

New Skills Agenda for Europe



The new Skills Agenda for Europe launches a number of actions to ensure that the right training, the right skills and the right support is available to people in the European Union. It will aim at **making better use of the skills that are available**; equip people with the new skills that are needed - to help them find quality jobs and improve their life chances. The Commission invites Member States, social partners, the industry and other stakeholders to **work together to**:

- improve the quality and relevance of skills formation
- make skills more visible and comparable
- improve skills intelligence and information for better career choices

This is set out in the Communication: A New Skills Agenda for Europe - Working together to strengthen human capital, employability and competitiveness.

The Commission proposes **10 actions** to be taken forward over the next two years. A number are announced with the adoption of the new Skills Agenda for Europe on 10 June 2016:

- A **Skills Guarantee** - renamed 'Upskilling Pathways: New Opportunities for Adults' - aims to help adults acquire a minimum level of literacy, numeracy and digital skills and/or acquire a broader set of skills by progressing towards an upper secondary qualification or equivalent.
- A review of the European Qualifications Framework and the related annexes for a better understanding of qualifications and to make better use of all available skills in the European labour market.
- The 'Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition' to support co-operation among education, employment and industry stakeholders.
- The 'Blueprint for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills' to improve skills intelligence and address skills shortages in specific economic sectors.

Subsequent actions include:

- A revision of the **Europass Framework**, offering people better and easier-to-use tools to present their skills and get useful real-time information on skills needs and trends which can help with career and learning choices. A proposal to revise the Europass Decision was adopted by the Commission in October 2016.
- A 'Skills Profile Tool Kit for Third Country Nationals' to support early identification and profiling of skills and qualifications of asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants.
- **Making Vocational Education and Training (VET) a first choice** by enhancing opportunities for VET learners to undertake a work based learning experience and promoting greater visibility of good labour market outcomes of VET.
- A review of the Recommendation on Key Competences to help more people acquire the core set of skills necessary to work and live in the 21st century with a special focus on promoting

entrepreneurial and innovation-oriented mind-sets and skills.