



Machines, robots, people and skills

Changing jobs, work and skills

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Presentation of findings from Cedefop's 'Digitalisation and future of work programme'

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events-and-projects/projects/digitalisation-and-future-work>



Part 1

- Impact of future of work on skills and tasks
- Structural change

Part 2

- Impact of automation on jobs
- Impact of technology on skills and labour market outcomes

Part 3

- Challenges for policy
- Are we prepared for the future of work?



Impact of future of work on skills

How does structural (and technological change) translate into changing skill demand?

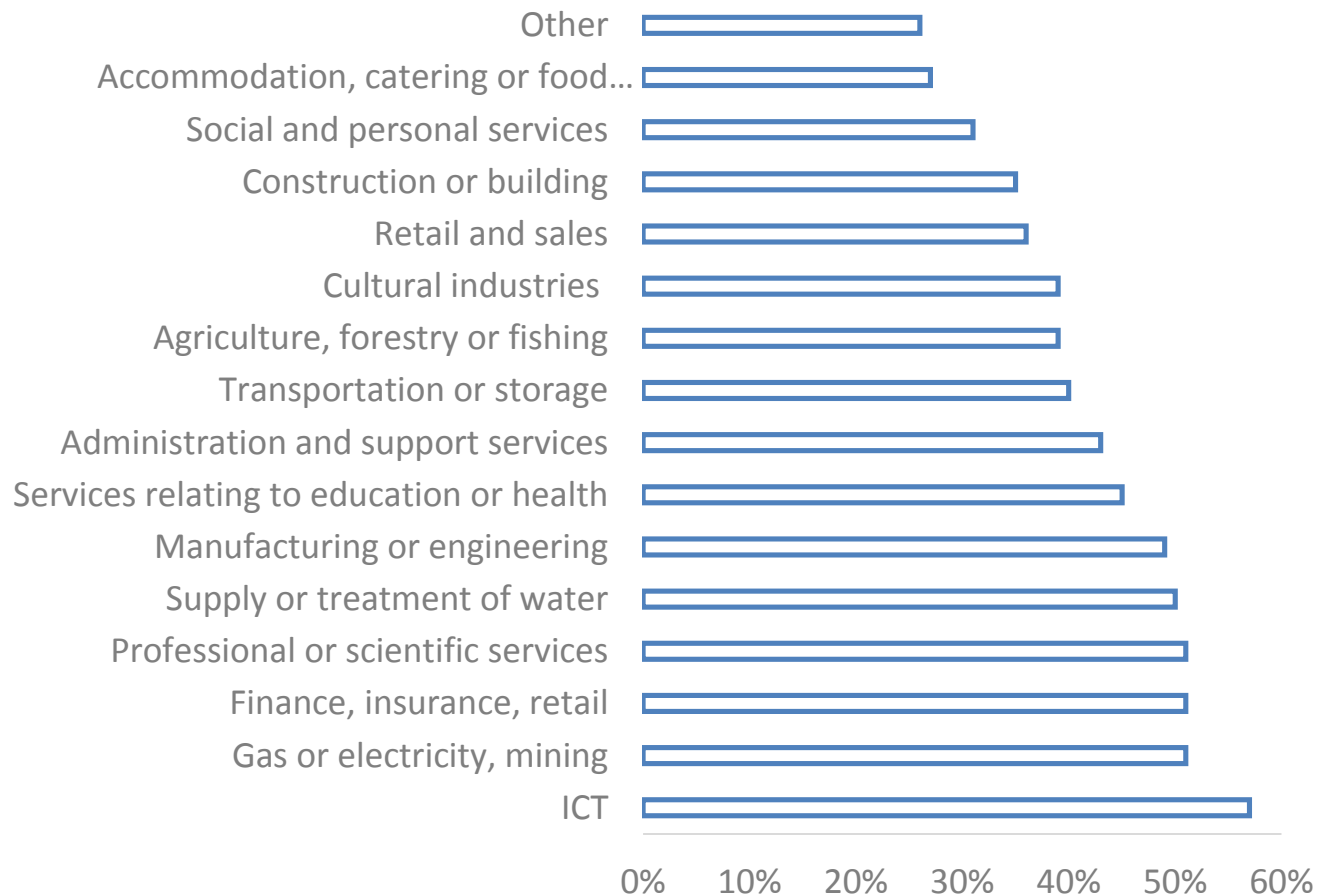


Technological change is affecting EU workers

Extent of changing technologies (machines, ICT systems) by sector, 2014, EU28

❖ 43% (47%) of EU adult workers experienced recent changes in the technologies (methods) used in their workplace.

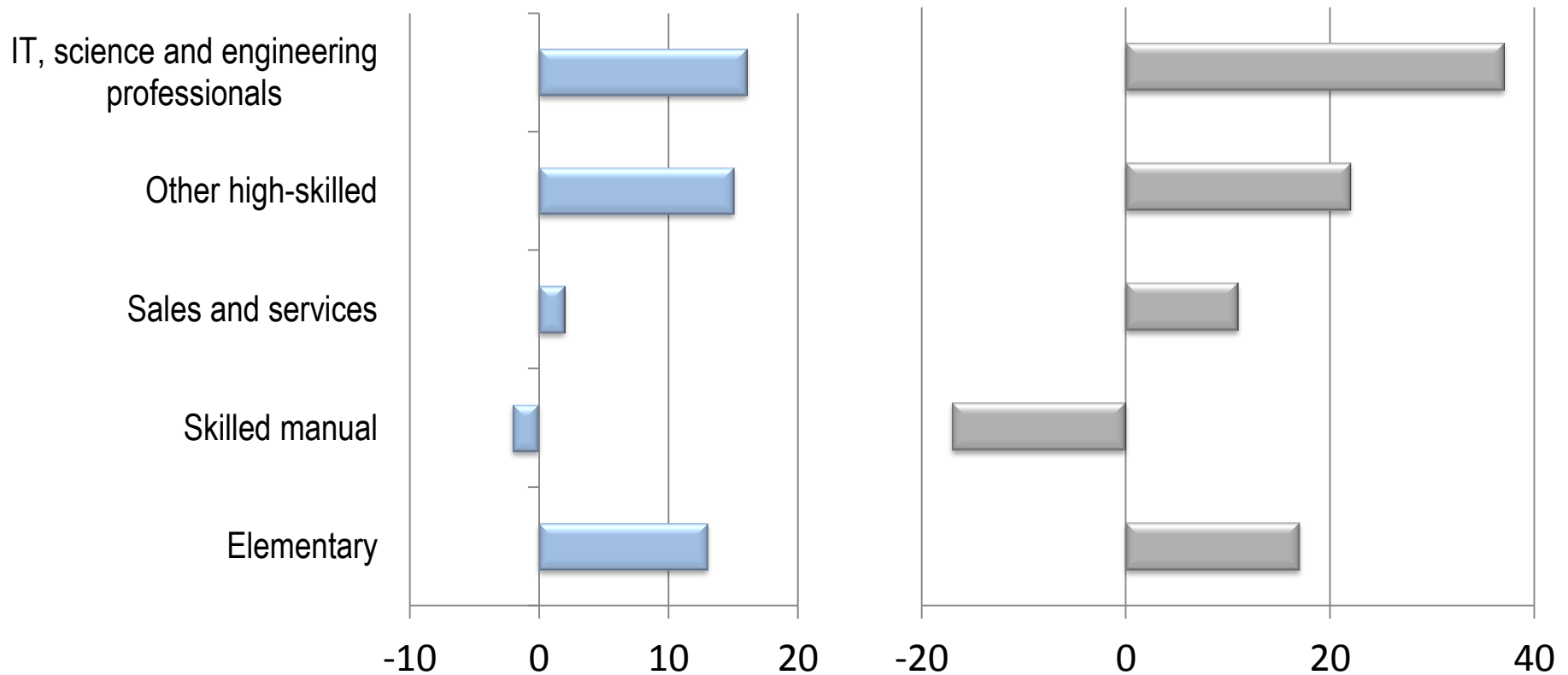
❖ From 3 in 5 in ICT to only 1 in 4 in hospitality and personal services.



New jobs driven by technological progress

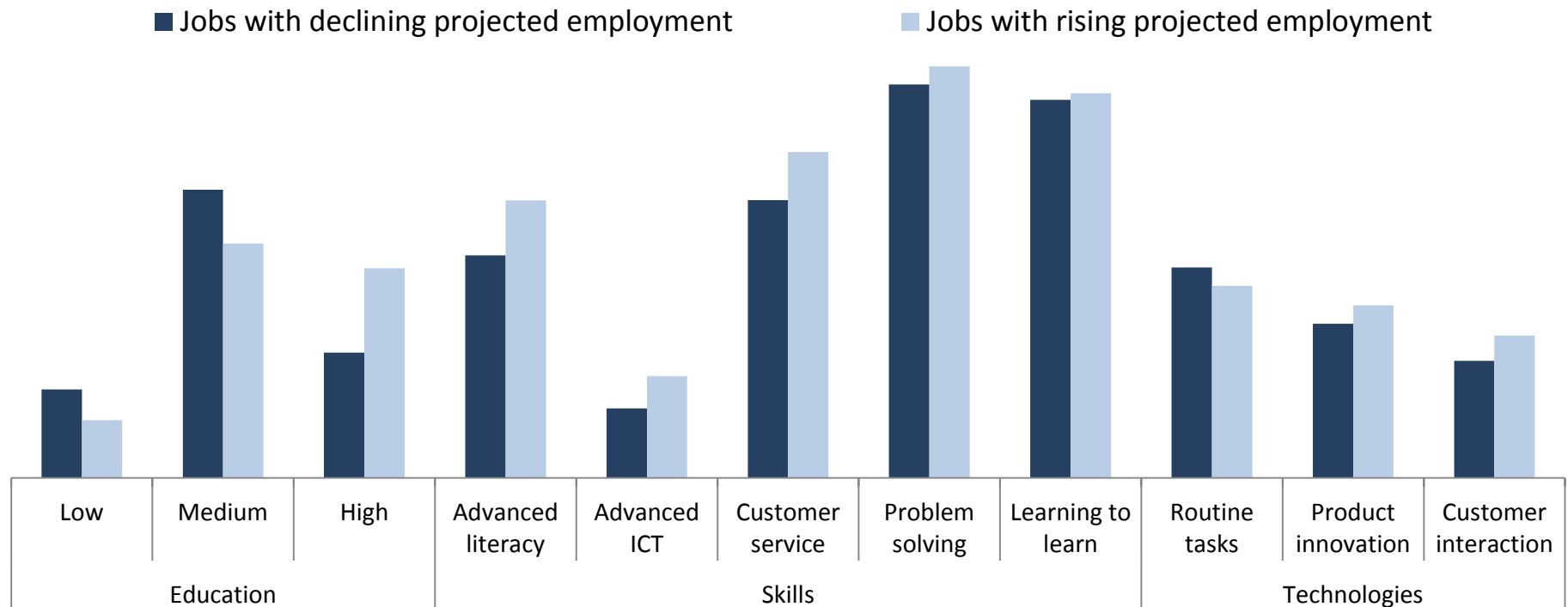
Net job growth (%), 2016-2030...

