Challenges and opportunities

Insights into the Greek education system from the EU Education and Training Monitor 2019

Denis Crowley, Head of Unit
European Commission - Country analysis
Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
Education and Training Monitor 2019

Commission’s flagship annual publication on education and training in the EU since 2011

Cross-country comparison and 28 in-depth country reports

Measures progress towards the targets of ET 2020

Suggestions for education policy reforms responsive to societal and labour market needs
• Early childhood education (age 4+): 95%

• Underachievement in reading, mathematics and science: <15%

• Early leavers from education and training (age 18-24): 10%

• 40% of people aged 30-34 with some form of higher education

• Adult participation in learning: 15%

• Employment rate of recent graduates (age 20-34): 82% with at least upper secondary education attainment and having left education 1-3 years ago)
The teaching profession is highly attractive but opportunities and incentives to improve professionalism are lacking.

Education expenditure is lower than in most EU countries and largely spent on salaries.

Early school leaving has been further reduced, particularly in rural areas.

Finding employment after education remains difficult, including for highly qualified people.
Spending
Government expenditure dedicated to education and spending by category, 2017
Demographic trends in student population (3-18)
Early childhood education and care
Participation in early childhood education and care (4–6y.)
Early leavers from education and training

Greece 4.7%

- Men: 5.7%
- Women: 3.6%
- Foreign-born: 17.9%
- Native-born: 3.9%

EU 10.6%

Source: Eurostat (EU-LFS, 2018)
Data extracted in 08/2019
Illustrations: © European Commission
Basic Skills

- Reading
- Maths
- Science

EU target: <15%
Low achieving students in science, reading and maths
Low achievement in science by socio-economic status
Transition from education to the labour market
Tertiary education attainment (age 30-34)

Greece 44.3%

- Men: 37.5%
- Women: 51.3%
- Foreign-born: 15.1%
- Native-born: 48.1%

EU 40.7%

Source: Eurostat (EU-LFS, 2018)
Data extracted in 08/2019
Illustrations: © European Commission
Employment rate of recent graduates 2018 (age 20-34)
Change in employment rate of recent graduates (age 20-34)
Skills mismatches

Skills Matching (CEDEFOP indicator 0-100)
Participation in vocational education

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2017 2013
Participation in adult learning

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Graph showing participation in adult learning across different countries from 2003 to 2018.
Teachers

“The quality of the system cannot exceed the quality of its teachers.”

Andreas Schleicher
Age distribution of primary teachers 2017
The situation of teachers in Greece

The teaching profession remains attractive despite setbacks in recent years

Teachers have comparatively short teaching time and small classes

Teachers are highly educated but lack opportunities to develop their pedagogical competences, especially in secondary education

Teacher evaluation has not yet taken root

School leader posts involve little autonomous decision-making
What can it be done to attract and retain the best teachers?

Salaries play an important role but they are not enough

Career progression

Induction programmes

Relevant and high quality initial and in-service training

Measures to build trust into them and prestige into society

School autonomy school leaders
Levels of decision-taking at lower secondary education
Teachers say they need training in:

1. Teaching special needs students
2. ICT skills for teaching
3. Dealing with multicultural classrooms
Thank you

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