



Council recommendation on individual learning accounts – to boost training of working-age adults

EARLALL webinar

A photograph of the European Union flag, which is blue with twelve yellow stars arranged in a circle. The flag is being held up by two hands, and it is waving in the wind. The background is a blurred green landscape with trees.

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European Commission “Skills Agenda” unit
9 February 2023

Our context – Changing labour markets



Atypical forms of work



More frequent professional transitions



Shifting employment between sectors



Shifting skills needs



Demographic changes

EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS



“

European companies are grappling with a **shortage of staff** [...] Both low-end and high-end. We need everyone on board.

We need much more focus in our investment on **professional education and upskilling**.

We need **better cooperation** with the companies, because they know best what they need.

And we need to match these needs with people's aspirations.

But we also have to **attract the right skills** to our continent, skills that help companies and strengthen Europe's growth [...] we need to speed up and facilitate the **recognition of qualifications** also of third country nationals [...]

This is why I am proposing to make 2023 the European Year of Skills

”



Why a European Year of Skills?

The Year would promote a mindset of **reskilling and upskilling**

- > boosting **competitiveness** of companies (in particular SMEs),
- > realising the **digital and green transitions** in a socially fair, inclusive and just manner



Attracting people

Attracting people from third countries with the skills needed by the Union



Matching aspirations

Matching people's aspirations and skills-set with labour market opportunities



Skills relevance

Strengthening skills relevance by close cooperation



Investment

Increased, more effective and inclusive investment

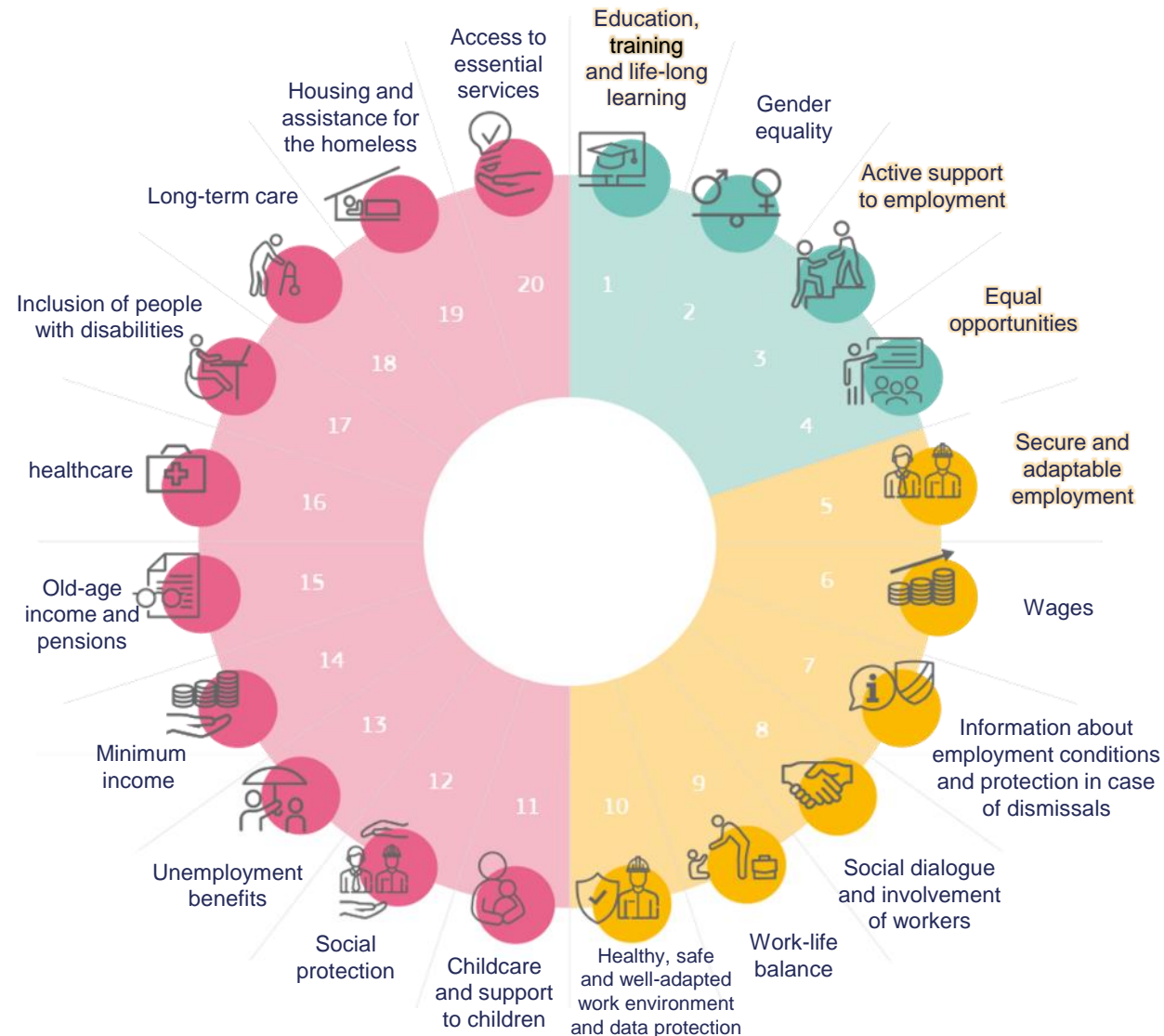




EU SKILLS POLICY



European Pillar of Social Rights



European Pillar of Social Rights

2021 —————> 2023

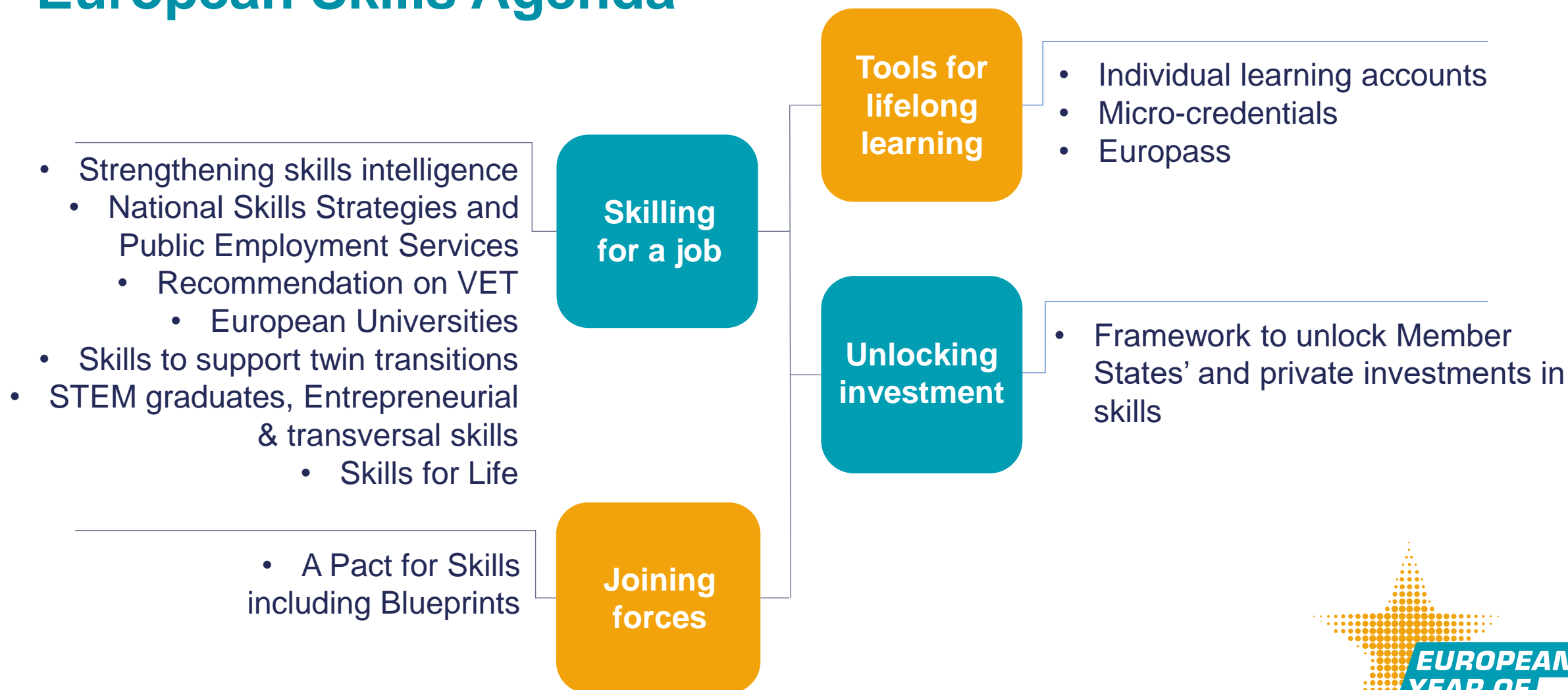
At least **78%** of the population aged 20 to 64 should **be in employment by 2030** Current level: 73.1% (2019)

