



INVITATION LETTER

PLA on promoting better access to VET

EQAVET NRP, Croatia
Online event
25-26 February 2021

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to a **Peer Learning Activity (PLA) on promoting better access to VET**, organized by the Agency for VET and Adult Education (AVETA) within the “EQAVET - European Quality Assurance in Vocational Education and Training National Reference Points” Erasmus+ project.

The PLA will take place **online**, using the Zoom application. The activity would start on **Thursday, 25 February** at 10:00 and finish on **Friday, 26 February 2021**, at 12:00.

Participants are invited to apply via application form available at the link (<https://forms.gle/iN6ZT2MNTNYzyMN58>) **no later than 1 February 2021**. An online pre-activity questionnaire will be sent to all PLA participants during the week following the application deadline.

This PLA will allow participants to examine and reflect on the approaches and mechanisms for promoting better access to VET and providing guidance to (potential) VET learners in line with the EQAVET Indicator 10. Accordingly, the PLA would focus on existing policies and learner-oriented approaches and discuss the effectiveness of existing initiatives, as well as the avenues for their further development, particularly concerning the Council Recommendation on vocational education and training (VET) for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience. The topics for discussion include, but are not limited to: guidance to (potential) VET learners, targeted measures and flexible/adapted training provision that prevent early leaving from education and training and support the school-to-work transition, the role of work-based learning in promoting access to VET, including for disadvantaged groups.

The PLA facilitator is Mr Șerban Iosifescu, Chairman of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Pre-University Education and EQAVET expert since 2008. Mr Iosifescu holds a PhD in educational sciences, with over 60 published papers. He has extensive experience in pre-university and higher education, education research, training teachers and school management, and consultancy at national and international level, including for the European Commission, UNICEF, World Bank, OECD, and UNDP.

We welcome applications from NRP representatives (1-2) experienced and/or interested in promoting better access to VET. As we intend to address the PLA topic from the system level and the provider level, we kindly ask NRPs to extend our invitation to one representative of VET provider in their respective countries, willing to participate in the PLA and contribute from the provider perspective.

To ensure focused and fruitful discussions, we would kindly ask participants (to be confirmed at a later stage) to prepare their short presentations (2-4 slides or one-page word/pdf document), and share their experiences relevant to the topic of the PLA; in particular, the practices and mechanisms in place in their countries, as well as any reforms envisaged for matching the needs of trainees and the labour market with the offer of VET programmes - including initiatives in guidance.

We are looking forward to productive and stimulating discussions!

Yours sincerely,

Mile Živčić
Director
Agency for VET and Adult Education