

REFERNET VETNEWS INTERNATIONAL

07/2026

18/05/2026

Europe

European Commission

AI in education: Council calls for human-centred approach

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/05/11/ai-in-education-council-calls-for-human-centred-approach/>



Erasmus+: Council agrees position on the EU's flagship programme for education and training, youth and sport

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/05/11/erasmusplus-council-agrees-position-on-the-eu-s-flagship-programme-for-education-and-training-youth-and-sport/>

Council and Parliament strike provisional deal on social security coordination to strengthening fair labour mobility

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2026/04/22/council-and-parliament-strike-provisional-deal-on-social-security-coordination/>

European Parliament

Artificial intelligence in classrooms: Cognitive Dimensions

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/artificial-intelligence-in-classrooms-co/product-details/20260424CAN77840>

The implementation of the reinforced Youth Guarantee - Trends in EU Member States, impact, EU funding and governance

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_STU\(2025\)774714](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/EPRS_STU(2025)774714)

Mapping and analysing the support to employment and social policies in the proposals for the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/CASP_STU\(2026\)776027](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document/CASP_STU(2026)776027)

Cedefop

Cedefop launches new EU reference framework for lifelong guidance

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/cedefop-launches-new-eu-reference-framework-lifelong-guidance>

European Skills & VET Week 2026: Take part in the survey!

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/european-skills-vet-week-2026-your-voice-matters>

What drives skills development at work? The European Training and Learning Survey (ETLS), gathered data from over 44,000 workers across all 27 EU Member States, Iceland and Norway to examine what drives skills development, and who — employer or worker — is responsible for making it happen.

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/beyond-training-what-drives-skills-development-work>

New vacancy notice: Expert in Research and Policy Analysis

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/about-cedefop/job-opportunities/vacancies/expert-research-and-policy-analysis-0>

EfVET

EfVET Conference 2026 moves to Brussels and Call for Workshops and Roundtables – EfVET Conference 2026

<https://efvet.org/efvet-conference-2026-moves-to-brussels/>

<https://efvet.org/call-for-workshops-and-roundtables-efvet-conference-2026/>

EfVET brings the CoVE model to the CICan Conference 2026

<https://efvet.org/efvet-brings-the-cove-model-to-the-cican-conference-2026/>

International

VETresearch

State Intervention in Vocational Education: Training for the Digital and Green Transitions

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/regu.70074>

Bridging Academic and Vocational Human Capital in Inventor Teams: Implications for Inventor Team Productivity

<https://ideas.repec.org/p/iso/educat/0248.html>



OECD

Retrospective: OECD Skills Summit 2026

<https://www.oecd-events.org/e/oecd-skills-summit-2026>

OECD Skills Summit 2026 Issues Paper Unlocking Talent Across Generations

<https://www.oecd-events.org/e/oecd-skills-summit-2026/en/content/key-resources>

Policy brief: How well prepared are upper secondary students to succeed in tertiary education?

https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/how-well-prepared-are-upper-secondary-students-to-succeed-in-tertiary-education_8c3608e1-en.html

ILO

2nd BRICS Employment Working Group meeting advances South-South cooperation: Participants highlighted the importance of strengthening demand-responsive skills systems, improving labour market intelligence, expanding apprenticeships and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), and enhancing cooperation on skills mapping and workforce preparedness.

<https://www.ilo.org/resource/news/2nd-brics-employment-working-group-meeting-advances-south-south-cooperation>

Countries

Denmark

Student representative raises concerns about secondary school reforms: We are letting down talented pupils in primary school when academic challenges become a privilege reserved for the few

<https://www.altinget.dk/uddannelse/artikel/ku-formand-niveauinddeling-i-folkeskolen-skal-loefte-de-faglige-talenter>

More young people whose parents have higher education qualifications are opting for vocational training

<https://www.dea.nu/publikationer/flere-unge-med-kandidatuddannede-foraeldre-vaelger-en-erhvervsuddannelse>

A Reversal of the Trend: When Young People Spend Less Time in Education Than Their Parents

<https://www.dea.nu/publikationer/omvendt-monsterbrud-nar-unge-uddanner-sig-kortere-end-deres-foraeldre>

Finland

An alternative care model: Finnish senior citizens live with carers

<https://www.deutschlandfunk.de/internationaler-tag-der-pflegenden-finnische-senioren-leben-bei-pflegern-104.html>

France

Supporting vocational school students on their path to employment: further development of the AvenirPro programme

<https://travail-emploi.gouv.fr/accompagnement-des-lyceens-professionnels-vers-lemploi-evolution-du-dispositif-avenirpro>

Retrospective on conference: Apprenticeship, vocational training and learning in the age of artificial intelligence

<https://www.cereq.fr/ia-intelligence-artificielle-pedagogie>



Proceedings of the 7th DGEFP–Céreq Meeting. Can we both train low-skilled people and meet the employment needs of businesses?

