

Building excellence in VET: The European perspective

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Athens, 7th Vocational Training Centre

Transparency of systems and qualifications



In the 1990s European education and training underwent several significant changes and developments

Lisbon European Council - March 2000



Need for a radical transformation of the European economy

DGVT meeting Aalborg, Denmark – October 2002



The Copenhagen declaration: priority to increasing transparency in vocational education and training

Ministerial meeting, Herning, Denmark – November 2025



- **Reaffirms the shared European vision for VET as a driver of green, digital, and fair transitions, Highlights VET excellence**
- **Places learners at the centre, Stresses lifelong learning and upskilling/reskilling,**
- **Advances digitalisation and sustainability as dual transformation goals Calls for stronger international cooperation**

Main barriers to lifelong learning

- Limited recognition and trust in learning outcomes acquired outside formal education and training.
- Increasing diversity and complexity of education and training systems.
- Rigid, 'siloed' education systems with limited opportunities for individual tailoring and flexibility.

Addressing these barriers would require to:

- Design education and training with reference to learning outcomes acquired in formal as well as non-formal and informal settings;
- Increase the transparency of systems and qualifications;
- Allow for and ensure transferability of learning outcomes.

The future



"The future is already here —
it's just not very evenly
distributed" William Gibson

The twin transition



Integrating green competences into curricula, supporting climate-neutral technologies and circular economy practices,

Advancing digital skills, from basic literacy to advanced technologies like AI, robotics, and data analysis.

Hydrogen a precious element



Hydrogen for a sustainable future



In short, hydrogen is not just a fuel, it's a symbol of the future, where clean energy, technology, and skills come together for a more sustainable Europe

The long and winding road

**"Ever tried. Ever failed.
No matter. Fail again. Fail
better" Samuel Beckett**

