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1. DEBATE ON COMPETENCY TRENDS.

On October 25, a debate was recorded at the University of Economics and Humanities in Warsaw entitled “Competency trends in connection with the development of technologies that affect competences in the Telecommunications and Cybersecurity industry.” Recent years have been a real hurricane of changes in the IT and ICT industry. The rapid development of new technologies, including AI systems, a completely new face of work - including work performed not only outside the office, but often on different continents - in a dramatically changing economic, legal and geopolitical environment; has led and continues to lead to rapid changes in business. Companies are looking for answers to these challenges in a variety of ways. However, one of the main problems remains the too slow acquisition of new competences by employees and entrepreneurs. How to change it?

The discussion by **Joanna Bochniarz**, General Director of the Center for Innovative Education, and **Wiesław Paluszyński**, President of the Polish Information Technology Society, was moderated by **Adam Sanocki**, President of Attantion Marketing and member of the CIE Foundation Council. The entire recording is available at this link - we encourage you to watch it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7ac7k20qKU>

2. WE HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED THE NEF BRUSSELS AGENDA.

Our event in Brussels is fast approaching. On December 5th, during the first panel, we would like to understand the essence of the mental health crisis among European youth, with particular emphasis on anxiety and depression among young people aged 15-29. In the second panel, we will pay special attention to retraining and improving qualifications, reselling & upskilling, which should be embedded in formal education as a necessity that is strongly emphasized by European employers.

The first panel will be hosted by **Dominique de MARNÉ**, Mental Health Europe, Senior Policy Advisor on Youth, **Anna PARTYKA-OPIELA**, Content Partner, UNICEF Poland, **Isabelle VERWILGHEN**, Deputy Director, European School Brussels II and **Linnéa LINDFORS**, student in S7 – Finnish section, European School Brussels II as well as **Tomasz KOBYLAŃSKI**, Main Expert, the Education Department, City of Kraków.

The second panel includes equally interesting discussions with participation of **Jakub BORATYŃSKI**, Director for Networks and Governance, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission, **Daniel WISNIEWSKI**, Secretary General, European Federation of Education Employers, **Miriam LANZETTA**, Director of the EU Projects Unit, Lascò, **Maxime CERUTTI**, BusinessEurope, Director of Social Affairs Department and **Miranda FORBES & Dimitris TSITSOPOULOS**, S7 students, Ecole européenne de Bruxelles III.

3. THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IS COMMITTED AS ALWAYS:



Madam Iliana IVANOVA will support us in opening the conference: European Commission, Commissionaire for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth. Madam IVANOVA previously served as Member of the European Court of Auditors (2013 – 2023), as Member of the European Parliament (2009 – 2012) and as a Member of Sofia City Council (2007 – 2009). She has also worked as Investment and business analyst in various financial and banking institutions in US as well as coordinator for International financial institutions in the Bulgarian Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

In the second panel we can count on the voice of Mr. Jakub BORATYŃSKI, Director for Networks and Governance, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission, where he deals with a Single Market policies related to services, the recognition of professional qualifications, skills and market serveillance. Furthermore the directorate is responsible for supporting of industrial network and alliances including the Industrial Forum, the European Entreprize Network and cluster organizations as well as the coordination of DG GROW communication and outreach activities and relations with the European Parliament and Councils.



4. NEF ATHENS REVIEW.

We are now one month after the **New Education Forum Athens**, which we held with our Partner organization **KEAN** (Kyttaro Enallaktikon Anazitiseon Neaon) at the University of Piraeus. The event brought fruitful discussions between educational stakeholders and Greek youth on an international level. The next step, following each NEF, is drafting recommendations which young people will present at the New Education Forum Brussels in the European Parliament.

Before we hear from the youth, I would like to bring to attention two themes which brought attention to the NEF Athens audience.

In the third session, moderated by **Andreas Riepl**, who oversees e-Education at the Federal Ministry of Education in Austria, the discussion centered on the theme of "Empowering Students as Agents of Change through Digital Learning." Panelists and audience members explored key questions, including the potential impact of digital technologies on advancing sustainability education in schools. Additionally, participants addressed concerns about the potential risks faced by young individuals and societies at large due to the significant prevalence of digital and AI technologies in contemporary life.

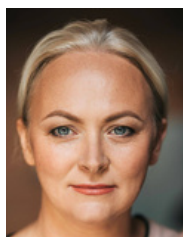
It was a perfect topic to be discussed with Madam **Maria Gkountouma**, EU Policy Assistant in Digital Education Department at the DG Education of the **European Commission** and with Greek students and **Dr Martin Dougiamas**, CEO and Founder of **Moodle**, learning platform designed to provide educators, administrators and learners with a single robust, secure and integrated system to create personalised learning environments.

