



Entrepreneurship Education in Europe

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The EU citizens are less eager to be entrepreneurs...

Answer to the question "Do you prefer to be self employed or an entrepreneur to being an employee?"



37%



51%



56%

There is a lesser appetite for entrepreneurship in Europe compared with our main competitors

EU 2020 strategy: Europe 2020 aims at opening opportunities for business, to create growth and jobs.

Small Business Act: Create an environment in which entrepreneurs & family businesses can thrive & entrepreneurship is rewarded

“Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan”



Education for Entrepreneurship

- Entrepreneurship refers to an individual's ability to **turn ideas into action**.
- It includes **creativity**, **innovation** and **risk taking**, as well as the ability to **plan and manage projects** in order to achieve objectives.

This

- supports everyone in day-to-day life at home and in society,
- makes employees more aware of the context of their work and better able to seize opportunities,
- and provides a foundation for entrepreneurs establishing a social or commercial activity

(2006 Commission Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning)



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Skills acquired

Personal skills:	Business skills:

Impact of Entrepreneurship programmes in Higher Education (1)

New study from the Commission (March 2012):

- Survey on alumni of 9 Higher Education Institutions and of a network of student entrepreneurs (JADE)
- Entrepreneurship education group vs control group (more than 2.600 questionnaires filled)

Entrepreneurship education makes a difference !

Impact(2)

Alumni who went through entrepreneurial programmes display more entrepreneurial attitudes and intentions, get a job more easily, can innovate more and start more companies.

Employability, young people who followed an entrepreneurship course at university find their first job more easily:

78% started their first period of employment directly after graduation, against 59 % of a control group.

Impact(3)

Business creation, alumni who went through entrepreneurial programmes become self-employed earlier, start more businesses, and their enterprises are perceived as more innovative, with higher expectations of employment and turnover growth.

Entrepreneurship alumni started their first enterprise on average before graduation (0.7 years), while control group alumni started on average after graduation (2.8 years).

Elements of a national strategy (1):

- Agreed definition of entrepreneurship
- Cross-ministry cooperation
- Stakeholder consultation
- Embed core competences into the national curriculum

Elements of a national strategy (2):

- Integrate identified good practices (what works) into the strategy
- Train and support teachers
- Develop a logic chain of indicators, outputs, outcomes and expected impact
- Design and embed coherent progression from primary to higher education

Current situation: school education

- Eight countries launched specific strategies to promote entrepreneurship education: Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Wales and the Flemish part of Belgium.
- ... but others include it as part of their national lifelong learning, youth or growth strategies.
- Half of European countries are engaged in a process of educational reforms which include the strengthening of entrepreneurship education.

Some Good Examples:

- **Denmark and Sweden**: an entrepreneurship education strategy was jointly developed by different ministries
- **Finland and Norway**: entrepreneurship is already embedded in the national curriculum
- **Netherlands and UK**: government funded pilot projects in schools, then disseminated resulting good practice

The state in Higher Education (1)

- More than half of the student population in Europe do not have access to Entrepreneurship Education
- The majority of entrepreneurship courses are offered in business schools and in and economic studies
- Only 1/4 of specialized (e.g. technical institutes) and 1/3 of multidisciplinary institutions without a business school offer entrepreneurship

Results from EU reports and studies

The state in Higher Education (2)

- In only 20% of HEIs the teaching staff must undergo training in order to teach entrepreneurship
- Less than 1/3 of staff teaching entrepreneurship had practical experience with entrepreneurship outside academia
- Leading HEIs are beginning to focus more on mindset and attitudes and less on particular business skills
- There is a gap between methods applied and those that are most effective: too much use of lectures
- Essential element: crossing boundaries between disciplines

High importance of involving teachers

- Shift from 'how to run a business' to how to develop a general set of competences applicable in all walks of life
- Key elements:
 - Offer teachers initial and in-service training
 - Establish support systems and networks

Role of the EU:

Catalyst: exchange and dissemination of good practice, peer-to-peer learning, producing guidelines

Support: co-funding of key European projects aiming to train teachers in entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurial approach:

- Training “in”, learning
- Also personal competences
- Flexible, adaptable
- Training material, cases
- Student oriented
- Group process, interaction
- “Clash room”, diversity
- More coaching role for teacher
- Project, interdisciplinary
- Close to real life and business
- Action oriented

Traditional approach:

- Education “about”
- Knowledge in disciplines
- Fixed study plan
- Textbooks
- Teacher oriented
- Class, individual activity
- Classroom, homogeneous
- Lecturing
- Subjects, disciplines
- Close to research, academia
- Study, theory oriented

Qualities of an entrepreneurial teacher



Good initial teacher education

Harnesses ideas

Sells ideas

Quality continuing professional development

Develops young people with a passion to create, grow and learn

Good support from effective school leaders

A school to work in that values its community

Partners in the community

Some ideas from the Budapest Symposium (2011):

- Make entrepreneurship modules **available to all teachers**, based on the same practical methods that teachers will have to use with their students
- Create **local partnerships** to connect schools involved in entrepreneurship education and interested entrepreneurs
- Develop new methods to **assess the acquisition of key competences** by students, like entrepreneurship (if this competence is not assessed, teachers are not motivated)
- Set up a European **on-line platform** where teachers can find advice, teaching tools, and exchange experiences

Ongoing activities at EU level (1)

Exchange of experience and good practice, networking:

- **Two European Workshops** (“Laboratories”) on teacher education:

- Initial Teacher Education, Dublin 2-4 May 2012

- In-service Training, Brdo (SI) 27-28 September 2012

Good Practice Manual on teacher education in entrepreneurship (*January 2013*)

Some recurring themes:

Entrepreneurial ways can be taught across all subjects, and also as a separate subject

EE should focus on both intrapreneurs and entrepreneurs (most students will use entrepreneurial skills inside companies)

Need to develop further assessment methods and quality assurance mechanisms

The EE agenda should be promoted beyond teacher education institutions (stakeholders, businesses)

Cooperation, networks and partnerships are essential

Ongoing activities at EU level (2)

Support: call for proposals for European projects, focus on:

- Train primary, secondary and higher education teachers
- Create a European online platform for educators
- Assess entrepreneurial skills acquired by students

Projects to be funded:

- Develop and disseminate pedagogical tools for school teachers to introduce entrepreneurial learning into different subjects of the curriculum (*2 projects*)
- Organise European training workshops in entrepreneurship for higher education teachers (*2 projects*)
- Create a European online platform for teachers/educators for exchange of good practice, methods and teaching materials (*2 projects*)
- Develop a European framework of tools and indicators to assess entrepreneurial mindsets, attitudes and skills acquired by students in entrepreneurship education (*1 project*)

Further actions at EU level

- Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan (*December 2012*)
- Thematic Working Group on Entrepreneurship Education (ongoing)
- Policy Handbook on Entrepreneurship Education (*Summer 2013*)



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THANK YOU