

Chambers propose apprenticeship initiative: half of all vocational training programmes to be apprenticeships by 2020

EUROCHAMBRES today launched a proposal for a Europe 2020 Flagship Initiative for Apprenticeships. Concretely, EUROCHAMBRES suggests to increase the share of apprenticeships among vocational training schemes to 50% by the end of the decade.

Explaining the proposal at a launch event in Brussels, Martha Schultz, Deputy President of EUROCHAMBRES, explained: *“Despite a nearly three year old commitment by member states to substantially increase apprenticeships, there has been very little progress. Chambers therefore want to see an upscaling of efforts. Enhancing the quality and quantity of apprenticeships across the EU is crucial to tackling youth unemployment and to our ability to grow.”*

Only about 1 in 4 vocational students currently undergo an apprenticeship where a large part of the learning takes part in the business. This figure is far too low, especially as apprenticeship schemes are known for their high employability rates of up to 80%. Apprenticeships deliver the medium-level skills that will continue to make up 46% of jobs in 2020, particularly in small and medium enterprises.

The proposed flagship initiative would build particularly on the Europe 2020 Country Specific Recommendations, the work of Cedefop, the European Alliance for Apprenticeships and the Erasmus+ programme.

[EUROCHAMBRES' proposal for a Flagship Initiative on Apprenticeships](#)



Chambers of Commerce & Industry: key players in raising skills

Every year:

People receiving training qualifications from Chambers	1,800,000
Chambers involved in education and training	80%
Apprenticeships directly managed by Chambers	600,000
Chambers delivering initial or continuous vocational education and training (VET)	48%
Chambers providing entrepreneurial skills training	92%

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