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# Basic skills needed for EQF level 5... and for all levels

Tihomir Žiljak University of Zagreb Problems and answers: how do skills (especially basic ones) become crucial for the economic and social development of the EU?

### **Problems and challenges**

Insufficient basic skills -70 million Europeans do not have sufficiently developed basic skills: reading, writing and mathematical skills (PIAAC) Insufficient participation in adult learning (10,8%, EU benchmark is >15%) Decreasing early VET leaving (11,2%, EU benchmark <10%)

Skills mismatch (skills shortages, overqualification, underqualification)

COVID-19 epidemic (may cause significant disruption to the provision of education, training)

### EQF Level 5 skills

"A comprehensive range of cognitive and practical skills required to develop creative solutions to abstract problems" EQF

What if someone lacks basic skills?

What are the other necessary skills for this level?

# Less than 10% of tertiary-educated scored below PIAAC Level 2

Level 2 Reading literacy: require respondents to

make matches between the text and information
navigate within digital texts to access and identify information from various parts of a document....

Level 2 Numeracy: require respondents to

simple measurement and spatial representation,
interpretation of relatively simple data and statistics texts, tables and graphs...

# What have we learned during the COVID-19 epidemic?

Accessing

information

and

environments

not usually

available in

every home or

institution

Supporting continued professional development of educators in a flexible way

Connecting educators and learners with each other when in separate locations

Online tools – can serve different educational purposes

## Essential skills to succeed in a post-COVID-19 world

Leadership Emotional intelligence Technology skills Digital and coding skills Adaptability Creativity and innovation Data literacy Critical thinking

https://ec.europa.eu/eures/public/en/news-articles/-/asset\_publisher





## European Skills Agenda (2020.)

sustainable competitiveness (GREEN DEAL)

### social fairness (SOCIAL RIGHTS

### resilience (post COVID)

EUROPEAN SKILLS AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE COMPETITIVENESS, SOCIAL FAIRNESS AND RESILIENCE

European Commission

# European Skills Agenda and European Pillar of Social Rights (2017)

Everyone has the right to quality and inclusive education, training and **life-long learning** in order to maintain and acquire skills that enable them to participate fully in society and manage successfully transitions in the **labour** market. European Pillar of Social Rights



# 12 actions organised around 4 building blocks (ESA)

#### **Collective** action: - A Pact for Skills

#### **Right skills for jobs:**

- Skills intelligence
- EU support national upskilling action
- **Council Recommendation on VET**
- European Universities Initiative and upskilling scientists
- Support the twin transitions
- STEM graduates and fostering
- entrepreneurial and transversal skills
- Skills for life

Support people in LLL pathways:

- individual learning accounts
- micro-credentials
- New Europass platform

**Unlock investments** in skills:

 unlock Member States' and private investments in skills

### Very ambitious plan

Indicators	<b>Objectives for 2025</b>	Current level (latest year available)	Percentage increase
Participation of adults aged <u>25-64</u> in learning during the last 12 month (in %)	50%	38% (2016)	+32%
Participation of low- qualified adults 25-64 in learning during the last 12 months (in %)	30%	18% (2016)	+67%
Share of unemployed adults aged 25-64 with a recent learning experience (in %)	20%	11% (2019)	+82%
Share of adults aged <u>16-74</u> having at least basic digital skills (in %)	70%	56% (2019)	+25%

Croatian Curriculum for the development of basic digital, mathematical and reading skills of adults



## 3 adult education modules for basic skills development (2015-2019)

Modul	Description
A	Basic level of knowledge, skills and attitudes of a particular competence. The purpose is to educate and support vulnerable groups of people for coping and active participation in personal and community life
В	The level of acquired knowledge, skills and attitudes of a particular competence that enable an individual to continue their education in adult education

R Elements of key competencies are incorprated into other adult
 education programs. Eg. retraining for a particular occupation
 includes competence objectives and learning outcomes of digital
 competence from module A

# Module R = Curriculum for the development of basic skills

#### Incorporation

 within the adult education and CVET programmes.

modifying the program to the educational group.

Checking existing skills

by self-assessment
 and initial (soft)
 assessments.

Providing

min 100 hours
 mathematical,
 reading and digital
 skills

interconnectedness)

- connection with professional skills

## Thank you!

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