

## 20th Annual plenary meeting of ReferNet

# Session 4. Inspiring National news on VET for the European policy makers and practitioners

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# Purpose of National news on VET



‘National news on VET’ present the latest national developments in the field of VET and lifelong learning (LLL) in the EU Member States, Iceland and Norway.

They attract the attention of a broad audience and constitute a major opportunity for disseminating news on national VET-related developments.

# Publication and use of National news on VET

National news on VET are:

- published on Cedefop's website at the:
  - news website
  - project websites (e.g. [VET and qualifications across borders](#))
- used in many Cedefop work, such as:
  - policy reporting
  - thematic studies
  - discussions at DGVT and ACVT meetings

## Improved quality and process



Cedefop and ReferNet partners have worked together in the recent years to improve the quality, relevance and clarity of national news on VET as well as their timely availability on the Cedefop website

- published 95 new items in 2021
- faster processing from submission to publishing:  
reduced to 47 days (in 2021) from 82 days (in 2019)

## Referenced in policy documents of EU & international organisations

National news on VET are taken up in policy documents of European and international institutions like:

- the European Commission
- the European Parliament
- the European Economic and Social Committee
- the Joint Research Centre
- and international organisations such as OECD, UNESCO, ILO

# Examples of referencing



In 2021, 51 national news on VET informed policy analysis in EU and international organisations on topics such as:

- [Education and youth in post-COVID-19 Europe – crisis effects and policy recommendations](#) by the European Parliament
- [COVID 19: Virtual Free Movement of Workers](#) by the European Economic and Social Committee
- [Global education monitoring report 2021](#) by OECD
- [Commission staff working document: European Education and Training Monitor](#) by the European Commission



## Attract attention and promoted at international level

National news on VET inspire policy makers. Examples include recent requests to present the ReferNet news items on the integration of Ukrainian refugees in VET :

- at the 2022 spring meeting of Director Generals for VET
- at an online conference of asylum policy advisors in October

News items were also presented at a workshop in Nairobi on Green and digital transition policies in VET by one of our ReferNet partners

## National news on VET – reporting on crisis situations

National news on VET proved to be a very useful tool of raising awareness on how countries responded to crisis situations like:

- the COVID-19 pandemic
- the integration of Ukrainian refugees



## News on VET: a successful tool to promote VET



Overall, our ReferNet news items on VET

- disseminate inspiring national policies on VET
- are a very flexible way to collect fresh information on a topic
- support peer learning between policy makers and practitioners in Europe and beyond.

## National news on VET – future perspective

In the future national news on VET will be:

- an important instrument to provide first hand information on national developments related to the implementation of countries' NIPs
- filling the gap between two consecutive policy reporting cycles by reporting on countries' latest steps to meeting the EU priorities in the Council Recommendation on VET and the Osnabruck Declaration throughout the year

# Discussion on future approach



Building on the experience of last years participants of the ReferNet plenary meeting are invited to reflect on the following questions:

- should we repeat the practice followed in the COVID-19 pandemic and Ukrainian refugees news items, coordinating the preparation of one (or more) news items on a common topic for all countries? E.g. the [2023 European Year of Skills](#)
- how can ReferNet partners use their NIPs as a source of inspiration when drafting national news on VET? Who will be their allies in getting access to first hand information on policy developments as they happen?