



European Education Area

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Content:

- Why are we building the EEA?
- Steps towards the EEA
- Focus areas of cooperation
- Concrete actions
- Strategic framework for cooperation
- Measuring progress
- Governance structures
- Support through funding





Why are we building the European Education Area?

- The European Education Area embraces a future-looking, holistic and people-centred vision of education and training systems
- It contributes to strengthening the resilience of European education and training systems, preparing them for the digital and green transitions, while being deeply rooted in quality and inclusive education for all and across the whole life-course





Steps towards the EEA

- The idea to create a European Education Area was first endorsed by European leaders at the **2017 Social Summit in Gothenburg**, Sweden.
- The **first packages of measures** were adopted in 2018 and 2019.
- In **September 2020** the Commission outlined its renewed vision for the European Education Area and around 40 concrete EU-level actions to achieve it by 2025 in a **Commission Communication**.





- In February 2021 the **Council** of the EU responded with a **Resolution on a strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training** towards the EEA and beyond for the period **2021-2030**.
- The achievement and further development of the EEA is the **overarching political objective** of the new strategic framework.
- In November 2021 the Council **reinforced the governance structures** through a dedicated **Council Resolution**.





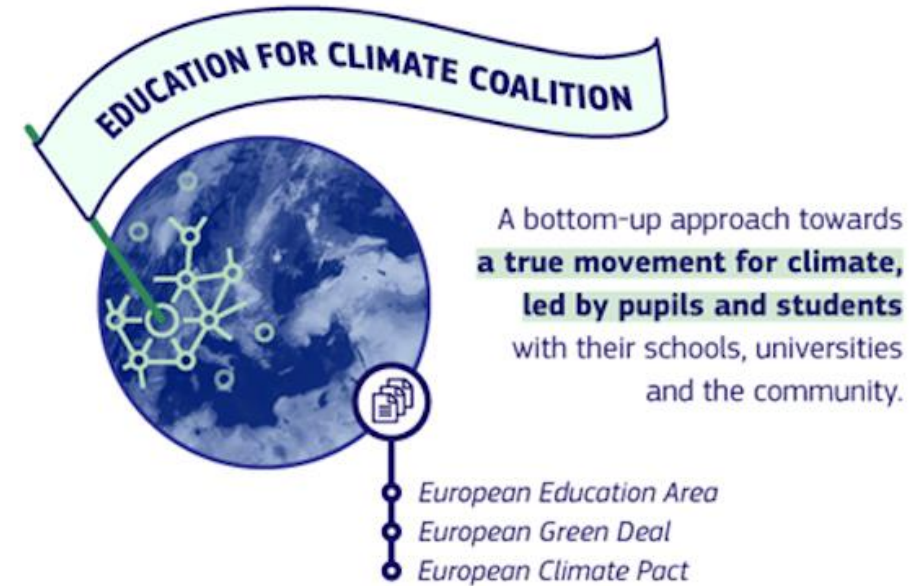
Focus areas of collaboration

- quality, equity, inclusion and gender equality
- green and digital transitions
- teachers and trainers
- higher education
- lifelong learning and mobility
- geopolitical dimension



Concrete actions

- around 40 concrete EU-level actions to achieve the European Education Area by 2025 across all the focus areas of collaboration





European Commission

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION

ON A

EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR UNIVERSITIES



A circular photograph showing a diverse group of five young adults (three women and two men) standing in a circle, smiling, and placing their hands on top of each other's in a gesture of teamwork or agreement. They are dressed in casual attire.



#EuropeanEducationArea

Expert Group on quality investment in education & training



A circular photograph showing a classroom scene. A male teacher is standing and smiling, interacting with a group of students seated at desks. The students are looking towards the teacher, and one is holding a book.



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Increasing women's participation and career development in STEM and ICT

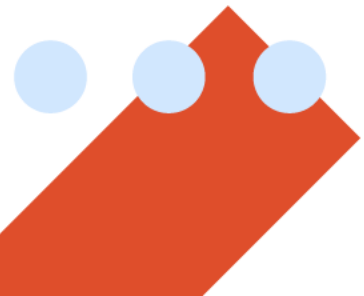
- part of the Digital Education Action Plan 2021-27
- series of training activities for girls in primary, secondary and tertiary education
- developing new HE programmes for engineering and ICT based on STEM approach by setting STEM as a priority for cooperation projects in HE under the Erasmus+ programme





