



HEAD OFFICE
10 Rue du Commerce
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 285 41 63
yepp@epp.eu

RESOLUTION

Proposal on a European framework for dual Vocational Education and Training.

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Nowadays, Vocational Education and Training, hereinafter VET, is one of the main pillars of the education strategy for increasing the competitiveness of the European labour market. Not only VET meets the needs of the current economic situation, but also prepares learners with key competences for personal development and active citizenship.

Vocational education and training (VET) systems consist of initial and continuing VET. Initial vocational education and training (I-VET) usually takes place at upper secondary and post-secondary levels before students start their working life. Continuing VET (CVET) takes place after initial education and training or after starting working life. It aims to update knowledge, help citizens acquire new skills, retrain and advance their personal and professional development. An average of 50 % of young Europeans aged 15-19 participate in VET at upper secondary level. However, the European Union (EU) average masks significant geographical differences in participation, which range from 15 % to over 70 %.¹

The European Union needs to tackle one of its mayor problems -mainly after the coronavirus pandemic- when it comes to youth policies: youth unemployment. In fact, youth unemployment

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/eu-policy-in-the-field-of-vocational-education-and-training-vet_en



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rate stood at 37,7% last March 2021² in Spain. We believe that strengthening VET systems and exchanging good practices within the EU on VET through harmonization of its educational models can help to increase employability of young Europeans, given the well-known connection between practical education and the later and faster access to the labour market. A good example of this is the dual VET system, with extended and successful implementation in countries like Germany where an average of 95,3% of VET graduates access to the labour market directly after or even during their education.³ In general, labour market regulations fall within the competence of the Member States. With regard to VET, a set of common rules and basic conditions at EU level could be justifiable. (KDU Sweden, Add)

YEPP calls upon the European Commission, the European Parliament and Member States to:

- Impulse collective action, involving enterprises, social partners and stakeholders, to commit to working together, in particular in the EU's industrial ecosystems for the promotion of dual vocational training.
- Promote the participation of young people, mainly of NEETs (Not in Employment, Education or Training) in dual VET programmes.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/11563067/3-30042021-CP-EN.pdf/5e5aae01-e15d-b8bd-71fb-4096b88f4120?t=1619705933576>

³ https://www.bibb.de/system/external_service_provider/bibb_datenreport%202021_vorversion.pdf



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- Implement without further delay the *Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 on the establishment of a European Quality Assurance Reference Framework for Vocational Education and Training*.⁴
- Revise the “Future-proof approach on VET”⁵ presented by the European Commission, by adding a more ambitious proposal for the presentation of the above-mentioned framework legislation on VET at European level, as well as the exchange of best practices between Member States.
- Implement the conclusion of the Osnabrück Declaration 2020 on vocational education and training as an enabler of recovery and just transitions to digital and green economies, approved and signed by EU Member States, Candidate Countries, EEA-EFTA (European Economic Area – European Free Trade Association) countries, European social partners and the European Commission under the German Presidency of the European Council.⁶
- Introduce legislation on dual VET that harmonises the criteria for the development of VET programmes in a European framework.

⁴ [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1523646815609&uri=CELEX:32009H0708\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1523646815609&uri=CELEX:32009H0708(01))

⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=22827&langId=en>

⁶ https://www.cedefop.europa.eu/files/osnabrueck_declaration_eu2020.pdf