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## **EU-perspective on youth employment – short overview**

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# EU-figures on youth unemployment

# NEET

Young people not in  
employment, education or  
training.

Youth unemployment rate has reached more than 25% in 13 Member States

More than 30% of the unemployed  
under 25 have been unemployed for  
more than 12 months  
(1,6 million 2011 compared to 0,9 million in 2008)

Overall employment rates for young people fell 5 percentage points in the last 4 years – three times as much as for adults

5,5 million young people on the labour market cannot find a job

€150 billion per year, or 1,2% of EU  
GDP





# Background

- Lisbon strategy 2000-2010
- Adopted by the European Council in Lisbon in 2000
- “Make Europe, by 2010, the most competitive and the most dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world”
- Main fields economic, social, and environmental renewal and sustainability
- Restart in 2005 due to “unconvincing progress”
- Criticism: failed to reach the aim, too broad, not communicated enough, no available funding

# Europe 2020 strategy

- Three priorities
- Five targets
- Seven flagship initiatives (action plans)

	<b>Smart growth</b>	<b>Sustainable growth</b>	<b>Inclusive growth</b>
Priorities	Develop an economy based on knowledge and innovation	Promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy	Fostering a high employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion
Targets	<p>75% of the population aged 20-64 should be employed</p> <p>3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&amp;D</p>	<p>The 20/20/20 energy/climate targets should be met</p> <p>greenhouse gas emissions renewable energy energy efficiency</p>	<p>Reducing early school leaving below 10%</p> <p>40% of 30-34 years old completing 3rd level education</p> <p>20 million fewer people in poverty or social exclusion</p>
Flagships	<p>Digital Agenda</p> <p>Innovation Union</p> <p><b>Youth on the Move</b></p>	<p>Resource efficient Europe</p> <p>An industrial policy for the globalisation era</p>	<p><b>An agenda for new skills and jobs</b></p> <p>European platform against poverty</p>

# Youth on the Move

## What?

- One of seven **flagships** in the EU 2020 strategy
- Aiming to respond to the **challenges young people face** and to help them succeed in the knowledge economy – adopted 15 September 2010
- An **integrated strategy for young people**, embracing both education/training and employment

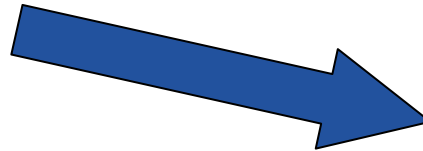
## Why?

- **Europe's future** depends on its 100 million young people
- By 2020, 35% of all jobs will require **high-level qualifications** (today: 29%) = 15 million more jobs
- Too many **early school leavers** (14.4% of 18-24 year olds have less than upper secondary education)
- Only 32.3% of EU population have an **HE degree** (USA: > 40%, Japan: > 50%)
- **Youth unemployment** is too high: 21%

### Early school leaving

2009

**14.4%**



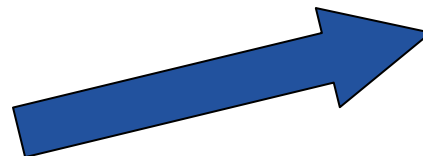
2020

**10% at most**

### Higher education attainment (Age 30-34)

2009

**32.3%**



2020

**40% at least**



## 4 lines of actions

1. Developing **modern education and training systems** to deliver key competences and excellence
2. Promoting the **attractiveness of higher education** for the knowledge economy
3. Supporting a strong development of **transnational learning and employment** mobility for young people
4. A framework for youth employment with **active labour market policies** and **reform** of labour market rules

# 1. Developing modern education and training systems

**Lifelong learning system** is essential to develop key competences and quality learning outcomes, in line with labour market needs



- ✓ Member States are encouraged to **tackle the high level** of early school leaving
- ✓ The Commission promotes **apprenticeship-type** vocational training and high quality **traineeships** as workplace learning experiences, building bridges to the labour market

## 2. Promoting the attractiveness of higher education

Europe needs to raise the percentage of young people participating in higher education



- ✓ New agenda for the **reform and modernisation** of higher education
- ✓ Initiative on **benchmarking** university performance
- ✓ A new EU international strategy to promote the **attractiveness** of European higher education and to foster academic cooperation

### 3. Supporting a strong development of transnational learning and employment mobility

- ✓ The EU's support for learning mobility through programmes and initiatives will be **reviewed, expanded and linked up** with national and regional resources

## 4. A framework for youth unemployment

- ✓ Youth on the Move presents a framework of policy priorities for action at national and EU level to reduce youth unemployment, by facilitating the **transition** from school to work and reducing labour market **segmentation**

## Funding from EU

- Feasibility for the creation of an **EU student loan** facility to facilitate mobility (with the EIB)
- “Erasmus for **young entrepreneurs**” preparatory action
- Review all EU programmes on education and training, including a **public consultation** (15/9-30/11), for post-2013
- Maximise the potential of the **European Social Fund**
- Argument for increased EU resources **post 2013**

# An Agenda for new skills and jobs

## What?

- One of seven **flagships** in the EU 2020 strategy
- Aiming to respond to the **EU2020 target** on employment



## Why?

- **23 million people** are currently unemployed across the EU – 10% of the active population
- For our economy to **grow and remain competitive**, we need more jobs
- From 2012 onwards our working age population will start to shrink. To ensure the **sustainability of our welfare systems**, more people need to work

## 4 lines of actions

1. Stepping up reforms to improve **flexibility and security** in the labour market (flexicurity)
2. Equipping people with the **right skills** for the jobs of today and tomorrow
3. Improving the **quality of jobs** and ensuring better **working conditions**
4. Improving the conditions for **job creation**

## 1. Stepping up reforms to improve flexibility and security in the labour market

- ✓ **working contracts** that allow people to enter the labour market and progress
- ✓ more **adjustable** unemployment benefits
- ✓ more **individually-tailored** help for people looking for work
- ✓ better **incentives** to take up learning opportunities

## 2. Equipping people with the right skills for the jobs of today and tomorrow

- ✓ An '**EU skills panorama**' will be created to help people better see which skills are most needed now and in the future.
- ✓ Further actions will allow people to develop the right **mix of skills** and help them find jobs.

### 3. Improving the quality of jobs and ensuring better working conditions

- ✓ The **legal framework** for employment, health and safety (for example on working time, or moving from one country to another) will be reviewed
- ✓ Legislation will be more **effective** and easier for individuals and businesses to understand and apply.

## 4. Improving the conditions for job creation

- ✓ proposing **lower taxes** on labour
- ✓ reducing the **administrative burden**

# Youth employment package

- Launched in December 2012
- Recommendation on introducing Youth Guarantees
- European Commission will allocate EU-funding
- Consultation with labour market stakeholders regarding a Quality Framework for Traineeships
- European Alliance for Apprenticeships

Thank You for Your attention!