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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF CAREER GUIDANCE  
EACG WEBSITE: [WWW.EACG.EU](http://WWW.EACG.EU)  
CAREER-EU CONFERENCE WEBSITE: [WWW.CAREER-EU.INFO](http://WWW.CAREER-EU.INFO)

## 6TH ANNUAL EUROPEAN CAREER GUIDANCE CONFERENCE "CAREER-EU" CONFERENCE DURING THE ERASMUS CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION 2015

*Between 13 and 17 of May 2015, the European Association of Erasmus Coordinators (EAEC) in cooperation with the European Association of Career Guidance successfully organized the 11th annual ERASMUS Congress and Exhibition – ERACON 2015, in Porto, Portugal. The Congress was held under the patronage of Mr. Tibor Navracsics, EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, who addressed ERACON 2015 through a video-message. In parallel, the European Association of Career Guidance (EACG), organized the 6th Annual European Career Guidance Conference – CAREER-EU 2015.*

*The European Association of Career Guidance (EACG) organised the 6th Annual CAREER-EU Conference 2015 offered the opportunity to career guidance counsellors, experts on vocational training issues, as well as representatives of the European projects on career guidance and employment to deliver presentations and exchange ideas and experience on issues such as quality assurance for career guidance, best practices in career counselling, good practices to obtain employability in time of crisis, universities-enterprises cooperation, mobility and career, as well as on the new ERASMUS+ Programme.*

Some of the Conference's main topics presented and discussed were "Mobility and a plurilingual program to train future European primary school teachers" by Elena Romero Alfaro, University of Cadiz, Spain, "Particularities of Erasmus Mobilities in the Military Technical Higher Education" by Cristian-Emil Moldoveanu, Military Technical Academy of Bucharest, Romania, "Student experience Erasmus good



Commissioner Mr. Navracsics addresses ERACON 2015 through a video-message.

President of Erasmus Student Network, and several other interesting topics.

The participants had the opportunity through the various workshops that took place to network and to exchange views.

The European Association of Career Guidance (EACG) was founded in 2010, within the framework of the European project "CAREEREUshop: One-Stop-Service-Career-Guidance-Shop for Europe" which is funded by the

European Commission under the framework of the Life- Long Learning Programme.

More information about the conference can be found at: [www.career-eu.info](http://www.career-eu.info)

The ERASMUS Congress and Exhibition is organized annually since 2005. More information can be found at [www.eracon.info](http://www.eracon.info).



## JOINED STAFF TRAINING EVENTS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE "ICT4ROCC PROJECT"



The European Association of Career Guidance participates as a partner in an innovative, European project under the title "Information and Communication Technology for Romanian Career Counselling" - ICT4RoCC. The project, focuses on the pupils' career guidance and it is financed by the Erasmus+ programme, Key Action 2 - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices.

During the last 3 months, the partners collaborated in order to design a well-structured questionnaire which summarizes students' opinion about counselling and vocational guidance. The questionnaire was disseminated in schools in all the consortium's countries (i.e. Romania, Cyprus and Latvia). The students' responses regarding both the available tools and practises in career counselling, as well as their expectations on career guidance procedures consist of the main output of the project. In this context, two joint staff training events were organised in order to proceed with the analysis of the questionnaires in each country and also to experience career counselling practises in each of the participant countries.

- The first staff training event took place in Cyprus, from the 26th of May to 1st of June 2015. The European Association of Career Guidance and its Director Dr Gregory Makrides welcomed the staff of the other partners in Protaras. The training event included workshops, seminars, opened discussions, and an interactive presentation about the career counselling system in Cyprus. The EACG team organised also several study visits in Cypriot schools, aiming at developing staff's competencies regarding the practises used in Cyprus for career counselling and guidance.
- The second staff training event, was organised by the Izglitibas Inovaciju Paneses Centrs / Education Innovation Transfer Centre in Latvia, from the 13th to 18th of June 2015. Staff members from the project's consortium had the opportunity to participate in a series of workshops on career counselling system in Latvia and in comparison to the other Baltic states. Staff members had scheduled also a very informative lecture with the representative of the Latvian Employment Agency/Career Services, as well as study visits in schools and universities in 3 Latvian cities, during which the participants had the opportunity to discuss and exchange opinions with Latvian career counsellors. In both joined staff training events, the participants received a Certificate of Attendance.



