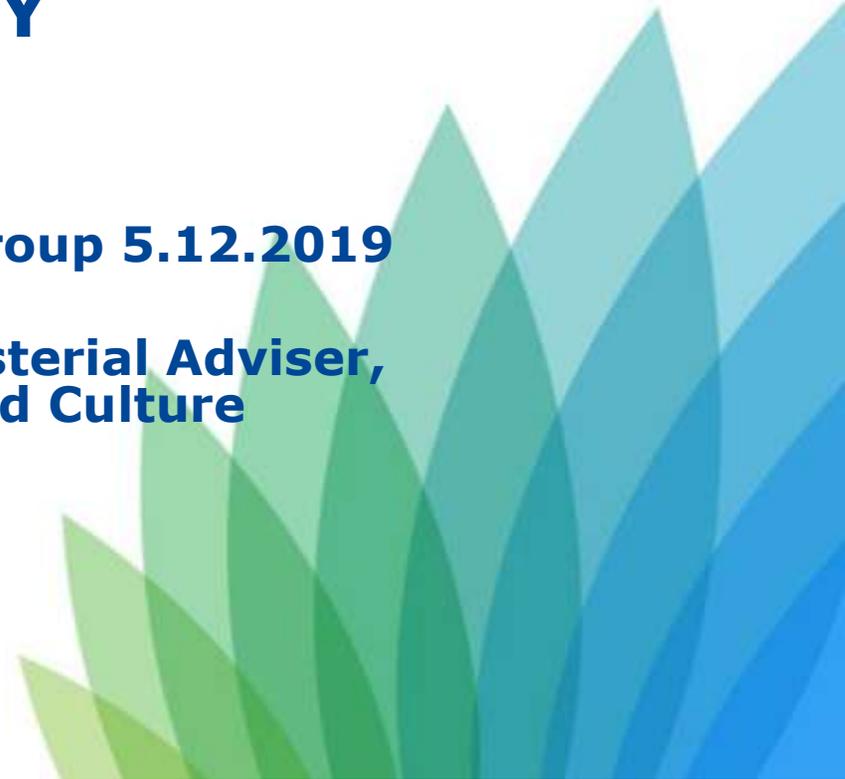


LIFELONG LEARNING - THE VISION AND ACTIONS UNDER THE FINNISH EU PRESIDENCY

e-Infrastructure Reflection Group 5.12.2019

**Jonna Korhonen, Senior Ministerial Adviser,
Ministry of Education and Culture**

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FINLAND'S PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The priorities for Finland's Presidency

- to strengthen common values and the rule of law
- to make the EU more competitive and socially inclusive
- to strengthen the EU's position as a global leader in climate action
- to protect the security of citizens comprehensively

- <https://eu2019.fi/en/priorities/programme#>

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FINNISH PRESIDENCY IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTOR

- Advancing Erasmus+ negotiations
- Fostering continuous learning
- Promoting future-oriented education
- Promoting investment in human capital
- Strengthening equity, equality and effectiveness
- Enhancing cooperation between education and research

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FOSTERING CONTINUOUS LEARNING

- Rethinking the role of education due to rapid technological, societal and labor market changes
- Need to update and to boost lifelong learning policies, with an emphasis on continuous learning
- All education levels and sectors, supported by system
- Learner, individual learner paths, flexibility, openness and digitalisation
- Empowerment of learners – data and personal learner paths
- Education Council 8.11.2019 adopted **Council Conclusions on the key role of lifelong learning policies in empowering societies to address the technological and green transition in support of inclusive and sustainable growth**



COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS ON THE KEY ROLE OF LIFELONG LEARNING POLICIES

- INVITES THE MEMBER STATES:
 - promoting **the exchange and availability of data** relevant for empowering learners to manage and use data related to their own learning and to make informed choices and decisions about it throughout their lives, fully in line with the General Data Protection Regulation;
- INVITES THE COMMISSION, WITH DUE REGARD FOR SUBSIDIARITY AND IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE MEMBER STATES TO
 - enhance the coordination of ongoing and future efforts to improve **data interoperability**, for example by ensuring access to personal education data, improving the exchange of education data between learners, learning institutions and employers, while **avoiding overlapping efforts at Union level**, in order to leverage the potential of the digital transformation, in line with the General Data Protection Regulation;
 - support national policies aiming at increasing the responsiveness of education and training systems to the rapidly changing needs of the labour market and society by facilitating and increasing the dissemination and use of analytical, research, and forecasting data, including graduate tracking, as well as skills intelligence, with a view to making a long- term impact on policy;