...2000-2016



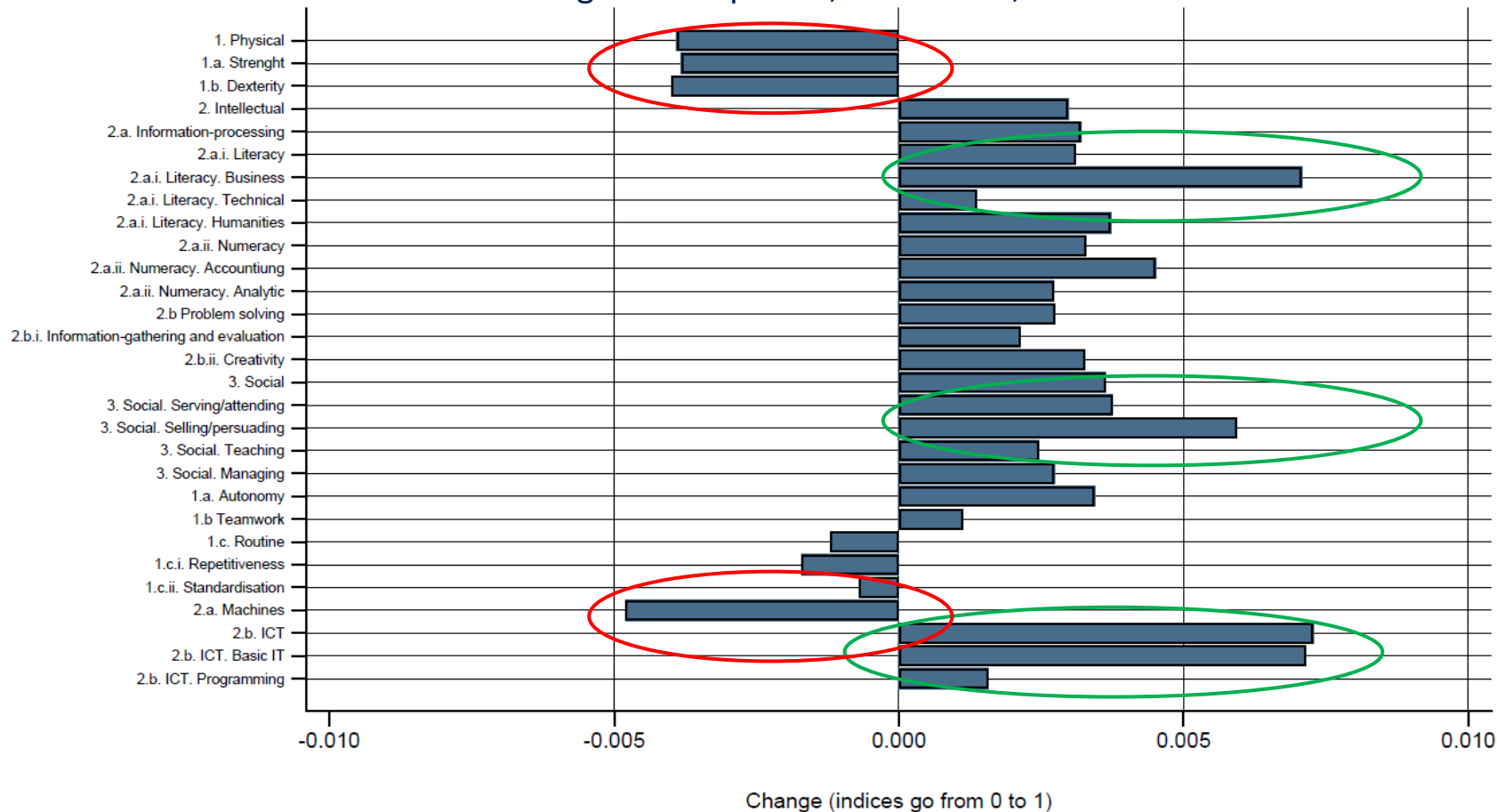
Future jobs in need of 21st century skills

Difference between «jobs» with positive vs. negative anticipated employment growth rate, 2014-25, EU28



...in non-routine, non-physical, social jobs

Change in task profile, 2016-2030, EU





The risk of automation

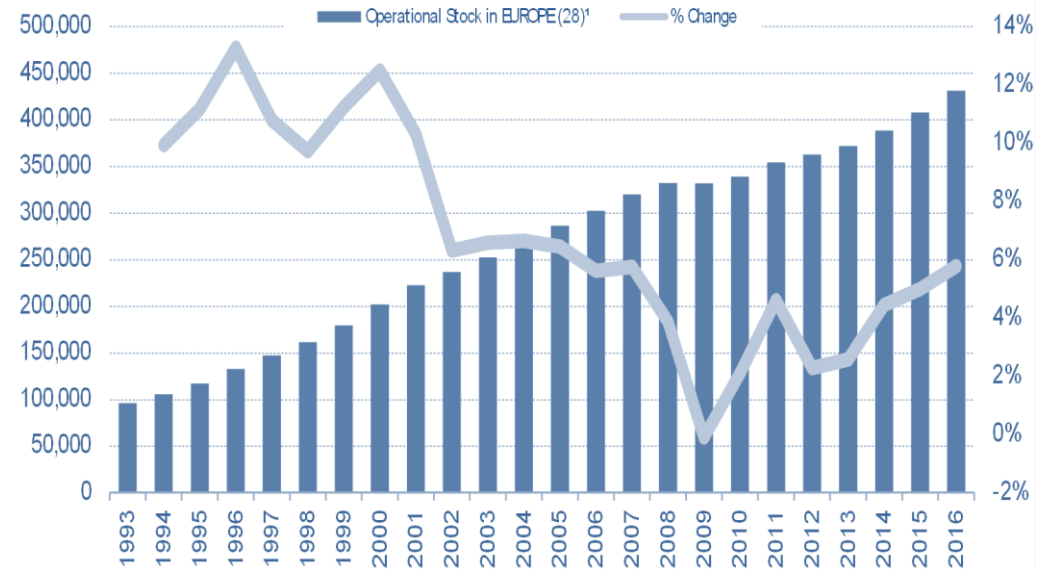
How may technology affect jobs?

Why now?

- Rapid advances in machine learning, AI, visual-space perception, natural language processing, text mining etc.
- EU: From 0.6 robots to 2.6/1000 workers between early 1990s-2000s.
- US: 0.4 to 1.4.
- Eurobarometer (2017):
61% positive view of robots/AI
72% robots may steal jobs



Level and growth of the Operational Stock of robots in EU28



Source: International Federation of Robotics



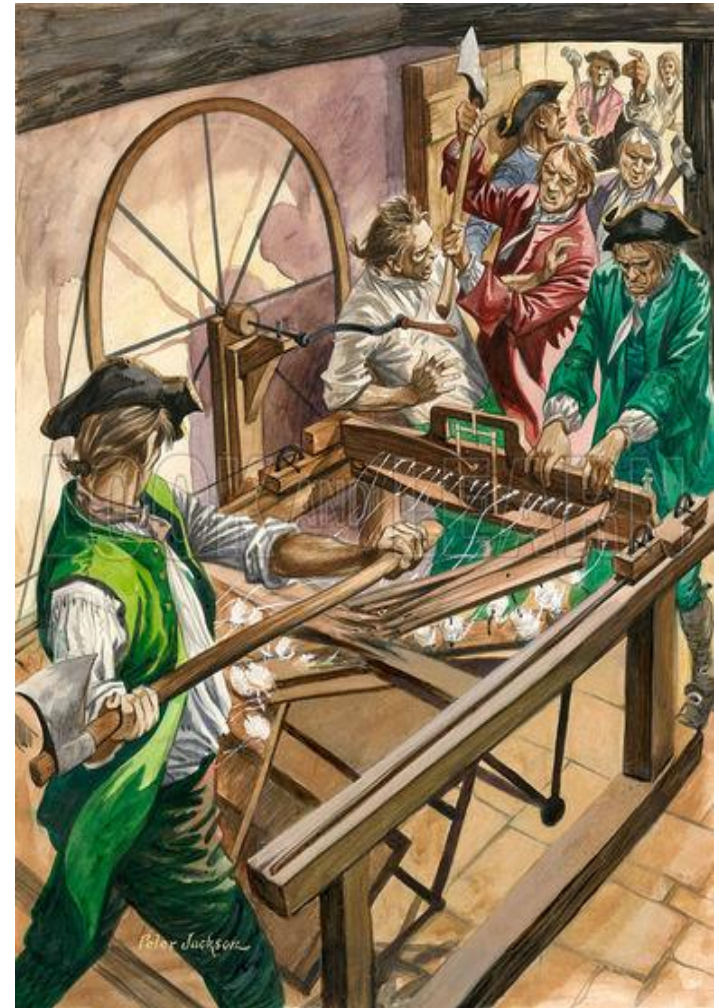


One day in the 1760s James Hargreaves, a hand-loom weaver from Oswaldtwistle, was struck by the way an overturned wheel kept on spinning. What would happen, the weaver wondered, if several spindles were to be placed upright, side by side? Might it not be possible to spin several threads at once?

