



CEDEFOP

Ευρωπαϊκό Κέντρο για την Ανάπτυξη
της Επαγγελματικής Κατάρτισης

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Cedefop's policy analysis provides evidence base for recent developments in vocational education and training in the EU

European cooperation on vocational education and training and lifelong learning made considerable progress this year, both in terms of implementing common European tools and in terms of political decisions. To all these developments, **Cedefop provided background information, analysis, evidence and expertise**. In particular, Cedefop provided the expertise for the Bordeaux Communiqué, which outlines the direction cooperation on vocational education and training will take in the next two years, and the Council Resolution on lifelong guidance.

The Bordeaux Communiqué

The informal meeting of EU ministers responsible for education and training, held on 26 November in Bordeaux, France, agreed on new priorities for European cooperation in vocational training (a process known as "the Copenhagen process"). The new direction outlined by the Communiqué involves creating **closer links between education and training and the labour market**. Not coincidentally, this meeting brought together, for the first time ministers for employment and education, alongside the European Commission and the social partners.

Much of the evidence that shaped the decisions at this meeting was provided by Cedefop. This included the analysis of progress by 31 countries in implementing common European vocational education and training policy priorities. In addition, Cedefop's **flagship project on forecasting skill needs** (from both the supply and demand perspective) is instrumental in helping to achieve closer ties between the labour market and education and training.

During the Bordeaux meeting, Cedefop presented its analysis of policy development in the Member States. The summary of this work can be accessed online:

In the finishing straight: From Copenhagen to Bordeaux

www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/Bookshop/publication_details.asp?pub_id=515

Future skills: medium-term forecast of skill needs in Europe

www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/Bookshop/publication_details.asp?pub_id=485

Bordeaux Communiqué

ue2008.fr/webdav/site/PFUE/shared/import/1126_informelle_resultats/Bordeaux_Communique_EN.pdf

Council Resolution on lifelong guidance

An initiative of the French presidency to which Cedefop contributed much of the background work from initial conception to final draft, the resolution stresses that the need for lifelong skills building must be met by an integrated system of vocational guidance and counselling which goes beyond the traditional school-based guidance or counselling for the unemployed. Lifelong guidance needs to take many forms and establish high professional standing if it is to help people manage their careers in a more autonomous and effective way.

The resolution calls on Member States to make it easier to exchange information so that all countries can benefit from successful policies and methods and to ensure the compatibility of guidance and counselling with European guidelines, particularly with regard to employment and social cohesion.

Cedefop publication:

From policy to practice: A systemic change to lifelong guidance in Europe.

www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/Bookshop/publication_details.asp?pub_id=505

Council resolution on lifelong guidance

www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/educ/104236.pdf

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About Cedefop

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop), an agency of the European Union based in Thessaloniki, Greece, supports European policy-making in the field of vocational education and training.

www.cedefop.europa.eu

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