



EOSE INFONOTE

October
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For skills matters!

FEATURED IN THIS NOTE : # GENERIC
INFORMATION ABOUT EUROPASS#

EUROPASS

Europass is designed to make skills and qualifications clearly and easily understood across Europe. It helps citizens to communicate their skills and qualifications effectively when looking for a job or training. It also helps employers to understand and compare the skills and qualifications of the workforce, and education and training institutions to communicate the content of curricula.

Europass supports mobility by helping people to communicate their knowledge, skills and competences acquired through education, training or work experience as well as in informal settings.

Two documents are directly completed and updated by individuals using the Europass online editor, with the help of examples and tutorials:

- ⇒ The Curriculum vitae (CV) presents skills and qualifications acquired in formal and non-formal learning; a cover letter can also be created online and attached to the CV, along with copies of qualifications, employment certificates, etc.
- ⇒ The Language passport gives a detailed description of language skills

Three documents are issued by national authorities:

- ⇒ The Europass mobility is a record of knowledge and skills acquired during a placement or a training in another European country
- ⇒ The Certificate supplement describes the content of training programmes (knowledge and skills acquired, validation, certification level, legal framework). It complements the information included in official certificates
- ⇒ The Diploma supplement is issued to graduates of higher education. It describes the nature, level, context, content and status of the studies

The benefits of Europass are easy to see for the sport sector. Sport is a sector with a great deal of volunteering and non-formal and informal learning, all of which can be recorded on the Europass CV. The recent EOSE study on mobility confirmed that there is significant learning mobility in the sector and those involved in facilitating mobility would like to see it increase. In situations of learning mobility and travel abroad to study or work it is particularly



Implementation in the sport sector

Implementation and use of Europass in sport sector across Europe is not uniform and some countries have implemented faster than others. This depends on national governmental support for implementation and willingness and commitment from actors in the sport sector itself.

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National Examples

Examples from Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Latvia and Lithuania on the use of Europass.

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Implementation in the sport sector

The benefits of Europass are easy to see for the sport sector. Sport is a sector with a great deal of volunteering and non-formal and informal learning, all of which can be recorded on the Europass CV.

The education and training picture in sport in Europe has traditionally been fragmented and lacked clarity on skills and competences gained. Therefore any tool that supports a clear recording and documentation of qualifications, skills and competences is to be welcomed and encouraged by the sector.

However the state of play on the implementation and use of Europass in the sport sector among Member States is uneven and inconsistent. This reflects the pace of vocational reform in different countries and the prominence or national promotion of Europass in the national systems.

The examples below show the diversity in the sector in the levels of implementation. This can be summarised in four main categories:

1. Low level of implementation. Cyprus, France and UK are examples of low take up of Europass in sport sector.
2. Implementation begun. Latvia is an example of where Europass is starting to be used.
3. Implementation linked to mobility. Finland is an example of where Europass is used extensively however this is mostly linked to mobility and those who study or work abroad.
4. Full implementation and success. Hungary and Lithuania are examples of full implementation and awareness at national level as well as for mobility.

This knowledge of the levels of implementation can facilitate, if desired, targeted interventions in support of Europass in the sector. For example case studies can be developed in countries with full implementation, and research in to the reasons for lack of take up in other countries can be carried out with a view to targeted promotion.

While Europass has benefits for the sports sector it remains the case that implementation nationally will often be linked to national level governmental level policy developments and the importance given to Europass at that national level.



Milestones



- ⇒ 2002 – **Copenhagen Declaration**. First agreement of Member States to aim to improve the performance, quality and attractiveness of vocational education and training through enhanced cooperation at European level.
- ⇒ 2005 – **Launch of Europass**, a framework designed to make skills and qualifications clearly and easily understood across Europe.
- ⇒ 2010 – **Bruges Communiqué**. Long-term strategic objectives for European cooperation in VET for the period 2011-20 set by Member States.



- ⇒ 2015 - 50 million Europass CVs have been completed either online or offline (nearly 35 000 per day).

