

# Common base of knowledge, competences and culture

**POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

REGULATION/LEGISLATION

 FRANCE

## Timeline

**2016 Approved/Agreed**

**ID number 28237**

## Objectives

This common foundation of knowledge, skills and culture is structured around five areas of training which cover the primary educational goals of compulsory schooling.

## Description

In 2016-17, a 'common base of knowledge, competences and culture', to be acquired by all learners, was defined. The common base includes languages for thinking and communicating; methods and tools for learning; education for the individual and the citizen; natural systems and technical systems; representations of the world and human activity.

**2016 Approved/Agreed**

## Bodies responsible

- Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research
- Ministry of National Education and Youth (until 2024)
- Ministry of National Education, Youth and Sports (from 2020 till 2022)

## Target group

### Learners

Learners in upper secondary, including apprentices  
Young people (15-29 years old)

## Thematic categories

### Modernising VET offer and delivery

Acquiring key competences

# Subsystem

IVET

## Further reading

[Decree No. 2015-372 of 31 March 2015 on the common core of knowledge, skills and culture](#)

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[Amendments to the Education Code](#)

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[Ministry of National Education and Youth - The common base of knowledge, skills and culture](#)

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[Ministry of National Education and Youth - Presentation of the common base of knowledge, skills and culture](#)

## Related policy developments

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**2025 Implementation**

### Free online public service (PIX) for developing, assessing and certifying digital competences

In 2017, the PIX platform was established as a free online public service used to assess, develop, and certify digital competences, intended for secondary and university students in initial education and training as well as workers.

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#### Type of development

Practical  
measure/Initiative

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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**2025 Implementation**

### Promoting equalities and inclusiveness

Within the framework of 2016 partnership agreement between the State and the regions to support employment and social inclusion, a strategy was set out to extend the range of qualifications that can be gained through apprenticeship.

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#### Type of development

Strategy/Action  
plan

#### Subsystem

IVET CVET

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“ … ” **Cite as**

Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). Common base of knowledge, competences and culture: France. In Cedefop, & ReferNet. (2026). *Timeline of VET policies in Europe* (2025 update) [Online tool].

<https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/tools/timeline-vet-policies-europe/search/28237>