



Improving access to education

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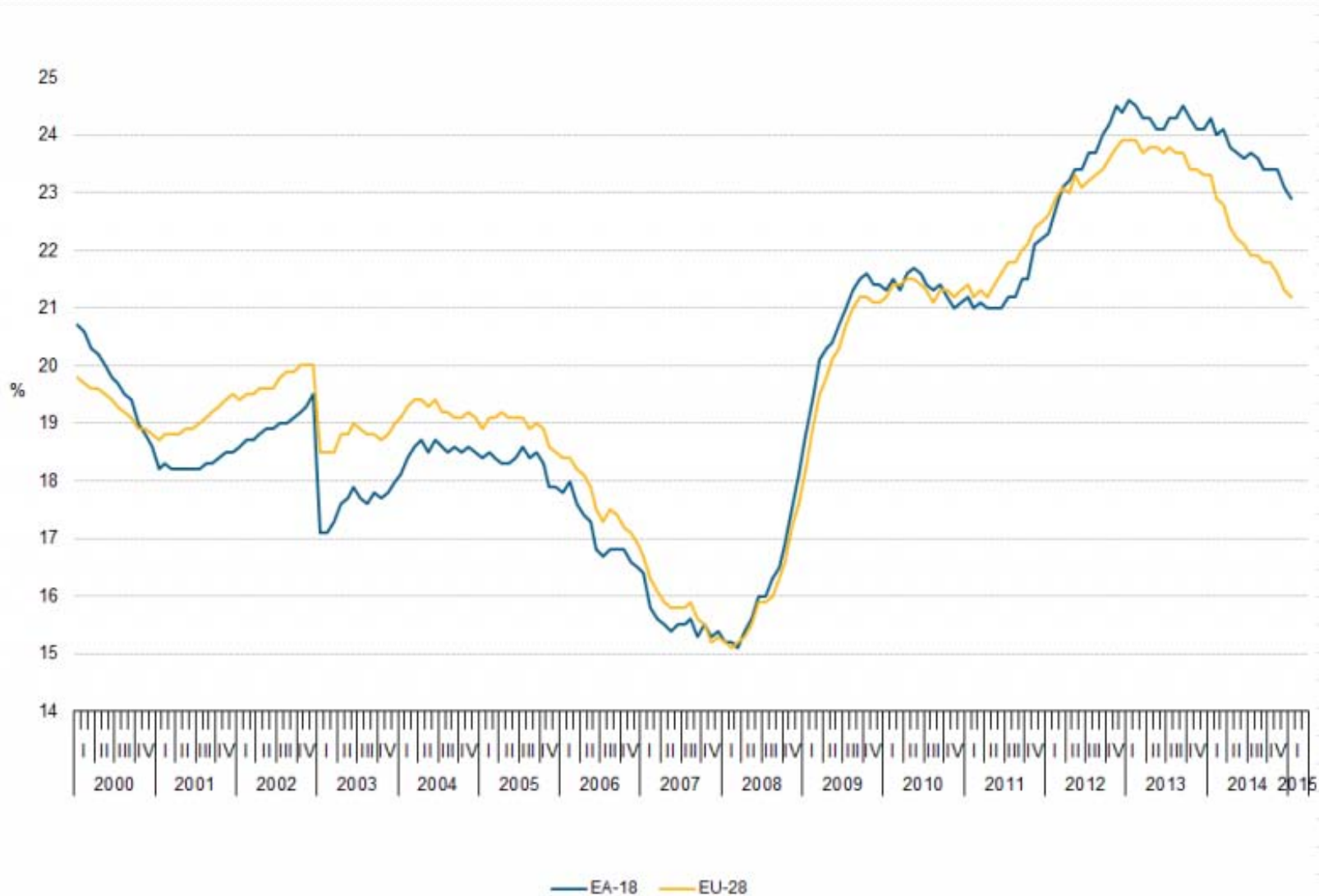
- European Region of Education International
- Representing teachers' trade unions of European countries in Brussels
- 11 million **teachers and trainer** / all education sectors – 135 Member Organisations
- European-level sectoral federation
- European-level sectoral social partner on education

European Trade Union Committee for Education

Field of work

- ETUCE Committee and Bureau: presidents and general secretaries of trade unions
- Higher Education and Research Standing Committee: 45 members
- Equality Committee: 45 members
- Education Advisory Panel: 15 members
- Projects: ICT use, recruitment of teachers, health and safety in schools, violence, etc.

