The European labour market is undergoing a period of rapid change. We are facing huge challenges as the job market is becoming more fluid and technology is developing at an astounding pace with no sign of slowing down. This particularly affects those who are disadvantaged and therefore at greater risk of exclusion. Due to the current transitory nature of the job market, the ability to cope with change is an essential skill that workers need to develop in order to enter into it successfully and to fully participate in society.

But how can we reach disadvantaged members of society in particular and how can lifelong guidance – in the sense of sustainable support aimed at working life as a whole from an early stage – help people to deal positively with transitions in the job market?

Alison Crabb, Head of the Skills and Qualifications Unit at the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion at the European Commission, will be talking about the rapidly changing face of the job market and the frequent transitions that arise as a result. She will be offering an insight into the latest strategic developments in Europe, including the ‘Upskilling Pathways’ strategy and the ‘European Pillar of Social Rights’.

Andreas Hirschi, Professor of Work and Organisational Psychology at the University of Bern, will talk about modern approaches to sustainable career development in his keynote speech, during which he will refer to the astounding pace at which conditions on the job market are changing. Careers guidance that takes these conditions into account (rather than focusing solely on ‘matching’ to find a suitable job or study place) needs to concentrate on achieving and maintaining a status of employability, drawing attention to and encouraging active use of resources (such as social networks), incorporating motivational elements and working on strengthening the ability to deal with change and adaptability as a whole. Taking this approach can help support lifetime career development in a holistic and sustainable manner.

Alongside the plenary discussion, the conference is also running five parallel methods and discussion workshops. There will also be a chance to get to grips with Erasmus+ projects, methods and tools, as well as networking opportunities, as part of a ‘methods market’.

The conference is held in German, one workshop is held in English.

https://bildung.erasmusplus.at/de/policy-support/euroguidance/veranstaltungen
PROGRAMME

09.00–09.30  Registration

09.30–09.45  Welcome (in German)

Gerhard Krötzl, Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research, Head of Dep. 1/2
Ernst Gesslbauer, Head of National Agency Erasmus+ Education

09:45 – 10:30  Key Note 1: The ‘European Pillar of Social Rights’ and lifelong guidance for a fast moving labour market (in English)
Alison Crabb, European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Head of Unit Skills and Qualifications

10:30 – 11:15  Journey through the methods market and coffee break

11:15 – 11:30  New developments in Euroguidance
Eva Baloch-Kaloianov, National Agency Erasmus+ Education / Euroguidance

11:30 – 11:45  Benefits of Erasmus+ Adult Education for guidance counsellors
Karin Hirschmüller, National Agency Erasmus+ Education / Adult Education
Michaela Marterer, General Secretary Steirische Volkswirtschaftliche Gesellschaft, Erasmus+ KA1 Project „Kommunikation, Kooperation, Koordination im Lebenslangen Lernen“

11.45–12.45  Keynote 2: Modern approaches to sustainable career development (in German)
Andreas Hirschi, Professor of Work and Organisational Psychology at the University of Bern

12.45–14.00  Lunch

14.00–16.30  Thematic work in five parallel workshops

1. Storytelling through counselling (in German)
2. Competence mapping and career planning with Competence Kaleidoscope (in English)
3. Guidance in the workplace – building a bridge to adult education for workers at an educational disadvantage (in German)
4. “I can do it!” The youth worker’s perspective on working with disadvantaged young people (in German)
5. Identification of interests and counselling in careers guidance settings (in German)

16.30–17.00  Mini plenaries

From 17.00  Drinks reception to close the event

Carin Dániel Ramírez-Schiller, Head of Sector Erasmus+ Adult Education & Transversal Matters, will be taking attendees through the programme.
WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1 (in German)

Storytelling through counselling

After providing an overview of the services offered by the BBRZ Group, this workshop will feature inspiring and informative activities that will introduce you to the method of storytelling, research and development (e.g. in Erasmus+ projects) and the day-to-day work of the workshop leaders. Stories play a crucial role in the development of knowledge and awareness, social skills, purpose and meaning and ultimately understanding. Stories can provide inspiration, arouse curiosity, evoke empathy and create ties.

