



**22ND ANNUAL PLENARY MEETING**  
**OF**  
**REFERNET**  
**CEDEFOP'S EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR VET**  
**20 NOVEMBER - 21 NOVEMBER 2024**  
**CEDEFOP – THESSALONIKI, GREECE**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**Objectives of The Meeting**

The 22nd ReferNet annual plenary meeting will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece (20 - 21 November 2024) and will welcome new partners under the 2024-27 framework partnership agreement, as well as national representatives of the network and representatives from the European Commission (EU) and the European Training Foundation (ETF).

The event will have a central thematic on *"20th Years together"* aiming to celebrate the anniversary of the 2024 enlargement of the EU with the accession of 10 additional countries. On 1 May 2004, 20 years ago, our European family grew bigger. The citizens of Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia became citizens of the EU. Overnight, our Union became a greater political, economic and cultural entity, stretching from Tallinn to Lisbon, from Valletta to Stockholm, from Dublin to Nicosia. Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia's accession a few years later has made our Union even stronger. The aim of the meeting is to:

- induct the newcomers, introduce them to the tools available, and provide assistance;
- inform partners of the latest EU policy developments on VET, skills and qualifications;
- take stock of the work carried out in 2024 and the outcomes published and disseminated;
- prepare the 2025 work plan: VET policy reporting, Spotlight, news, visibility actions, etc.;
- foster partnership and knowledge-sharing through interactive (joint) presentations of national developments, debates, etc.;
- hold individual meetings for deeper cooperation among members and between members and Cedefop experts.
- reinstall a physical network dynamic of cooperation and shared reflection by convening in a physical open space, which will encourage creative reflection on how partners would like ReferNet to develop in the 2024-27 period.

Participants will also have an opportunity to exchange good dissemination practices in a dedicated space where they can display their national publications, newsletters, videos, promotional items, etc and benefit from bilateral meetings.



Wednesday, 20 November 2024	
Plenary meeting	
9.00 – 10.00	<i>Arrival and registration of participants</i>
10.00 – 10.15 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Welcome and opening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ReferNet Plenary Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juergen Siebel, Executive Director of Cedefop</li> <li>• Loukas Zachilas, Dept. for VET &amp; Qualifications, Cedefop</li> </ul>
10.15 – 10.45 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Session 1. Latest VET policy developments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative from the European Commission (tbc)</li> <li>• Representative from the European Training Foundation – ETF (tbc)</li> </ul>
10.45 – 11.15 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Session 2. ReferNet: The State of the Network 2024 - 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ioannis Katsikis, ReferNet, Cedefop</li> </ul>
11.15 – 11.45	<i>Coffee break and Family photo</i>
11.45 – 13.00 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Session 3. European Year of Skills: a first reflection</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jasper van Loo, Dept. Coordinator, Dept. for VET &amp; Skills, Cedefop</li> <li>• Ioannis Katsikis, ReferNet, Cedefop</li> </ul>
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 14.45 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Session 4. Cedefop Strategic Planning - 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ramona David &amp; Jasper van Loo, Dept. Coordinators, Dept. for VET &amp; Skills, Cedefop</li> <li>• George Kostakis, Dept. Coordinator, Dept. for VET &amp; Qualifications, Cedefop</li> </ul>
14.45 – 15.30 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Session 5. Presentation on Intellectual Property Rights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kari Kivinen, European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights, European Union Intellectual Property Office</li> </ul>
15.30 – 15.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.45 – 16.45 <i>Rousseau</i>	<b>Session 6. Workshop for the National Representatives on the function of the validation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All ReferNet National Representatives</li> </ul>
15.45 – 16.45 <i>Montessori</i>	<b>Session 7. Workshop for Coordinators on Communication and Dissemination activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All ReferNet National Coordinators</li> </ul>
16.45 – 17.00	Bilateral meetings – networking opportunities
17.00 – 18.00	End of first-day and transfer to the Hotel
19.30	<b>Dinner at Kazaviti, city center</b>



Thursday, 21 November 2024	
Plenary meeting	
9.00 – 09.30	<i>Arrival of participants</i>
09.30 – 11.00 <i>Europa</i>	<p><b>Session 8. Review of the 2024 ReferNet Workplan</b></p> <p><b>Supporting the comparison and recognition of qualifications</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zelda Azzara, Carita Blomqvist &amp; Vasileios Symeonidis, Cedefop</li> </ul> <p><b>Thematic perspective on implementing national priorities in line with NIPs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irina Jemeljanova and George Kostakis, Dept. for VET &amp; Qualifications, Cedefop</li> </ul> <p><b>Spotlight on Skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stelina Chatzichristou and Jasper van Loo, Cedefop</li> </ul>
11.00 – 11.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.15 – 13.00 <i>Europa</i>	<p><b>Session 9. Preparing the 2025 ReferNet Workplan</b></p> <p><b>VET excellence and inclusion for the 21st century</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anastasia Pouliou and Vasilis Symeonidis, Cedefop</li> </ul> <p><b>Financing adult learning/CVET and recent developments on ILA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patrycja Lipinska and Mantas Sekmokas, Cedefop</li> </ul> <p><b>Microcredentials: labour market sector relevance, quality, and inclusion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anastasia Pouliou and Iraklis Pliakis, Cedefop</li> </ul>
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 14.30	<p><b>Session 10. Cedefop turns 50, drawing on the past to shape the future of VET, skills, and learning in Europe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juergen Siebel, Executive Director of Cedefop</li> </ul>
14.30 – 16.00 <i>Europa</i>	<p><b>Session 11: 20<sup>th</sup> Years together: contributions from the countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 – 17:30 <i>Europa</i>	<p><b>Session 12: 20<sup>th</sup> Years together: contributions from the countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia</li> </ul>
17.30 – 17.45 <i>Europa</i>	<b>Closure of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ReferNet plenary meeting</b>