Eurostat: Youth unemployment rate 2000 - 2015 (age 15-24)



Eurostat: January 2015

In December 2014:

- 24. million men and women in the EU are unemployed
- Almost 5 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the

Lowest rates:

- Germany(7.2%),
- Austria (9%) <- social dialogue, VET system
- The Netherlands(9,6%),

Highest rates:

- Spain(51%)
- Greece (50%) – In December 2013 it was 59%!
- Croatia(44.8%)
- Italy (42%)

ETUCE work on Access to Education

- **Focusing on EU Education and Training Policies** – influence on teachers and national education policies
- **Access to education sectors:**
 - Early Childhood Education and General Education
 - equality and equal pay for teachers
 - decreasing access via increasing privatisation
 - Vocational education and Apprenticeship
 - focus on access to quality apprenticeship in companies
 - access to VET teachers to training in companies on crafts
 - Secondary education
 - decreasing access as focusing more on VET reforms and VET schools
 - professional development of teachers: access issues (pay, time, permit, obligations)
 - Higher Education: Bologna-process
 - fewer access: privatisation, public-private partnerships, student loans

European Semester

- Yearly budgetary review of the European Commission and the Member States to implement the goals of the EU2020 Strategy
- Every year: Country Specific Recommendations on **spending national budgets**– also on **education and training**
- Apprenticeship and Vocational Education and Training in general are the most common recommendations for spending:

2014-2015:

Croatia: mobilise the private sector to offer more apprenticeships

Denmark: wider use of work-based training and apprenticeships

Estonia: increase participation in vocational education and training, including in apprenticeships

- + **France, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Malta, Spain, Sweden**

European Semester

2013 – 2016: Cyprus is in the Economic Adjustment Programme

- Economic support: **10bn €** from EC, ECB, IMF
- No country specific Recommendations for Cyprus but **MoU** with Structural reforms
- Main aims:
 - Restoring financial sector stability,
 - strengthening public finances,
 - implementing structural reforms
- Cyprus **National Reform Programme** (NRP) has been presented by the government for 2015
- Every year, the Economic Adjustment Programme is reviewed. Last review: **Fifth Review Summer 2014**

The Economic Adjustment Programme for Cyprus Fifth Review - Summer 2014

Budgetary measures adopted by Cyprus in or after December 2012 Fiscal measures with effects in 2014

Expenditure measures

I.32 Ensure a reduction in total outlays for social transfers by a at least EUR 28.5 million to be achieved through streamlining and better targeting of child benefits and educational grants, and abolition of social cohesion benefits provided by the welfare services.

I.33 Implement a further reduction in emoluments of public and broader public sector employees and pensioners by a flat rate reduction of 3% on all wages.

I.34 Introduce a fee on monthly transportation cards for the use of public transportation services by students and pensioners.

I.35 Introduce as of the budget year 2014 structural reform measures in the educational system, notably, a reduction of the number of teachers seconded to the Ministry of Education and Culture, the removal of 1:1.5 teaching time ratio from evening schools of general and technical and vocational education, the elimination of teaching time concession to teachers for being placed in two or more educational districts, the elimination of mentoring components for pre-service and in-service training for newly appointed teachers and the reduction of the cost of afternoon and evening programmes.

I.36 Ensure additional expenditure savings by a further reduction of public sector allowances and streamlining of overtime compensation, including by revising the formula for calculating overtime compensation on weekdays and in weekends for state officers and apply

National Reform Programme for Cyprus

Some reform measures in education under consideration

- **Upgrading of the content and effectiveness of education:**
 - ❑ **Evaluation of the new curricula** and modernisation of timetables.
 - ❑ Tabling a proposal for a **new system of recruitment of teachers**, implementation of a systematic in-service training of teachers and improvement of the **evaluation of the teachers** and the educational work.
 - ❑ Establishment of a **Quality Assurance Agency and Certification** for Higher Education which is expected to be approved by the Parliament soon.
 - ❑ A project for establishing **mechanisms for validating non-formal and informal learning** to be financed through EU funds.
 - ❑ A project introducing an online digital School Management System to be financed through EU funds...

ETUCE Campaign Framework for European Semester

- Each year: November to November
- Guidelines for member organisations on the policy documents
- Paying attention to the recommendations and spending.
- Also to non-EU countries via DG Neighbourhood



**Thank you for your
attention**

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