*Working with a knife, Hargreaves shaped a primitive engine, a 'jimmy' – and the initial reaction from some was disgust. Angry neighbours raided Hargreaves's barn, on the grounds that the **machines would 'ruin the country'**. If one jenny could do the work of eight spinners, reasoned the neighbours, that would put seven out of work.*

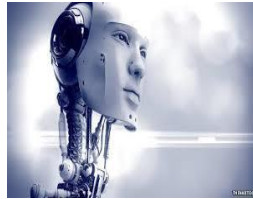
In fact, the spectacular new spinning capacity provided the basis for a cotton boom. In the 1770s, as earnings rose, spinners and weavers took to parading the streets on paydays with £5 notes in their hatbands. Their wives drank tea out of the finest china'.

(R.T. Lacey, Great tales from English History)



Are robots stealing our jobs?

Doom



- Inequality - SBTC
- Job polarisation - RBTC
- Sectoral/job restructuring
- Technological unemployment

Bloom



- Product innovation- ETC labour friendly for high-tech firms
- Scale/price effects
- New consumer demands & markets
- Technology does not cause jobless recoveries
- New (within job) tasks & jobs

Growth of platform/‘gig’ economy



Compared to a job with a traditional employer, freelancing makes me feel...

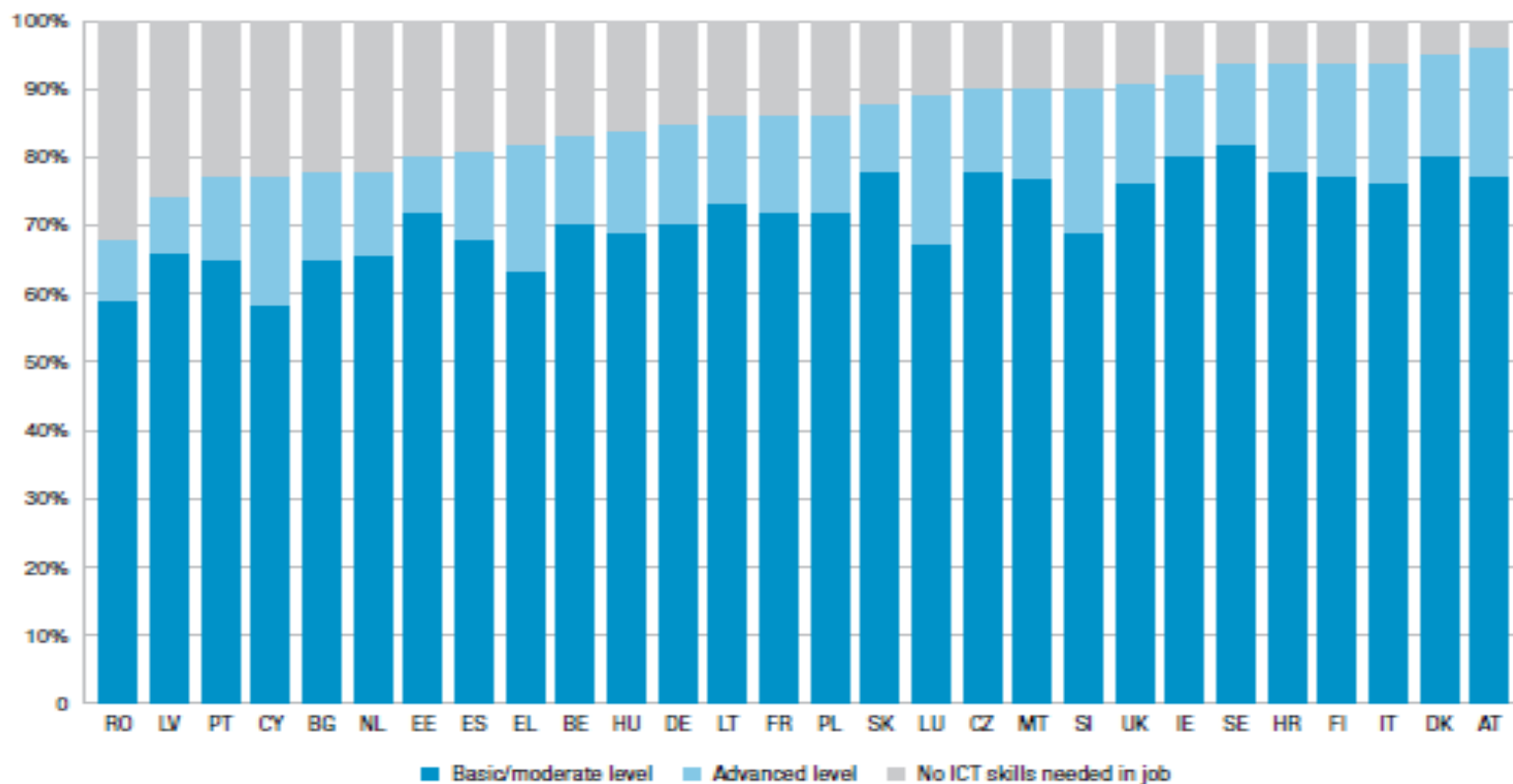


* % projects carried out in five major English-speaking online platforms

Source: University of Oxford Online Index

7 in 10 EU workers need fundamental digital skills for their jobs

Level of importance of ICT skills in jobs, adult workers, 2014, EU28



Is it different this time?

- AI is making non-routine/white collar jobs vulnerable
- Faster innovation cycles
- Demography
- Falling labour income share

The Knowledge Doubling Curve

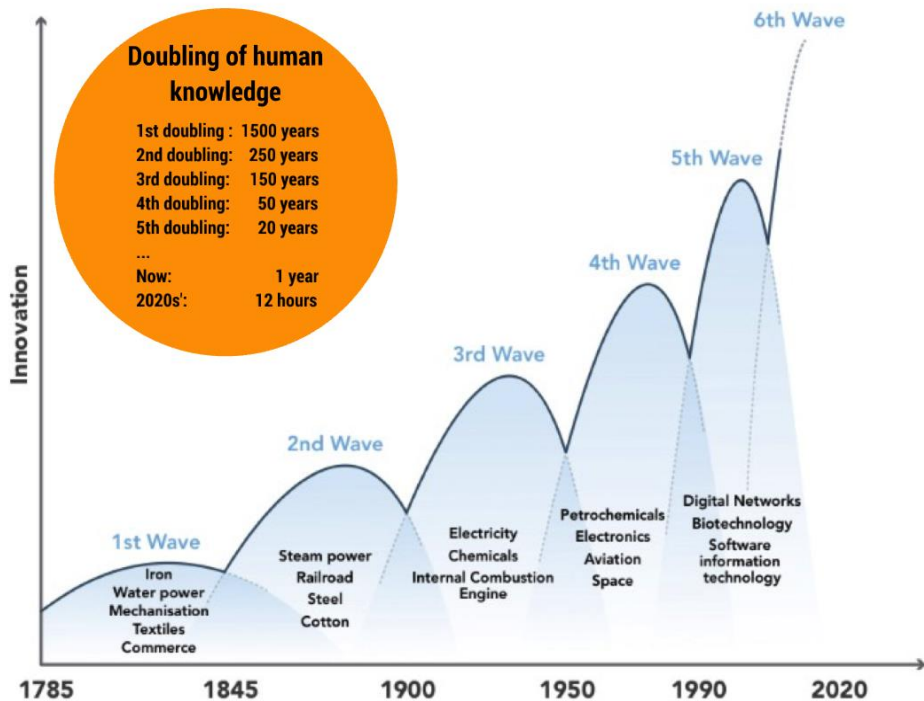
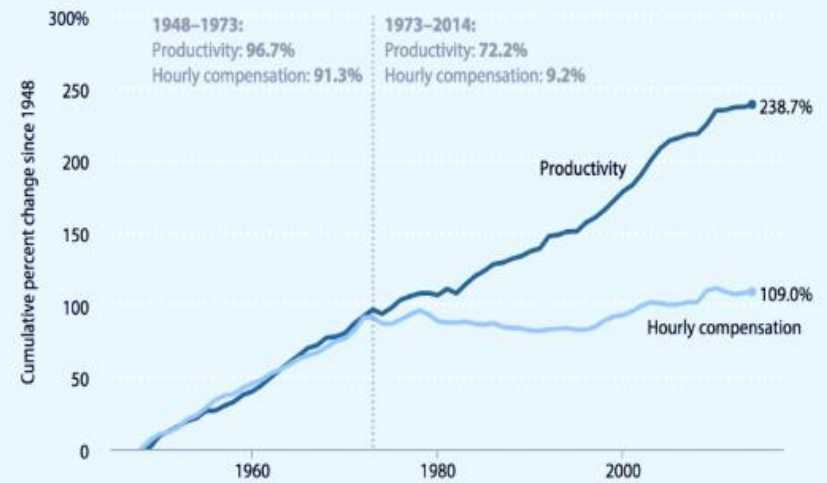


