

Digital Education

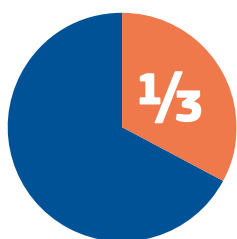
Action Plan 2021-2027

Key enabling factors for successful digital education and training

18 April 2023
#EuropeanYearofSkills

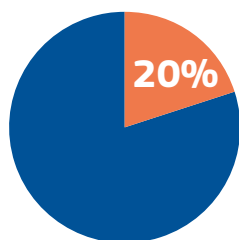
Over the last few years, **digital technologies have contributed to increasing the quality of education and training** in Europe, and made it more accessible and inclusive, helping us quickly respond to crises like COVID-19 or the war in Ukraine with distance learning. But despite many excellent initiatives and examples of innovation, efforts have so far not resulted in systemic digital transformation in education and training. Member States face challenges as concern choosing the right strategies and investments to **ensure all students and teachers have access to digital education and training infrastructure, equipment and content** and can use them in a meaningful way.

The Commission proposed a **Council Recommendation on the key enabling factors for successful digital education and training**. The Recommendation aims to support Member States in the digital transformation of their education and training systems by proposing a coherent framework for investment, governance and capacity-building for effective and inclusive digital education and training.



only around **one third of students** attend schools with strategies on how to use digital technologies in teaching and learning

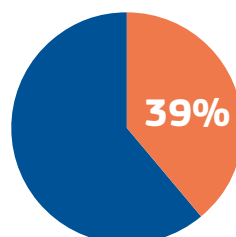




less than 20% of EU students are in schools with an internet speed above 100 mbps

Why do we need digital education and training?

- High-quality education is a **human right**, and it should be available to all.
- Successful digital education is about creating **more and better opportunities** for learning and teaching for everyone.
- User-centred digital tools can bring **innovative solutions** to education and **support teachers** in using new pedagogical approaches.
- The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the need to improve the digital readiness of education and training systems in terms of **accessibility**, high quality and inclusion.
- **High-speed internet connections** are still rare in European schools, in particular in rural and remote areas.
- Disadvantaged learners have **less access to computers at home**, which means they lag behind in adopting new technologies.
- The majority of **teachers in the EU don't feel prepared** to use digital technologies for teaching.



only **39% of teachers** feel well prepared to use digital technologies for teaching

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How will we achieve this?

This proposal for a Council Recommendation invites Member States to:

- ★ Agree on a national strategy for digital education and skills and monitor its effectiveness and impact.
- ★ Take a whole-of-government approach, strengthening cooperation between different sectors and levels of government, and with stakeholders, including with the private sector.
- ★ Ensure digital training for all teachers, trainers and support staff in education and training institutions, to help them use digital technologies for teaching and learning.
- ★ Ensure adequate investment in digital equipment, infrastructure, tools and content.

**€23
billion**

In their Recovery and Resilience Plans, Member States have committed almost **€23 billion** to reforms and investments to promote digital education and digital skills.

To support Member States, the Commission intends to:

- Mobilise EU instruments, such as the Technical Support Instrument, and EU funding, such as Erasmus+, European Social Fund Plus, Just Transition Fund, European Regional Development Fund, Cohesion Fund, Digital Europe Programme, Horizon Europe, and NDICI-Global Europe.
- Promote the exchange of best practices, networks and peer learning.
- Promote cooperation with stakeholders, including technology providers.
- Support the digital training of teachers through Erasmus+ or self-evaluation tools like SELFIE or SELFIEforTEACHERS.
- Promote the roll-out of ethical guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence in teaching and learning.
- Support in developing effective and efficient digital education policies and investments.
- Monitor progress in digital education and training.

Timeline

