

## REFERNET VETNEWS INTERNATIONAL

05/2025

10/04/2025

### Europe

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#### European Commission

Have your say on how the EU budget should support education and training. The EU is gearing up for its next 7-year budget starting in 2028

<https://education.ec.europa.eu/news/have-your-say-on-how-the-eu-budget-should-support-education-and-training>

First EQAVET peer review of 2025 examines Romania's mechanism for the evaluation and monitoring of public policies in initial vocational education and training

[https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/first-eqavet-peer-review-2025-examines-romania-mechanism-evaluation-and-monitoring-public-policies-2025-04-01\\_en](https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/first-eqavet-peer-review-2025-examines-romania-mechanism-evaluation-and-monitoring-public-policies-2025-04-01_en)

#### Cedefop

Cedefop's 50 years of work on comparing and recognising vocational qualifications in Europe  
<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/cedefops-50-years-work-comparing-and-recognising-vocational-qualifications-europe>

Cedefop has launched a new 'information hub on validation of non-formal and informal learning', an interactive tool designed to support policymakers, experts, and stakeholders across Europe.

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/unlocking-skills-empower-people-cedefops-new-info-hub-validation-learning>

Empowering VET teachers: the key to a skilled and inclusive workforce

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/empowering-vet-teachers-key-skilled-and-inclusive-workforce>

Paper: A reflective overview: European vocational education and training reform: The Copenhagen process 2002 to 2024. This paper offers a retrospective and critical look at a process that has shaped European VET policy for over two decades. It provides insights into the evolution and impact of the Copenhagen Process and its role in shaping vocational education and training across Europe.

<https://jovacet.ac.za/index.php/JOVACET/article/view/415>

### European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA)

New EAfA fact sheet on the role of in-company trainers in apprenticeships

[https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-eafa-fact-sheet-role-company-trainers-apprenticeships-2025-04-01\\_en](https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/new-eafa-fact-sheet-role-company-trainers-apprenticeships-2025-04-01_en)

### European Training Foundation

In March 2025, vocational education leaders from across Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Mediterranean converged in Turin for the European Training Foundation's (ETF) Internationalising Vocational Excellence (IntVE) Conference.

[https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/shaping-future-vocational-excellence-intve-conference-2025-2025-04-01\\_en](https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/shaping-future-vocational-excellence-intve-conference-2025-2025-04-01_en)

Ingredients for Success: ETF's Cookbook on Vocational Excellence

[https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/taste-vocational-excellence-culinary-inspired-guide-skills-development-2025-04-01\\_en](https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/taste-vocational-excellence-culinary-inspired-guide-skills-development-2025-04-01_en)

ETF Launches New Certificates to Spotlight VET Innovators

[https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/recognising-excellence-etf-unveils-new-certificates-celebrate-vet-innovators-2025-04-01\\_en](https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/news/recognising-excellence-etf-unveils-new-certificates-celebrate-vet-innovators-2025-04-01_en)

### European Lifelong Learning Magazine

Research and Practice 2025

<https://elmmagazine.eu/home/elms-themes-2024-2025/>

## Countries

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### Austria

The Diagonale education project in which apprentices analyse films. The workshop will be taking place for the 16th time in 2025 at Styrian vocational schools.

<https://www.diagonale.at/lehrlinge-analysieren-film/>



### Belgium

From 1 September 2025, the entire secondary education system will be modernised, including the integration of learning and work. The modernisation of secondary education will be finalised on 1/9/2025.

<https://www.vlor.be/adviezen/een-toekomst-voor-ambitieuze-en-kwaliteitsvol-onderwijs-voor-iedereen>

InnoVET: innovative training in vocational education and training

<https://onderwijs.vlaanderen.be/nl/onderwijspersoneel/van-basis-tot-volwassenenonderwijs/lespraktijk/innovet-innovatieve-opleidingen-in-vocational-education-and-training>

ProfilPASS: support in shaping your career

[https://ostbelgienbildung.be/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-5981/10188\\_read-54632/](https://ostbelgienbildung.be/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-5981/10188_read-54632/)

### Canada

Cognitive biases in apprenticeships: how to intervene in the face of automation biases and the Dunning-Kruger effect in trainers and learners?

<https://oce.uqam.ca/biais-cognitifs-en-formation-comment-intervenir-face-au-biais-dautomatisation-et-a-leffet-dunning-kruger-chez-les-formateurs-et-les-apprenant%2%b7es/>

The use of a digital learning environment (DLE) in the workplace.

<https://oce.uqam.ca/lms-entreprise-guide-environnements-numeriques-apprentissage/>

### Czech Republic

Reform of the vocational education and training system: The National Pedagogical Institute (NPI), in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS), has prepared a proposal for the innovation of the field system for secondary vocational education. The innovation of the field system will be followed by a revision of the framework education programmes for secondary vocational education.

These pilot projects are part of the [Strategy 2030+](#). The aim is to modernise the Czech Republic's education system from 2020–2030.

<https://www.npi.cz/aktuality/87517-navrh-inovace-oborove-soustavy>

<https://revize.rvp.cz/sov/navrh-ios>

### Denmark

The number of applications for the upper secondary level this year shows that, when choosing the upper secondary level, students in years 9 and 10 largely followed the same pattern as in previous years: 20 per cent of students applied for vocational training, while around 73 per cent applied for the gymnasiale Oberstufe (the German name for the final three years of secondary school, which prepares students for university).

