

Roadmap

European Framework of Key Competences

2017

Key points

In line with the New Skills Agenda for Europe and the Education and Training 2020 renewed objectives, the proposal for a Council Recommendation on strengthening and reinforcing the operation of the European Framework of Key Competences Framework would be a useful tool to support the acquisition of skills and facilitate the inclusion or re-insertion of individuals in the labour market.

Low qualification is a barrier to participation not only in the economy but in society as a whole, and low-qualified individuals are at higher risk of long-term unemployment¹, social exclusion and lower quality of life. Furthermore, access to education and training is more difficult for vulnerable groups, putting them at risk of combining barriers to enter the labour market.

As such, the Commission should make sure that the rights of people with disabilities, as enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, are mainstreamed throughout its proposal for a Council Recommendation, and that **people with disabilities are acknowledged as affected stakeholders**. In its report, Eurostat highlights the challenges faced by persons with disabilities, who represent a higher proportion of early school leavers and/or don't enter the labour market².

Recommendations

As per the Roadmap, “the review of the definitions intends to reflect political, social, economic, ecological and technological developments since 2006”. EASPD therefore invites the Commission to rise to the challenge and includes innovative methodologies in its proposal to help our education systems be more adapted to the challenges they are facing³.

- As stated in the renewed Education and Training 2020 objectives, social inclusion must pass through inclusive education. The revision of the Key Competence Framework

¹ For more on Long-Term Unemployment, see [‘Service Provision to Tackle Long-Term Unemployment’](#),

² Eurostat, [Disability statistics – Access to education and training](#)

³ In line with EASPD’s recommendation [‘Towards more inclusive learning environments in Europe’](#),

should be targeted at facilitating the development of inclusive education systems that provide high quality, individualised education and training. The “key competences needed in our societies” should also include **social and civic skills that empower individuals to become active citizens** in inclusive societies.

- Through **Universal Design for Learning**, as recognised in the General Comment n°4 of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on the Right to Inclusive Education, the provision of skills and competences is designed having in mind the needs of all learners. This methodology is particularly relevant to facilitate the inclusion of students with specific needs, such as people with disabilities and migrants.
- **Flexible curricula** allow education providers to deliver flexible certifications adapted to the skills acquired. By not focusing on the needs and challenges but rather on the abilities of the individual, this methodology facilitates the promotion of the skills and competences of each individual and the transition to the labour market.
- In order to achieve the objectives of the Roadmap, it is paramount that all stakeholders are involved. The implementation of successful inclusive education system must **build on the expertise and knowledge of support services** that bridge the gap between learners with specific needs and education providers.

Who we are

EASPD is the European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities. We are a European not-for-profit organisation and represent over 15,000 social service provider organisations across Europe and disability. The main objective of EASPD is to promote equal opportunities for people with disabilities through effective and high-quality service systems.

EASPD is registered at the Transparency Register under the following number:
120906010805-50

A third of EASPD’s membership provides employment and training services to Persons with Disabilities. It is our understanding that the huge experience developed by our sector in terms of supporting persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups in gaining relevant and useful skills for the labour market would be of particular interest to the European Commission and the authorities working on the implantation of the new skills agenda and the Skills Guarantee.

For additional information, please contact

Timothy Ghilain

Policy Officer

T. +32 2 233 77 23

timothy.ghilain@easpd.eu

www.easpd.eu



Luk Zelderloo

Secretary General

T. +32 2 233 77 21

luk.zelderloo@easpd.eu

www.easpd.eu



This position paper has been produced with the financial support of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation “EaSI” (2014-2020). The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the official position of the European Commission.

EASPD – European Association of Service providers of Persons with Disabilities

www.easpd.eu