

**SKILLSNET e-bulletin: August 2017****Highlight of the month****First full version of the European classification of Skills, Competences, Occupations and Qualifications is live!**

The Commission has launched the first full version of the European classification of Skills, Competences, Occupations and Qualifications (ESCO). The classification is available in 26 languages (the 24 EU languages, Icelandic and Norwegian). ESCO facilitates the dialogue between labour market and the education/training sector by providing a common language that could help overcome labour market imbalances and increase occupational and geographical mobility in the EU. Concretely, ESCO connects people and jobs, by providing a common language that helps jobseekers to find the job that best matches their skills. As recruitment is increasingly digitised, both employers and jobseekers need to use digital tools that allow them to communicate in a meaningful manner. ESCO aims to make these digital tools work better together. Read more [here](#).

**News from Cedefop****Call for tenders: Validation of non-formal and informal learning and career guidance**

The study will investigate the necessary conditions, synergies and efficiency gains of linking validation and career guidance and counselling services. The deadline for submitting tenders is the **05.09.2017** while requests for additional information/clarification should be received by the 25.08.2017. Read more [here](#).

**Call for tenders: The potential of work-based learning in developing upskilling pathways for adults**

Purpose of this study is to understand the potential of work-based learning programmes in developing upskilling pathways type of schemes for adults. The contractor, in close cooperation with Cedefop project manager(s) will develop a methodology, which exploiting the potential of work-based learning, addresses the upskilling of adults in a coherent and systematic manner. The deadline for submitting tenders is the **07.09.2017**. Requests for additional information/clarification should be received by 29.08.2017. Find more [here](#).

**Call for tenders: Complementary pathways for adult refugees: the role of VET, skills and qualifications**

The purpose of this study is to improve knowledge and understanding of the role of VET, skills and qualifications to expand the possibilities of adult refugees to move from a first host country to another country where they may find employment and education and training opportunities and by which refugees may reach durable solutions to their international protection needs. Far from seeking utopic answers, the overall objective of this project is therefore to provide a pragmatic contribution to the design of socially sustainable and effective mechanisms to improve the management of the refugee crisis in EU Member States. The deadline for submitting tenders is the **08.09.2017** while requests for additional information/clarification should be received by 30.08.2017. Find more [here](#).

**Call for tenders: Comparing Vocational Education and Training Qualifications: towards a European Comparative Methodology**

The purpose of the contract is to facilitate the development of methodologies for comparison of national VET qualifications. Building on previous work (Cedefop 2017), the purpose is to scale up and strengthen these comparative methodologies so as to promote mutual learning between countries and facilitate strengthening of relevance and quality of VET qualifications at national level. The deadline for submitting tenders is the **15.09.2017**. Requests for additional information/clarification should be received by 06.09.2017. Read more [here](#).

**News from Skillsnet members****Cedefop invites applications for the position of an assistant – Analysis of VET policies and systems, temporary agent, (External and interagency)**

Cedefop invites applications (both external and interagency) for the position of an assistant – Analysis of VET policies and systems, temporary agent (AST 4). The deadline for submitting applications is the 30.08.2017 at 15:00 Greek time. The on-line application form and the text of the vacancy notice are can be found [here](#).

**Cedefop invites applications for the position of the Head of Human Resources (external and interagency)**

Cedefop invites applications (both external and interagency) for the position of Head of Human Resources, temporary agent, (AD 8). The deadline for submitting applications is the 13.09.2017 at 15.00 Greek time. Applications must be submitted on-line. The on-line application form and text of the vacancy notice can be found [here](#).

**Addressing and preventing low skills discussed at Cedefop seminar**

Cedefop's Brussels-based seminars, organised in cooperation with the rotating Presidencies of the European Union (EU), are now becoming an established tradition. **The third of these seminars**, on 26 June, was organised together with the Maltese EU Presidency and focused on addressing and preventing low skills. It was attended by more than 50 representatives from the permanent representations to the EU, the European institutions and other organisations based in Brussels. Find more [here](#).

**European Commission: New Skills Profile tool to help non-EU nationals enter the labour market**

The EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals has been launched by the European Commission. It is an off- and online web editor that will make it possible for non-EU nationals to present their skills, qualifications, and experiences in a way that is well understood by employers, education and training providers and organisations working with migrants across the whole European Union. This will be a first instrument for organisations offering services to non-EU nationals to make sure their skills and education are recognised, and to further guide them to training, education or employment. Find more [here](#).

**Cedefop: Vocational education and training: bridging refugee and employer needs**

Over the past two years, Europe has received an unprecedented number of refugees and asylum seekers. Many of these are here to stay, and the European Union needs to ensure that they enter the labour market and become self-reliant as quickly as possible. Cedefop cooperates with the OECD in supporting refugee integration through skilling and qualification. To this end, the two organisations launched a joint survey, carried out by Cedefop's national **ReferNet** partners. The results of this survey form the basis of a **briefing note** published by Cedefop. Find more [here](#).

## Cedefop - Call for tenders: Skills formation and skills matching in online platform work: Practices and policies for promoting crowd workers' continuing learning

The purpose of this contract is to engage in qualitative and quantitative research of the scope, patterns and challenges of continuous learning, skills development and skills matching of individuals employed in new ICT-based forms of work, specifically in the platform or 'gig' economy. The aim of this contract is to collect new insights and inform the design of suitable policies for promoting effective learning practices among digital platform workers. Deadline for submitting tenders: **27.09.2017**. Requests for additional information/clarification should be received by 19.09.2017. Find more [here](#).