### Next steps...

The project will now focus on the analysis of the questionnaires in a form of a concrete report aiming to familiarise the differences in career counselling systems and procedures among the participant states, and most importantly to understand with the student's expectation of a career guidance system. A development of an online platform, with all the project's outputs will follow. Already, during the two training events, the staff members had the opportunity to discuss over the design and the content of the platform, as well as the use of digital sources for career counselling

More information about the project: Mr Silviu Daniel Brebulet, project manager at CJRAE and coordinator of the project, email: [silviu\\_brebulet@yahoo.com](mailto:silviu_brebulet@yahoo.com), Dr Gregory Makrides, Director of EACG, email: [makrides.g@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:makrides.g@ucy.ac.cy).

## A CATALOGUE OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR



The "Catalogue of Job Opportunities" is the first main output of the European Project "Connecting People for Green Skills", an 18 - month project co-funded by the PROGRESS Programme of the EU. After making an assessment of the state of play of the construction sector in the 5 partnership countries, the partnership developed a comprehensive catalogue which is mainly an identification of those jobs in the construction sector that are - or expected to be in high demand in the following years. According to the conducted research, these job opportunities can be clustered into the following three categories:

- Specialists in installation and maintenance of new processes and technologies to use energy, water, application of bioclimatic criteria in construction, waterproofing systems and insulation, etc. of new housing and existing housing parks;
- Consulting services on the implementation of new technologies to achieve energy efficient buildings;
- Expert audit, certification and quality control.

### Green Skills project in high visibility events!



The European Office of Cyprus (EOC), which coordinates the project's communication and dissemination activities, successfully organised the workshop entitled "Greening Europe's construction industry: challenges and opportunities", during the high level Policy Conference of the EU Sustainable Energy Week 2015 (EUSEW). The workshop took place on 17 June 2015, at the European Commission's Charlemagne building in Brussels, attracting more than 100 participants active in the fields of energy, employment, professional training and green construction. In addition, the Green Skills project will be presented also during the "Smart regions contributing to the goals of the Energy Union" workshop that will take place on 13 October 2015, in the context of the OPEN DAYS 2015.



The project "Connecting People for Green Skills – Green Skills", aims identify the work and training factors that prevent construction sector professionals from obtaining jobs that require new qualifications and skills. It will primarily focus on developing technical/professional and educational skills applied to construction in the field of the environment.

More information about the project: <http://www.greenskillsproject.eu/en/> and/or <https://www.facebook.com/GreenSkillsProject>

## GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT - TOP PRIORITY FOR THE NEW EU PRESIDENCY



*As of 1st of July 2015, Luxembourg, one of the six EU founding Member States - holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the twelfth time in the second semester of 2015 (July – December 2015). The Luxembourg Presidency is the first to take place under the auspices*

*of the Lisbon Treaty which has given new competences to the Union and established a new institutional balance.*

The priorities of the Luxembourg Presidency for the second semester of 2015 are based on seven pillars:

- Stimulating investment to boost growth and employment
- Deepening the European Union's social dimension
- Managing migration, combining freedom, justice and security
- Revitalising the single market by focusing on its digital dimension
- Placing European competitiveness in a global and transparent framework
- Promoting sustainable development
- Strengthening the European Union's presence on the global stage

For Luxembourg Presidency, stimulating investment to boost growth and employment, consist of a top priority. To that effect, the Presidency will work towards **the implementation of the European Fund for Strategic Investments which seeks to raise up to 315 billion EUR to finance strategic investment projects** that will provide added value to the European Union. In addition, the Presidency will **promote the Capital Markets Union** in order to enable capital markets to play a bigger role in the financing of the economy. What's more, the Luxembourg Presidency will pursue efforts **to implement a real European industrial policy** which will especially focus on the space industry, a sector in which Europe already plays a leading role.