FIGURE A

Disconnect between productivity and a typical worker's compensation, 1948–2014



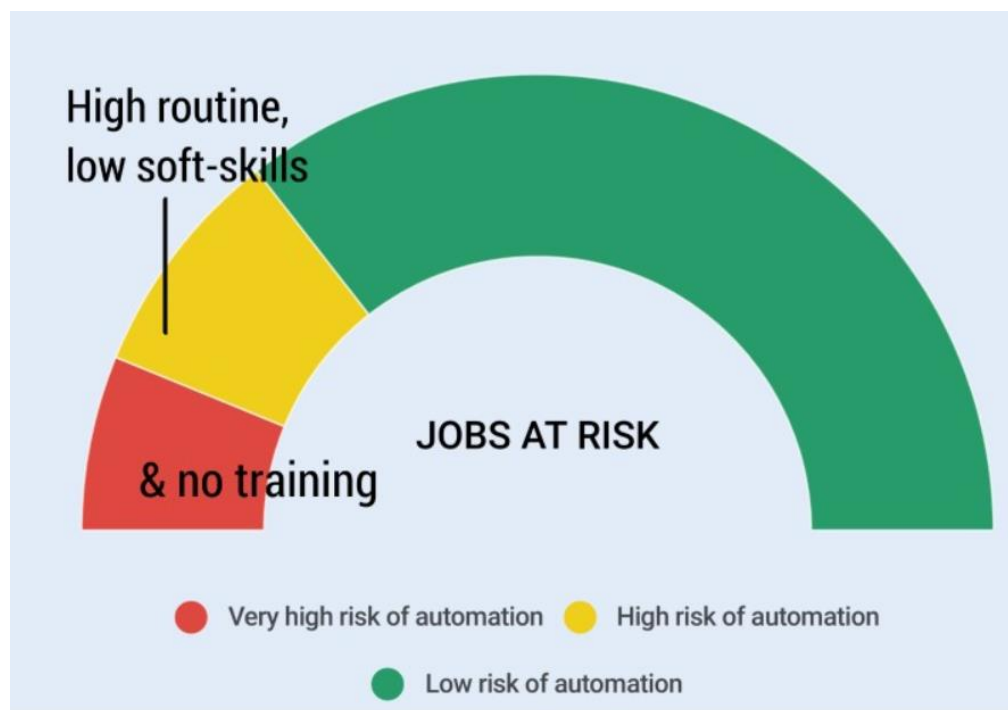
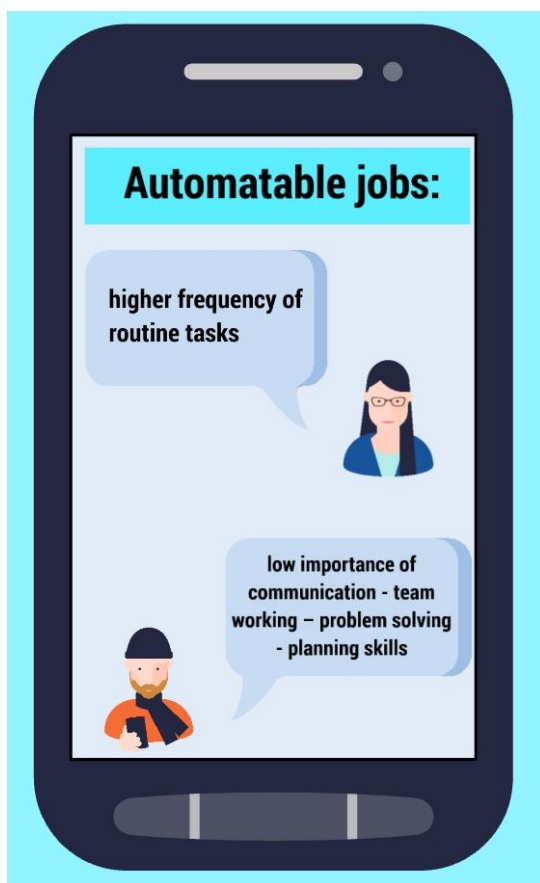
Note: Data are for average hourly compensation of production/nonsupervisory workers in the private sector and net productivity of the total economy. "Net productivity" is the growth of output of goods and services minus depreciation per hour worked.

Source: EPI analysis of data from the BEA and BLS (see technical appendix for more detailed information)

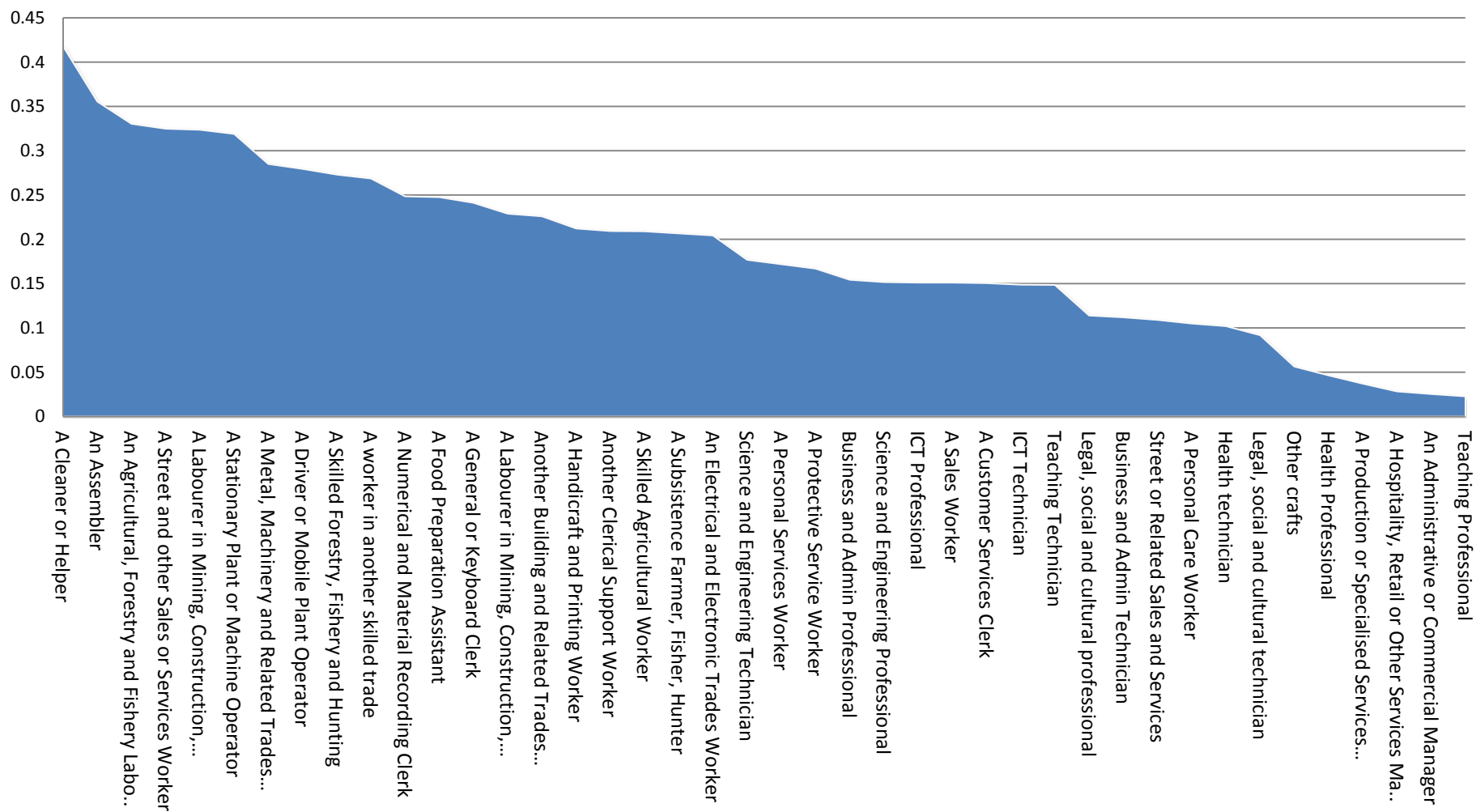
Important reflections

- Jobs at risk of automation possess certain 'attributes'
 - routine tasks
 - standardised or 'digital' content
 - less social interaction
 - non-complex problem solving
 - precise physical manipulation
- AI as opposed to robotics is making non-routine jobs vulnerable
- But estimates of automation subject to 'task measurement' (Biagi and Sebastian., 2018) and routinisation between and within occupations
 - E.g. a great paradox: ***fewer routine jobs but more routine work*** also in white-collar jobs (EWCS, 2000-2010) (Eurofound, 2016)

