



**European Committee
of the Regions**

AGENDA

*On the Way towards EU Integration:
Countries of Eastern and South-Eastern Europe Shaping Lifelong Learning Systems*

13 March 2024

Venue: Room JDE51, Jacques Delors building,
European Committee of the Regions, Belliard str. 101, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Chairs of the event:

Mr. Levan Kvatchadze, Regional Director for 'Eastern Neighbours', DVV International

Ms. Manuela Prina, Head of Skills Identification and Development Unit, ETF

09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Opening of the event and welcome words</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Hoa-Binh Adjemian, Acting Head of the Unit A.3, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), European Commission - Mr. Hugues Moussy, Head of the System Performance and Assessment Unit, European Training Foundation (ETF) - Mr. Uwe Gartenschlaeger, Director DVV International & President of the EAEA - Ms. Antje Grotheer, President of Bremen City Parliament, Member of the European Committee of the Regions (<i>video message</i>)
<p>Session 1: Increasing participation in Adult Learning and Education Moderator: <i>Gina Ebner, Secretary General, European Association for Education of Adults (EAEA)</i></p>	
10:00 – 10:25	Overview on the current EU policies and participation trends in the field of ALE / LLL & Skills

	<i>Speaker: Koen Nomden, Team leader “Transparency and Recognition of Skills and Qualifications”, DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion, European Commission</i>
10:25 – 11:15	<p>Insights from EU candidate countries: Case studies on successful reforms and practices from the field of ALE / LLL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Amina Isanović Hadžiomerović, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Ms. Bora Shpuza, Chief of the Minister’s Cabinet – Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, Republic of Kosovo - Konstantin Hristovski, Head of Department for Advancement of Adult Education. Adult Education Centre, Republic of North Macedonia - Ms. Aleksandra Pejatović, Council for Vocational and Adult Education, Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Republic of Serbia
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee break
Session 2: Building systems for ALE / LLL	
<i>Moderator: Siria Taurelli, Senior Human Capital Development Expert, ETF</i>	
11:45 – 11:50	Interactive feedback session: Ask your neighbour
11:50 – 12:10	<p>Adult Education in Estonia - Success factors and challenges</p> <p><i>Speaker: Ena Drenkhan, Chief expert in the field of adult education, Estonian Ministry of Education and Research</i></p>
12:10 – 12:30	<p>Financing ALE: Overview of international best practices in developing funding mechanisms</p> <p><i>Speaker: Patricia Navarro-Palau, Labour market economist, Directorate for Employment Labour and Social Affairs, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)</i></p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p>Insights from EU candidate countries: Case studies on successful reforms and practices from the field of ALE / LLL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Avetiq Mejlumyan, Director, NGO Institute of Public Policy, Republic of Armenia - Ms Tamar Kitiashvili, Independent expert on ALE, Georgia - Ms. Felicia Bechtoldt, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Republic of Moldova - Mr. Oleg Smirnov, Country Director, DVV International Ukraine
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch

Session 3: Actors and stakeholders of ALE / LLL Moderator: <i>Brikena Xhomaqi, Director, Lifelong Learning Platform - European Civil Society for Education</i>	
14:30 – 14:35	Interactive feedback session: <i>Ask your neighbour</i>
14:35 – 15:00	Country case of Slovenia: Governance of ALE / LLL sector <i>Speaker: Teja Dolgan, Head of Adult Education Unit, Short-Cycle Higher Vocational and Adult Education Directorate, Ministry of Education of Slovenia</i>
15:00 – 15:20	Voices from stakeholders <i>Interactive session with the audience</i>
15:20 – 16:20	Final discussion and summing up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Isabell Kempf, Director of UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning - Mr. Hugues Moussy, Head of the System Performance and Assessment Unit, European Training Foundation (ETF) - Mr. Uwe Gartenschlaeger, Director DVV International & President of the EAEA - Ms. Felicia Bechtoldt, State Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova - Ms. Jasna Jovanovic, State Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, Montenegro
16:20 – 17:00	<i>Networking buffet</i>