For more information regarding the Luxembourg Presidency and its agenda: <http://tinyurl.com/pl8rqbb>

## CEDEFOP'S REPORT ON "EUROPE'S UNEVEN RETURN TO JOB GROWTH"



*The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training – CEDEFOP has published on 30 June 2015 a briefing note regarding “Europe’s uneven return to job growth”. The different skills supply and demand trends highlight the varied challenges for vocational education and training (VET) across countries and sectors. The forecasts aim to inform the debate on how VET at European and national levels can and should adapt to ensure that Europe’s labour forces have the skills to seize the opportunities that a return to economic growth may bring.*

The briefing note illustrates that employment in the European Union is forecast to pass its 2008 pre-crisis level in 2020, while skills' supply and demand forecasts will continue to rise up to 2025. Meanwhile, the EU's workforce is forecast to become a little smaller and older, but better qualified, with the younger generation being the most highly qualified in Europe's history.

**CEDEFOP's main research finding is the fact that there are significant variations regarding the supply and demand of skills between EU Member States.** Consequently, there are major differences in forecast levels of job growth across countries, between sectors and in the occupation skills required.

More information: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/publications/9098>

## TACKLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT WILL BOOST GROWTH

*Governments need to do more to give young people a good start to their working lives and help them find work, according to a new OECD report which was published on 27 May 2015. The report provides also a detailed picture of how young people acquire and use their skills, as well as the potential barriers they face to doing both.*

Briefly, the report recommends, among others the following:

- Teachers and school leaders should identify low achievers early on to give them the support they need to and to prevent them from dropping out of school entirely.
- Public employment services, social welfare institutions and education and training systems should offer some form of second-chance education or training. In return for receiving social benefits, young people could be required to register with social welfare or public employment services, and participate in further education and training.
- Education providers and the business sector should work together to design qualifications frameworks that accurately reflect the actual skills of new graduates.



More information: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/publications/9098>

## OECD EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK 2015

The OECD Employment Outlook 2015 published on 09 July 2015 indicates that around 42 million people are currently without work across the OECD, down from 45 million in 2014 but still 10 million more than just before the crisis. According to the report, unemployment in the 34 OECD countries is projected to continue declining over the next 18 months to reach 6.5% in the last quarter of 2016. It will remain above 20% in Greece and Spain.



The OECD Employment Outlook provides an annual assessment of key labour market developments and prospects in many countries. Each edition also contains chapters focusing on specific aspects of how labour markets function and the implications for policy in order to promote more and better jobs. This year's chapters cover the following five topics:

- Minimum wages;
- Skills and wage inequality;
- Activation policies for more inclusive labour markets
- Earnings mobility, labour market risk and long-term inequality
- Job quality in emerging economies

Some the findings are among others, the following:

More than one in three jobseekers in the OECD member –states have been out of work for 12 months or more. The share of young people neither employed nor in education or training, the so-called

NEETs, is still higher than in 2007 in more than three quarters of OECD countries among 20-24 year-olds and nearly two thirds of countries among 25-29 year-olds.

The Outlook finds evidence that a person's long-term career prospects are largely determined in the first ten years of working life. This suggests that many of the youth who finished school during the crisis and have struggled to find work since may find their future career opportunities limited.

The "jobs mix" has also shifted towards more part-time work. The share of workers employed part-time has risen from 18.6% before the crisis to 20.6% currently.

#### What is needed?

According to the report policy makers should scale up efforts to assist jobseekers and, in particular, get the long-term unemployed and youth back into work. In some countries, re-employment and retraining programmes have borne too large a share of fiscal consolidation and more resources are required. Effective and efficient labour market institutions and policies, including effective public-private partnerships in the placement and training of job seekers, are essential to help motivate job-seekers, especially the long-term unemployed, improve their employability and expand their opportunities to be placed and retained in appropriate jobs.

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/nhhjk6r>

## ENGAGING EMPLOYERS IN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND UTILISATION



The success of skills development activities through both on-the-job and off-the job training depends on the participation of employers in their design, implementation and financing. Investment in the supply of skills alone will not be sufficient to secure quality job creation and boost productivity in all local economies. Under this context, OECD has published a call for papers in order to "engage employers in Skills Development and utilisation".