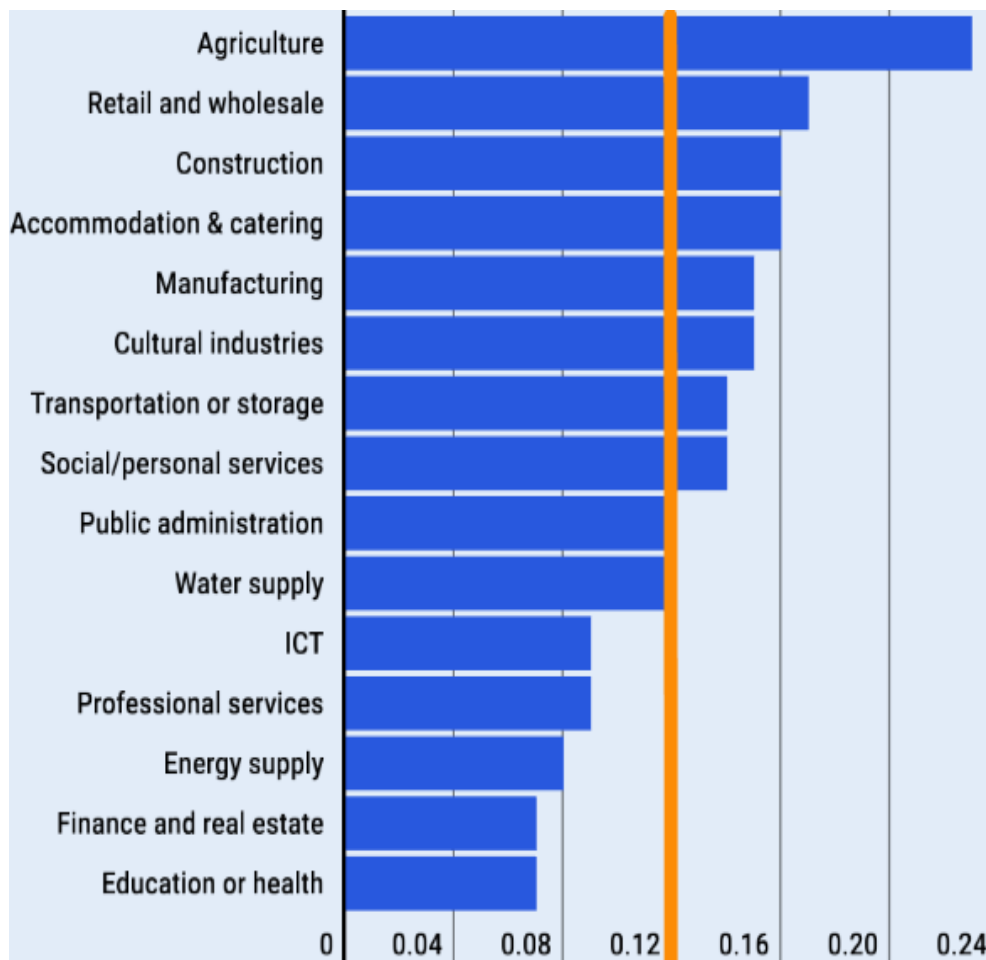
Risk of automation in EU jobs



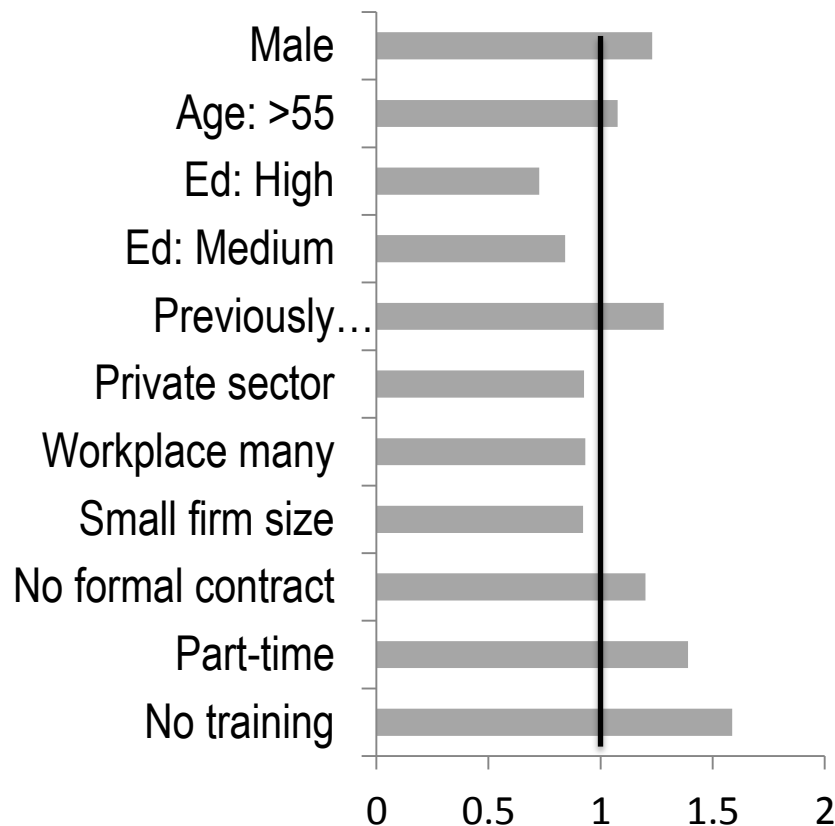
Estimated marginal probability of automation by 2-digit occupation, EU



Risk of automation in EU jobs



Odds of being in automatable job





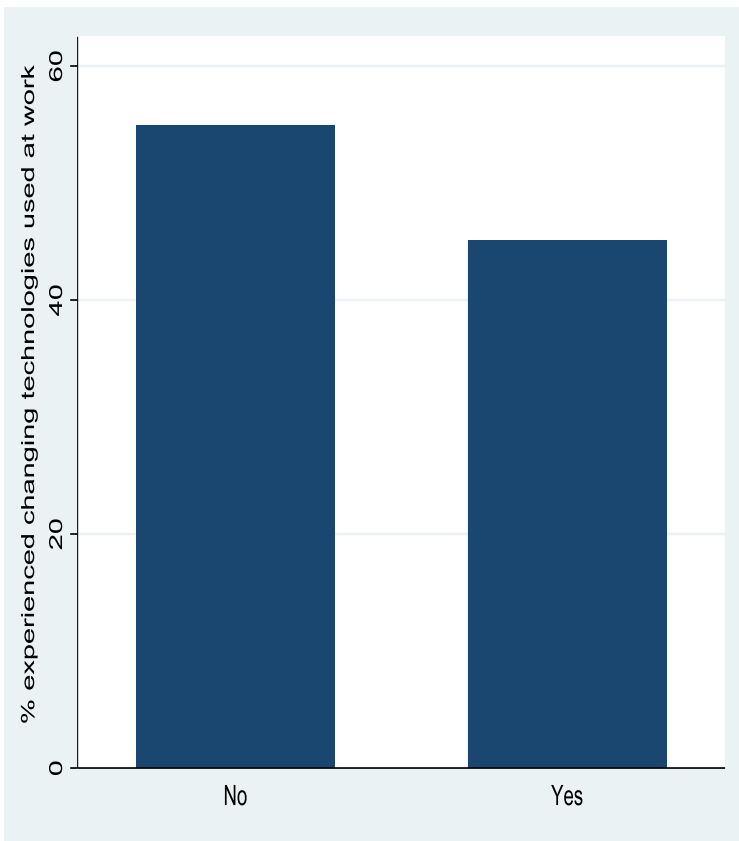
Impact of technology on skills

How does technological change affect labour market outcomes via skills obsolescence?

