenda

The **Skills Agenda for Europe**, adopted by the Commission in June 2016, launched 10 actions to help equip people in the European Union with better skills. It calls on Member States and stakeholders to improve the quality of skills and their relevance for the labour market. The **European Pillar of Social Rights** also foresees a right to quality and inclusive education, training and life-long learning.

KEY FACTS

70 million

Europeans lack adequate reading and writing skills

40%

European employers report that they cannot find people with the right skills to grow and innovate

STATE OF PLAY ON THE TEN PRIORITY ACTIONS UNDER THE SKILLS AGENDA FOR EUROPE:



The Upskilling Pathways initiative

- ▶ Council Recommendation adopted in December 2016 to help people acquire basic skills;
- ▶ The Commission is providing support and working with EU countries and other interested parties to implement the initiative;
- ▶ Member States to outline their measures by mid-2018 at the latest. The Commission will provide an overview of those measures by 31 December 2018.



Making vocational education and training (VET) a first choice

The Commission is continuing to work on a set of measures, for example:

- ▶ The European Vocational Skills Week has become a successful annual event, having already been organised twice (2016 and 2017), mobilising more than 1,500 events and activities all over Europe and attracting around 1 million people in 2017. The 2018 Week will take place in Vienna from 5 to 9 November;
- ▶ ErasmusPro, supported by the Erasmus+ programme to boost long duration work-placements abroad for Vocational Education and Training learners and apprentices, is fully operational since 2018 and is expected to provide 50,000 young people with new mobility opportunities over the years 2018-2020;
- ▶ A European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships to increase the employability and personal development of apprentices, which was adopted by the Member States in March 2018;
- ▶ The European Alliance for Apprenticeships has so far mobilised over 700,000 places for young people.



The Key Competences Framework

- ▶ The 2006 Recommendation on Key Competences aims at contributing to the development of quality, future-oriented education and training tailored to the needs of European society. A review is now under way to help more people acquire the core set of skills necessary to work and live in the 21st century.
- ▶ The Commission adopted a proposal for the revision of the Recommendation in January 2018.



The Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

- ▶ Brings Member States, companies, and education providers together to take action and boost digital skills of the wider population beyond IT professionals;
- ▶ 18 national Digital Skills and Jobs Coalitions are already in place;
- ▶ 100 organisations have pledged action towards providing digital skills.



The European Qualifications Framework

- ▶ Council Recommendation adopted in May 2017 in order to make people's skills and qualifications more visible and comparable across Europe;
- ▶ Helps employers to better understand foreign qualifications.



The Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals

- ▶ Multilingual Online Tool launched in June 2017;
- ▶ Helps national authorities identify the skills of non-EU migrants;
- ▶ Eases migrants' path to work or education, and ultimately, integration;
- ▶ Available in all EU languages and in Arabic, Farsi, Pashto, Sorani, Somali, Tigrinya and Turkish.



The Europass Framework

- ▶ The Commission's 2016 proposal modernises the Europass CV along with other Europass documents;
- ▶ Designed to offer people better and easier-to-use tools to present their skills;
- ▶ Offers useful real-time information to help with career and learning choices;
- ▶ Adopted by the Council in April 2018.



Analysing brain drain

- ▶ Free movement within Europe creates opportunities but also poses challenges;
- ▶ Some regions lose talent, acting as a drag on their competitiveness;
- ▶ By mid-2018, a dedicated Commission study should shed light on the impact of brain drain in Europe.



The Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills

- ▶ The Blueprint, launched in January 2017, brings together businesses, trade unions, education and training institutions and other stakeholders;
- ▶ Aims to develop skills strategies which meet the needs of specific sectors to grow;
- ▶ Sectors covered so far: automotive, maritime technology, space (geo information), textile, clothing, leather & footwear, tourism, additive manufacturing, construction, maritime shipping, paper-based value chain, renewable energy & green technologies, and the steel industry.



The initiative on graduate tracking

- ▶ Member States agreed on a Recommendation on Graduate Tracking.
- ▶ The goal is to improve understanding of higher education as well as vocational education and training graduates' performance after their education and training experiences.