<https://www.cereq.fr/actes-des-7emes-rencontres-dgefpcereq>

Iceland

Increased funding for vocational education and training (VET) under the Erasmus+ programme is creating new opportunities for learners and staff. It also highlights the importance of international cooperation and effective support structures within VET providers.

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/iceland-growing-erasmus-opportunities-call-stronger-international-cooperation-vet>

Norway

Norway explores extending recognition of foreign vocational qualifications within the ENIC-NARIC networks

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/norway-powering-trust-vet-recognition>

Poland

Skills policy reinforced at regional level

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/poland-skills-policy-reinforced-regional-level>

Slovakia

VET action plan supports nuclear skills for green transition

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/slovakia-vet-action-plan-supports-nuclear-skills-green-transition>

Spain

Spain has introduced eight new VET qualifications at EQF levels 4 and 5 to support digital innovation, sustainable tourism and rural development.

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/spain-new-vet-qualifications-boost-strategic-sectors>

Sweden

Adult education in correctional institutions - facts and context

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/sweden-adult-education-correctional-institutions-facts-and-context>

Switzerland

Why many young people aren't content with just a vocational qualification

<https://transfer.vet/warum-sich-viele-junge-menschen-nicht-mit-dem-lehrabschluss-zufrieden-geben/>

Experiences with blended learning at vocational schools in the canton of St. Gallen

<https://transfer.vet/so-lernen-die-jugendlichen-im-eigenen-tempo/>

Interview on the Swiss Education Report 2026: Higher vocational education is on the back foot

<https://transfer.vet/die-hoehere-berufsbildung-ist-in-der-defensive/>

The University of Teacher Education Zurich's 'Vocational Education and Training 2026' series. Practical skills: a work in progress – four vocational reforms caught between educational aspirations and day-to-day operational realities

<https://transfer.vet/baustelle-handlungskompetenz-vier-berufsreformen-zwischen-paedagogischem-anspruch-und-operativem-alltag/>

The Netherlands

The age at which a pupil is classified as a school leaver has been raised from 12 to 27 (previously between 12 and 23). This change is based on the 'From School to Sustainable Work' Act. Raising the age limit means that a larger group of people are now eligible for vocational training.

<https://www.klimmbo.nl/nieuws/aangepaste-leeftijdsgrens-van-vsv-beinvloedt-voorwaarden-mbo-verklaring/>

Secondary school educators are concerned about the influence of the manosphere on boys.

<https://www.nji.nl/actueel/onderwijsprofessionals-invloed-manosfeer-is-zorgelijk>

In 2026, the 9th edition of the Accountability Round will take place: a series of meetings at educational institutions across the Netherlands. The Ministry of Education's Accountability Team organises this annual event to discuss, together with experts from the education sector, developments in the field of educational reporting and within their organisations.

<https://www.nieuwsbrievenminocw.nl/actueel/nieuws/2026/04/22/meld-je-aan-voor-de-verantwoordingsronde-en-praat-mee>

Save the Date

20-21/05/2026: In 2026, the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training - (Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung), (BIBB), home of the ReferNet Germany team will welcome their colleagues and partners to the 2026 partnership forum organised jointly with Cedefop.

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events/2026-refernet-partnership-forum-bonn>

26-28/05/2026: 2nd Global VET Thematic Team Annual Event: "Skills for a Competitive Europe"

<https://efvet.org/event/%f0%9f%8c%8d-2nd-global-vet-thematic-team-annual-event-skills-for-a-competitive-europe/>

27/05/2026: ILO Masterclass Series "The skills bridge": Harnessing Private Sector Power to Build the Workforce of Tomorrow: Driving Productivity, Decent Work and Social Justice through Skills, online, 12:00 - 13:30 (Europe/Zurich (UTC+02:00))

<https://www.ilo.org/meetings-and-events/harnessing-private-sector-power-build-workforce-tomorrow-driving>

27-29/05/2026: National Apprentice Employment Network 2026 National Conference (NAEN 2026): With the theme "Skills in the Heart", the conference will be informative and engaging, delivering a diverse range of speakers and presenters across vitally important topics for the vocational education and training (VET) sector. Uluru, Australia.

<https://naen2026.eventsair.site/>

02/06/2026: 20th Brussels seminar “Skills for Europe’s competitiveness” organised in cooperation with the Cypriot Presidency of the Council of the European Union

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events/skills-europes-competitiveness>

26/10/2026: SGAB Autumn Conference 2026: Healthy learners – a strong future. Health as a key factor in vocational education and training. FHNW Campus Olten

https://eduxept.ch/de/?utm_source=sgab&utm_medium=inserat&utm_campaign=februar



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