Exploring the transformative potential of digital technologies to enrich learning experiences and advance green transitions and sustainable development within educational settings was at central focus. The discussions explored innovative methodologies, including online platforms, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, gamification, and collaborative tools, aimed at actively involving students in comprehending circular and climate-neutral economy concepts. Here **Dr Martin Dougiamas** emphasized the importance of trust among Internet and AI users. This should be the key issue for the next years to come. "Nearly 70% of the **Moodle** research respondents shared that they are feeling positive or somewhat positive about the future of AI in education, and community members emphasised that transparency, human oversight, and clear guidelines should underpin the use of AI in delivering genuine learning experiences." The **Moodle** learning platform is used by two-thirds of higher education and countless schools and workplace - reaching hundreds of millions of people around the world, hence values embedded in this project, including education, openness, respect, integrity and innovation are crucial for its beneficiaries.

Intervention by **Maria Gkontouma** as representative of the European Commission at this point was a welcoming and important one. She has been working on the design and implementation of the Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027, and leading action 6 on emerging technologies, AI and data, block chain and interoperability, among other tasks. She is also a cybersecurity ambassador for DG EAC. Hence **Madam Gkontouma** presented various EC initiatives aiming at making AI a safe tool to be used for learning purposes, also in the formal education. After all, AI can enable students to develop knowledge and skills, including on how AI can impact different components of our lives. In conclusion we all should learn how to better understand its' working and students should be given opportunity to explore AI in the human and technical dimensions being aware of its ethical, social, cultural and economic impact.

Lastly, it is imperative to highlight the insightful intervention of **Anastasia Poulidou**, an expert from **CEDEFOP** specializing in qualifications and credentials, as well as the Future of VET. The inaugural panel she contributed to centered around the theme of "Policy and Governance, Collaboration, and Partnerships in School Modernization." During this discussion, we delved into the discrepancies between the requirements of the labor market and the provision of high-quality education. We explored the challenges, opportunities, and exemplary approaches to fostering collaboration among educational institutions, local governments, and technology providers.

Madam Poulidou, currently leading the **CEDEFOP's** research on Microcredentials for labour market education and training, learning outcomes and the Future of VET in Europe, emphasized the important emergence of Microcredentials in Higher Education and VET. There is a discernible trend towards the development of increasingly modularized and condensed educational programs catering to both adult learners and the youth. "It is difficult to see radical changes in the countries and the reforms largely showcase that the VET systems alter through incremental changes". Transforming the qualification landscape, akin to altering the institutional framework, is a gradual and enduring process. The labour market communicates necessity for adjusting meaning changing jobs more often than ever (for Generation Z it is 7 jobs in the lifetime). This means reskilling and upskilling are a necessity of Today, a necessity which should be embedded in our culture of education. Such is a great opening for our discussions at the **New Education Forum Brussels on the 4th and 5th of December**.



JOANNA BOCHNIARZ,
GENERAL DIRECTOR, CIE

YOU CAN STILL REGISTER FOR NEF BRUSSELS!

General Director of the Center for Innovative Education is pleased to invite you to:

The New Education Forum Brussels 2023

**Insecurities of Today's youth: mental health
problems and adjusting to ever changing
labour market,**



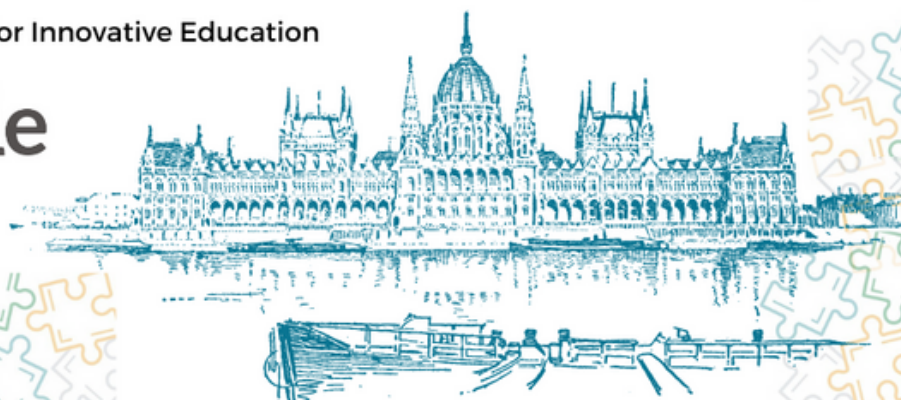
which shall take place on **December 5th, 2023, Tuesday, 9:00 - 13:00 CET**,
BusinessEurope Conference Center, Av. De Cortenbergh 168, BE-1000 Brussels, room
"EUROPE" floor -1.

Please register on the conference using the link below:

- <https://app.eveneai.pl/event/884501-3/>

More info at: www.neweducationforum.com

Organizer: Center for Innovative Education



We cordially invite you!

Read more about us on: www.ciedu.eu

You can find out more about NEF on: www.neweducationforum.com

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