



# ADULT LEARNING AND BASIC SKILLS POLICIES IN THE EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS

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# Today's presentation

- 1. European Year of Skills: context and objectives
- 2. EU Skills policy
- 3. What's next?
- 4. How to get involved



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# 1. EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS: CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES



# Ready to start!

- The [Decision](#) on the European Year of Skills was adopted on 11 May.
- The Year will take place in the period of **9 May 2023 to 8 May 2024**.



# Skills shortages as a challenge and skilled workforce as an enabler

Why a European Year of Skills?



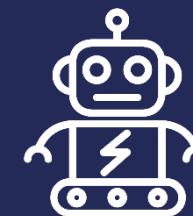
**28 occupations**, employing 14% in the EU workforce (27 million), were classified as **shortages** in 2020



**77%** of companies **struggled to find employees** with the required skills in 2019



**adult learning participation rate remains low, around 37%**



**over 90% of jobs** require digital skills, however **54%** of the **adult** population in Europe has **basic digital skills**



# European Pillar of Social Rights

(2021 → 2030)

At least: **78%** of the population aged 20 to 64 should be in employment by 2030

Current level: 73.1% (2019)

**60%** of all adults should participate in training every year by 2030

Current level: 37.4% (2016)

Reduce by **15 million** the number of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2030

Current level: 91 million persons (2019)



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# Why a European Year of Skills?

