



Lifelong learning: flexible pathways and skills acquisition

The Lifelong learning perspective frames cooperation at European Union level on education and training. EU funding programmes, the publication of monitoring results and the exchange of best practice are intended to foster innovation in policy-making with the adoption of flexible solutions and an inclusive approach. Lifelong learning connects education and training from early infancy to late adulthood in formal, non-formal and informal contexts. This topical digest compiles a set of publications by EPRS covering these themes.

The EU's youth initiatives: closing the gap between education and employment

Briefing by Ivana Katsarova, maps and graphics by Christian Dietrich, March 2016

Currently nearly 20% of young people (aged 15-24) in the EU-28 are unemployed. Although the most promising way of providing opportunities for young people is through restoring growth and employment, specific measures focused on youth are essential. In this context, different EU initiatives have been put in place to improve the learning paths, mobility, and employability of young people. However, recent reviews reveal some common drawbacks with regard to the nature, design and sustainability of the schemes.

An overview of the EU Youth Strategy 2013-2015

Briefing by Denise Chircop, January 2016

The European Union (EU) Youth Strategy encourages Member States to consider young people as a resource, by developing specific actions within youth policy and by working with other areas in a cross-sectoral approach. Young people's active engagement is established through a process known as 'structured dialogue', bringing them into contact with policy-makers, but a more representative participation and concrete improvements on the ground remain challenges for the future.

Education policy in the Europe 2020 Strategy

Briefing by Denise Chircop, maps and graphics by Christian Dietrich, November 2015

The Europe 2020 strategy aims to put Member States economically back on track. Education is one of five key areas identified as needing reforms to support the recovery. By and large, Member States are working towards reducing the number of early school leavers to less than 10% and ensuring that at least 40% of 30-34 year olds have completed tertiary education. Yet EU citizens are not benefitting evenly from the positive outcomes.

The Erasmus+ Programme (Regulation EU No. 1288/2013): European Implementation Assessment

Study by Anna Zygierewicz, Thomas Köhler, Daniel Apollon and Juha Kettunen, July 2016

The Erasmus+ Programme (2014-2020) supports the EU action in the field of education, training, youth and sport. The European Implementation Assessment examines the implementation of Key Action 1: Learning mobility of individuals and Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practice. It also presents opinions and recommendations of selected stakeholders. A separate chapter is dedicated to the area of sport, which is the new element of Erasmus+.

Integration of migrants: The education dimension

Briefing by Ivana Katsarova, maps and graphics by Giulio Sabbati June 2016

The challenges of integrating migrant students in formal educational systems tend to be essentially related to the three main components of education – access, participation and performance. In most countries, first and second generation immigrant students perform worse than national students. Yet, the variation in performance across countries suggests that policy has an important role to play. The EU follows a twofold approach, providing tools and schemes for integration in EU countries, and offering support for refugees outside EU borders through specific funds.

Further reading

[Erasmus+: more than just mobility](#)

At-a-glance note by Denise Chircop, March 2015

[The Cost of Non-Europe for Cross-Border Volunteering](#)

Study by Michaela del Monte and Thomas Zandstra, July 2015

[Women and education in the EU](#)

Infographic by Ulla Jurviste, Martina Prpic and Eulalia Claros, March 2015

[Education and Intercultural Dialogue as tools against radicalisation](#)

At-a-glance note by Denise Chircop, March 2015

[Learning and teaching technology options](#)

Study for STOA by Rafael Rivera Pastor, Carlota Tarin Quiros, March 2015

[Matching skills and jobs in the European Union](#)

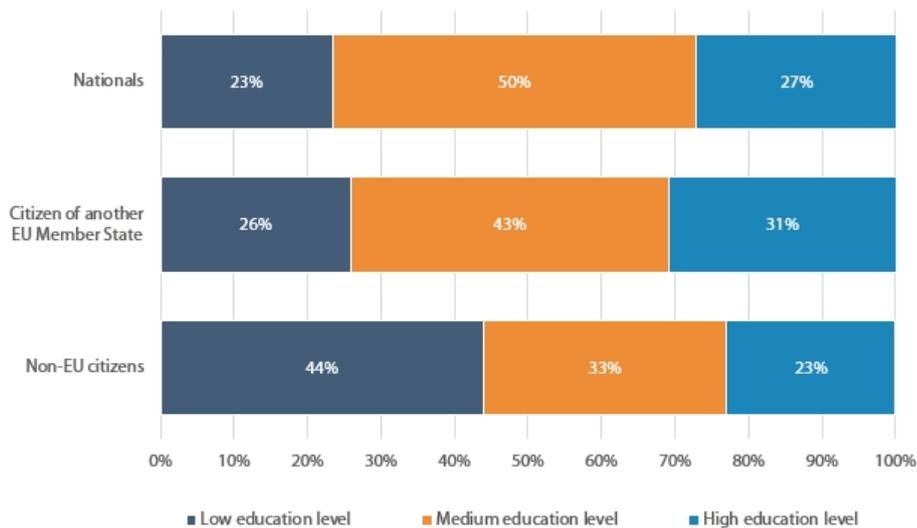
Briefing by Monika Kiss, January 2016

[What Think Tanks are thinking: Education in the European Union](#)

At-a-glance note by Marcin Cesluk-Grajewski, October 2015

More in the [Graphics Warehouse](#)

Distribution of the EU population by educational attainment level, 2014
(% of population aged 18-24)



Source: Eurostat, [Migrant integration - education indicators in 2014](#), august 2015

[Members' Hotline](#) | Tel 88100 or 00 32 2 284 8100 | eprs@europarl.europa.eu
www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank (Internet) | www.epthinktank.eu (Blog)
www.eprs.ep.parl.union.eu (Intranet)



You can access the [full pdf](#) by scanning this QR code

