

REFERNET VETNEWS INTERNATIONAL

11/2025

09/09/2025

Europe

European Council

On September 11-12, the EU education ministers will gather in Herning and Billund as part of the Danish EU presidency. The meeting will focus on the attractiveness of VET (vocational education and training) and most importantly on a new European declaration: The Herning Declaration, which provides a framework for European cooperation on VET towards 2030.

<https://danish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/news/ministers-from-all-over-europe-gather-to-discuss-the-future-of-vocational-education-and-training/>



Cedefop

Lifelong Guidance: Europe's strategic learning imperative

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/lifelong-guidance-europes-strategic-learning-imperative>

Policies and tools for comparing and recognising VET qualifications in Europe

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications/6225>

Eurostat

In 2022, financial aid from governments to households and students in the EU averaged €533 per pupil for upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education and €1 766 for tertiary education. When it comes to upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education, the highest values of financial aid were attributed by the Netherlands (€1 790), Sweden (€1 741) and Denmark (€1 644). On the other hand, financial aid was the lowest in Croatia (€7), Poland (€16) and Hungary (€76).

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20250902-1>

Upper secondary education: 60% study 2 or more languages

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/w/ddn-20250714-1>

Eurochambres

Position on the Communication on the Union of Skills

<https://www.eurochambres.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/250428-Eurochambres-Position-on-the-Communication-on-the-Union-of-Skills.pdf>

European Lifelong Learning Magazine

The OECD stresses the need for workers to update their skills—but how, when time, cost and access are barriers? In her Speakers' Corner column, Bahar from the OECD shares possible solutions.

<https://elmmagazine.eu/elif-bahar-oecd-upskilling-demands-flexibility-funding-and-motivation/>

International

OECD

The Education at a Glance 2025 edition places a special focus on tertiary education, examining attainment rates, variations in labour market outcomes by field of study, completion rates, and the skills of adults with tertiary qualifications.

https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/education-at-a-glance-2025_1c0d9c79-en.html

UNESCO

UNESCO World Summit on Teachers: Leaders commit to reinventing and supporting the teaching profession

<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-world-summit-teachers-leaders-commit-reinventing-and-supporting-teaching-profession>



UNESCO survey: Two-thirds of higher education institutions have or are developing guidance on AI use

<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-survey-two-thirds-higher-education-institutions-have-or-are-developing-guidance-ai-use?hub=343>

State report on the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI by the German UNESCO Commission

<https://www.unesco.de/dokumente-und-hintergruende/publikationen/detail/erster-deutscher-staatenbericht-zur-unesco-empfehlung-zur-ethik-der-ki/>

Collaboration

The BIBB and its Brazilian partner SENAI promote projects for digital innovation in VET. The winning start-ups were selected in a competition from a total of 18 projects from Latin America, North America, Africa and Europe.

<https://www.bibb.de/de/211710.php>

Countries



Austria

Financial education for apprentices

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/austria-financial-education-apprentices>

Cyprus

Cyprus enhances digital skills of adults through national upskilling initiative

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/cyprus-enhances-digital-skills-adults-through-national-upskilling-initiative>

Czechia

Support for vocational schools in the digitisation process: From September 2025, teaching will begin according to the new ICT curriculum.

<https://digitalizace.rvp.cz/sov/clanky/podpora-sov-v-procesu-digitalizace>

Quality of adult education – are better times ahead?

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/czechia-quality-adult-education-are-better-times-ahead>

Denmark

New work-based learning programme causes concern: vocational schools and organisations representing vocational apprentices warn of the risk of varying quality and unequal conditions across the country.

<https://www.dr.dk/nyheder/indland/traelse-rugbroedsopgaver-ny-praktik-ordning-vaekker-bekymring>

The inspiration catalogue "Climate education seen through the eyes of young people" provides examples for upper secondary schools and vocational schools.

