

**SKILLSNET e-bulletin: July 2016****Highlight of the month****Skills a priority for the Slovak EU Presidency**

Human capital and skills development and recognition are among the priorities of the Slovak EU Presidency in the second half of 2016. Slovakia took up the rotating EU Presidency on 1 July. Under the 'union of opportunities for citizens' heading of its **priorities document**, particular emphasis is placed on young people, who are 'key for the future dynamism and prosperity of Europe,' and the long-term unemployed.

The document also states that education and adequate links between the education system and the labour market contribute to a long-term drop in unemployment. It refers to the **New skills agenda for Europe**, which was launched in June by the European Commission, as aiming to 'enhance links between the education sector and the needs of the labour market by fostering the development of skills, better transparency, support for vocational education and the modernisation of higher education.' In that context, the Slovak Presidency will make an effort to secure agreement between the Member States 'in the mutual recognition of qualifications as well as in the comprehensive documentation of knowledge, skills and competences.' Continue reading [here](#).

News from Cedefop and the Skills Panorama**Call for tenders: Real-time Labour Market information on Skill Requirements: Setting up the EU system for online vacancy analysis**

The primary objective of this contract is to develop further Cedefop prototype for online vacancy analysis and to develop the system (tool) to enable Cedefop carrying out analysis of vacancies and emerging skill requirements across all EU Member States. The real time data collection system will be aimed at collecting relevant background characteristics of jobs, firms and the type of employee wanted (skills, qualifications and other attributes) to enable future exploration and analysis of skills demand. Deadline of submitting tenders is the **19.09.2016** while requests for additional information/clarification should be received by **09.09.2016**. Find more [here](#).

#ESJsurvey INSIGHTS No 6 - Tools for a new #EUSkillsAgenda: a tale of synergy or isolation?

Cedefop's European skills and jobs survey (ESJ survey) shows that by facilitating transparency of qualifications and skills as well as providing better skills intelligence, EU education, training and skill policies can significantly boost mobility of groups in need. Cedefop expert K. Pouliakas notes, 'many EU Member States are still treating our arsenal of education and training tools in silos – to affect citizen's lives the New skills agenda for Europe must ensure that the tools build on and complement each other.' Continue reading [here](#).

Policies for matching better skills in better jobs

At a seminar jointly organised by Cedefop and the Netherlands EU Presidency on 23 June in Brussels, experts and stakeholders discussed policies for matching better skills in better jobs. The event was an opportunity to disseminate to European stakeholders the main findings of Cedefop's ongoing research on skill mismatch, most prominently the Cedefop European skills and jobs survey (ESJ survey), carried out in 2014 across approximately 49 000 EU adult employees. Find more on the event [here](#).

Moving to learn – a new mobility scoreboard for Europe

The mobility scoreboard for initial vocational education and training (IVET), a new tool to assist policy-makers in the area of learning mobility developed by Cedefop in close cooperation with the European Commission, was presented at an event in Thessaloniki on 3 June. A prototype with information on 28 countries is available on the Cedefop website, while the interactive online tool is being finalised and will be launched during the vocational education and training (VET) week in December. Find more [here](#).

News from Skillsnet members**EU launches the Science4Refugees initiative**

Since the beginning of 2015, more than 500,000 refugees have come to the European Union. The European Commission has launched the Science4Refugees initiative to help refugee scientists and researchers find suitable jobs that both improve their own situation and put their skills and experience to good use in Europe's research system. Science4Refugees matches talented refugees and asylum seekers who have a scientific background with positions in universities and research institutions that are 'refugee-welcoming organisations' and that have suitable positions available, including internships and part-time and full-time jobs. Find more [here](#).

Activity rate for non-EU citizens lower than for nationals

In 2015 in the European Union (EU), the proportion of people economically active (employed and unemployed) stood just below 70% for non-EU citizens aged 20 to 64 (69.8%), while the activity rate was above 77% for citizens of the reporting country (77.3%), referred to as "nationals". Activity rate for non-EU citizens lower than for nationals with a higher unemployment rate and a lower employment rate. Find more [here](#).

