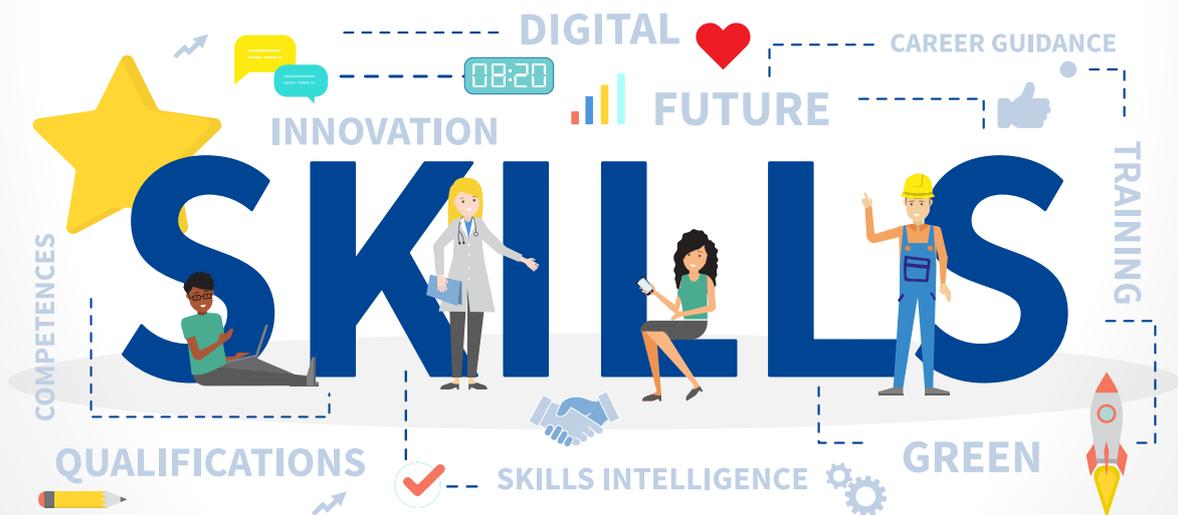




PES Network
Stakeholder conference
**Empowering the Workforce,
Bridging the Skills Gap**

30 March 2023



09:00–09:15

Opening session

- Welcome and introduction by **Jordi Curell**, DG EMPL

09:15–09:30

Scene-setting presentation

- Introduction on the conference topic by **Łukasz Sienkiewicz**, Institute for Labour Market Analysis (IARP) and author of the conference background paper

09:30–10:30

Introductory panel “What skills for Europe’s future labour market?”

Intervening:

- **Johannes Kopf**, Chair of the PES Network
- **Maxime Cerutti**, BusinessEurope
- **Ignacio Doreste**, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
- **Valentina Guerra**, SMEUnited

Followed by Q&A with the audience

10:30–11:00

Coffee break

11:00–12:30

Thematic parallel workshops

The workshops feature PES and stakeholder presentations on current practices and initiatives around skills supply and demand, followed by Q&A with the audience.

Workshop 1: Matching aspirations with labour market opportunities through career guidance

Moderator: **Marjolein Peters**

This workshop focuses on changes in the labour market driven by automation and digitalisation, having a significant impact on career paths with increased numbers of transitions. PES and their stakeholder partners will increasingly need to develop their mediator role to deal with new challenges in this changing environment.

Presenting:

- **Jaana Kettunen**, University of Jyväskylä.
- **Irene Mandl**, European Labour Authority.
- **Belgium-VDAB – Activities around career guidance**. Presented by **Famke Soenen** (PES BE-VDAB) and **Karen Van den Bergh** (Acerta).
- **Netherlands – Service Centres on education and work**. Presented by **Petra Vervoorn** (PES NL).

Workshop 2: Skills intelligence: understanding current and future labour market needs

Moderator: **Ankica Paun**

The workshop deals with how skills intelligence is embedded within the work of PES and the role it plays in understanding current and future labour market needs, including the design of demand-led training programmes.

Presenting:

- **Jasper van Loo**, Cedefop
- **WAPES’ working group approach to skills intelligence**. Presented by **Susanne Kraatz**, World Association of Public Employment Services (WAPES)
- **Greece – “Mechanism for the identification of labour market needs”**. Presented by **Stavros Gavroglou** (Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs), **Aliki Anitsi** (PES EL) and **Vaios Kotsios** (Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs).

