



# Social Summit for Fair Jobs and Growth

Gothenburg, 17 November 2017

## THE NEW SKILLS AGENDA FOR EUROPE

The **New Skills Agenda for Europe**, adopted by the Commission in June 2016, launched 10 actions to help equip people in the European Union with better skills. It calls on Member States and stakeholders to improve the quality of skills and their relevance for the labour market. The **European Pillar of Social Rights** also foresees a right to quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning.

### KEY FACTS

**70 million**

Europeans lack adequate reading and writing skills

**40%**

of European employers report that they cannot find people with the right skills to grow and innovate

### STATE OF PLAY ON THE 10 PRIORITY ACTIONS UNDER THE NEW SKILLS AGENDA FOR EUROPE:



#### The Upskilling Pathways initiative

- ▶ Council Recommendation adopted in December 2016 to help people acquire basic skills;
- ▶ The Commission is working with EU countries and other interested parties to implement the initiative;
- ▶ Member States to outline their measures by mid-2018 at the latest.



#### Making vocational education and training (VET) a first choice

The Commission is continuing to work on a set of measures, for example:

- ▶ The **First European Vocational Skills Week** (December 2016) and the **Second European Vocational Skills Week** (20-24 November 2017);
- ▶ **ErasmusPro** supported by the Erasmus+ programme to boost long duration work placements abroad for vocational education and training learners and apprentices — 50 000 young people could benefit over the years 2018-2020;
- ▶ A **European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships** to increase the employability and personal development of apprentices;
- ▶ The **European Alliance for Apprenticeships** has so far mobilised over 700 000 places for young people.



## The Key Competences Framework

- ▶ The 2006 [Recommendation on Key Competences](#) aims at contributing to the development of quality, future-oriented education and training tailored to the needs of European society. A review is now under way to help more people acquire the core set of skills necessary to work and live in the 21st century.
- ▶ The Commission expects to adopt a proposal for the revision of the Recommendation in early 2018.



## The Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

- ▶ Brings Member States, companies, and education providers together to take action and boost digital skills of the wider population beyond IT professionals;
- ▶ 17 national Digital Skills and Jobs Coalitions are already in place;
- ▶ 70 organisations have pledged action towards providing digital skills.



## The European Qualifications Framework

- ▶ Council [Recommendation](#) adopted in May 2017 in order to make people's skills and qualifications more visible and comparable across Europe;
- ▶ Helps employers to better understand foreign qualifications.



## The Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals

- ▶ Multilingual online tool launched in June 2017;
- ▶ Helps national authorities identify the skills of non-EU migrants;
- ▶ Eases migrants' path to work or education and ultimately, integration;
- ▶ Available in all EU languages and in Arabic, Farsi, Pashto, Sorani, Somali, Tigrinya and Turkish.



## The Europass Framework

- ▶ The Commission's 2016 [proposal](#) modernises the Europass CV along with other Europass documents;
- ▶ Designed to offer people better and easier-to-use tools to present their skills;
- ▶ Offers useful real-time information to help with career and learning choices;
- ▶ Currently discussed between the European Parliament and the Council.



## Analysing brain drain

- ▶ Free movement within Europe creates opportunities but also poses challenges;
- ▶ Some regions lose talent, acting as a drag on their competitiveness;
- ▶ By mid-2018, a dedicated Commission study should shed light on the impact of brain drain in Europe.



## The Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills

- ▶ The [Blueprint](#), launched in January 2017, brings together businesses, trade unions, education and training institutions and other stakeholders;
- ▶ Aims to develop skills strategies which meet the needs of specific sectors to grow;
- ▶ Sectors covered so far: automotive, defence, maritime technology, space (geo information), textile, clothing, leather and footwear, tourism, additive manufacturing, construction, maritime shipping, paper-based value chain, renewable energy and green technologies, and the steel industry.



## The initiative on graduate tracking

- ▶ Member States agreed on a [Recommendation on Graduate Tracking](#). Adoption in the Council should take place in November 2017;
- ▶ The goal is to improve understanding of higher education as well as vocational education and training graduates' performance after their education and training experiences.