<https://eva.dk/ungdomsuddannelse/gymnasiale-uddannelser/undervisning-paa-gymnasiale-uddannelser/klima-og-demokratisk-dannelse-paa-gymnasiale-uddannelser/elever-vil-have-haab-og-handlemuligheder-i-klimaundervisningen-ikke-kun-dommedagsvarsler->

In this analysis, EVA identifies four climate profiles that exist among young people.

<https://eva.dk/ungdomsuddannelse/gymnasiale-uddannelser/undervisning-paa-gymnasiale-uddannelser/klima-og-demokratisk-dannelse-paa-gymnasiale-uddannelser/de-fire-klimaprofiler-paa-ungdomsuddannelser-saa-forskellige-er-eleverne->

Estonia

New funding model modernises the remuneration conditions for VET school teachers: The remuneration basis for teachers at VET institutions is being aligned with that of teachers at general education schools.

<https://hm.ee/uudised/uus-kutsehariduse-rahastusmudel-kaasajastab-kutseopetajate-palgatingimusi>

France

Sectoral initiative drives innovation in transport and logistics

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/france-sectoral-initiative-drives-innovation-transport-and-logistics>

Greece

Second chance schools study reveals strong adult education impact

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/greece-second-chance-schools-study-reveals-strong-adult-education-impact>

Norway

Doctor, lawyer or athlete? Norwegian 15-year-olds still dream of traditional professions – but interest in vocational subjects is growing.

<https://hkdir.no/aktuelt/dette-er-de-ti-mest-populaere-yrkene-blant-unge>

Portugal

Among top 10 digitally advanced nations in EU by 2030

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/portugal-among-top-10-digitally-advanced-nations-eu-2030>

Serbia

Educational research in Serbia

https://www.bildungsserver.de/bildungsforschung-in-serbien-7600_ger.html

Slovakia

Green light for green VET programmes

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/slovakia-green-light-green-vet-programmes>

Sweden

New professional development programme boosts attractiveness of teaching profession

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news/sweden-new-professional-development-programme-boosts-attractiveness-teaching-profession>

Switzerland

The VET reforms ‘Sales 2022+’ and ‘Commercial Employees 2023’ require a paradigm shift from traditional school subjects to interdisciplinary areas of practical competence. The Zug Commercial VET Centre developed an implementation strategy based on shared leadership and participatory school development.

<https://transfer.vet/eine-berufsfachschule-nimmt-sich-unter-die-lupe/>

The role of trainers in the third learning environment. The qualification of course instructors in inter-company courses (üK) is the subject of a study.

<https://transfer.vet/die-rolle-der-ausbildenden-am-dritten-lernort/>

Evaluation of the qualification process in general education (ABU): The ABU examinations are currently insufficient for demonstrating the abilities of learners.

<https://transfer.vet/die-abu-pruefungen-sind-heute-nur-ungenuegend-geeignet-das-koennen-der-lernenden-sichtbar-zu-machen/>

Survey of apprentices in Switzerland: Mental health during vocational education and training

<https://transfer.vet/psychische-gesundheit-in-der-berufslehre/>

The Netherlands

Working in MBO is attractive. This is evident from the results of the sixth employee survey (MO), conducted among 48,000 employees in MBO.

<https://www.mboraad.nl/nieuws/werkplezier-en-bevlogenheid-het-mbo-blijven-stijgen-zesde-medewerkersonderzoek-toont-mooie>

Research on transition from IVET to higher VET

<https://www.mbohbonoordenland.nl/kennisdeling/>

The final draft of the core objectives for citizenship and digital competence was published today. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Science is now initiating a process to enshrine these core objectives in laws and regulations. This is a special moment, as these areas of learning are now explicitly part of the national curriculum.

<https://www.actualisatiekerndoelen.nl/updates/kerndoelen-burgerschap-en-digitale-geletterdheid-gepubliceerd>

Save the Date

15/09/2025: International Day of Democracy

<https://www.unesco.de/aktuelles/internationaler-tag-der-demokratie/>



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