The OECD is looking for experienced external experts to develop local case studies on the following topics:

- Engaging employers in the promotion of apprenticeship opportunities and other work-based learning opportunities locally;
- Programme and policies that involve employers to stimulate better skills utilisation, including improved work organisation, career progression opportunities, and upgrading of local product market strategies.

Completed case studies will be approximately 20-25 pages (in English), highlighting locally-designed and implemented initiatives and/or national programmes that have been adapted to local labour market circumstances. Selected experts will be expected to review available documentation and conduct interviews with relevant stakeholders in developing the case studies. Interested applicants must submit their proposals by 28 August 2015. To express your. Selected experts will be notified in September 2015, with case studies expected to be completed by December 18, 2015.

More information: <http://www.oecd.org/employment/leed/call-papers-employers-skills.htm>

## SOCIAL AGENDA NO 41 - THE SKILLS IMPERATIVE

The Issue 41 of the Social Agenda magazine, published on 20 July 2015, is entirely devoted to vocational education and training (VET) and skills. Vocational education and training and skills are a pragmatic way of tackling the employment and social challenges facing the EU today, taking people's concrete needs as a starting point.

The issue includes a special feature on a skills policy, which is key to raising productivity and preserving the European social model. In particular, skills are now part of European Commissioner Marianne Thyssen's portfolio:

- new priorities to modernise and improve vocational education and training by 2020 are being adopted;
- a boost has been given to the European Alliance for Apprenticeship;
- a comprehensive EU skills strategy is due for 2016.

More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2279&furtherNews=yes>



## STUDENTS ARE MORE UNWILLING TO PURSUE A PART-TIME JOB

*It is true that combining studies with a part-time job helps significantly to develop further skills, which are necessary for the labour market. A new report published on 16 June 2015 by the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES) reveals that more and more young people are opting to focus purely on their studies, rather than enhancing their learning with part-time work. The report under the title "The death of the Saturday job: the decline in earning and learning amongst young people in the UK", highlights that the number of 16 and 17 year olds combining part-time work with their studies has halved – from just over a two-fifths (42%) in 1996 to only 18% in 2014.*

According to the report over half (55%) of young people surveyed identified "their desire to concentrate on their studies" as the main reason for deciding not to combine work with study. Local labour market conditions are also discouraging young people from seeking part-time work while studying. The report shows that young people feel that the competition for jobs, combined with a lack of flexibility from employers (on hours or type of contract) are putting them off even considering looking for Saturday jobs.

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/p6n227t>



## SKILLS SHORTAGES AS THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ADVANCES

*The UK Commission for Employment and Skills published on 29 June 2015, a study which links the progress that has been achieved in the manufacturing sector (particularly in the area of robotics and 3D printing) with the significant rise of the demand for highly-skilled, IT literate workers. The report "Skills and performance challenges in the advanced manufacturing sector" warns that the advances achieved through automation are at risk if the right people with the right skills are not available to support them.*

The global advanced manufacturing market is predicted to double in size to £750 billion by 2020, largely driven by developments in new technologies. IT skills, understanding of complex materials and the ability to translate digital design into real-world production are set to be some of the most important skills for those working in advanced manufacturing sectors – from assembly workers to production engineers. In particular, quality assurance is becoming a key skill, and one that is holding back advances in this sector.

The report also shows that the number of high-skilled jobs in the sector is projected to increase, as the importance of R&D raises demand for workers with higher degrees and specialisms. The search for high-performing staff will also make the UK workforce more international in nature.

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/ndmuczb>



## HELPING PEOPLE TO FIND A JOB IN ANOTHER EU COUNTRY

*Although some parts of Europe suffer from high unemployment rates and employers in other parts struggle to fill vacancies, relatively few people decide to look for a job in another EU country. The European network of Employment Services (Eures) was launched in 1993 to help with this. The employment committee votes on Tuesday 23 June on proposals to improve the Eures network as well as to further integrate Europe's labour markets and facilitate workers' access to mobility services.*

Eures was set up to facilitate the free movement of workers within the EU, Norway, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Switzerland. The network coordinated by the European Commission helps employers wanting to recruit workers from other countries. New legislation aims to make it easier to find work abroad by improving the Eures network, creating the largest possible pool of job vacancies and CVs in the EU. The plans also cover apprenticeships and traineeships and set out to facilitate the exchange of information between EU countries on labour shortages and surpluses. However, labour market policy, including all support measures, remains the responsibility of member states.

