



Report of Launch of the Pact for Skills

10.11.2020 / 18.00-
19.00

European Vocational Skills Week 2020
09-13 November 2020

EUROPEAN **VOCATIONAL**
SKILLS WEEK 2020





Report

Format:

Online

Speakers:

Ms. Natasha Walker - moderator

Mr. Nicolas Schmit - Commissioner of the European Commission Jobs and Social Rights

Mr. Paulo Azevedo - Member of European Roundtable for Industry, Chairman of Sonae

Mr. Hans Daems - Chair of the Board of CSR Europe, Group Public Affairs Officer - Hitachi Europe

Ms. Manuela Geleng - Director of Skills, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Mr. Thomas Rachel - Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Education and Research

Mr. Hubertus Heil - German Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

Ms. Claudia Dörr-Voß - State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy in charge of the Directorates-General for Political Staff and Policy Planning, Central Administration and European Policy

Mr. Luca Visentini - Secretary General, European Trade Union Confederation

Mr. Ludovic Voet - European Trade Union Confederation

Mr. Markus J. Beyrer - Director General of BusinessEurope

Mr. Maxime Cerutti - Social Affairs Director of Social Affairs

Ms. Véronique Willems - Secretary General of SMEunited

Ms. Valeria Ronzitti - Secretary General of CEEP

Mr. Daniel Wisniewski - CEEP

Ms. Eva Cendon - Vice-President of EUCEN

Ms. Aino-Maija Luukkonen - Mayor of the Finnish city Pori



Mr. Antonio Novo Guerrero - President of European Cluster Alliance

Mr. Thierry Breton - Commissioner of the European Commission Internal market

Mr. Jean-Dominique Senard - Chairman of the Board of Directors at Renault

Ms. Sabine Herlitschka - CEO of Infineon Technologies Austria AG

Mr. Micael Johansson - CEO of Saab AB

Number of Participants:

About 800

Summary:

The launch of the Pact for Skills is just the beginning of a long-term European skills offensive.

We knew that the new industrial landscape will be shaped by the green and digital transition. The COVID crisis is accelerating this process and testing our state of preparedness. In the emerging global post-COVID world the EU and its citizens will have to find their place. In this world, we will have to be skilled, competitive and creative to maintain our prosperity, preserve our sovereignty and strengthen our capacity to anticipate and influence events.

The Pact for Skills addresses an issue at the heart of the policy challenges to the EU.

It is a new approach to find solutions, in which public private multi-stakeholder partnerships can address the skills needs of our population and equip people to face the challenges of their daily life in the period that is ahead. For workers, it will require a significant shift in their skill set. Learners will need to have access to state-of-the art equipment and to be trained on real-life business problems.

Although right now we are preoccupied by the short term we shall not lose out of sight the mid- to longer-term perspective.

Ambitious upskilling and reskilling actions are essential. First, to keep the people and the jobs. Second, for sustainable recovery. Third, to help the transformation of the ecosystem.

We need to work together to ensure that we have the skilled workforce ready to take advantage of the recovery. While the responsibility falls on employers, they cannot be expected to bear this burden alone in the current crisis. It requires strong support of Member States and a framework at the EU-level to co-ordinate actions efficiently and effectively.

We have launched a new process that will result in a number of skills partnerships aiming at the acceleration of upskilling and reskilling across EU industrial ecosystems, SMEs and businesses.