PROMOTING FUTURE-ORIENTED EDUCATION

- to deepen the reflections on future-oriented education and training systems - how can we ensure that the work we do in education and training – both nationally and European level – is relevant also in the long term?
- the key role of education and training in sustainable growth and competitiveness in Europe
- need policy tools that enable us to orient us in relation to the future: better anticipation, research based scenarios, skills and competence forecasts and more information on developments on global scale
- Education Council 8.11.2019 adopted **Council Resolution on further developing the European Education Area to support future-oriented education and training systems.**



FUTURE-ORIENTED EDUCATION

- First joint meeting of the EU Directors-General for Higher Education and the European Research Area and Innovation Committee (ERAC)
 - To enhance the dialogue between these two sectors, **education and research**, by bringing together policy makers to discuss three major game-changers: **openness, digitalisation and artificial intelligence**
 - **Europe's role in the global context** and what kind of challenges and opportunities this provides for education, research and innovation.
- Very first joint council of education and finance ministers 8.11.2019: the implementation of the strategic agenda: A Strong economic base for Europe: pursuing effectiveness, efficiency and quality of education and training.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON FURTHER DEVELOPING THE EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA TO SUPPORT FUTURE-ORIENTED EDUCATION AND TRAINING SYSTEMS

- IN THE CONTEXT OF THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE VISION OF A EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA BY 2025, HIGHLIGHTS
 - The need to tackle and reflect on global challenges and opportunities, especially in the fields of climate change, digitalisation, artificial intelligence and misleading or false **information by boosting the development of knowledge, skills and competences and critical thinking from basic skills to high-level qualifications, at all levels and forms of education and training;**
- INVITES THE COMMISSION, WHEN FURTHER DEVELOPING THE EUROPEAN EDUCATION AREA AND THE FUTURE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING, IN LINE WITH ITS COMPETENCES AND WITH DUE REGARD FOR SUBSIDIARITY, TO:
 - Continue coordinated efforts to make progress on **a comprehensive Digital Education Action Plan** for Europe and on **the Coordinated Plan on Artificial Intelligence**, by ensuring complementarity, added value and the coordination of policy aims and tools with regard to the European Education Area;
- FURTHER INVITES THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION, IN LINE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE COMPETENCES AND WITH DUE REGARD FOR SUBSIDIARITY, TO:
 - Promote the development of digital skills and competences, innovation and an entrepreneurial mindset in education and training for all learners **by opening up education towards more flexible learning opportunities and enhancing the permeability of education and training pathways** as well as by ensuring inclusive and innovative approaches, including the efforts of tackling inequalities;

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES

- 17 European Universities starting their cooperation this autumn, the next 24 being selected next spring
- a game-changing step forward in cross-institutional cooperation by offering various inspirational visions, models and themes for interaction
- Digitalisation mentioned as a major enabler in many of the cooperation arrangements – how to ensure the scalability and sustainability of efforts?
How to avoid inventing the wheel again?
 - European Student Card
 - Erasmus Without Paper
 - EMREX
 - MyAcademicID
 - Blockchain Partnerships
 - Europass
 - Etc...



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- The economic potential of digitalisation and AI applications is expected to be enormous
- High-level skills but also applied skills and general awareness
- Interoperable, accessible and quality data are also key building blocks
- Ethical and legal considerations
- Council held a public debate on 'AI in education and training' on 8 November



STILL ONE EVENT TO GO!

- Conference “Behind the Scenes of AI”

- Aims to promote the responsible use of artificial intelligence in education by increasing knowledge and understanding of the different dimensions of AI, in particular the principles guiding decision-making when creating or selecting AI applications
- Different perspectives on AI, discuss challenges, define best practices and make policy recommendations



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