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/ouxkttg>



## PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN EUROPE



*The European Entrepreneurship Education NETWORK (EE-HUB.EU) is a three-year project funded by the COSME Programme (2014-2020) which aims to promote entrepreneurship education and make policy recommendations that can be put into effect by national school systems. The objective is to develop a pan-European entrepreneurship education, in line with proposals included in the Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan.*

The project's main objectives, are the following:

- Support national policy frameworks;
- Recommend teacher training and support;
- Map and analyse the entrepreneurship education ecosystem, including instruments to collect and assess information.

The project was launched during an inaugural conference on 5 May 2015 in Brussels, organised by JA-YE Europe (Junior Achievement Young Enterprise Europe) with EUROCHAMBRES (the association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry across 44 countries), SEECEL (South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning), EUproVET as well as people from ministries, research institutes, education, business and teacher training.

More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/easme/en/news/network-experts-promote-entrepreneurship-education-europe>

## 140.000 APPRENTICESHIPS AVAILABLE TO YOUNG PEOPLE



*The fight against youth unemployment is a top priority for the European Commission. Good quality apprenticeships help young people to acquire the skills and key competences necessary to be successful on the labour market. Today more than forty companies and other organisations have joined the European Alliance for Apprenticeships, coordinated by the European Commission, and committed to providing more and better apprenticeships for young people.*

The companies will make a total of 140.000 apprenticeships and training opportunities available to young people. The European Commission is committed to strengthening the supply, quality and image of apprenticeships. The new pledges were signed in Riga during a meeting of Ministers in charge of vocational education and training, the European social partners and the Commission, organised by the Latvian Presidency.

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/ppj629b>

## TARGETED MOBILITY SCHEME – “YOUR FIRST EURES JOB”



*A new call for proposals has been published under the framework of the EaSI-EURES, regarding the Targeted Mobility Scheme “Your first EURES job” (TMS-YfEj) scheme. The TMS-YfEj scheme shall provide support measures for young candidates aged 18-35 to find a job, traineeship or apprenticeship in a place other than his/her country of residence while there must be a labour contract between the parties. The activities shall thus target hard to fill vacancies, such as those identified in national, regional or even local labour shortage lists and/or labour market development studies (e.g. the EU study “Mapping and Analysing Bottleneck Vacancies on the EU Labour Market”, the European Vacancy and Recruitment Report 2014, Employment and Social Situation: Quarterly Review).*

The provision of services as above under the TMS-YfEj should be ensured by EURES organisations, in cooperation with other organisations providing labour market related services. Those services can be provided at national, regional or local level. Applicant organisations shall foster the use of customised services and innovative working methods to improve the integration of mobile young workers into the host country, combined with financial incentives. Interested organisations must submit a proposal focusing on:

- Job placements (mandatory item);  
and also on at least one of following types of placements:
- Traineeships;
- Apprenticeships.

Projects should be based on a consortium with a broad geographical coverage. The consortium should be formed by at least seven participant organisations (established in seven different eligible countries), of which at least five must be EURES organisations (EURES members, EURES partners and associated EURES partners) and the others can be non-EURES organisations.

The total available budget for this call is EUR 5.97 million and the EU financial contribution will not exceed 95% of the total eligible costs of the proposed activities. The deadline for this call is on **16 October 2015**.

More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=629&langId=en&callId=461&furtherCalls=yes>

## SCHOOLS IN EUROPE DO NOT USE ENOUGH OF AUDIOVISUAL MATERIAL

**A new EU study recommends including the film literacy in school curricula, and promoting the establishment of general rules for licensing schemes, then contributing to a wider use of films and other audiovisual content in European Schools.**

The study looked at the obstacles and best practices when showing films and other audiovisual content in European Schools. The study is divided into three chapters. The school chapter looks into how films are used and how film literacy fits into the school curricula. The industry chapter looks at how films are made available for schools by the industry. And finally the copyright chapter analyses the legal framework in Europe for showing films in schools. The study provides recommendations on how to better facilitate the use of films and other audiovisual content in European Schools. The recommendations will be used when assessing the Film literacy support scheme of Creative Europe MEDIA, and will also feed into the discussions on copyright reform.

