

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](#)

[Amendments to the Education Code](#)

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

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

Related policy developments

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.

 FRANCE

Type of development

Practical
measure/Initiative

Subsystem

IVET CVET

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.

 FRANCE

Type of development

Strategy/Action
plan

Subsystem

IVET CVET

“ … ” **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>