Workshop 3: Developing skills for the digital and green transitions

Moderator: **Nicola Duell**

This workshop focuses on how to effectively equip workers and jobseekers with relevant skills through reskilling and upskilling, with a particular focus on those skills that are crucial to support the digital and green transitions.

Presenting:

- **El Iza Mohamedou**, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- **The role of private employment services in bridging the skills gap**. Presented by **Michael Freytag** (WEC-Europe).
- **Lithuania – PES engagement in the Pact for Skills**. Presented by **Inga Balnanosiene** (PES LT).

Workshop 4: Improving skills assessment and labour market integration

Moderator: **Ed Thorpe**

The workshop explores how skills assessment can support labour market integration. There is a particular focus on the importance of recognising the value of skills (and soft skills) and learning developed in non-formal or informal learning.

Presenting:

- **Patrick Werquin**, Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (CNAM)
- **Sweden – “Job matching from day 1”**. Presented by **Ayse Andersson** and **Magnus Rödin**, (PES SE).
- **Spain – “Professional certificates”**. Presented by **Belén Rebollo** (PES ES) and **Inmaculada Villena Cuartero**, Employment Service of Valencia (LABORA).

12:30-14:00

Lunch Break

14:00-15:45

Collaborative parallel workshops

The workshops feature a scene-setting presentation and two sessions of group discussion, focused on future opportunities and challenges for PES and stakeholders on the topic of skills.

Workshop 5: Supporting those most impacted by automation and digitalisation

Moderator: **Ankica Paun**

Supporting expert: **Jaana Kettunen**, University of Jyväskylä

This workshop moves from the expectation that young people and workers with lower levels of qualification are most likely to be displaced by automation. Participants will be asked to reflect on the role of PES in supporting those in employment to navigate changes brought about by automation and navigate more frequent career transitions.

- Scene-setting presentation: **Tadas Leončikas**, EUROFOUND
- PES intervention: **Caroline Mancel**, PES BE-Actiris
- Followed by **group discussion**

Workshop 6: Evolving skills profiles of existing occupations: towards more frequent re-, upskilling and job-to-job transitions

Moderator: **Marjolein Peters**

Supporting expert: **Nicola Duell**, Economix Research & Consulting

Change is likely to result in changes to existing jobs rather than the simultaneous wholesale destruction of old jobs and the creation of new ones. The demand for labour is expected to become increasingly skewed towards relatively high-tech and high-skilled profiles. Participants will be asked to analyse how PES and other stakeholders can join forces to support their customers in navigating these changes.

- Scene-setting presentation: **Jasper van Loo**, Cedefop
- PES intervention: **Yves Magnan** (PES BE-FOREM)
- Followed by **group discussion**

Workshop 7: Partnerships for upskilling and reskilling: an evolving ecosystem

Moderator: **Ed Thorpe**

Supporting expert: **Anette Scoppetta**, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research

Future jobs will require a wide range of skills. PES will need to work together with education institutions and training providers as well as employers and the social partners. In this workshop, participants will be asked to identify ways of ensuring that upskilling and reskilling measures are provided for all those that need them.

- Scene-setting presentation: **Luxembourg – “Skills4Jobs” programme and the value of partnerships**. Presented by **Sophia Cooper** (PES LU).
- Intervention by **Laura Jones**, European Platform for Rehabilitation (EPR)
- Followed by **group discussion**

Workshop 8: Third-country nationals and qualification recognition in Europe

Moderator: **Liat Rogel**

Supporting expert: **Patrick Werquin**, Conservatoire national des arts et métiers (CNAM)

Migrants' entry into the labour force tends to be slower than that of native-born workers. They are also overrepresented in low-skilled work, even when they have similar levels of education and skills as native-born residents. Participants will be asked to assess how PES and their partners can better recognise the qualifications of third-country nationals and provide them with better opportunities.

- Scene-setting presentation: **Eduarda Castel Branco**, European Training Foundation (ETF)
- Followed by **group discussion**

15:45-16:00

Coffee Break

16:00-16:30

Closing session

Supporting experts report back key points from the afternoon workshops, followed by closing speeches.

Intervening:

- **Eamonn Davern**, labour market expert
- **Gelu Calacean**, DG EMPL
- **Spiros Protopsaltis**, First Vice-Chair of the PES Network