<https://www.uvm.dk/aktuelt/nyheder/uvm/2025/marts/01042025---aarets-soegetal-til-landets-ungdomsuddannelser-viser-samme-tendenser-som-sidste-aar>

After the summer holidays, students in years 8 and 9 will have the opportunity to complete their primary education with practical experience in a company, a vocational training programme, the FGU or a youth school.

<https://www.uvm.dk/aktuelt/nyheder/uvm/2025/marts/250331-juniormesterlaere--rammerne-for-en-mere-praktisk-afslutning-paa-folkeskolen-er-nu-paa-plads>

### Estonia

From the next school year, an amendment to the law on vocational training institutions will come into force that limits the number of free repeat studies for adult learners in vocational training. In the future, vocational training will be subject to a fee for adult learners who have already completed a course of study at the same or higher level or who have interrupted their studies multiple times.

<https://www.hm.ee/uudised/kutseharidusreform-avardab-pohikoolilopetajate-oppimisvoimalusi-ja-tagab-eesti-majandusele>

## Finland

The Ministry of Education and Culture and the Finnish National Agency for Education have published national recommendations for the use of artificial intelligence in early childhood education and care, basic education, general upper secondary education, vocational education and training, and liberal adult education.

<https://www.oph.fi/fi/uutiset/2025/tekoalysuositukset-varhaiskasvatukseen-opetukseen-ja-koulutukseen-julkaistu>

Statement: Vocational education and training secures growth, no further cuts are needed

<https://ek.fi/ajankohtaista/tiedotteet/kannanotto-ammattillinen-koulutus-turvaa-kasvun-lisaleikkauksia-ei-tarvita/>

## Malta

Strategy for education, sport, health, research and innovation. Immediate digital education strategy for 2025–2030.

<https://www.gov.mt/en/Government/DOI/Press%20Releases/Pages/2025/03/25/pr250490.aspx>

Strategy to reduce the number of early school leavers (ELET) to 9% by 2030: The FCSL initiative 'Family, Community, School Link', which started as a pilot programme in the 2024-2025 school year, focuses on prevention and intervention by taking a person-centred approach from an early age. The programme is part of the National Education Strategy 2024-2030.

<https://publicservice.gov.mt/mt/news/transforming-connections-bridging-families-communities-and-schools-for-student-success-0>

## Norway

In 2024, there were both more applicants for apprenticeships and more people who had signed an apprenticeship contract than in 2023.

<https://www.udir.no/tall-og-forskning/statistikk/statistikk-fag-og-yrkesopplaring/analyser/2025/fakta-om-fagopplaringa-2024/>

Right to more education for adults: More apprenticeships if the vocational or journeyman's examination is not passed

<https://www.udir.no/regelverk-og-tilsyn/skole-og-opplaring/retten-til-videregaende-opplaring/rett-til-mer-opplaring-for-voksne/>

Pupils at Norwegian schools are entitled to the necessary counselling. The page has been updated to indicate that this now also applies to apprentices.

<https://www.udir.no/laring-og-trivsel/radgiving/>

## The Netherlands

From the 2026-2027 school year, the subject of Citizenship will be compulsory in VET.

<https://www.nationaleonderwijsgids.nl/mbo/nieuws/72757-mbo-ers-krijgen-straks-verplicht-het-vak-burgerschap.html>

More and more young people in North Holland are opting for training in plumbing.

<https://www.nationaleonderwijsgids.nl/mbo/nieuws/72755-grote-groep-jongeren-uit-noord-holland-kiest-voor-het-loodgietersvak.html>

Politicians are ill-advised if they restrict the freedom of vocational students to choose their own courses, argues Adnan Tekin of the VET Council. Although it may seem tempting to introduce tighter controls on apprenticeship programmes in times of labour shortages, this may lead to a decline in the

number of apprentices.

<https://www.mboraad.nl/nieuws/adnan-tekin-vrije-studiekeuze-essentieel-voor-succesvolle-carriere>

Organizations of students and pupils are very displeased with the parties that have helped the education budget to a majority in the Senate with 1.2 billion euros in cuts.

<https://www.nationaleonderwijsgids.nl/mbo/nieuws/72780-studenten-en-scholieren-niet-eens-over-goedgekeurde-onderwijsbegroting.html>

Support for democracy varies among young people: Students in pre-university education are more likely to consider democracy to be the best system than their peers in vocational secondary education. These differences can already be seen before the secondary school period and are therefore not caused by their level of education. It is mainly the social background of young people that plays a role in this.

<https://www.nji.nl/nieuws/steun-voor-democratie-varieert-bij-jongeren>

Study: Last year, wages rose faster than inflation, but 18-24 year-olds benefited less than other groups from the 2024 pay rises. The proportion of young people on the minimum wage has increased. On average, they take on more debt to make ends meet.

<https://www.nji.nl/nieuws/jongere-staat-er-financieel-slechter-voor>

## Save the Date

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10/04/2025:

<https://unevoc.unesco.org/home/BeChangeMaker+Youth+Festival+2025>

23/04/2025: Belgium Agenda for education policy 24-29: presentation +

<https://www.vlor.be/activiteiten/verslagen/agenda-voor-het-onderwijsbeleid-24-29-voorstelling-het-grote-onderwijsdebat>

06/05/2025: Webinar: Strengthening support for apprenticeships – issues and opportunities. ConCOVE Tūhura (host). The Construction & Infrastructure Centre of Vocational Excellence (ConCOVE Tūhura) was established in 2020 as part of the Government's Reform of Vocational Education (RoVE).

<https://mailchi.mp/concove.ac.nz/may-strengthening-support-for-apprenticeships-webinar?e=aea25e015a>

15/07/2025: UN World Youth Skills Day

<https://unevoc.unesco.org/wysd/>



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