60% of all adults should **participate in training** every year by 2030 Current level: 37.4% (2016)

15 fewer people at risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2030 Current level: 91 million persons (2019)
million



European Skills Agenda



EU Council Recommendations: providing policy orientation





INDIVIDUAL LEARNING ACCOUNTS



Council Recommendation on individual learning accounts [\(link here\)](#)

Objectives



1. Support all working-age adults in accessing training
2. Increase their incentives & motivation to seek training

Financial and non-financial support



Personal accounts
Registry of eligible opportunities
Guidance & validation
Paid training leave

Way forward



EU funding
Monitoring implementation
Mutual learning

Mutual learning on ILA



Objectives

- Support implementation in MS
- Facilitating exchange across and within MS



Format

- Around 7 countries
- Country delegations of 5-7 persons
- 2 seminars in Brussels, 1 online
- Activities in the home country



Where are we now?

- Invitations to Member States
- Expressions of interest
- Confirmation of participating Member States
- Creating country delegations

Individual learning accounts in regions

- Regions are facing specific challenges (see Commission Communication on Harnessing Talent in Europe's regions)
- Regions suffering from severe labour and skills shortages may face competitiveness challenges and become unattractive locations for investment. – Particular need to boost up- and reskilling – **ILA is a suitable tool**
- “Talent Booster Mechanism” – incl. support to strategies to train, attract, retain talents; use of the Commission's Technical Support Instrument; direct financial assistance, support to evidence-based policies, exchange of experience and sharing good practice.





EUROPEAN YEAR OF SKILLS: WHAT'S NEXT?





State of the play

The European Year of Skills 2023 will start as soon as the proposal is adopted

Before the Adoption:

- **Inter-institutional negotiations** (ordinary legislative procedure)
- Open **Public Consultation**
- **Opinions** by European Economic and Social Committee and European Committee of the Regions

During the Year:

- **Promoting relevant EU initiatives**, including EU funding opportunities
- **Events** and **awareness-raising campaigns**
- **Promoting tools and instruments** for increased transparency and easier recognition of qualifications





Major events planned



- 9 May:
European Year of Skills 'festival'
- 8-9 June:
Making Skills Count' event
- 23-27 October:
The VET week
- 11- 16 November:
The Employment and Social Rights Forum
- Beginning of 2024:
The concluding event



Major flagship initiatives

17 January 2023



- Commission Communication on “**Harnessing talent in regions**”

Q2



- Commission proposal for **Council Recommendations on the enabling factors for successful digital education**

- Proposal for a **Council Recommendation on improving the provision of digital skills in education and training**

- Launch of the pilot for the **European Digital Skills Certificate**

- **Reinforced Quality Framework for Traineeships**

Q3



- Package on **recognition of professional qualifications of third country nationals**

- Launch of the **Cybersecurity Skills Academy**

- Commission proposal for a **Council Recommendation on updated learning mobility framework**



Thank you for your interest!

We look forward to collaborating with you to make the European Year of Skills a success!

Useful link: [European Year of Skills webpage](#)
#EuropeanYearOfSkills