**More information:** <http://tinyurl.com/pdpab5l>



## EU SCHOOLS NEED MORE TEACHERS AND TRAINING



**More qualified teachers are needed in Europe to fill in the places of generations of older teachers once they retire, according to new EU studies on the teaching profession published on 25 June 2015.**

Teachers also report the need for more diverse and continuous professional training, especially in areas like linking topics across study curricula, offering student career guidance and working with special needs children or in multicultural classrooms. The reports, drafted by the Eurydice network and the CRELL research centre, also provide an overview of teachers' international mobility, gender balance in the profession and teaching practices that can serve as a useful tool for countries aiming to improve their teacher education.

**More information:** [http://ec.europa.eu/education/news/2015/0625-eurydice-crell\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/news/2015/0625-eurydice-crell_en.htm)

## REPORT ON THE TEACHING PROFESSION IN EUROPE

**A new report has been published on 25 June 2015 by Eurydice, a European Union network dedicated to providing information on education systems across 37 countries and producing European-level analyses and information which will assist those responsible for education systems and policies in their decision making. The report entitled "The Teaching Profession in Europe: Practices, Perceptions, and Policies" is focusing on the relation between the policies that regulate the teaching profession, and the attitudes, practices, and perceptions of teachers.**

The report examines on almost two million lower secondary education teachers employed in the 28 Member States, as well as in Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, and Turkey, while its analysis focuses on five key areas: demographics and working conditions, initial teacher education and the transition to the teaching profession, continuing professional development, transnational mobility, and the attractiveness of the profession.

Some of the report's key findings, are the following:

- The teaching profession employs mainly women, and there may be shortages of professionals in the near future;
- In almost two-thirds of the European countries, fully qualified first-time teachers have access to a structured induction phase;
- Almost all newly fully qualified teachers receive mentoring support in their first job;
- Teachers express higher professional development needs in teaching methods than in subject matter;
- The content of professional development activities does not always match the needs expressed by teachers;

**More information:** <http://tinyurl.com/ooqmn7w>



## ILO REPORT "THE IMPERATIVE OF HIGH-QUALITY TEACHER TRAINING SYSTEMS"

**The Employment Policy Department of the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva, has published on 01 July 2015, a working paper with the title "Vocational teachers and trainers in a changing world: the imperative of high-quality teacher training systems".**

The paper presents an analytical framework for assessing TVET teacher training systems. It takes a holistic approach, providing a conceptual framework that government agencies and TVET institutions can use to examine the internal efficiency and coherence of their teacher preparation programmes, as well as assess the dynamic capability of the system to anticipate and respond to the needs of both employers and students.

**More information:** [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_emp/documents/publication/wcms\\_383787.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_383787.pdf)

## DISCRIMINATION AND POOR JOB PROSPECTS HIT CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANTS



According to a new OECD/ EU report, published on 02 July 2015, the children of immigrants continue to face major difficulties integrating in OECD countries, especially in the European Union, where their poor educational outcomes leave many struggling to find work. The report under the title "Indicators of Immigrant Integration 2015: Settling In" finds that youth with immigrant parents experience nearly 50% more unemployment in the European Union than those with native-born parents

The OECD/EU report presents the first detailed international comparison of the outcomes of immigrants and their children in all European Union and OECD countries. The indicators cover key dimensions of integration, including employment, education, income, housing, health, civic engagement and social cohesion. A special focus is on young people with a migration background. In both the EU and the OECD, the immigrant population has grown by more than 30% since 2000. One in ten people living in the EU and OECD areas in 2012 was born abroad and one in four young people (15-34) is either foreign-born or the child of an immigrant.

Despite the fact that educational outcomes are improving for many immigrant children and for those with immigrant parents, **it is true that major gaps remain, notably for children with low-educated parents.** In particular, the report finds that low-educated immigrants have higher employment rates than their native-born peers but often are stuck in low-paid jobs with poor working conditions. Employed immigrants are twice as likely as their native-born peers to live in a household whose income is below the country's relative poverty threshold. Partly as a result of their lower income, immigrants are also more than twice as likely to live in overcrowded accommodation as their native-born peers (19% versus 8%) across the OECD.