To further promote a mindset of reskilling and upskilling



## Investment

Increased, more effective and inclusive investment



## Skills relevance

Strengthening skills relevance by close cooperation



## Matching aspirations

Matching people's aspirations and skills-set with labour market opportunities



## Attracting third country talent

Attracting people from third countries with the skills needed

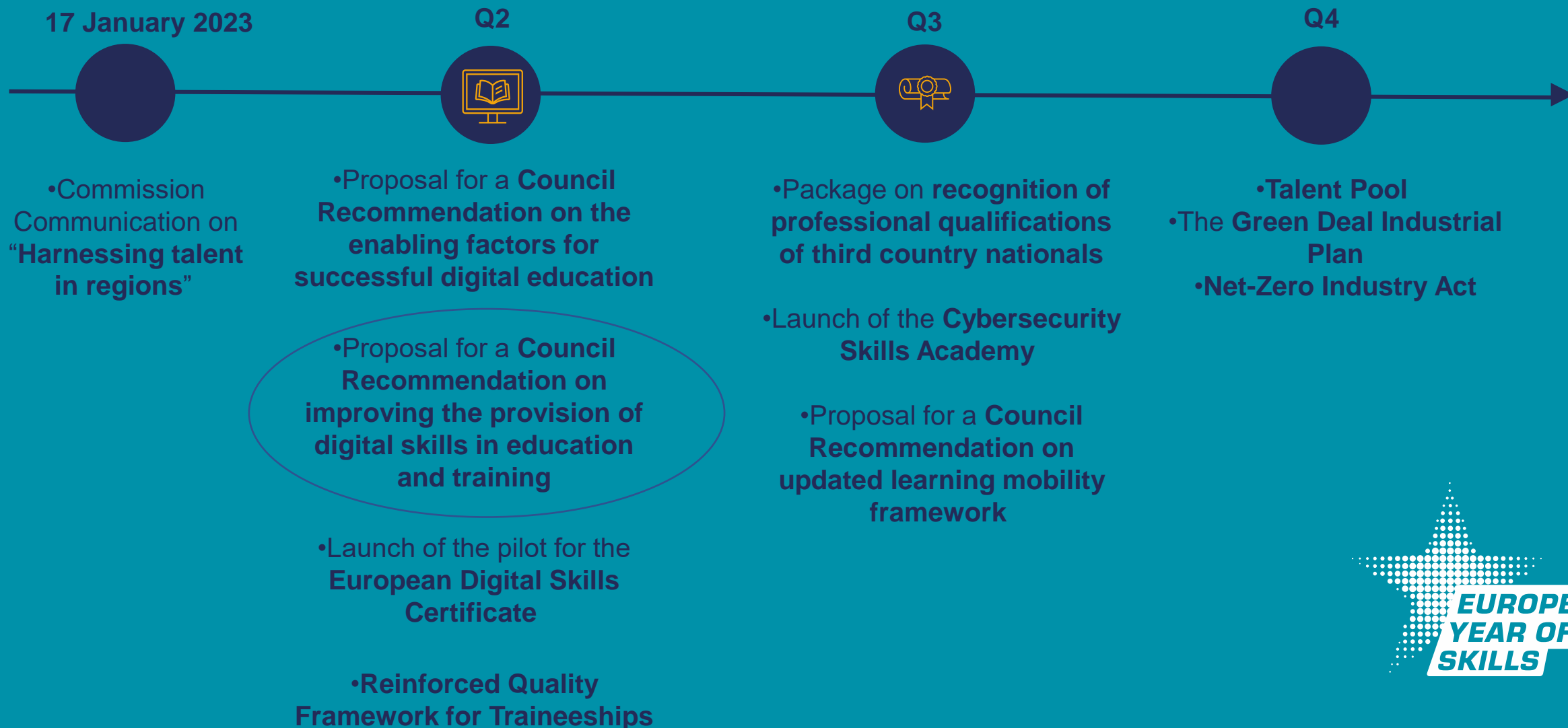


# 2. EU SKILLS POLICY

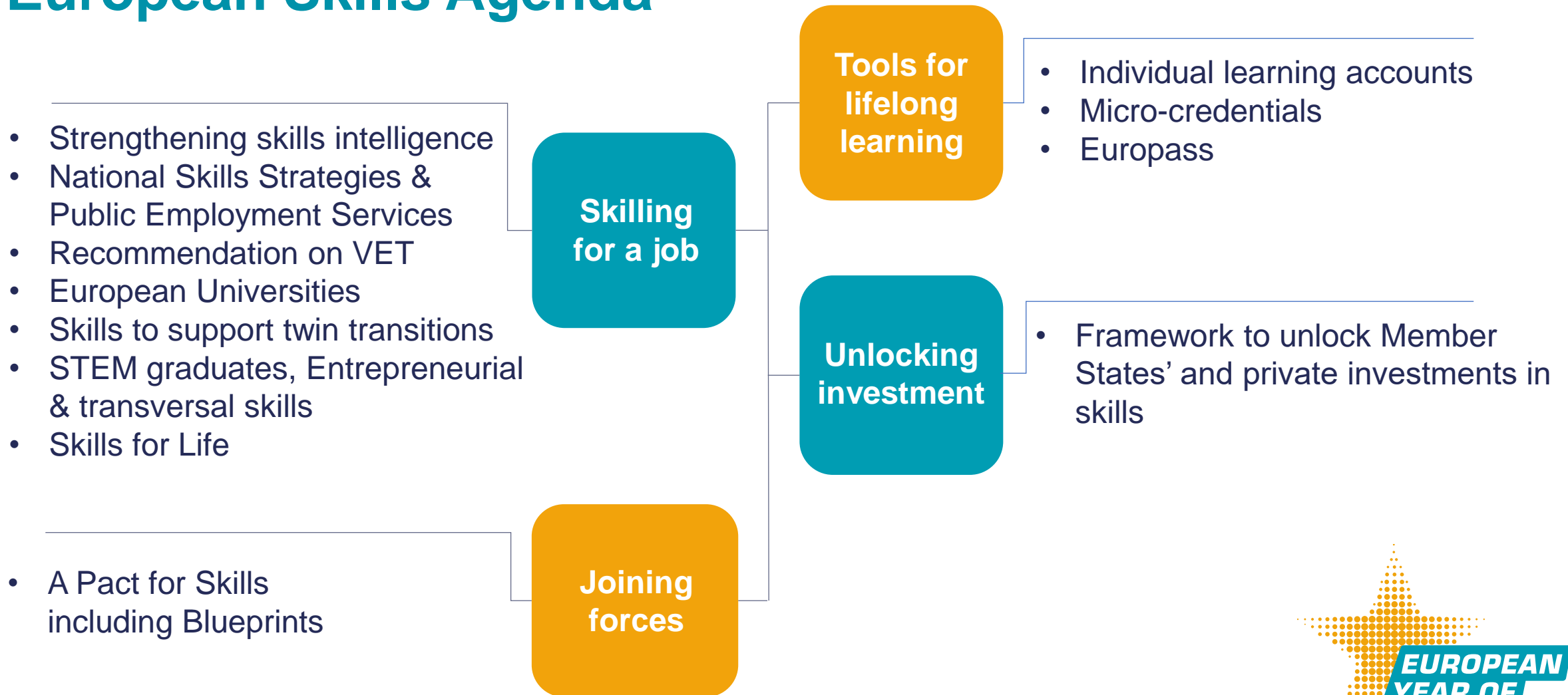




# Key initiatives



# European Skills Agenda



# Rationale of the Council Recommendation on Upskilling Pathways



## Target group

- lower skilled adults

## Objective

Provide them with **opportunity to acquire:**

- minimum level of **literacy, numeracy and digital competence**
- and/or a wider set of skills
- and/or encourage them to make a **progress towards a qualification**

