

ETE COMMITTEE MEETING

VIENNA, 15TH APRIL 2026

Commented Agenda

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EU Transparency Register

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ITEM 1 - EUROPEAN COMMISSION INITIATIVES IN THE AREA OF SKILLS (UNION OF SKILLS)

A. Future EU VET Strategy – for info and discussion

As part of the Union of Skills Agenda, the Commission is set to release a European Strategy for Vocational Education and Training by June 2026.

At the meeting: In this context, Ceemet has drawn up a position paper setting out its recommendations regarding this future strategy. Ceemet Secretariat will update members and an exchange of views on the topic will be held.

B. Skills Portability Initiative – For info and discussion

In its Communication on the Union of Skills of March 2025, the European Commission announced the development of a Skills Portability Initiative (SPI). The SPI, that will be released as part of the forthcoming Fair Mobility Package in October 2026, is intended to enhance the portability and recognition of skills and qualifications across the European Union, irrespective of where they were acquired. The initiative seeks to remove practical and administrative barriers that hinder mobility as well as to promote greater transparency and comparability of competences throughout the Single Market.

At the meeting: Against this background, Ceemet has developed a position paper outlining its proposals with regard to the future SPI. Ceemet Secretariat will update members regarding this topic and discuss the next steps of the Ceemet strategy on the file.

C. Digital skills: 2030 Roadmap on the future of digital education & skills -Update

As a key delivery of the Union of Skills, a 2030 Roadmap on the future of digital education and skills will build on a review of the Digital Education Action Plan. This roadmap will complement other strategic initiative likes the Action Plan on Basic Skills and the STEM Education Strategic Plan and will aim to establish a robust and inclusive EU digital education ecosystem. The 2030 roadmap should be released by Quarter 3 2026.

The Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027) is a policy initiative that sets out a common vision of high-quality, inclusive and accessible digital education in Europe. It aims to help national education and training systems adapt to the digital age and to this end calls for greater cooperation at EU level to address the challenges and opportunities arising from the accelerating digital transformation. It also seeks to enhance support for teachers, students, policy makers, academia and researchers at national, EU and international level.

At the meeting: ETE experts should discuss whether to follow up on this matter and have Ceemet drawing up a position paper or a brief opinion paper on the subject.

D. The Governance Model under the Union of Skills- Presentation by XXXX

According to the Commission, delivering on the Union of Skills will require a strong governance. To achieve this, the Union of skills will:

- be informed by a **European Skills Intelligence Observatory**
- bring together education and training providers, business leaders, and social partners, through a **European Skills High-Level Board**, to provide comprehensive insights on skills to the EU policy makers.

Moreover, it is also relevant to highlight that as part of the new EU governance model on skills, on 9 March 2026, the Council adopted a **Recommendation on human capital** aimed at supporting Member States in addressing labour and skills shortages across the European Union, with the objective of strengthening competitiveness through a more skilled workforce.

Besides, the Commission is also in the process of setting up the just transition observatory. This observatory, a core component of the EU's Clean Industrial acts as a data-driven framework for anticipating and managing transitions, specifically focusing on employment mapping and exchange of best practices. The skills dimension will also be an important part of this observatory.

On top of all that, the Commission is also set to establish the **STEM high level board**.

Ceemet in principle welcomes the strengthening of the governance model around skills, which should be done without duplicating structures as plenty of entities dealing with skills policies are already established.

That said, Ceemet fears that the new governance model will lead to further duplication and overlap among the different bodies and entities dealing with skills.

At the meeting: Ceemet has invited the European Commission to present the governance model under the Union of Skills. We are awaiting their reply. During our discussion, we will gather the Commission's views regarding the governance model under the Union of Skills

and how it will interact with the different bodies in place at the national level. It will also be an opportunity to put our views forward.