More and more immigrants are high skilled. However, one in three immigrants of working age in the OECD and one in four in the EU now holds a tertiary education degree, with most obtaining their highest degree abroad. In contrast to the low educated, tertiary-educated immigrants have lower employment rates than their native-born peers in virtually all countries. When employed, they are overqualified more often than their native peers. This holds especially for those with foreign qualifications, who account for the majority of highly-educated immigrants.

More information: <http://www.oecd.org/migration/indicators-of-immigrant-integration-2015-settling-in-9789264234024-en.htm>

## FORUM ON FUTURE OF GENDER EQUALITY IN BRUSSELS

On 20-21 April 2015, a Forum on the future of gender equality in the EU took place in Brussels, under the auspices of Věra Jourová, Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality. The event brought together around 250 representatives from EU institutions, Member States' authorities, international organisations, social partners, civil society, academia and companies, while it provided an opportunity to hear from key stakeholders and to gather and exchange ideas for effectively achieving a gender equal society in the EU.



Gender equality is a cross-cutting societal issue that affects all women and men in the EU, in all areas of life. With a highly interactive format, this event covered issues from decision-making, employment and pay, to health, development and gender-based violence. Participants were encouraged to collectively develop policy solutions, which will be reviewed by high-level politicians and representatives from the European Parliament and Member States.

More information: <http://tinyurl.com/pmekqjd>

## WIDESPREAD PSYCHOSOCIAL RISK FACTORS IN EUROPE'S WORKPLACES

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) launched on 25 June 2015 the main findings of the Second European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks at the European Parliament in Brussels. The results of the survey (includes responses from almost 50,000 workplaces in 36 countries, including all 28 Member States) — give a detailed insight into how occupational safety and health (OSH) risks are managed in Europe's workplaces.

According to the report, the most commonly reported risk factor is having to deal with difficult customers, patients, pupils and so on (58% of establishments in the EU-28), which in part reflects the continued growth of the service sector. Factors leading to musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), such as tiring or painful positions and repetitive hand or arm movements, are reported very frequently across all activity sectors. Another key finding refers to how a high level of employee participation (whether formal or informal) is a strong indicator of good quality of work, including the quality of OSH management in general and psychosocial risk management in particular.



More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=89&newsId=2246&furtherNews=yes>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **10th European Conference on Innovation and Entrepreneurship**  
17-18 September 2015. Genova, Italy.  
<http://academic-conferences.org/ecie/ecie2015/ecie15-registration.htm>
- **Evaluating impact and success for VET policies to tackle early leaving from education and training**  
21 October 2015. Brussels, Belgium.  
<http://tinyurl.com/ordc489>
- **e-Skills in Tourism**  
21 October 2015 Brussels, Belgium.  
<http://tinyurl.com/q4yb4g3>
- **Cedefop/IZA workshop on skills and skill mismatch**  
29-30 October 2015 Thessaloniki, Greece  
<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events-and-projects/events/cedefopiza-workshop-skills-and-skill-mismatch-0>

## HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

The Association is open to any individual or organisation interested or dealing with Career or Employment issues, as well as any organisation willing to become a One-Stop-Service-Shop for Career Guidance.

The application procedure to become a member of the Association is very easy. The following link provides direct access to the subscription webpage and all the necessary information that the applicant needs to know:

<http://www.career-eu.info/index.php?id=137>

The Association offers **two kind of subscription schemes**:

- For Institutional/Organization membership €150
- For Individual membership €100

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## CONTACT DETAILS

University House A.G. Leventis,  
P.O.Box 20537, CY1678, Nicosia,  
CYPRUS

Tel: + 357-22894288

Fax: + 357-22894483

Email: [career.eu@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:career.eu@ucy.ac.cy)

Website: <http://www.eacg.eu/>



### Editing team:

- \* Mrs Emma ZENIOU, Executive Vice-President
- \* Mr Christos KATSALIS, Executive Secretary

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