

Education in the European Union

In the European Union, education policy is the responsibility of Member States, but EU institutions play an important supporting role. [Erasmus+](#) is the fund for EU initiatives in education and vocational training, such as mobility of individuals, the development of partnerships and alliances, and policy innovations.

Acknowledging the importance of education for social and economic development, member-state governments have set [targets for 2020](#) in a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020). These concern early childhood education, under-achievement in reading, mathematics and science, early school leavers, completion rates of higher education, and student mobility.

This note offers a selection of **recent studies by some of the major think tanks and research institutes** analysing the state of education in the EU and reforms needed to improve it.

[How returns from tertiary education differ by field of study: Implications for policy-makers and students](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), August 2015

[Students in work and their impact on the labour market](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), July 2015

[The EU and the commons: A commons approach to European knowledge policy](#)

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, July 2015

[Extending working lives: A comparative analysis of how governments influence lifelong learning](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), July 2015

[Erasmus Pro: For a million "young European apprentices" by 2020](#)

Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute, May 2015

[Europeana for education and learning: Policy recommendations](#)

Europeana, May 2015

[Quality models in online and open education](#)

European Association for Distance Teaching Universities, May 2015

[Herkunft = Zukunft?](#)

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, May 2015

[Designing strategies for efficient funding of universities in Europe](#)

European University Association, April 2015

[Learning and teaching in European universities](#)

European University Association, April 2015

[Éducation et Islam](#)

Fondation pour l'Innovation Politique, March 2015

[New vision for education: Unlocking the potential of technology](#)

World Economic Forum, March 2015

[Does the growth in higher education mean a decline in the quality of degrees?](#)

Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), March 2015

[Higher education scholarships as a soft power tool: An analysis of its role in the EU and Singapore](#)

European Union Centre in Singapore, March 2015

[Should higher education in Europe be re-directed toward R&D?](#)

Friends of Europe, January 2015

[Developing school capacity for diversity](#)

Migration Policy Institute, November 2014

[Enhancing EU education policy: Building a framework to help young people of migrant background succeed](#)

Migration Policy Institute, November 2014

[Réforme de la formation professionnelle : entre avancées, occasions manquées et pari financier](#)

Institut Montaigne, September 2014

[Breaking the cycle of disadvantage: Early childhood interventions and progression to higher education in Europe](#)

Rand Europe, June 2014

[Education to employment: Getting Europe's youth into work](#)

McKinsey Centre for Government, January 2014

[Improving the quality of teaching and learning in Europe's higher education institutions](#)

High Level Group on the Modernisation of Higher Education, June 2013

[Fixing the broken promise of higher education in Europe](#)

Fondation Européenne d'Etudes Progressistes, June 2013

[How rankings are reshaping higher education](#)

Dublin Institute of Technology, May 2013

[The future of higher education in Europe: The case for a stronger base in EU Law](#)

London School of Economics, July 2012

[A higher education for the 21st century: European and US approaches](#)

Centre for European Studies, March 2012