

AGENDA

EVENT NAME	Online Eastern Partnership (EaP) Regional Conference Torino Process 2018-2020
LOCATION	ZOOM video conferencing tool
DATE(S)	16-17 September 2020



What is the Torino Process

Inspired by the European Union (EU) Copenhagen-Bruges Process, the Torino Process is a participatory process leading to an analysis of human capital development issues and vocational education and training policies responses in the ETF partner countries. The process aims to be a vehicle for policy development, forging a shared understanding of a medium-term vision, priorities and progress in the field of human capital and skills development. In this sense, the Torino Process provides valuable input for policy dialogue either in the context of policy development and/or EU (or other donors) policy or programming purposes, at both national and regional levels. Furthermore, the Torino Process confirms its value as a policy learning tool within and among ETF partner countries and the EU through a participatory approach.

Throughout the process, launched by the European Training Foundation (ETF) for the first time in 2010, internal and external consultations with partner countries and external evaluations confirmed that the process is well established as a relevant initiative (both in terms of the content of the analysis and the implementation process) that has an added value as a forum for policy discussions and peer learning at country level.

The 2018–20 Torino Process confirms and builds on these historical strengths, while certain adaptations linked to emerging needs consolidate and harmonise the process in order to increase the quality and impartiality of the analysis and broaden its scope to: (i) human capital development, and (ii) considering VET policy responses in a holistic perspective, which includes initial VET (including post-secondary), continuing VET, training as part of active labour market policies (ALMPs), etc.

For this round of the Torino Process, the countries of the Eastern Partnership initiative were focused on the development of the national reports and internal consultations between January and September 2019. On this basis, ETF has developed independent HCD analyses that have been discussed in November – December in each country. Cross-country peer learning and exchange takes place at this regional conference, and the final international conference will close the round in 2021 in Turin.

OBJECTIVES

The regional conference is organised by the ETF and the European Commission under Eastern Partnership Platform 4 “Mobility and People-to-People contacts”. It will gather the representatives from the six Eastern Partnership countries to move from the national analyses to the regional consultation, providing an overview of regional trends, commonalities and diversity of human capital development across the countries and progress of skills and education and training policies based on the findings of the Torino Process. In order to enhance the cross-fertilisation of exchange of experience, also representatives from Central Asia will participate.

The conference will produce the following outputs, which will be used to finalize the Torino Process Regional Report:

- Overview of regional trends, commonalities and diversity across countries of the EaP and regional progress of human capital development, skills and VET policies responsiveness based on the findings of the national Torino Process reports.
- Good practices from the EaP countries specifically looking into the dimension of social partnership, innovation and skills development at national and sub-national levels.
- Regional priorities and actions to address the main issues of human capital development taking into account partnership with the EU and future needs in the EaP.

METHODS OF WORK

The conference will be highly interactive, introducing new concepts for managing the complexity of VET decision making.

PARTICIPANTS

The national Torino Process coordinators will take part in the conference together with a core group of working groups members of each EaP country. The country participants will include representatives of national statistical offices/institutes, relevant ministries (labour, employment, education and economy), social partners and local authorities where appropriate. ETF staff members, European Commission as well as experts from the EU Member States will be present to contribute to the debate.

The European Training Foundation (ETF) is a specialised agency of the European Union (EU) based in Turin (Italy) with the mandate to support the development of human capital through vocational education and training (VET) in 29 EU partner countries. Among its core functions are policy analysis and capacity building, both supporting better, more effective and impactful VET and skills policies. In its operations, ETF provides support for the development of specific technical thematic areas in relation to the external and internal efficiency of VET and skills policies including links with the labour market and migration policies, as well as provides expert support to strengthen the policy cycle management and evidence based policy making in its partner countries.

September 16th - Day 1:

<p>09:00 – 09:15 CEST UTC/GMT +2 hours</p>	<p>Warm up to online modality</p> <p>Get familiar with the online tool: camera and microphone settings, modalities for chat and online contribution, etc.</p> <p>Facilitator: Timo Kuusela, ETF</p>
<p>09:15 – 9:30</p>	<p>Session 1: Opening and welcome speeches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• European Commission DGNEAR, Vassilis Maragos - Head of Unit• ETF, Cesare Onestini – Director
<p>9:30 – 9:55</p>	<p>Session 2: The Torino Process story and the assessment of the process of the last round</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ETF, Abdelaziz Jaouani - Acting Head of Analysis and Coordination Unit
<p>9:55 – 11:35 (Including 15' comfort break)</p>	<p>Session 3: Human Capital Development issues in the Eastern Partnership Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ETF, Arjen Deij - Senior Specialist in Qualifications Systems
<p>11:35 – 11.45</p>	<p>Session 4: Final remarks on Day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ETF, Timo Kuusela - Specialist in VET Policies and Systems - Country Coordinator for Belarus and Georgia

September 17th - Day 2:

09:00 – 09:10 CEST UTC/GMT +2 hours	Recap of Day 1
09:10 – 10:40	Session 5: Moving from issues to operationalisation: priorities and actions for skills for the future. Insights based on the Torino Process findings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ETF, Arjen Deij - Senior Specialist in Qualifications Systems• ETF, Christine Hemschemeier - Country Coordinator for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan - Focal Point for Central Asia
10:40 – 11:00	Comfort break
11:00– 11:45	Session 6: Moving ahead with the Eastern Partnership and policy making for impact in the region <p>Panel discussion with DG NEAR and stakeholders from the EaP countries on the next phase of the EaP and feedback from the country perspective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• European Commission DG NEAR, Lawrence Meredith – Director• Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, Tamar Kitiashvili – Deputy Minister• Ukrainian Institute of Professional Qualifications, Rodion Kolyshko – Director• ETF, Maria Lvova - Communication Officer
11.45 – 12.00	Session 7: The way forward <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make conclusions and identify next steps• ETF, Cesare Onestini – Director• European Commission DG NEAR, Lawrence Meredith – Director