

Exploring the Challenges of Permeability: EQF-5 and Higher Levels (Higher Education and Higher VET)

Paving the way for flexible learning pathways and the role of the labour market

9 –10 December 2019, MCAST, MALTA



KEY-ISSUES FOR THIS CONFERENCE

- How can qualifications be linked to each other for permeability between the two sectors, at the levels 5 and higher of the EQF (and the national frameworks):
 - Higher Education
 - Vocational Education (Vocational and Professional Education - also known as Higher VET)?
- How can we promote cooperation for learning pathways where institutions from those different sectors are involved, and how can they be filled in correctly?
- What is the role of the business community in promoting flexible learning pathways that are making use of both sectors?
- Is there a strong need for 'international common names' for qualifications in both sectors, to make the whole system for level 5 and higher levels more transparent for the stakeholders?
- Can common guidelines be drawn up for a stronger approach to permeability procedures between the two sectors, to the benefit of students and adult learners?
- What can be the role of the international associations and networks for both sectors, to initiate a process for this, and who can contribute to such an initiative?

HOW TO REGISTER

You can easily register for this conference:

- Send an e-mail to info@chain5.net and mention: name, position and organization
 - Indicate whether you want to participate in the dinner on Monday evening (yes / no)
 - If you want to make a contribution (workshop, session), you can mention your idea for this.
- These data will only be used for this conference*.

Registration is possible until 20 November. Your registration will be confirmed upon receipt of your e-mail. The invoice (conference and, if applicable, dinner) will be e-mailed to you after the 1st of November (or after your registration), with details of the method of payment.

We will ask you in November about your travel schedule and details of where you are staying, on the basis of which we can determine how the transport to MCAST can be arranged on both days and how many delegates are interested in a 'social dinner' on Sunday evening.

The conference fee is 150 euro. The dinner will cost 45 euro.

Questions about the conference can be sent to info@chain5.net.

In the previous newsletter, we informed you about the initiative of EfVET and CHAIN5 to host a unique forum. That's why the purpose of the conference is to examine, based on recent developments around the EQF, the European Higher Education Area, the growing importance of Higher VET (Vocational and Professional Education) and how more flexible learning pathways are possible. This involves the use of qualifications from the various sectors (and the forms in which they can be offered). The role of qualifications at level 5, strongly emerging, can be looked at in this context to build a bridge from level 4 to higher levels.

In all this process the key point is the collaboration among institutions to reach "new" forms of permeability. There are a lot of opportunities, given the need for lifelong learning programmes and the demand for highly qualified people from the labor market.

If you would like to be part of the future of HVET, and explore the challenges of permeability by using all kind of qualifications at levels 5 and higher of the EQF', this conference is for you.

On the 9th and 10th of December we will come together to share examples and best practices and further explore what we can learn from all these experiences. The Conference will have a strong international representation with experts, institutions, quality assurance staff, managers, policy makers, networks, associations and representatives of national governments. This will offer you the opportunity to learn from professionals in the field and to widen your network.

The conference will lead to recommendations and the set up of an action plan, considering who wants to contribute in the coming period to 'the challenges of permeability by using all kind of qualifications at levels 5 and higher of the EQF'.

This event will be highly interactive including panel discussions, parallel sessions and workshops. Like previous years, the event will gather international experts, policymakers, colleges and quality assurance managers, delegates from different HVET and VET networks and national governments representatives.

If you would like to learn more about the organisers visit www.efvet.org and www.chain5.net

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Malta, contributing to an important step for the provision of education at levels 5 and higher, with the involvement of all the relevant institutions.

Don't forget to register by the 20th of November.

If you have questions or comments, please contact us at info@chain5.net

Preliminary programme

Below you'll find the outline of the preliminary programme. The details and names of speakers and workshop moderators will be communicated soon. In addition, we are also taking into account upcoming applications to contribute to workshops and discussion sessions.

Monday 9th December

- 09:00 – 09:45 Registration
- 09:45 – 10:35 Opening / Welcome addresses
CHAIN5, EfVET, MCAST, Ministry of Education and Employment
- 10:35 – 11:00 Introduction to the theme and the aims of the conference
CHAIN5
- 11:00 – 11:20 Coffee break
- 11:20 – 12:30 Presentations and interventions – concerning the key-issues
- 12:30 – 13:45 Lunch
- 13:45 – 14:40 Thematic Workshops – using the key-issues (round 1):
 - *permeability between a VET College and a Higher Education Institute*
 - *using international common names, for having more transparency*
 - *role of businesses in lifelong learning, using all qualifications at level 5 for workforce development (institutes)*
 - *the need for standards and guidelines for permeability between VET and HE*
 - *role of international associations for VET and HE in having a new 'process'*
- 14:40 – 14:50 Short break

- 14:50 – 15.45 Roundtable sessions – using the key-issues (round 2)
See round 1
- 15.45 – 16:00 Coffee break
- 16:00 – 16:15 Plenary: a student's vision of the theme of the conference
- 16:15 – 17:00 Plenary: reporting of the workshops and sessions – input for day 2
Moderation: CHAIN5 and EfVET
- 17:30 Transport to the Institute for Tourism Studies
 - tour
 - dinner
- 22:00 Transport back to the hotels and other central places

Tuesday 10th December

- 08:30 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:10 Welcome
- 09:10 – 10:00 The challenges... seen from a Maltese perspective... and good practices...
- 10:00 – 10:50 Roundtable sessions: The way forward... what's next...
Using the outcomes and recommendations from day 1
- 10:50 – 11:05 Coffee break
- 11:05 – 11:45 Plenary: Reflections from an observer and feedback of the delegates
- 11:45 – 12:30 Plenary: Conclusions, recommendations...
- 12:30 – 12:40 Closing of the conference
- 12:40 Lunch
- 14:00 – 16:30 Option: Guided Visit to Valetta

Partners

The conference will be organised by:

- EfVET, as European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, European-wide professional associations created by, and for, Vocational Education and Training (VET) providers (see: www.efvet.org).
- CHAIN5, as European Community of Practice for level 5 of the EQF (see: www.chain5.net).

The conference will be hosted by the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology (see: <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/>).

The organization of the conference is made possible by having the strong support of the Ministry of Education and Employment (MEDE) in Malta (see: <https://education.gov.mt/en>)

Venue

The conference is being held on the MCAST campus in Malta.

<https://www.google.nl/maps/place/MCAST/@35.8762935,14.5043349,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x130e5ac2d87c4891:0x48ee141582b02a26!8m2!3d35.8762892!4d14.5065236>

Practical Information

In the previous newsletters you can find information about practical issues like accommodation, transportation and so on.

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All the data will be processed by the measures laid down in the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation). The sole data controller is CHAIN5.