



Agora Thessaloniki provides a venue for discussion of vocational education and training issues

Aimed not just at academics, it is a wide-ranging social and political debate on the future of education and training

This time Agora Thessaloniki brings together specially invited researchers, social partners, policy-makers, practitioners, international bodies and other important players

It takes place at the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) in Thessaloniki, Greece



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## THE FUTURE BEGINS IN THE PAST

**Special Agora** THESSALONIKI  
8 September 2005

Programme

Organised by  
**Cedefop**



*More than a conference* ■



## Objectives

1. To commemorate the 30th anniversary of Cedefop's founding and the 10th anniversary of its arrival in Thessaloniki.
2. To see what we can learn about the history of vocational education and training (VET), especially in relation to the EU priorities in this field, such as more investment in human resources.
3. To mark the change of the Director of Cedefop.

### Wednesday, 7 September 2005

21:00	<p>Dinner to be held at Kempinski Hotel Nikopolis, Thessaloniki</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by Mr Johan van Rens, Director of Cedefop</li> <li>• Speech by Mr Nikos Efthymiadis, Chairman, S.P Business Advisory Council for south eastern Europe</li> </ul> <p><b>The Greek role in economy and education in south eastern Europe</b></p>
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### Thursday, 8 September 2005

08:30	Registration
09:00	Welcome by Mr Peter Rigney, Chairman of the Governing Board of Cedefop
09:10	Presentation of the Photobrochure on Cedefop by Mr Johan van Rens, Director of Cedefop
09:15	<p>A message from Mr Jan Figel', Member of the European Commission for Education, Training, Culture and Multilingualism</p> <p><b>The EU priorities on VET and Cedefop's role in the past and future</b></p>

09:30	<p><b>A. The history of VET and the future of lifelong learning</b></p> <p>Chaired by Ms Marta Ferreira-Lourenco, Head of Unit, Vocational Training and Adult Education, European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Luce Pepin, Unit for the Coordination of Lifelong Learning Policies, European Commission</li> <li>• Mr Peter Lauener, Director, Lifelong Learning and Skills, UK Department for Education and Skills</li> </ul>
10:15	<p><b>B. The value of learning for society and the economy</b></p> <p>Chaired by Mr Peter Thiele, Vice-Chairman of Cedefop's Governing Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professor Maria João Rodrigues, President of the European Commission's Advisory Group for Social Sciences</li> <li>• Mr Manfred Tessaring, Head of the Research Area of Cedefop</li> </ul>
11:00	Coffee break
11:30	<p><b>C. A European Investment strategy</b></p> <p>Chaired by Mr Klaus van der Pas, Director General of DG Education and Culture, European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Juan Menendez-Valdes, UNICE</li> <li>• Mr Constantin Christofidis, Director of the Industry and Services Department of the Project Directorate, European Investment Bank</li> <li>• Mr Joël Decaillon, ETUC</li> </ul>
12:30	Speech by Mr Panos Panagiotopoulos, Greek Minister for Employment and Social Welfare
13:00	Conclusions by Mr Klaus van der Pas, Director General of DG Education and Culture, European Commission
13:30	Reception to mark the change of the Director of Cedefop

*Simultaneous interpretation will be provided from DE, EN, EL, FR, into DE, EN, EL, FR*