



EDUCATION, YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT COUNCIL

Brussels, 07 March 2023

Ministers of education will gather in Brussels on 7 March for a meeting of the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council. The Council meeting, which is chaired by Lotta Edholm, Swedish minister for schools, is dedicated to education issues and will start at 10.00.

In the first instance ministers plan to approve conclusions on skills and competences for the green transition and will then hold a policy debate on high-quality teachers as the cornerstone of a successful European Education Area.

Under other business the European Commission will provide information on its initiative to celebrate the Day of European Authors.

A ministerial lunch will be dedicated to displaced teachers from Ukraine and initiatives to mobilise them to support the integration of refugee learners in classrooms.

The press conference with minister Lotta Edholm and commissioner Mariya Gabriel will take place at around 15.10.

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[Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council - meeting page](#)

[Press conferences and public events by video streaming](#)

[Video coverage in broadcast quality \(MPEG4\) and photo gallery](#)

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¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the Press Office.

Skills and competences for the green transition

On 9 February 2023, European leaders called for bolder, more ambitious actions to further develop the skills that are required for the green and digital transitions through education, training, upskilling and reskilling. Against this political backdrop, ministers of education plan to approve conclusions on skills and competences for the green transition.

Labour shortages in sectors considered key for the green transition doubled between 2015 and 2021 (as set out in the Commission's communication on a green deal industrial plan for the net-zero age). At the same time, green transition technical skills are in growing demand.

Initial and continuing vocational education and training, higher education and adult learning have a key role to play in responding to the need to counter and adapt to climate change, halt and reverse biodiversity loss, and make the green transition a reality by equipping young people and adults with the skills and competences they need to thrive in an evolving labour market and society.

Actions which member states are invited to take include engaging education and training providers, research organisations, employers, social partners and other relevant stakeholders in jointly identifying reskilling and upskilling needs for the green transition including public-private cooperation.

[Special meeting of the European Council – 9 February 2023](#) (Conclusions)

High-quality teachers – the cornerstone of a successful European Education Area

Member states across the EU are grappling with teacher shortages which represent a serious risk to the quality and equity of education. These shortages are among other things due to the ageing of the teacher workforce and perceptions about the profession's low attractiveness.

In view of this common concern for EU countries and the fact that attracting, upskilling and retaining qualified teachers and trainers is key to achieving the European Education Area, the Swedish presidency of the Council is proposing a debate about this topic.

Ministers will in particular discuss their national challenges and areas of added value for enhanced European cooperation as well as EU-level actions to attract, upskill and retain teachers and trainers.

[High-quality teachers](#) (policy debate)

[European Education Area](#) (Background information)

Other business

Under other business the European Commission will provide information on its initiative to celebrate the Day of European Authors. The first edition of the Day of European Authors is taking place on 27 March 2023.

The initiative's objective is to promote European authors through activities carried out in all member states and to encourage reading, in particular in schools.

[Day of European Authors](#) (European Commission).