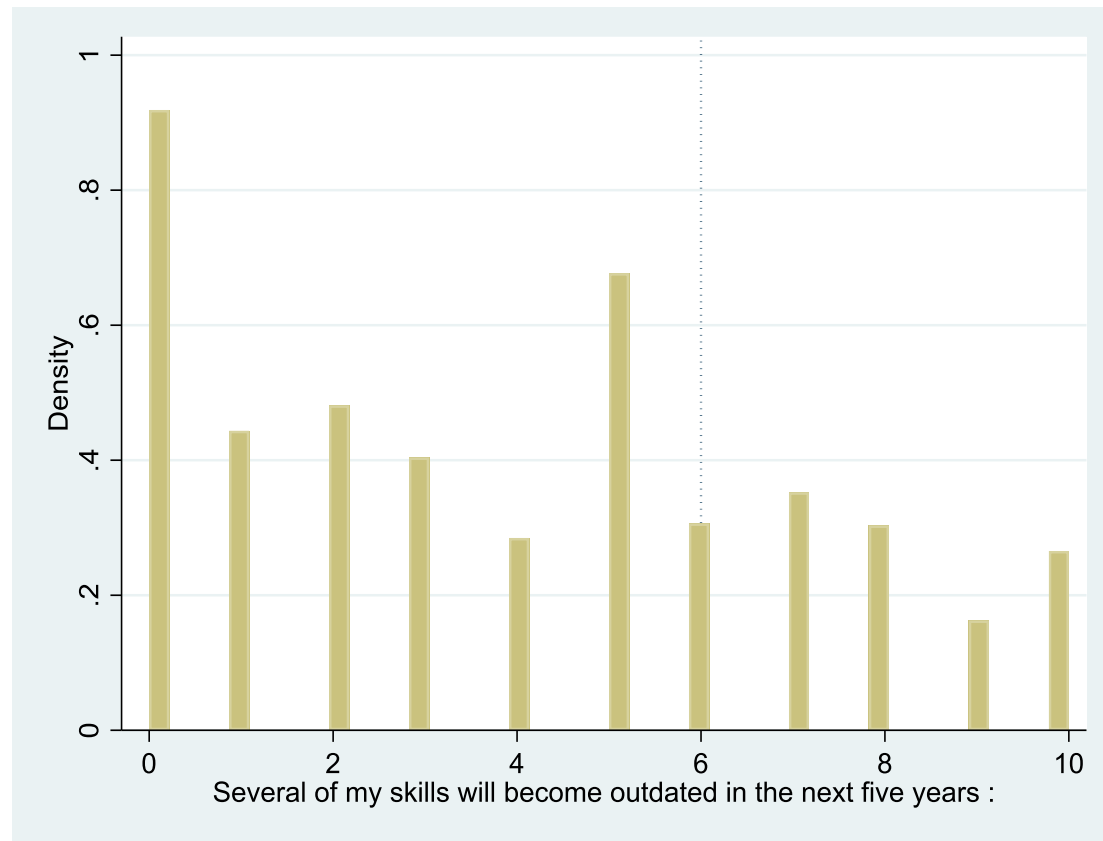


Technological skills obsolescence

43% new technologies at work



33% very high likelihood of skills obsolescence

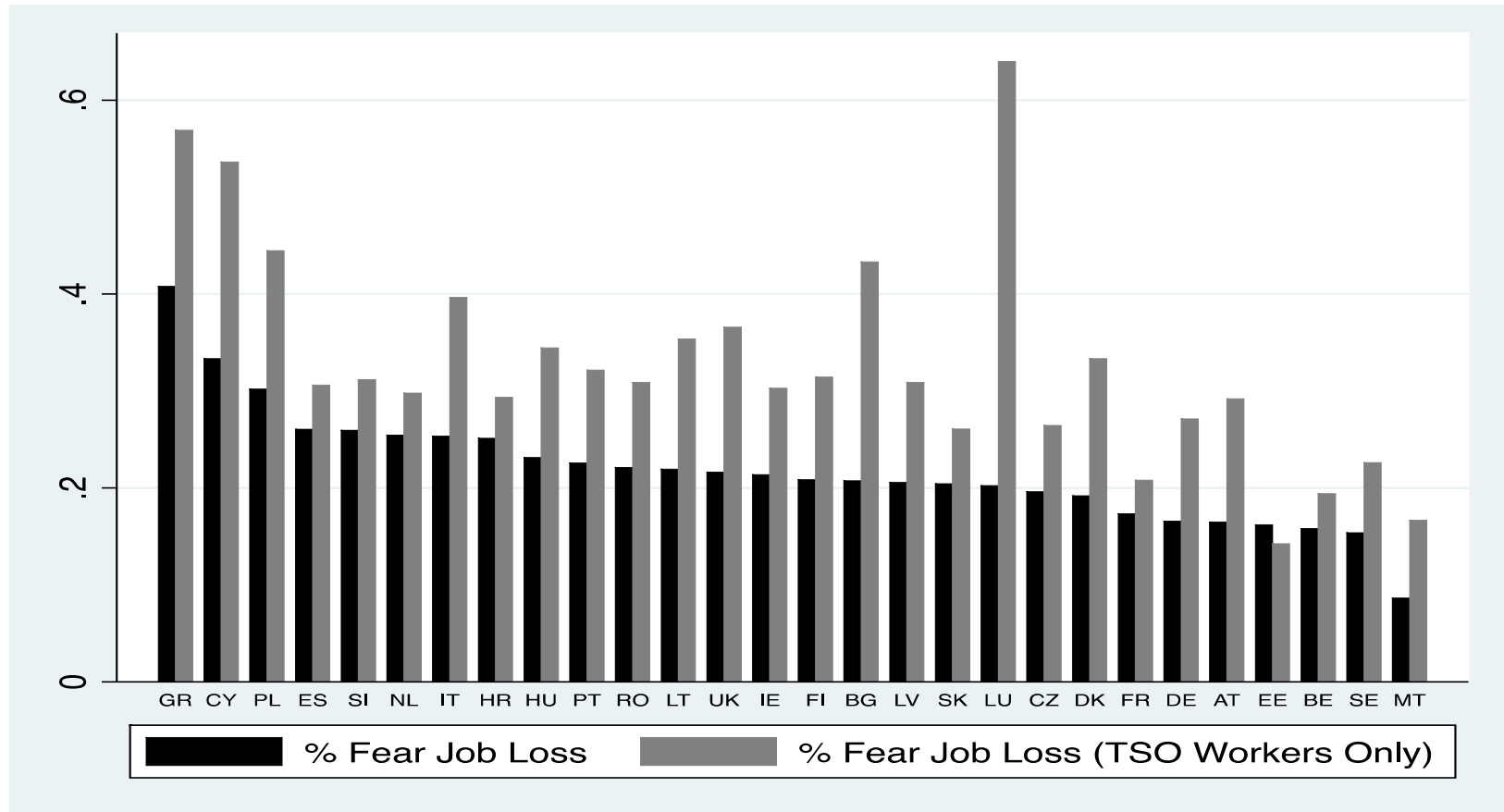


Technology: a high-skills affair

- *16% of EU adult employees at risk of TSO:*
 - *Individual:* older, males, higher education, longer tenure
 - *Job:* non-routine tasks, learning, large size, training, private sector
 - *Occupation:* mostly high-skilled/clerical/building and machine ops
- ***In contrast to automation, technological change (inc. digitisation) is dependent on high-skilled workplaces and workers in place!***
- If TSO is tantamount to labour-saving/job tasks replaced by technology -> lower productivity, job insecurity, lower job complexity, higher overskilling, lower job satisfaction....BUT...

Even though technology raises job insecurity...

Percentage of adult employees with fear of job loss by TSO



...technological change ‘raises the bar’ for skills

Impact of technological skills obsolescence on LM outcomes, adult employees, EU28

Skill complexity of job	1.784***
Underskilling	0.026***
Overskilling	-0.019**
Earnings	0.020*
Job Satisfaction	-0.034***
Job Insecurity	0.136***

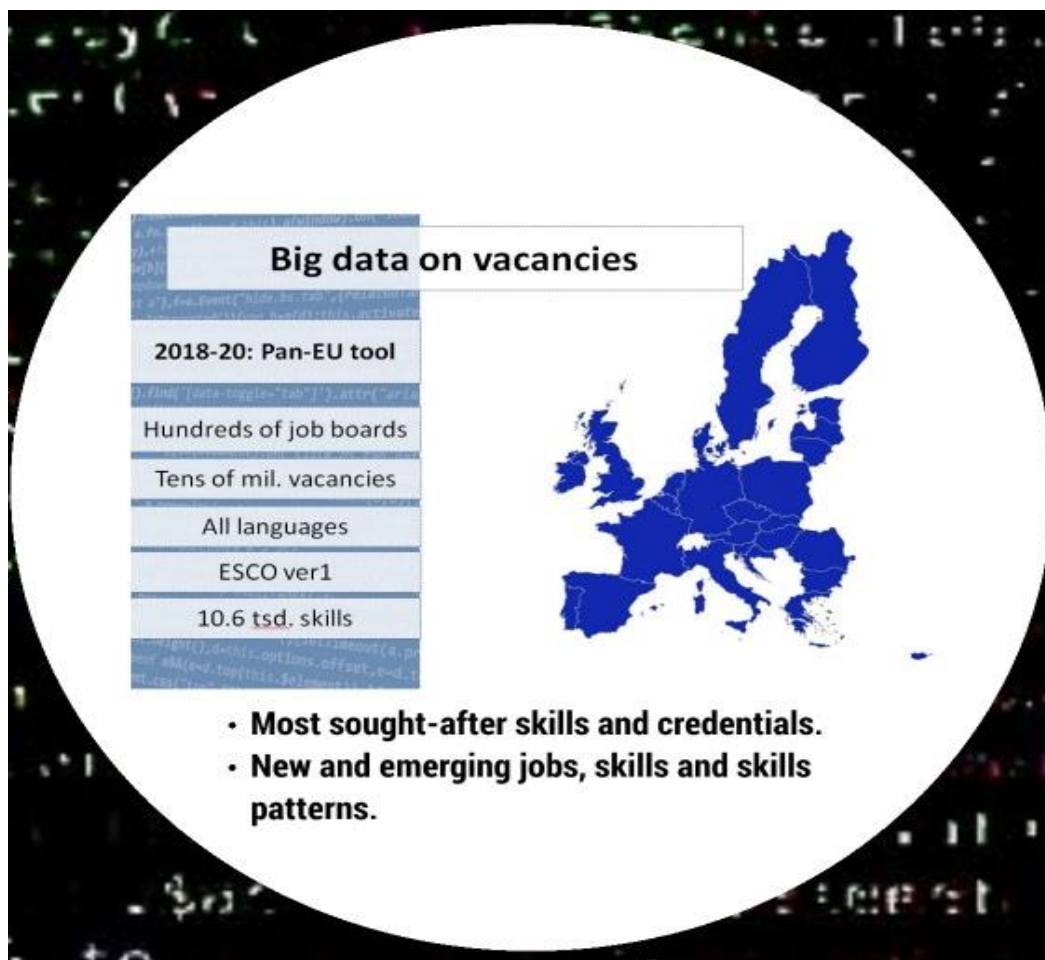
Notes: Propensity score matching estimates – ATT of LM outcome by TSO propensity



Challenges for policy



The power of Big Data



- Fast-deep LMI
- Skills matching
- Reskilling

- *Average no skills per vacancy*
- *% vacancies per occupation with skill 'i'*
- *Typical skills per vacancies of occupation*
- *% job-specific/transversal skills*
- *Occupation proximity by skills*
- *Regional concentration of vacancies*



The Upwork Skills Index

The top 20 fastest-growing skills, Q1 2017

1

ASANA WORK TRACKING

Track and manage projects with clear responsibilities and next steps.



2

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Harness the processing power of computers and AI algorithms to bring intelligent decision-making capabilities to systems.



3

RAPID PROTOTYPING

Quickly think up an idea and have a model in-hand that same day.



4

IMMIGRATION LAW

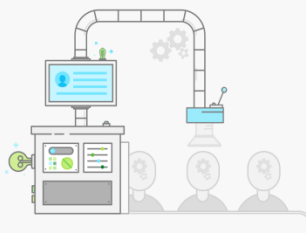
Navigate evolving policy changes and nuanced implications for your workforce.



5

NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

Use computers to understand human speech as it is spoken - what powers Alexa and Google Assistant.



6

INSTAGRAM MARKETING

Engage your customers and build your brand with organic and ad-based promotion.



ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- 7 A/B testing
- 8 Twilio API development
- 9 C++ development
- 10 Swift development
- 11 Brand strategy
- 12 Marketo marketing automation
- 13 Penetration testing
- 14 Docker development
- 15 Relationship management
- 16 Application security
- 17 AngularJS development
- 18 Accounting (CPA)
- 19 Machine learning
- 20 JIRA administration



MOST IMPORTANT QUALITIES OF A TOP EMPLOYEE?

- Being a good coach
- Communication skills
- Possessing insights into others and different values and points of view
- Empathy toward one's colleagues
- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Drawing conclusions (making connections across complex ideas)
- STEM skills

The Google logo is displayed in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, blue, green, red) against a light blue background with faint, illegible text. The logo is positioned at the bottom of the slide, partially overlapping the light blue speech bubble area.

Implications for education & training

The promise

- 'Individualisation'
- Massive, online, open
- Non-credentialism
- New learning platforms