Narratives, stories and narrative methods (coaching and therapy) are essential in many sectors of modern society and they can be applied broadly – in educational and developmental settings, in situations involving the change and/or transformation of individuals, communities and organisations, in the healthcare sector, on the job market and within public services. Working with stories can help establish a sense of solidarity, greater self-esteem, inclusion and resilience. It can also help to structure, articulate and plan specific actions for the future, and encourage engagement with these activities. We hope you will come along to find out more!

Workshop leaders:
Ingrid Pammer, BBRZ (Austria)
Peter Frühmann, Storybag (Netherlands)

Facilitator: Eva Baloch-Kaloianov, NA Erasmus + / Euroguidance

Workshop 2 (in English)

Competence mapping and career planning with „Competence Kaleidoscope“

Competence Kaleidoscope is a new tool for competence mapping and career planning. It offers a multidisciplinary approach, combining concepts of peer learning, career counselling and personal development with introspection, reflexivity and creative activities. It covers a broad variety of topics, leading participants from the discovery of their core competences to planning their future career and getting ready for application and job interviews.

This workshop offers a brief insight into the development process, the main goals and leading principles of Competence Kaleidoscope. Moreover it provides the possibility to try some of the activities featured in the course and exchange with experienced trainers about their approaches in working with various target groups.

Workshop leaders:
Kateřina Hodická, GIC NORA (Brno/Czech Republic)
Florian Hinterberger, migrare (Linz/Austria)

Facilitator: Alexandra Enzi, NA Erasmus + / Europass
Workshop 3 (in German)
Guidance in the workplace – building a bridge to adult education for workers at an educational disadvantage

Reaching disadvantaged people with educational services frequently throws up challenges within the education and careers guidance sector. The workplace is one location with good potential for this to be achieved. The relevant target groups (including low-skilled and older workers) can be approached on their own territory and offered practical (further) education opportunities that are closely aligned with their needs. And yet there are still only very few services offering education guidance in the workplace in Austria. If close partnerships could be formed with companies, this strategy could have huge potential to get more people into education.

During this workshop, the results of the ‘TRIAS – Guidance in the workplace’ Erasmus+ project will be presented and discussed with participants. What are the requirements for company framework conditions, counselling expertise and skills in order for guidance in the workplace to be a success? What challenges do counsellors have to overcome? And what potential does education guidance in the workplace hold as an outreach strategy? Come and get involved in the discussion!

Workshop leader:
Rudolf Götz, ÖSB Studien&Beratung gGmbH

Facilitator: Cornelia Meier, NA Erasmus + / Euroguidance

Workshop 4 (in German)
“I can do it!” The youth worker’s perspective on working with disadvantaged young people

What do the job market and adolescence have in common? In the words of Heraclitus, change is the only constant – that certainly seems to be the case in today’s job market and this trend looks set to continue. Our teenage years, too, are also marked by transitions. In this time where being individual is key, what this means for the youth of today is that precarious change is the norm. Young people will only be able to take control of their lives if they are capable of writing their own story. This feeling of being able to take action is often lacking in young people who are at a disadvantage and at risk of being excluded.

In this workshop, we will be taking a critical look at dealing with the changes life throws at us, discussing what is required from the system and personal internal attitudes, and examining specific examples from youth (outreach) work conducted at spacelab.

Workshop leaders:
Barbara Dziwinsky and Monika Rinner, spacelab production school

Facilitator: Susanne Krischanitz, NA Erasmus + / Euroguidance
Workshop 5 (in German)
Identification of interests and counselling in careers guidance settings

This workshop offers an insight into an innovative computer-based tool that can be used to identify and support career interests demonstrated by young people in the transitional phase between school and work. This career interest survey is image-based and features minimal text, making it ideally suited to teenagers and young adults who need support with their cognitive and language skills. It also promotes a sense of independence and responsibility in making career-based decisions.

Following an introduction to the methodology, the workshop will mainly focus on practical work with the tool, giving participants the opportunity to complete the accompanying questionnaire for themselves. We will work through how to use the questionnaire and the automatically generated feedback together. The use of the explorative approach to counselling, which can be used to inform clients of the results, will also be put to the test and applied to a range of counselling scenarios.

Workshop leader:
Regina Weißmann, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

Facilitator: Andreas Koreimann, NA Erasmus + / Euroguidance