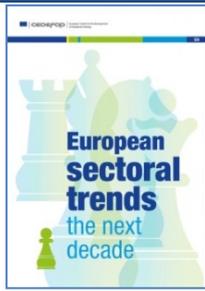
Young people and the labour market: a tale of two NEETs

Those suffering the most from the great recession of 2009 were arguably young people. Many of those leaving school to enter the world of work saw their chances on the labour market dramatically reduced. From 2008 to 2013, the employment rate for the 15-24 age group dropped from 37.3% to 32.1%. Over the same period, the unemployment rate increased from 15.9% to reach the historical peak of 23.7% in 2013. Read more [here](#).

Recovering 70m low-skilled adults a top VET priority

At a high level meeting on the future of vocational education and training (VET) in Turin on 23 June, Undersecretary of Labour Luigi Bobba said that Italy has embarked on a process to bring the world of education closer to that of employment by promoting work-based learning and closer cooperation between school systems and labour market needs and economic growth. The conference brought together employers, trade unions, teachers and policy-makers from education and the labour market, experts in VET, ISFOL officers as well as high political figures from the regions of Piedmont, Puglia and Lombardy and the national scene. Read more [here](#).

Publications and reports on skills



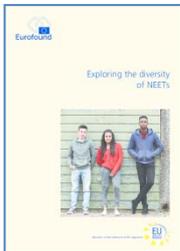
Cedefop: European sectoral trends: the next decade

Cedefop's 2016 skills forecast offers insights into future trends in skill demand and supply across the European Union (EU). Trends are being driven mainly by demographic change, better access to education, technological advance and climate change. These drivers are expected to impact employment, occupations and qualifications in all sectors across the EU between now and 2025 in different ways. Read the publication [here](#).

Analytical highlight on Science and engineering associate professionals: skills opportunities and challenges

Science and engineering associate professionals is a wide occupational group where employees perform technical tasks relevant to science and engineering. Analytical highlight contains in-depth analysis about a specific skill, a group of skills, an individual sector, a particular occupation or a country of interest to you. Read more [here](#).

Eurofound: Exploring the diversity of NEETs



This report explores the diversity of NEETs and suggests seven subgroups into which the NEET population can be disaggregated using data routinely collected for the EU Labour Force Survey. Through analysis of the data for each of these subgroups, it offers a contemporary overview of the composition of the NEET population, both at EU28 level and in each Member State. It is hoped this information will help policymakers more precisely target interventions intended to ease young people's engagement with the world of work and training. Find more [here](#).

OECD: Enhancing employability

The speed and nature of globalisation, technological change and innovation, changes in work organisation, environmental change and demographic trends take very different forms across G20 countries. But in all of them, they are affecting what kind of work is done, who carries it out and where and how it is carried out. Find more [here](#).

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Forthcoming skills related events

Upskilling, re-skilling and employing refugees

Date: 03 October 2016, **Place:** Rome, Italy

"Upskilling, re-skilling and employing refugees" is a one day experts' forum which is co-organised by Cedefop and OECD and will take place on Monday, 3 October 2016 in Rome, Italy. The forum will examine the role of VET and VET-related skill development strategies as part of pre-arrival (transition countries) and national solutions (host countries) aimed at early labour market integration of the current wave of adult people in clear need of international protection. More information can be found [here](#).

Skills, jobs and sustainable development: global trends and local challenges: CEDEFOP-UNESCO global skills conference

Date: 20-21 October 2016, **Place:** UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

The conference will discuss the implications of global economic trends and market forces for anticipated skill needs and mismatches and the responses of education and training building on labour market intelligence. It will look at how information on global trends in skills needs is used by countries to review and renew their education and training provisions and how qualifications frameworks (at sector, national, regional and global levels) can facilitate coordination and dialogue between education and training as well as labour market actors across different regions of the world. More information can be found [here](#).

Human Capital in Poland – labour market research project for 2016-2023

Date: 14 - 15 November 2016, **Place:** Warsaw, Poland

The Peer Review will showcase the use of the Human Capital Survey as a tool for monitoring skills needs in Poland. According to this Survey around eight out of ten enterprises in Poland claim that they find difficulties to meet their skill needs despite significant unemployment. The Polish Agency for Enterprise Development together with companies, individuals and training institutions monitors labour market needs to tackle this challenge. The event will focus on the different methods used by the Member States to monitor the demand and supply of skills and to exchange effective practices on the advantages and disadvantages of different approaches. 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.