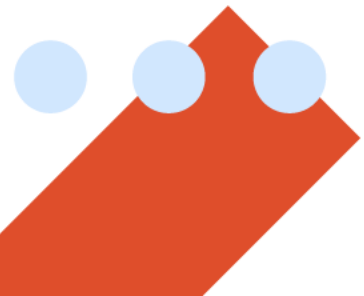
Strategic framework for cooperation

- European Education Area is rooted in decades of cooperation in education and training at EU level
- Cooperation on voluntary basis
- Cooperation until now has already achieved significant results:
 - empowering teachers, improving general education, adapting to the digital transformation, setting new principles for improving VET ...
- Cooperation has supported national reforms and also facilitated the education and training community's initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic





- The **new strategic framework 2021-2030** supports the achievement of the EEA by:
 - supporting EU Member States in their reforms of education and training systems,
 - enhancing synergies with other policy areas such as research and innovation, social policy, employment or youth to better support national reforms,
 - identifying targets and indicators to guide work and monitor progress.

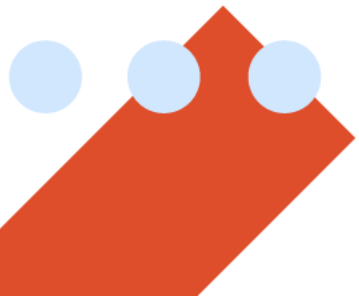




How do we measure progress?

EU-level targets

- **By 2025:**
 - at least 60% of recent graduates from VET should benefit from exposure to work-based learning during their vocational education and training
 - at least 47% of adults aged 25-64 should have participated in learning during the last 12 months





- **By 2030:**

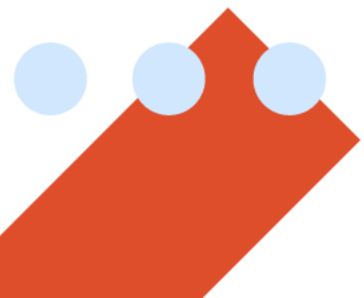
- less than 15% of 15-year-olds should be low-achievers in reading, mathematics and science
- less than 15% of eight-graders should be low-achievers in computer and information literacy
- at least 96% of children between 3 years old and the starting age for compulsory primary education should participate in early childhood education and care
- less than 9% of pupils should leave education and training early
- at least 45% of 25-34 year-olds should have a higher education qualification





Progress reports

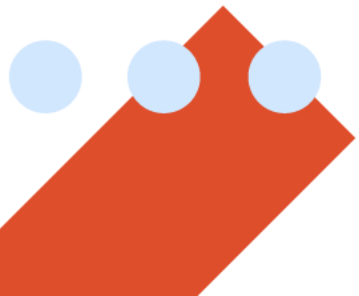
- **Commission's Progress Report in November 2022**
to take stock and evaluate the achievements towards the EEA
- composed of:
 - Communication from the Commission
 - Staff Working Document 1 with evidence on all EEA work strands
 - Staff Working Document 2 – Education and Training Monitor





- **Commission's full EEA Progress Report in 2025**

→ Council shall review the strategic framework including EU-level targets, governance structure, and working methods, and make any necessary adjustments for the second cycle 2026-2030





Governance structures

- **Council**
 - Education Committee
 - meetings of Ministers
- **European Parliament**
- **Informal cooperation**
 - High Level Group on Education and Training and its Coordination Board
 - Directors-General formations
 - Expert groups (including the EEA strategic framework Working Groups 2021-25)





The EEA strategic framework Working Groups 2021-2025:

- contribute to making the European Education Area a reality by 2025
- focus on sharing information about reforms of national education policies and on inspiring positive change throughout the EU
- also a backbone of the EU Education Solidarity Group for Ukraine through which the Commission supports EU countries in ensuring continuity of education of Ukrainian refugees
- composed of experts nominated by EU Member States, EFTA and EU candidate countries, and key education and training stakeholders





Sector-focused Working Groups:

- Early childhood education and care
- Schools
- Higher education
- Vocational education and training and the green transition
- Adult learning: Opening up opportunities for all

Issue-focused Working Groups:

- Digital education: Learning, teaching and assessment
- Equality and values in education and training





Support through funding

- **Recovery and Resilience Facility**

- help mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 crisis, modernise education and training systems of EU Member States, and make them more resilient

- **Structural Funds 2021-2027**

- European Social Fund+, European Regional Development Fund etc.

- **Erasmus+, Horizon Europe and other EU programmes**



Questions?



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