## Cedefop - Call for tenders: Key competences in vocational education and training

The contract will support continuous learning in vocational education and training (VET) policy development within priorities and commitments of Bruges communiqué and Riga conclusions through a study that will identify the state of play for two selected key competences in initial VET in EU+ (EU Member States, Norway and Iceland), evaluate the challenges in policy implementation of the selected key competences and suggest innovative approaches for future policy implementation. Deadline for submitting tenders: 28.09.2017. Requests for additional information/clarification should be received by 20.09.2017. Find more [here](#).

## Skills publications

### Cedefop new briefing note: People, machines, robots and skills



Technological unemployment is a recurring theme, but joblessness in the digital age will depend on human, not artificial, intelligence. With forecasts that nearly half of jobs in advanced economies may be automated out of existence, excitement at the prospects of what the World Economic Forum says is a Fourth Industrial Revolution is tempered by worries that people will either lose their jobs to robots and machines, or be unable to find suitable work in the new digital age. Read more [here](#).

### Sustainable Activation of NEETs



This toolkit is intended to assist you in designing and implementing your approach to activate people not in employment, education and training (NEETs). The toolkit provides concrete guidance and tools for PES to assess the NEET challenge and set priorities; draft and implement an Action Plan; and develop new tools, measures and competences from scratch. Read more [here](#).

### Impact of digitalisation and the on-demand economy on labour markets and the consequences for employment and industrial relations

Digitalisation is transforming business landscapes and the world of work and redefining the boundaries of production, consumption and distribution. This has created tremendous opportunities, as new products, processes and techniques have emerged, but have also created threats, as new ways of employment pose new challenges to employers and employees. The overall consequences for labour markets, however, are still uncertain, which is reflected in the wide variation in the outcomes of the existing research. Read more [here](#).

### Investing in skills pays off: The economic and social cost of low-skilled adults in the EU



This Cedefop study seeks to provide a comprehensive and robust evidence base in relation to low-skilled adults in the European Union. It analyses trends in low skills among adults as well as characteristics, determinants and risks of being low skilled. Read more [here](#).

## Towards age-friendly work in Europe: a life-course perspective on work and ageing from EU Agencies

The EU's population and workforce are ageing. This has implications for employment, working conditions, living standards and welfare. A new report shows how information from four agencies, including Cedefop, can support policy-making that is both complementary and greater than the sum of its parts. The report, coordinated by EU-OSHA, draws on the agencies' expertise in each of their areas and covers the different challenges associated with the ageing workforce and considers innovative solutions. Read more [here](#).

## OECD: Enhancing employability and skills to meet labour market needs in Italy

The various deficiencies of the labour market and the educational system have resulted in high unemployment, low labour force participation, low skills levels and high skill mismatch. The various deficiencies of the labour market and the educational system have resulted in high unemployment, low labour force participation, low skills levels and high skill mismatch. Job creation is key to tackling the high unemployment rates, especially for the young and long-term unemployed. Promoting jobs without paying attention to their quality and to the skills required by employers may have adverse impact on welfare and productivity. Find more [here](#).

## Forthcoming events

### Policy learning forum on apprenticeships

**Date:** 07 - 08/09/2017, **Place:** Cedefop, Greece

The first policy learning forums (PLFs) on apprenticeships is linked to the thematic country reviews on apprenticeships (TCRs), which Cedefop launched in 2014. With the TCRs Cedefop supports cooperation at European level among Member States and interacts with individual countries that wish to develop quality apprenticeships, in line with EU policies. Cedefop's PLFs are an opportunity for countries to generate knowledge and they act as a site of consensus-building around shared problems. The 2017 PLF on apprenticeships addresses the countries that are involved at different stages in the TCRs and flash TCRs on apprenticeships, or that expressed their interest to participate. Find more [here](#).

### From prototype to production: Follow-up of the 2017 European Big Data Hackathon

**Date:** 18 - 19/09/2017, **Place:** Cedefop, Greece

Inspired by the outcomes of the European Big Data Hackathon, organised in March 2017, Eurostat and Cedefop aim to capitalise on the ideas and solutions generated and to boost their further development in a framework of high policy relevance. The aim is to foster the development of solutions that integrate various datasets, big data techniques and powerful visualisations to offer policy relevant evidence on skills mismatch in Europe. Nine Hackathon teams agreed to participate in the seminar. They will work further on their initial proposals and present their upgraded prototype solutions in Thessaloniki, Greece on 18-19 September 2017. Find more [here](#).

### Online recruitment in EU countries – diffusion and use

**Date:** 13 - 15/09/2017, **Place:** Milan, Italy

Cedefop is developing a fully-fledged system for analysing online vacancies across the EU. One of the key activities of this project is the review and assessment of the online job market across Member States. This closed expert workshop will gather labour market analysts from all EU countries to validate initial results and determine further work under this activity. More to come [here](#).

### 1st CareersNet meeting

**Date:** 26/09/2017, **Place:** Tallinn, Estonia

Cedefop is jointly organising with the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the European Union a "Guidance Week" on the 26th of September. The first meeting of Cedefop's network for lifelong guidance and careers education, CareersNet will be one of the opening events of the week. The main aims of this meeting will be to welcome CareersNet participants, clarify basic tasks and expectations, as well as familiarise them with existing tools at their disposal. Find more [here](#).



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