

23rd ReferNet annual plenary

meeting

22-23 October 2025 Thessaloniki, Greece

#ReferNet



#ReferNet

Draft programme

DAY 1 – 22 October 2025 (all times are EET)

09.00 – 10.00	Participant arrival and registration
10:00 – 10.15 <i>Europa</i> 10.15 – 10.45 <i>Europa</i>	Welcome and opening of the 23 rd ReferNet plenary meeting Chair: loannis Katsikis, <i>ReferNet Coordinator</i> , <i>Department for VET and qualifications</i> , <i>Cedefop</i>
	 Juergen Siebel, Cedefop Executive Director Irene Mandl, Head of the Department for VET and qualifications, Cedefop
	Session 1. Keynote speech on the Union of Skills & the European VET Strategy
	Representative of the European Commission (tbc)



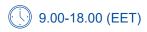
10.45 – 11.15 Europa	Session 2. ReferNet: state of the network 2025-26 Ioannis Katsikis, ReferNet Coordinator, Cedefop
11.15 – 11.30	Coffee Break and Family Photo
11.30 – 12.15 Europa	Session 3. Cedefop strategic planning – 2026 Chair: Ioannis Katsikis, ReferNet Coordinator, Cedefop George Kostakis, Coordinator, Department for VET and qualifications, Cedefop Ramona David and Jasper van Loo, Coordinators,
	Department for VET and skills, Cedefop
12.15 – 13.15 Europa	Session 4. Workshop on AI @ ReferNet: challenges and opportunities Chair: Anthie Kyriakopoulou, Department for VET and qualifications,
	Cedefop
	 Mantas Sekmokas, DVS, Cedefop Joanna Napierala, DVS, Cedefop Adam Tsakalidis, DVS, Cedefop
	 Michail Papazoglou, DVS, Cedefop
13.15 – 14.15	Lunch Break
14.15 – 15.15 Europa	Session 5. Review of the 2025 ReferNet workplan – adhoc activities Chair: Ioannis Katsikis
	Financing adult learning/CVET and recent developments on ILA
	Mantas Sekmokas and Patrycja Lipinska, <i>Cedefop</i>
	VET excellence and inclusion for the 21st century
	 Anastasia Pouliou and Vasilis Symeonidis, Cedefop
	Spotlight on Jobs and Skills in Europe • Stelina Chatzichristou and Jasper van Loo, <i>Cedefop</i>
15.15-15.30	Coffee Break
15.30-16.30	Session 6. Review of the 2025 ReferNet workplan Workshop on policy reporting







Europa	Moderators: Irina Jemeljanova, <i>Department for VET and qualifications, Cedefop</i> VET Policy and Systems Team, <i>Cedefop</i>
16.30-17.00 <i>Montessori</i>	Session 7. Meeting with newcomers – open discussion Moderators: Ioannis Katsikis, Chryssa Zekou, Beatrice Herpin and Cleopatra Efstathiou
All day Alexandria	Open desk on Financial and reporting issues Beatrice Herpin, <i>Cedefop</i>
16.30-17.00 Rousseau	Bilateral meetings with Cedefop country managers - networking opportunities
16.30-17.00 Rousseau	Bilateral meetings with Cedefop experts - networking opportunities
19.30-22.30	Social programme – Dinner Restaurant Kazaviti, city center





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 $DAY\ 2-23\ October\ 2025\ (\text{all times are EET})$

09.00 – 09.30	Participant arrival
09.30 – 11.15 Europa	Session 8. Review of the 2025 ReferNet workplan Chair: George Kostakis, Coordinator, Department for VET and qualifications, Cedefop
	VET in Europe database – updating information about VET systems • Dmitrijs Kulss, Cedefop
	Data collection for the revamped IVET Mobility Scoreboard • Aristos Theocharous and Nikolaos Georgiadis, Cedefop
11.15 – 11.30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:00 Europa	Session 9. ReferNet Perspectives: The evolving role of microcredentials for social inclusion
	Live link with the Microcredentials and the future of learning virtual event) • Anastasia Pouliou and Iraklis Pliakis
12.00 – 13.15 <i>Europa</i>	Session 10. Preparing the 2026 ReferNet workplan Chair: Ioannis Katsikis, <i>ReferNet Coordinator, Cedefop</i>
	Financing adult learning/CVET – augmenting and disseminating reports prepared in 2025
	 Mantas Sekmokas and Patrycja Lipinska, Cedefop
	Survey on the development and use of digital credentials and digital tools
	■ Zelda Azzara, <i>Cedefop</i>
	Teachers and Trainers in a changing world. Boosting their continuing professional development





	■ Rena Psifidou, <i>Cedefop</i>
13.15 – 14.15	Lunch Break
14.15 – 14.45 Europa	Session 11. Responsible AI in VET: Ethical Use, Bias and Inclusion in Vocational Education and Training Chair: Ioannis Katsikis,
14.45 – 15.30	Session 12. ReferNet Communication activities
Europa	Chair: Alfredo Salmaso and Christina Comunian, <i>Department for Communication, Cedefop</i>
15.30-16.15	Session 13. ReferNet publications
Europa	■ Tbc, <i>Cedefop</i>
16.15-16.30	Coffee Break
16.30-17.30	Session 14. ReferNet 2.0: Changing the funding mechanism:
Europa	open discussion with the partners Chair: Ioannis Katsikis, <i>Cedefop</i> Irene Mandl and George Kostakis, <i>Cedefop</i>
16.45-17.00 Europa	Session 15. Concluding remarks Irene Mandl, George Kostakis and Ioannis Katsikis, <i>Cedefop</i>

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