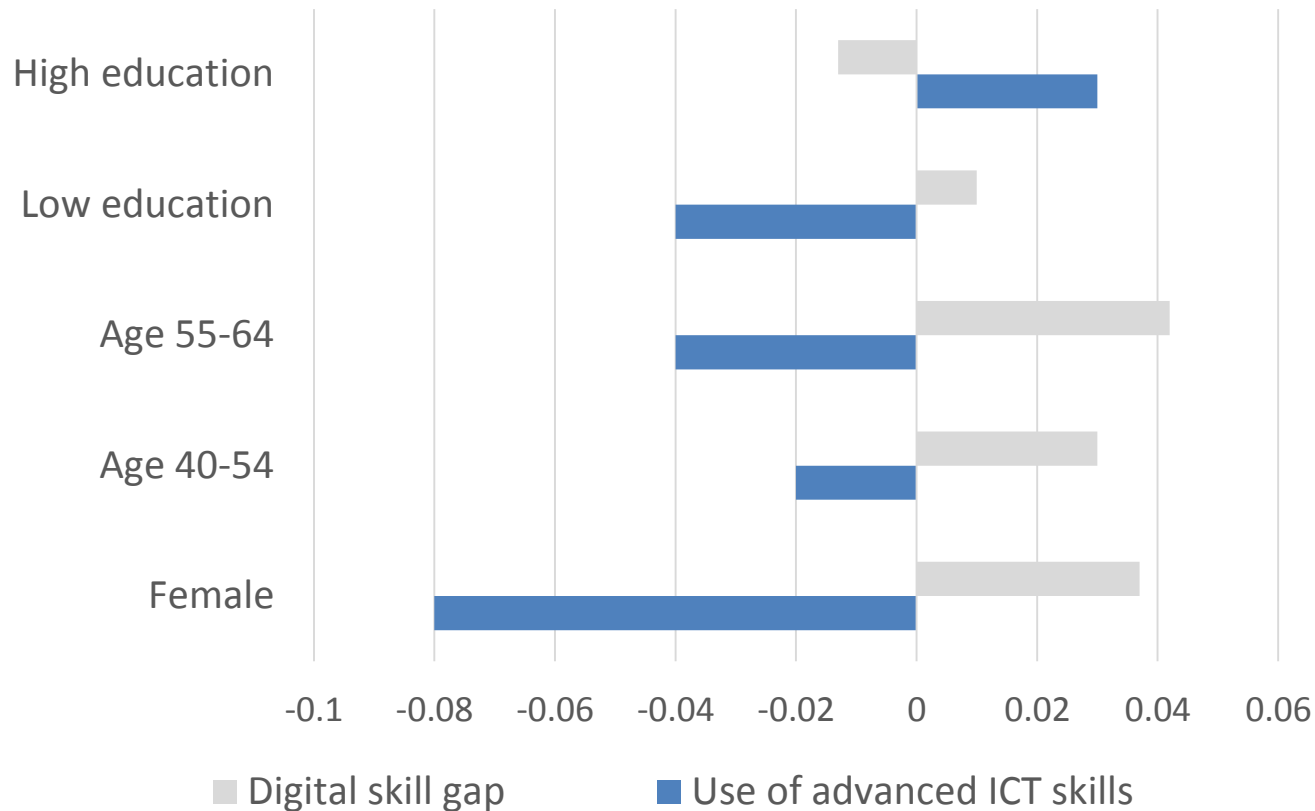


The challenge

- Biases
- Inequality
- Homo adaptus
- Quality assurance
- EQF responsiveness
- Governance
- 'Personalisation'
(learning & career guidance)
- Humans-in-command

The digital divide fosters social exclusion

Use of advanced ICT skills in jobs and risk of digital skill gaps in jobs, 2014, EU28

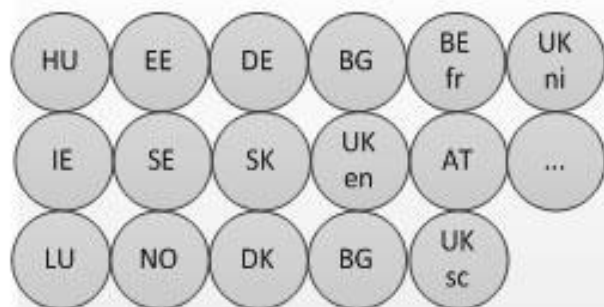


Source: Cedefop European skills and jobs survey (ESJS)

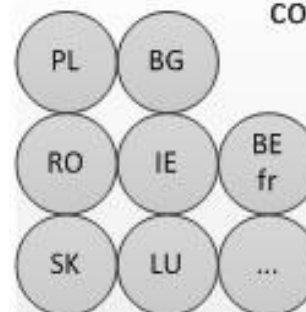
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events-and-projects/projects/european-skills-and-jobs-esj-survey>

Initial VET policy clusters in 2015-17

Promoting digital competence



Promoting entrepreneurship competence



Continuing VET policy clusters in 2015-17

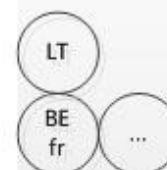
Promoting digital competence



Promoting entrepreneurship competence



Promoting learning-to-learn competence



Complementarity between ICT/other skills for work

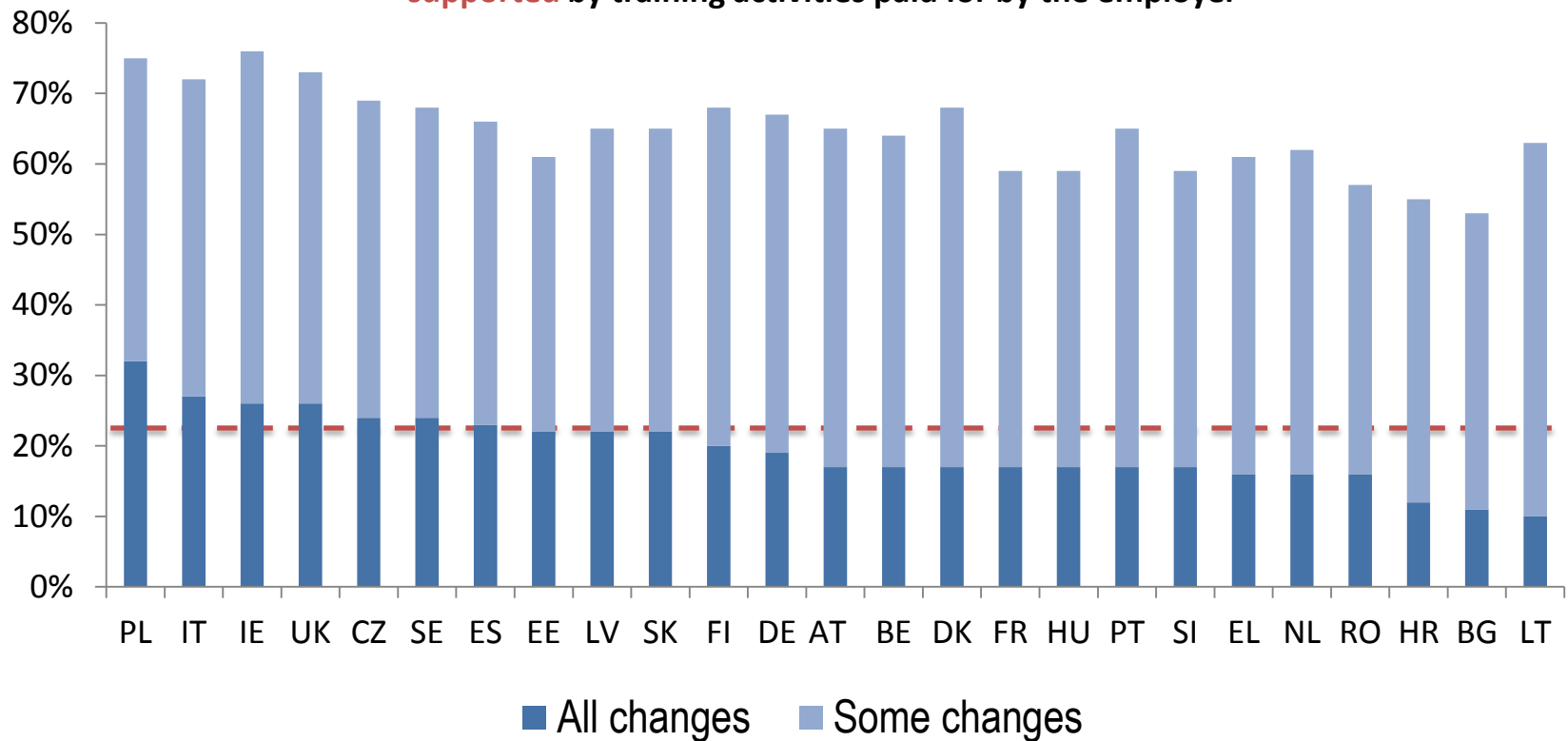
■ Advanced ICT level ■ Basic/moderate ICT level ■ No ICT needed for work

Interpretation: in 'average' EU jobs requiring advanced ICT skills there is an 0.10 estimated probability that numeracy skills are also of high importance, while there is a 0.05 probability of them not requiring communication skills



More supportive CVET needed

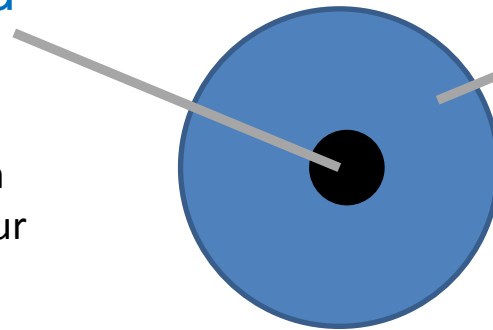
% adult workers who experienced changes (e.g. in technologies used) in workplace and were **supported** by training activities paid for by the employer



Strengthening system adaptability

labour market and skills intelligence

collecting and analysing data and information on current and future labour market trends and skill needs



Skills governance

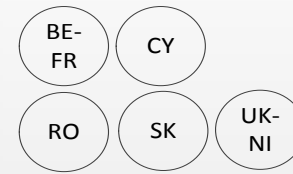
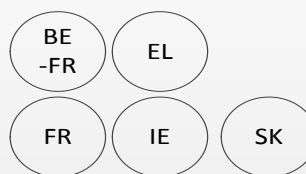
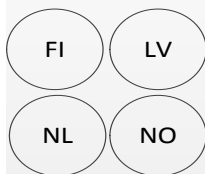
The system of institutions, operational processes and dissemination channels aimed at facilitating stakeholder interaction and policy responses based on labour market information signals