E. The interaction between the national and the European levels- Discussion

Based on information gathered via Ceemet members, we have noted that the EU often influences indirectly national systems through the use of non-binding tools. These tools span from EU funded projects focused on specific aspects (for example introduction of AI in the education systems), to recommendations, allocation of EU funds to reach Commission objectives in certain areas etc

At the meeting: Members will be asked to give their input regarding the influence of the EU on their national systems. Members are also asked to give their views on how they perceive the interaction between the national and EU levels in the area of skills,

ITEM 2- OTHER INITIATIVES

A. Discussion point: Artificial intelligence and skills – by ETE experts

ETE experts will be asked to give their input as regards the introduction and use of AI in workplace in MET industries.

More specifically, members are invited to share their views on how (if at all) employees in MET companies are being trained in AI skills with a view to using AI tools to boost efficiency and productivity at work. It has been demonstrated that AI training equips employees with the skills needed to drive productivity, innovation and adaptability in today's rapidly evolving workplace, and can serve as another tool to bridge the skills gap in the workforce.

At the meeting: The objective of this discussion is to start gathering input regarding how MET companies are introducing (or not) AI continuous upskilling to foster productivity at work amongst others. The ETE Committee should decide if any follow-up actions are developed in this area.

B. Quality Framework on Traineeships - Update

Trilogue negotiations are ongoing on this dossier. The negotiations, moving at a slow pace, started back in October 2025.

At the meeting: Ceemet will brief members as regards the state of play of this dossier.

C. Fair transition policies and the right to training – Update

On 19th January 2026 the European Parliament Plenary meeting adopted a resolution regarding the legislative own initiative (INI) report with recommendations to the Commission on a just transition directive in the world of work: ensuring the creation of jobs and revitalising local economies.

Amongst other issues, the Parliament calls on the Commission to introduce an individual right to training at EU level. Within three months, the Commission should respond to Parliament's demands.

Meanwhile, the trade unions continue to use every opportunity to request that the EU introduces a right to training at EU level.

Ceemet has adopted a position paper regarding the right to training as well as a position paper on ensuring a just transition.

At the meeting: a discussion on the matter will be held if necessary.

ITEM 3- SOCIAL DIALOGUE EDUCATION AND TRAINING – FOR INFORMATION

The Secretariat will update members as regards the social dialogue education and training.

ITEM 4- EU FUNDED PROJECTS ON SKILLS- CEEMET INVOLVEMENT

A. ASA/TRIREME - "Digital & Green Skills: for the Mobility Ecosystem"- Presentation by Jakub Stolfa

Jakub Stolfa, president of the Automotive Skills Alliance and coordinator of TRIREME will present the Skills Hub as well as the TRIRME sectoral skills strategy.

Ceemet Secretariat will further refer to the latest Ceemet activities in this project.

B. Aerospace and skills- Skills4ADC- Update

The project "Skills for Aerospace and Defence Community" (SKILLS4ADC+) aims to reinforce Europe's capacity to anticipate and respond to emerging skills needs in the aerospace and defence sectors. It supports the design of forward-looking, inclusive, and cross-sectoral upskilling and reskilling strategies aligned with key EU priorities such as the green and digital transitions, cross-industry mobility, and defence industrial readiness. Aerospace and defence sectors are key in Europe's security, technological sovereignty, and economic competitiveness, but they are experiencing increasing difficulty in attracting and retaining talent, particularly in highly technical and emerging roles.

SKILLS4ADC+ responds to this challenge by strengthening the skills ecosystem for aerospace and defence through the development of evidence-based, scalable, and inclusive upskilling and reskilling solutions, along with a strategy to boost SMEs in this domain. The project leverages the experience and networks of 13 partners from 7 EU Member States, comprising leading industry players, SMEs, universities, VET providers, clusters, and social partners, all being members of the Pact for Skills. This collaboration will ensure strong foundation for joint actions reinforcing the Pact's ambition of creating future-proof industrial skills ecosystems.

Ceemet is a partner in this project, in order to deliver the social partners perspective.

At the meeting: Ceemet Secretariat will update the ETE experts as regards this EU funded project.

ITEM 5- AOB & NEXT MEETING

Members will be asked to decide on the format of the next meeting which will take place either online or in Brussels (in person).
