

Quality Assurance and Skills Development in the EU: The Role of EQAVET in a Changing Labor Market

Laura Evangelista¹, Concetta Fonzo², Marianna Forleo³

^{1, 2, 3}INAPP – Istituto Nazionale per l'Analisi delle Politiche Pubbliche, Italy

Abstract

Globalization and the transitions to green and digital economies have profoundly transformed the labour market, ushering in a new organizational and evolutionary phase. The widespread use of digital platforms in education and training has disrupted traditional European teaching models and labour practices, replacing established habits and reshaping learner and labour market needs. In this context, the urgent need to update skills is crucial to remain competitive in the global economy. To support Member States in navigating these transitions, the European Commission has strongly encouraged the development and implementation of national education and training policies aligned with new labour market demands.

Competences have become a strategic priority on the EU policy agenda. The 2020 European Skills Agenda for Sustainable Competitiveness, Social Fairness, and Resilience has set ambitious goals for upskilling, reskilling, and ensuring the quality of education and vocational training. Quality assurance in Vocational Education and Training (VET) is essential for Europe's development, enabling the full potential of skills to enhance productivity and well-being. This presentation offers an overview of key European policy frameworks on education and training, with a focus on the role of the EQAVET network and its tools in implementing quality assurance at both national and international levels.

Keywords: Competences; VET; Europe; digital platforms; productivity