Key ideas and facts

The European Commission, Member States, and the social partners, have established common European tools and principles for vocational education and training. Namely:

- ⇒ European Qualifications Framework (EQF)
- ⇒ European credit system for VET (ECVET)
- ⇒ Europass
- ⇒ European quality assurance framework for VET (EQAVET)
- ⇒ Principles and guidelines for identifying and validating non-formal and informal learning
- ⇒ Principles on lifelong guidance and counselling

These tools and principles constitute an integrated framework, their implementation



will increase transparency of qualifications, support mobility and benefit citizens by providing a systematic way to validate and document their knowledge, skills and competence. All are based on learning outcomes which make it easier to understand what the holder of a certificate or diploma knows, understands and is able to do.

The EQF and ECVET operate at the systemic level to make easier the recognition of qualifications across Europe. By supporting quality assurance, EQAVET provides a basis for

confidence and trust in national VET qualifications and their international comparison through the EQF. Europass, ECVET, validation and guidance support individuals looking for a job or applying for training.

All of these tools and principles have had an impact on the sport sector at the European and national level.

National examples

Bulgaria

In Bulgaria the Europass CV can be facilitated in sport education institutions on request but it is not obligatory.



Finland

Europass is used extensively among sport institutions in Finland, however this is mostly linked to mobility and those who study or work abroad.



Hungary

Europass in Hungary is a success, all institutions, including those in sport use it and promote it to students. Most students receive it automatically.



Latvia

The move to adopt and promote Europass has just been started with support from Minister of Education, it is now being implemented slowly in schools and universities, including in the sport sector.



Lithuania

Europass documents are very popular in Lithuania including in sport sector, and Lithuania is considered to be as the country with the most-spread usage of Europass CV. For example, it is a very common that public organisations request Europass CVs from applicants to new jobs.



FOR MORE INFO

EOSE has developed a State of Play report in 2015. Available on demand.

GET IN TOUCH WITH EOSE SECRETARIAT :
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To go further

Europass website

<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/home>

Europass documents

<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/en/documents>

DOWNLOADS

Cedefop 's Europass web page

<http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/events-and-projects/projects/europass>



Latest developments

Sector Skills Alliances (SSAs)

Sector Skills Alliances are an initiative designed to promote European cooperation within a specific sector of the economy. SSAs develop vocational skills from the perspective of labour market needs, ensuring cooperation between education and employment.

In the sport sector EOSE led a Consortium supported by the Directorate-General Employment and Social Affairs to carry out a feasibility study on setting up a Sector Skills Council for skills and employment for the sport and active leisure sector in the EU (the designation of council later changed to alliance with the launch of a new funding programme under Erasmus+ KA2 in 2016). This was supported by the whole sector.

European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO)

The EC through the DG Employment and Social Affairs has launched a new portal and database to support employment and recruitment services in all member states as they seek to tackle unemployment and assist job seekers. The system is called ESCO.

The ESCO classification system identifies key occupations in the labour market and categorises the skills, competences and qualifications relevant for the EU labour market and the education and training pathways.

In the sport and active leisure sector 25 occupations have been defined under the headings of: Sports coaches and instructors; Sport managers and operations; Sportspeople, Fitness; and outdoors. This work would be greatly enhanced by the work of an SSA.



European Commission Sport Unit Expert Group

With the introduction of the new EU Work Plan for sport 2014 - 2017, the Sport Unit in DGEAC of the European Commission updated its structure and set up five reformed expert groups to look at particular areas related to sport policy. One of the Expert Groups is for Human Resource Management in Sport, which deals with education, training, employment and volunteering in sport. This Expert Group continues to take an active interest in the implementation of national qualifications frameworks in the sport sector and the relationship between national sport federations and requirements for education from international federations.

EOSE INFONOTE

EOSE is an international organisation working towards the development of the sport and active leisure sector, expert in building bridges between the worlds of education and employment and ensuring the development of a competent workforce with the right skills.

Its vision has been defined as "A sport and active leisure sector that is playing its full part in the economic, health and social development of Europe and its member states." And its mission consists in "facilitating and supporting the development of the sport and active leisure sector workforce, to ensure people working and volunteering in the sector have the right skills to perform and enable the sector to fulfil its potential as a social, health and economic driver".

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