## Rationale

### **Three-step personalised support**

- Skills assessment
- Provision of tailored and flexible learning offer
- Validation and recognition of skills
- + outreach, guidance and support measures



## Evaluation of the Council Recommendation on Upskilling Pathways

- **Aim:** To look into implementation in Member States, and assess progress made
- Reference period: 2016 - 2021
- **Scope:** EU 27
- **Publication planned:** approx. July 2023
- **External supporting study** already available here: [Publications catalogue - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)



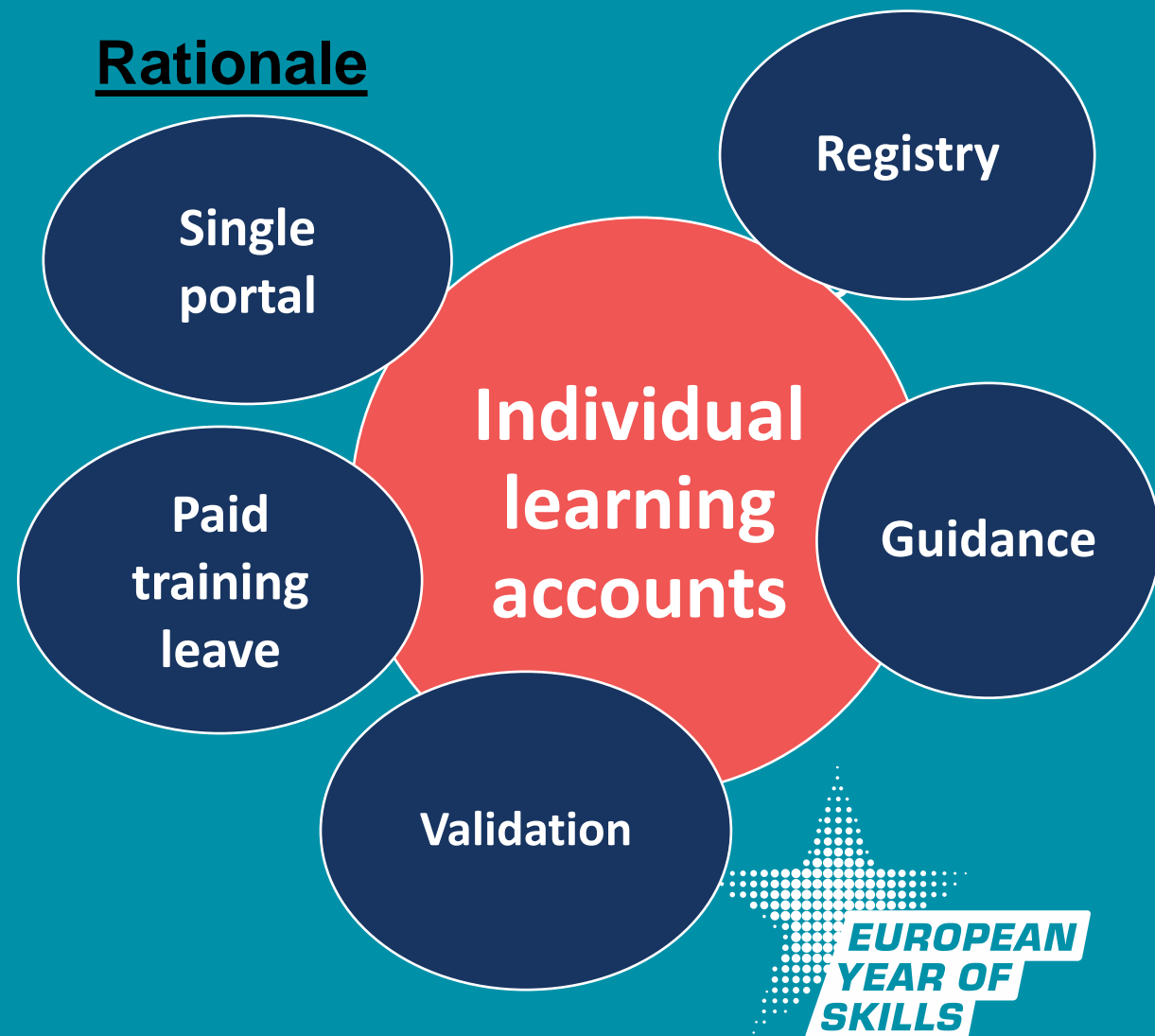
## Individual learning accounts

### Objective:

- support **all working-age adults** to access training, including for professional transitions and **irrespective of their labour force or professional status**;
- increase individuals' incentives and **motivation** to seek training.

### Targeting

- Universal but differentiated support





# Mutual learning programme

## Format

### Objectives

- Support implementation in MS
- Facilitating exchange across and within MS

- 6 countries (BG, FR, HR, IT, PL, RO)
- Country delegations of 8 persons
- 2 seminars in Brussels,
- 1 online webinar
- Activities in the MSs



# How to join forces under the Pact?

## Large scale skills partnerships

Concrete investments in upskilling opportunities in the whole value or supply chain

Major players in industrial ecosystems	Partnerships based on Blueprints	Public authorities
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## Regional or local skills partnerships

Employers  
Public authorities  
Stakeholders e.g. VET providers, PES, social partners  
Building on the work of Intelligence Cities Challenge, Centres of Vocational Excellence, Clusters...

## Individual commitments

Stakeholders commit to provide quality upskilling opportunities. Basis for stronger partnerships.

## Building blocks

**Erasmus+ Sector Skills Alliances  
Blueprint Projects**

**Social Partners agreements on  
upskilling and reskilling**

**Community of the European  
Alliance for Apprenticeships**



# EU Tools to support skills policy

> Europass



> ESCO



> European Qualifications Framework



> SkillsOvate

SKILLS OVATE  
ONLINE VACANCY  
ANALYSIS TOOL FOR  
EUROPE



> Eures



> DigComp



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## EU Networks and mutual learning

- European Alliance for Apprenticeships



- Digital Skills & Jobs Platform



- Pact for Skills



- EPALE



- Working Group on VET & adult learning

- Network of National Coordinators for adult learning



# EPALE

- a European, multilingual, **open membership community of adult learning professionals**,
  - aims to support and strengthen the adult learning professions. It enables members to **connect** with and **learn** from colleagues across Europe, through its:
    - **blog posts, forums, the Partner Search tool, complemented with events.**
- There is also an **EPALE mobile app** to make the content even more available.

The screenshot shows the EPALE website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for EPALE, Contribute, Collaborate, Learn, EU Policy, About, and MyEPALE. Below the navigation bar, the main content area features a podcast announcement titled "EPALE Podcast - Life skills of the 21st Century. How to foster democratic engagement" by Pia Schnelle. To the right of the podcast announcement is a banner for the "EPALE podcast" with the same title and a small image of a person. Below these are four banners: "Erasmus+ for Adult Education", "Apply now to the Erasmus+ register to help Ukrainian refugees", "JOIN THE future! EPALE Community Stories 2023", and "engage empower include EPALE Thematic Focuses 2023".

# Analytical references at EU-level

- Education and Training Monitor
- OECD support to national Skills Strategies
- Eurofound
- The European Semester
- CEDEFOP
- Joint Research Centre (JRC)
- Eurydice



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# Funding instruments to support skills policy

➤ European Social Fund



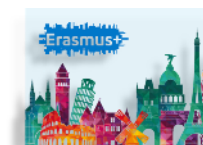
➤ Recovery and Resilience Facility



➤ Digital Europe Programme



➤ Erasmus +



➤ InvestEU



# 3. WHAT'S NEXT?





## EU flagship events



- 9 May:  
[The European Year of Skills 'Festival'](#) (past event)
- 8 - 9 June:  
[Making Skills Count](#) (past event)
- 23 - 27 October:  
The **VET week**
- 15 - 16 November:  
The **Employment and Social Rights Forum**
- 2024:  
A **concluding event**



## Other EU key events



- [High-level Conference on Skills: Supporting skills development through reforms](#) (25 May) (past event)
- EU [Green Week](#) 2023 (3-11 June) (past event)
- [Cybersecurity Month](#) (October)
- [EU Code Week](#) (7-22 October)
- **REGIOSTARS Awards** (16 November)

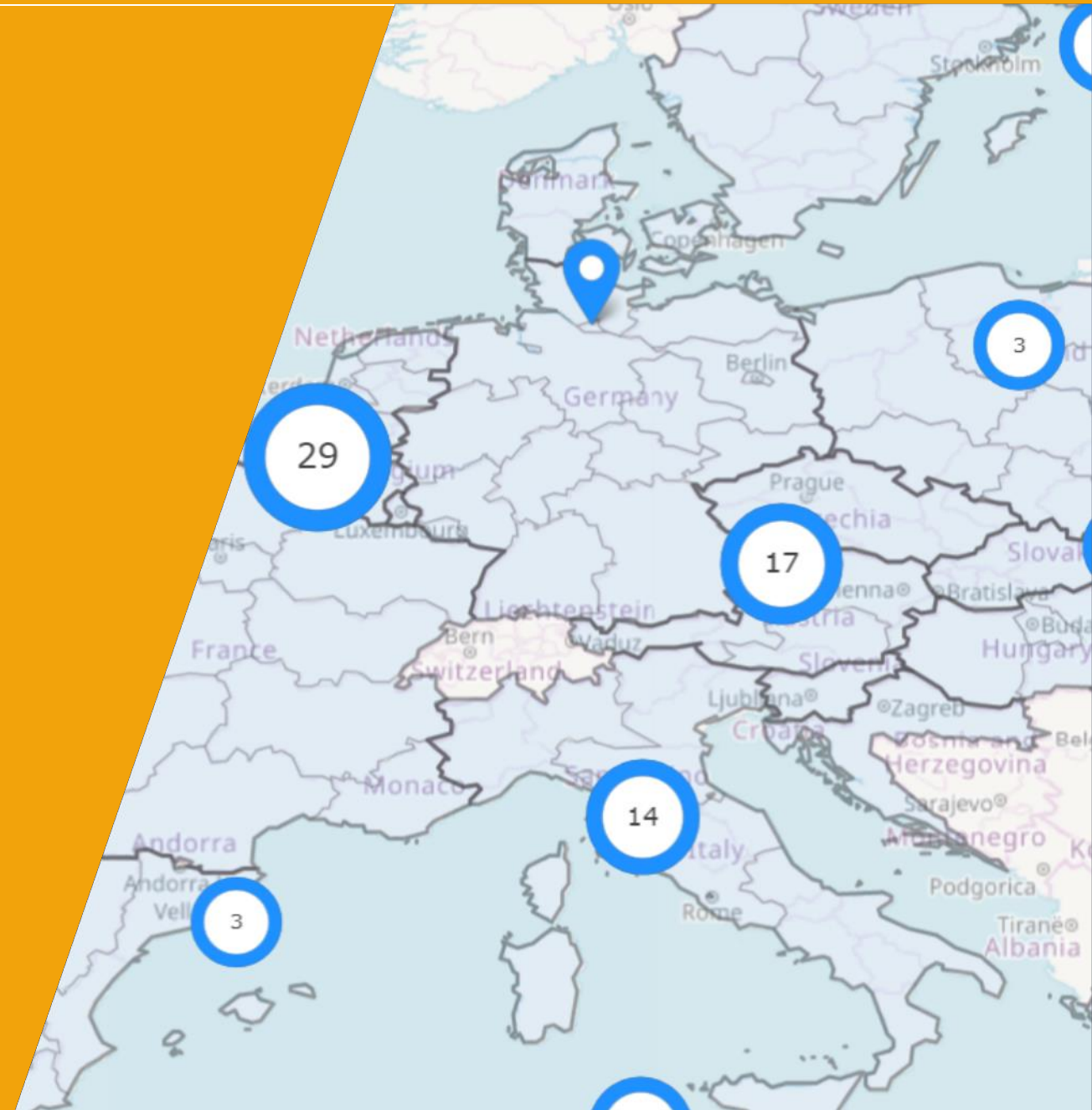


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## National Events

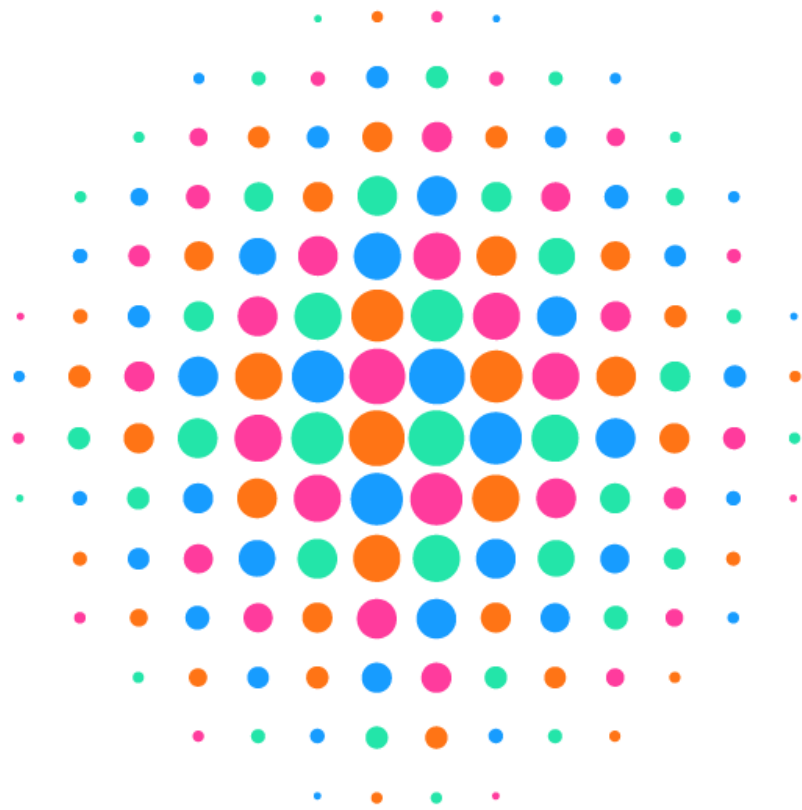


- France, 29-30 July  
**EPR Annual Conference 2023 Beyond Green: Innovation and Inclusion**
- Poland, 5-6 September  
**EuroSkills Gdańsk 2023**
- Italy, 11-12 October  
**European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA) - ETF Seminar for EAfA partner Countries**





save  
the  
date



# EPALE

## COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

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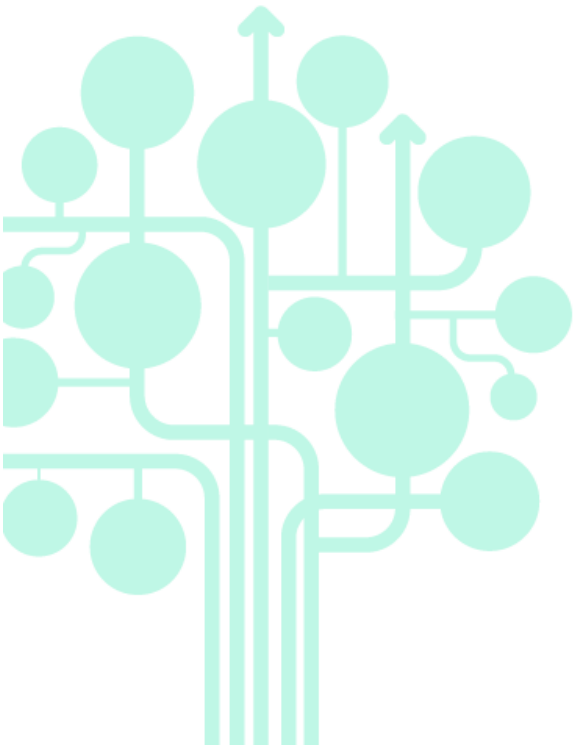
# 10, 11, 12 OCTOBER



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# 4. HOW TO GET INVOLVED



# How can you contribute?

- Develop own activities on re-skilling and upskilling using EYS branding (as per [Communication toolkit](#)) - **submit your event [here](#)**
- Share successful project **stories** and compelling individual **testimonials**  
[EMPL-SHARE-YOUR-SKILLS-STORY@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EMPL-SHARE-YOUR-SKILLS-STORY@ec.europa.eu)
- Join EU events
- **The list of National coordinators of the Year** is available here, get in touch with them:  
[https://year-of skills.europa.eu/stay-touch\\_en](https://year-of-skills.europa.eu/stay-touch_en)
- Spread the word **#EuropeanYearOfSkills**



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# Thank you for your interest!

We look forward to collaborating with you to make the European Year of Skills a success!

Useful link: [European Year of Skills webpage](#)  
**#EuropeanYearOfSkills**

