

Sixth Policy Learning Forum (PLF)

on upskilling pathways for all adults: understanding inequalities in skills development and shaping forward-looking approaches

Venue: European Economic and Social Committee (EESC),

Jacques Delors building, Rue Belliard 99-101, 1040 Brussels

Programme

DAY 1 – 9 November 2026 (all times are CET)

09.00 – 10.00 Entrance hall Room: JDE62	Registration and welcome coffee
10.00 – 10.30 Room: JDE62	Welcome and introduction ▪ Giovanni Marcantonio, <i>President of the Labour Market Observatory (LMO), EESC</i> ▪ Jürgen Siebel, <i>Executive Director, Cedefop</i> ▪ Diana Andreea Spiridon, <i>Team leader for adult skills policy, European Commission, DG EMPL</i>
10.30 – 11.30 Room: JDE 62	Session 1. Participation in (formal and non-formal) provision and the learning content of jobs Chair: Lidia Salvatore, <i>Expert, Cedefop</i> Participation in formal and non-formal provision: who takes part, who does not, and what the data can tell us about why Jiri Branka and Pier Paolo Agenlini, <i>Experts, Cedefop</i> Learning content of jobs – how employees develop their job-related skills and the role of workplaces Giulia Santangelo, <i>Expert, Cedefop</i>



11.30 – 11.50	Coffee break
11.50– 12.50 Room: JDE 62	Session 2. From diagnosis to action: tackling unequal participation in provision Chair: Ramona David Craescu, <i>Department Coordinator, Department for VET and Skills, Cedefop</i> Policy responses to unequal participation: what works? Lidia Salvatore, <i>Expert, Cedefop</i> Guidance: who it reaches, who provides it, and what difference it makes Pier Paolo Angelini, <i>Expert, Cedefop</i> <i>Introduction to the mixed stakeholder roundtable discussions</i>
12.50 – 13.00	
13.00 – 14.00	Networking lunch
14.00 – 17.00 Atrium 6	Session 3. Mixed stakeholder roundtable discussions <i>Two rounds of parallel round-table discussions – coffee served in the room 15.15 - 15.30</i> Round 1: Inactive adults: where policies get stuck 14.00 – 15.15 Round 2: Employees in jobs with low learning content – where policies reach their limits 15.30 – 16.45 Closing of day 1 and introduction to day 2 16.45 - 17.00
	End of day 1

DAY 2 – 10 November 2026 (all times are CET)

09.00 – 10.00	Registration and welcome coffee
10:00 – 10.10 <i>Room: VMA22</i>	Welcome and objectives of the second day Ramona David Craescu, <i>Coordinator, Cedefop</i>
10.10 – 10.45 <i>Room: VMA22</i>	Session 1. Reporting from the parallel round-tables Chair: Ramona David Craescu, <i>Department Coordinator, Department for VET and Skills, Cedefop</i>
10.45 – 11.30 <i>Room: VMA22</i>	Session 2. Shaping the future of learning at and through work: four scenarios and the choices that separate them Chair: Tatjana Babrauskienė, <i>Head of International Department, Lithuanian Education and Science Trade Union, Vice-Chairperson of the Cedefop Management Board</i> Cedefop presentation, perspectives from the two vice Presidents from LMO, EESC to be followed by Q&A and open discussion ▪ Lidia Salvatore, <i>Expert, Cedefop</i> ▪ Jean-Michel Pottier, <i>Vice-president of the Labour Market Observatory, EESC (from Employers' group)</i> ▪ Nicoletta Merlo, <i>EESC rapporteur on skills (from Workers' group)</i>
11.30– 11.45	Coffee break

11.45 – 12.45 Room: VMA22	Session 3. Panel discussion: European stakeholder panel: what needs to be done now Chair: Ramona David Craescu, <i>Department Coordinator, Department for VET and Skills, Cedefop</i> ▪ Employees' representative: Agnes Roman, <i>ETUC</i> ▪ Employers' representative: Nils Elofsson, <i>BusinessEurope</i> ▪ Government representative: Eimear Ellis, <i>Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS)</i> ▪ Civil Society Organisations' representative: Silvie Pýchová, <i>member of the Labour Market Observatory, EESC (From the Civil Society Organisations' Group)</i>
12.45 – 13.00 Room: VMA22	Session 4. Concluding remarks ▪ Cinzia Del Rio, <i>President of the Section for Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship (SOC), EESC</i> ▪ Ramona David Craescu, <i>Coordinator, Cedefop</i> End of the event

Simultaneous interpretation is available in English, French and Italian.

To join the conversation online, please tag [Cedefop](#)

Follow us on social media:

