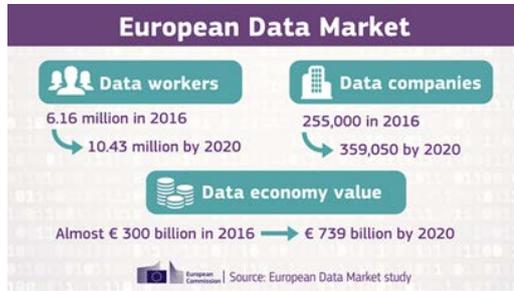


**SKILLSNET e-bulletin: February 2018****Highlight of the month****Big data and bigger job opportunities: From Sherlock Holmes to Data Science**

The increasing digitalisation in all aspects of our lives has resulted in the production of a plethora of data. The amounts of information produced everyday are growing exponentially and allow us to create theories for interpreting every simple or complex fact. At the same time, a brand new terminology has entered into our everyday life. Big data refers to large amounts of data produced with high velocity from a number of sources of different types. Big data analytics aim at the identification of efficiencies applicable to a wide range of sectors, leading to innovative new products and services, greater competitiveness and, in turn, economic growth. Data science, a very popular term as well, offers an umbrella term describing the interdisciplinary field of all the processes and systems extracting knowledge and insights from data. Read more in the new blog article by Cedefop's Dafni Georgiou published on the Skills Panorama [here](#).

**News from Cedefop****Cedefop: Estonia skills governance review launched**

Cedefop launched a skills governance review in Estonia on 29 January 2018. National stakeholders came together in Tallinn to learn about the project and discuss possible priorities it can address. A delegation headed by Cedefop Head of Department for Skills and Labour Market Pascaline Descy presented the analytical framework the agency uses in all skills governance country reviews. The Estonian is the fourth thematic country review after reviews in Greece, Bulgaria and Slovakia started in 2017. Estonia asked Cedefop to review its skills governance system to help the country further develop the OSKA forecast system. OSKA combines labour market projections with qualitative insights from sectors and other sources. Read more [here](#).

**Cedefop: Upskilling pathways discussed at joint Cedefop-EESC policy learning forum**

Cedefop and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) jointly organised a policy learning forum (PLF) on 'Upskilling pathways: a vision for the future' in Brussels on 7 and 8 February. The forum aimed at bringing together countries, social partners

and other civil society organisations to help one another in designing and implementing measures for improving literacy, numeracy and digital skills of adults with low level of knowledge, skills and competences, in line with the Council recommendation on 'Upskilling pathways: new opportunities for adults'. Find more information on the event [here](#).

**Refernet Austria: migrants and the labour market**

Education and qualifications are essential to the successful integration of migrants. The information brochure *Migration & integration – Focus: work and employment*, supplies facts and figures on education, employment, unemployment and qualifications of people with a migration or refugee background. In early 2016 around 1 287 800 people of working age with a place of birth abroad lived in Austria; this corresponded to 22% of the total population of working age (15 to 64 years). Read more [here](#).

**Refernet Cyprus: Employment forecasts 2017-27**

The Human Resource Development Authority of Cyprus (HRDA) has recently completed a research study providing forecasts of employment needs in the national economy for a 10-year period. The aim is to forecast employment needs in all economic sectors and in all occupations for the period 2017-27 in order to contribute to the planning and implementation of education and training activities. The forecasts cover three broad sectors, 21 main sectors and 52 sectors, and 309 occupations covering the whole spectrum of the Cyprus labour market. Read more [here](#).

**News from Skillsnet members****ILO: Unemployment and decent work deficits to remain high in 2018**

As the global economy recovers but with a growing labour force, global unemployment in 2018 is projected to remain at a similar level to last year's, says a new report by the International Labour Organization (ILO). According to the "World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2018", the global unemployment rate has been stabilizing after a rise in 2016. Find more [here](#).

**ILO: What to expect from the global jobs market in 2018**

The new report World Employment and Social Outlook - Trends 2018 examines the current state of the labour market, making global and regional projections of unemployment, vulnerable employment and working poverty. Find more [here](#).

**ILO in action: Youth employment**

With over 65 million unemployed youth worldwide and 145 million young workers living in poverty, youth employment remains a global challenge and a top policy concern. The ILO has had a long-standing commitment to promote decent work for youth. Supported by a unique tripartite structure that brings together the key players in the world of work, ILO's activities on youth employment span over advocacy, knowledge development and dissemination, policy and technical advice and capacity building services. Find more [here](#).

**Refernet Portugal: Silver medal at EuroSkills 2016, Gothenburg**

Admário Ferreira, a trainee at the National Association of Automobile Industry (CEPRA), had an excellent competition and won a silver medal in the automobile mechatronics category at EuroSkills 2016, held in Gothenburg. This was not the only outstanding result for CEPRA and Ferreira, as he had previously won a gold medal at the national championship. The Portuguese team also won two more silver medals and five certificates of excellence. This success came after many real-work-simulation tests that required knowledge, expertise and focus along with the commitment of contestants and the involvement of the entire delegation team. Read more [here](#).

**Refernet Greece: New labour market skills diagnosis mechanism**

A new skills diagnosis mechanism has been operating in Greece since the first semester of 2016. It addresses the need for updated, concrete and regular skills trend information, especially as an input for designing VET and employment policies. Its introduction is based on Law 4368/2016 provisions (February 2016) for a permanent, functional and credible mechanism; a joint Ministerial Decision (24013/410 of May 2016) provides for the introduction and operation of a relevant network and the supporting information system. Read more [here](#).



**Cedefop: Insights into skill shortages and skill mismatch**

With mass job destruction and sectoral restructuring following the recent economic crisis, four in 10 EU employers had difficulty finding people with the right skills, while unemployment rates peaked. Rapid digitalisation and technological skills obsolescence has also raised concerns about the extent to which the EU workforce is adequately prepared for the fourth industrial revolution. Yet, despite worries of increasing skill shortages and gaps, about

39% of adult EU employees are overskilled and trapped in low quality jobs. Download the report [here](#).

**OECD: Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2017 - EU highlights**

This note presents selected country highlights from the OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2017 with a specific focus on digital trends among all themes covered. Read more [here](#).

**Employment and Social Development in Europe - Quarterly Review - February 2018**



The first Employment and Social Development in Europe (ESDE) Quarterly Review of 2018 highlights the solid economic growth in the EU combined with a positive economic outlook together with general improvements in the labour market.

The number of employed in the EU is above 236 million in the third quarter of 2017. At the same time, unemployment is decreasing at a solid pace. Economic growth and positive developments in the labor market are visible in

the majority of Member States. The latest forecasts present a positive outlook for the next years. Download the report [here](#).

**Stay connected to Skills Panorama**



Published by  
 Department for Skills and Labour Market  
 Cedefop - European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training  
 Europe 123, GR-570 01 Thessaloniki (Pylea)  
 Tel. (+30) 23 10 490079 Fax (+30) 23 10 490117  
 E-mail: [ioannis.katsikis@cedefop.europa.eu](mailto:ioannis.katsikis@cedefop.europa.eu)  
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/skillsnet/>

**1st General Annual Meeting of the European Community of Learning Providers**

**Date:** 13 – 14/03/2018, **Place:** Thessaloniki, Greece

The European Community of Learning Providers aims at helping VET providers to get ready for future challenges, on one hand and at increasing the impact of their cooperation at EU level, on the other hand. Set up in 2017 by CEDEFOP and six Associations of providers active at European level: EFVET, EVBB, EVTA, EUCEN, EUproVET and EURASHE, the European Community departs from the providers' needs and priorities and works to define practical guidelines for them currently on three areas: mobility of teaching staff; technology enhanced learning environments and the need to develop teachers' e-skills; integration of migrants/refugees through learning. Find more [here](#).

**Real-time labour market information and skill requirements: Setting up the infrastructure for EU system**

**Date:** 20 – 21/03/2018, **Place:** Milan, Italy

Cedefop is setting up a pan-European system for gathering and analysing information from online vacancies across all EU countries. To ensure the highest possible quality of the system, Cedefop is bringing together members of the ESSNet, representatives from Eurostat, the European Commission and independent researchers to discuss and fine-tune the methodology as well as various algorithms and rules for extracting vacancies and classifying the information they contain. The workshop will provide a platform for presenting and discussing the proposed methodology as well as for sharing the experience and knowledge of various experts in the meeting with the aim to fine-tune various algorithms and arbitrary set rules. Find more [here](#).

**Skills anticipation methods and practices: Identifying emerging technologies and skill needs for policy**

**Date:** 14 – 15/06/2018, **Place:** Thessaloniki, Greece

To facilitate mutual learning on effective skills anticipation and skill matching and the exchange of good practices across EU Member States, Cedefop launched in 2016 a new thematic activity – 'Governance of EU skills anticipation and matching systems: in-depth country reviews'. The aim of the initiative is to provide close support to EU Member States in need of development, improvement or further refinement of the governance of their skills anticipation and matching systems. Find more [here](#).

**The Skillsnet network**



**Skillsnet members** have the opportunity to inform other members of our network about new projects, events, activities or publications related to early identification of skill needs throughout the year. If you are interested to inform other members, please submit your short article / information (max of 100 words) to **Ioannis Katsikis** whenever you have any news to disseminate.

