



Third webinar of the 'Ambassadors tackling early leaving from VET' network 10th March 2025, 10:00-12:00 CET

Summary note

Aim of the webinar

This was the third webinar of the "Ambassadors tackling early leaving from VET" network on the topic of NEETs. Inclusion and support for early leavers from education and training, as well as young people not in education, employment, or training (NEETs), lie at the heart of Cedefop's work, fully aligned with Europe's goal of reducing the NEET share to 9% by 2030. Cedefop also opened up the invitation to other interested parties to take part in this webinar who have already contributed by sending good practices and tools to Cedefop's toolkits.

On the day of the webinar, **more than 30 participants from a total of 13 countries joined the webinar** (Belgium, Croatia, France, Greece, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Türkiye), indicating great representation across Europe.

Background: Cedefop's network of "Ambassadors tackling early leaving from VET"

Cedefop's network of "[Ambassadors tackling early leaving from VET](#)" was established in 2017 and since then is constantly being enriched with new members currently representing 23 European countries as well as EU level experts. Our ambassadors bring together a large variety of different profiles, unified in their ambition for tackling early leaving from VET at national, regional, or local level in Europe. Moreover, some work directly or indirectly with NEETs.

Ambassadors support the use and dissemination of Cedefop's [VET toolkit for tackling early leaving](#) and the [VET toolkit for empowering NEETs](#). They also enrich its resources by sending good practices, tools, news, publications, and statistics. They are invited to contribute to online discussions, webinars and other Cedefop related events for the further development of the toolkits.

Objectives & outcomes

The primary objective of this webinar was to provide a platform for Cedefop's network of ambassadors, as well as other external participants with a strong interest in the topic of NEETs, to engage with Cedefop's team and peer learning.



This 2-hour webinar, held by Rena Psifidou, Ambassador's Coordinator, and Stefanie Ledermaier, Expert, brought together interested ambassadors to get to know the toolkits' main functions, and two new intervention approaches on [helping female NEETs \(re\)integrating into education, employment or training](#) and on [offering mentorship programmes to NEETs](#) which recently have become available on the VET toolkit for empowering NEETs, as well as learn from related inspiring good practices. The aim was for participants to gain a deeper understanding of what the NEETs toolkits offers; to become familiar with the network of ambassadors; and to get to know existing good practices.

In addition to Cedefop's presentation, **three external presenters shared their good practice examples** linked to the topics of mentoring NEETs and female NEETs. These good practices, including additional information, are available on the [VET toolkit for empowering NEETs](#):

- [Supporting the economic mobility of NEETs through targeted training, mentorship, and job placement](#) across four EU Member States from Daniel Soldan, Generation, on the topic of mentoring;
- [PreseNEETi](#), a good practice from Alja Ferme from Slovenia on the topic of mentoring; and,
- [Polish Outdoor Learning](#)¹, a good practice on targeting female NEETs from Poland presented by Joanna Bochniarz.

Cedefop would like to thank the presenters once more for their valuable input and interaction with participants.

Participants had the opportunity to discuss the role of ambassadors and provide feedback. They were also asked to point out topics that they would be interested in exploring in future Cedefop webinars. The answers received included more research on the background of NEETs, the role of offering mobility programmes for disadvantaged youth, and the influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in supporting them.

¹ Please see two videos from related projects which the speaker shared with Cedefop ahead of the webinar and of which one was shared during the webinar:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B305LXrSB5k>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlkrd-Zqlzs>



Lastly, a [recently published publication on the profile of NEET teacher in Greece](#) was briefly presented by Anthie Kyriakopoulou, Cedefop expert.

Next Steps

The discussions and insights generated during this webinar will support Cedefop's efforts to ensure that its online VET toolkits remain a valuable resource of support for all those stakeholders involved to promote inclusion through and in VET:

- Further input from webinar participants is welcome and encouraged to guide the direction of future work, ensuring that it reflects the needs and concerns of those working to tackle early leaving from VET and to support NEETs.
- Those who indicated during the webinar, that are interested to present their work at the next webinars, are encouraged to get in touch with [Cedefop's toolkit team](#).
- The presentations and summary notes will be circulated to the network of "Ambassadors tackling early leaving from VET".

Cedefop will continue its research and work on NEETs and by the end of 2025, a new Cedefop research paper on connecting NEETs with the labour market will be published. This new research paper will be promoted in the [VET toolkit for empowering NEETs](#) and shared with the network of "Ambassadors tackling early leaving from VET."