Setting the framework for feedback loops

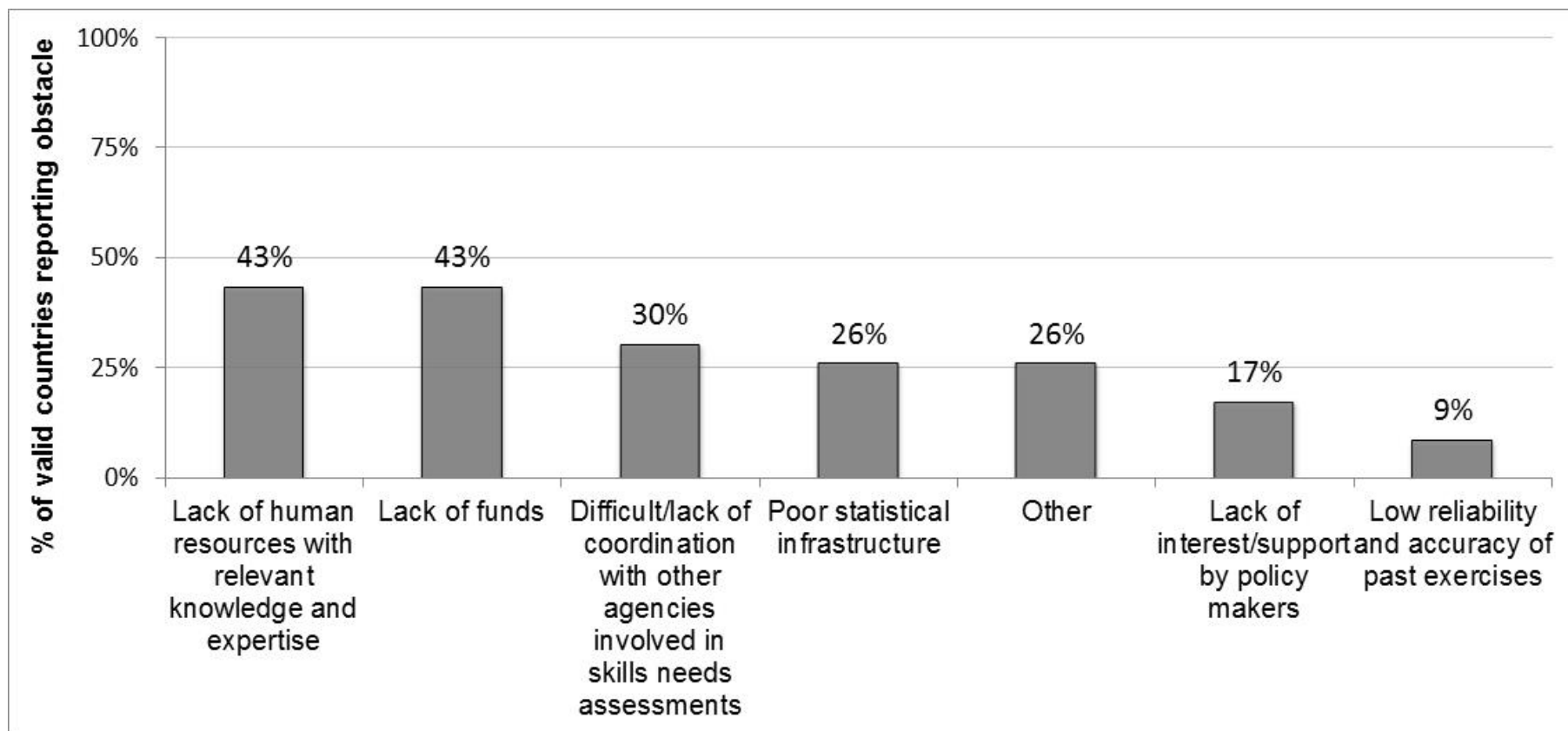
Formal feedback mechanisms

Legislative framework

Anticipation and monitoring mechanisms as part of 2020 strategies



...by overcoming barriers to effective skills governance



Cedefop's skills governance framework

culture

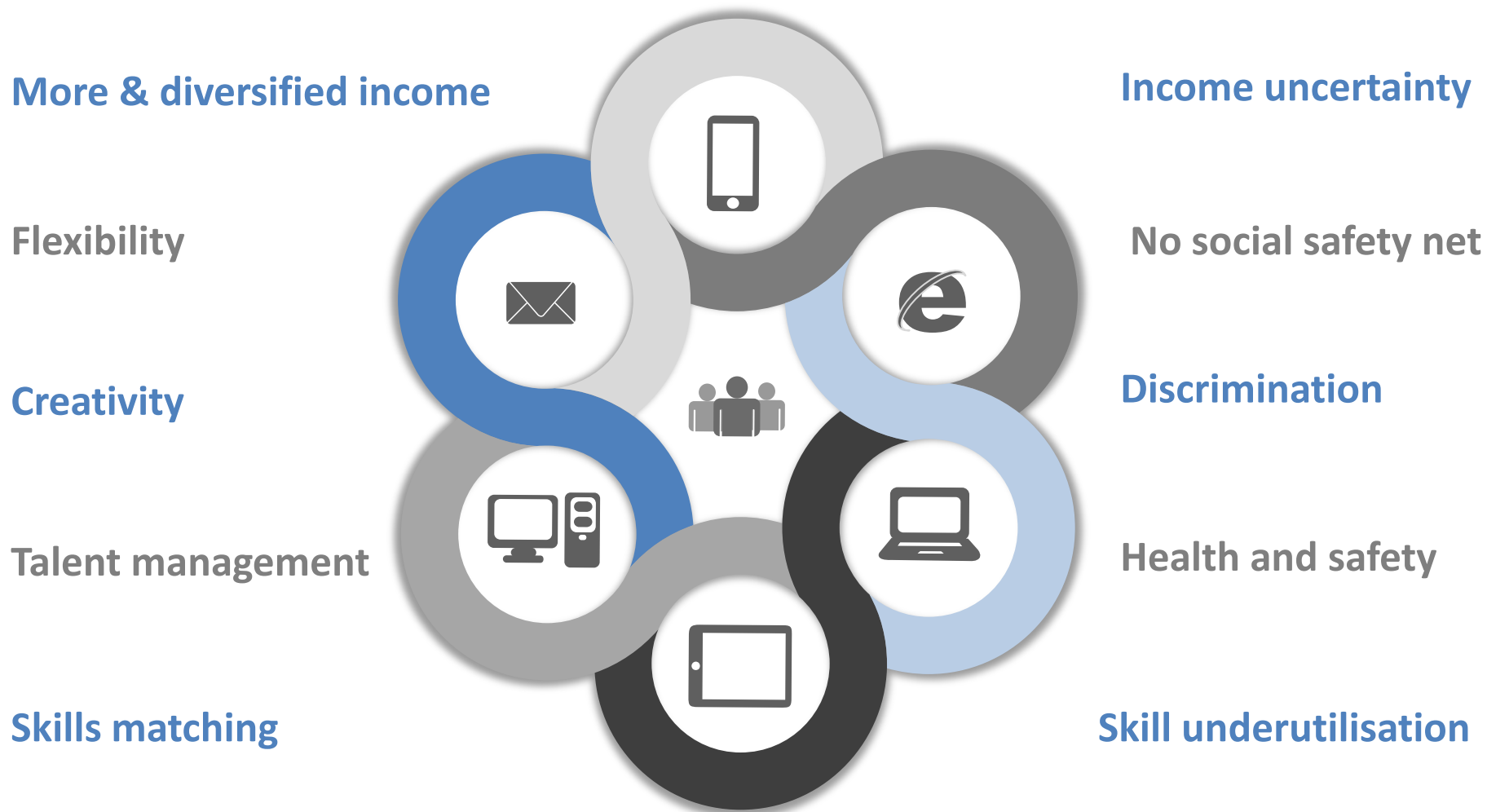
history

	Organisation	Resources	Stakeholders	Use of information
Foundations	A Legal and institutional framework	D Funding and human resources	G Cooperation arrangements	J Feedback mechanisms
Processes	B Management and control	E Data, methods and expertise	H Feedback and validation	K Customisation and dissemination
Sustainability	C Vision and strategy	F Stability	I Integration of stakeholder needs	L Reputation

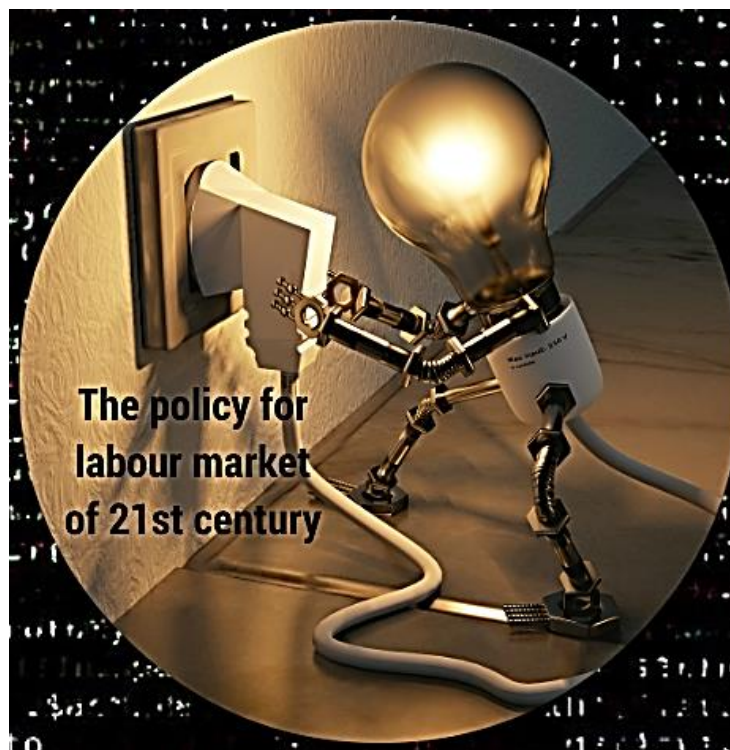
economy

demography

Rewards and risks of online labour



- AI fair, reliable, private, safe, inclusive, transparent, accountable



- A new regulatory model for digital labour

- Upskilling and reskilling...

- ...with labour market reforms, innovation/competition policy, social equality



Cedefop and future of work

How technologies
change demand for jobs
and skills?

How technologies change the
way we work, collaborate,
connect and learn?

-
- Cedefop's skills forecast (2016-2030)
 - Skills Panorama
 - European skills and jobs survey (2nd wave)
 - European company survey (4th wave)
 - Skills demand in online job vacancies
 - Skills development and matching in online platform work

Cedefop's project:

Skills formation and matching ...



... in online
platform work
(2018-2020)

Skills, careers and learning

- Skills utilization
- Work context
- Motivation & search strategies
- Skills gaps
- Learning and skills development
- Career development

Actors, institutions & policy

- Actors and institutions investing in crowdworkers' skills
- New forms of skills 'signalling'
- Role of commercial entities in certifying skills
- Implications on skills portability
- EU VET/employment policy?

For more information

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