

# AGENDA

## Regional peer-learning workshop on Teaching Excellence – Empowering Educators, 17–20 September 2024

### HELSINKI, FINLAND

#### Background and Rationale

The regional peer-learning workshop on Teaching Excellence – Empowering Educators is jointly organised by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia and the European Training Foundation (ETF) under the EU-funded Regional Programme supporting Education Reforms & Skills in the Eastern Partnership (EaP) region.

The peer-learning workshop will focus on sharing practices and experiences and discussing challenges on teachers and educators as key actors of education systems and reforms.

#### Logic and Content

The peer-learning event aims to:

- share and learn from good practices of Finland and Estonia in teacher education and professional development at all levels of education and teacher system management and policies;
- share experiences and discuss ongoing reform initiatives on teacher education and system management in the EaP countries;
- identify key take-aways for policy agenda and priorities on modernising the teaching profession and making it attractive and sustainable for education systems in the EaP countries

The peer-learning event will cover e.g. the following topics:

- **Governance, financing and legal framework:** including institutional setting and coordination for effective teacher management and policies;
- **Teaching profession:** including qualification requirements, teacher education, recruitment and pre-requisites for becoming an educator at different levels of education systems and attractiveness of profession;
- **Career paths and professional development of teachers:** including in-service training and professional development, various roles of teachers and mobility opportunities in profession and in education sector as a whole;
- **Pedagogical aspects and delivery of curriculum:** including autonomy of educators in classroom, digitalisation of teaching & learning process and assessment of students' learning outcomes and teachers' competences;
- **Vision:** including expectations of society vis-a-vis teachers and educators, their changing role in organising and managing a learning process in modern school as well as enabling factors and policies to support teaching profession in the future

## Participants

Participants of the peer learning event include:

- representatives of the Ministries of Education, their agencies and institutions responsible for teacher management and policies as well as teacher education and professional development in Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova), the ETF programme team and the hosting organisations – Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland and Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia.

*The working language of the event will be English.*

The delegation will be joined for the visits by

- Ms Sessi Trapnowski, Secretary for International Relations, Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland: [ssessi.trapnowski@gov.fi](mailto:ssessi.trapnowski@gov.fi), tel. +358 50 436 0359
- Mr Jouni Kangasniemi, Senior Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland: [Jouni.kangasniemi@gov.fi](mailto:Jouni.kangasniemi@gov.fi), tel. +358 40 517 9222

The ETF contact person:

- Ms Liia Kaarlöp, Project Officer: [Liia.Kaarlop@etf.europa.eu](mailto:Liia.Kaarlop@etf.europa.eu), tel +39 337 104 6366

## DAY 1 - TUESDAY 17 September 2024

Time	Venues: <i>House of Science and Letters and Viikki Teacher Training School of University of Helsinki</i>
08:40 – 09:00	Walking from the hotel to the venue (House of Science and Letters)
09:00 – 10:00	<b>Expert session: the vision of Finnish teacher education</b>  Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland and Teacher Education Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Dr Marjo Vesalainen, Senior Ministerial Adviser, Department for Higher Education and Science Policy, Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland</li><li>- Prof. Auli Toom, President of the Teacher Education Forum &amp; Vice-Dean in charge of research in the Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki</li></ul> Address: Kirkkokatu 6, 00170 Helsinki <i>(coffee/refreshment station available)</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Q&amp;A, discussions</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Transfer to Viikki by bus</i>
11:00 – 12:45	Learning visit to <b>Viikki Teacher Training School of University of Helsinki</b> with a focus on teacher education at the comprehensive school level  11.00-12.15 Welcome, presentation of the school, teacher education in Finland, guided tour in the school building  12.15-12.45 <i>School lunch</i>  12.45-13.30 Final discussion  Address: Kevätkatu 2, 00790 Helsinki
13:30 – 14:00	<i>Transfer to the centre of Helsinki (House of Science and Letters)</i>
14:00 – 15:00	<b>Expert session: teacher recruitment, teacher's work and career paths</b>  The City of Helsinki Education Division:

	<p>Ms Laura Damski, Personnel Planning Manager Ms Maiju Vääntti, Senior HR Partner</p> <p>Address: Kirkkokatu 6, 00170 Helsinki</p> <p><i>(coffee/refreshment station available)</i></p>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Q&amp;A, discussions</b>
15:30 – 16:10	Briefing of participants on the peer-learning agenda and arrangements
17:00 – 19:30	<b>Welcome reception hosted by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland</b>
(17:00 – 18:00 18:00 – 19:30)	<p><i>Guided tour at Oodi Central Library</i> <i>Welcome reception at Oodi</i></p> <p>Persons present from MoEC Finland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Ms. Jaana Palojärvi, Director for International Relations</b></li> <li>- Mr. Jouni Kangasniemi, Senior Ministerial Adviser</li> <li>- Ms. Sessi Trapnowski, Secretary for International Relations</li> </ul>

## DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY 18 September 2024

Time	Venue: <i>Public Sector Pension House and Finnish National Agency for Education (EDUFI)</i>
09:00 – 10:00	<p><b>Expert session: Curriculum Development and Teachers' Autonomy in the Finnish Education System - venue Public Sector Pension House</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Marjo Rissanen, Counsellor of Education, EDUFI (National Agency for Education)</li> </ul> <p>Address: Unioninkatu 43, 00170 Helsinki</p> <p><i>(coffee/refreshment station available)</i></p>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Q&amp;A, discussions</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Transfer in 2 groups to the schools</i>
11:00 – 13:00	<p><b>Parallel visits to a general upper secondary school and a vocational school</b></p> <p><b>Group 1: Visit to Omnia Vocational College</b> (visit to start at 11.15 due to the longer drive) Address: Kirkkokatu 16, 02770 Espoo</p> <p><b>Group 2: Visit to Alppila Upper Secondary School</b> (visit to start at 11.00) Address: Viipurinkatu 21, 00510 Helsinki</p>
13:30 – 14:30	<p><i>Lunch and debriefing on the school visits at EDUFI</i></p> <p>Address: Hakaniemenranta 6, 00530 Helsinki</p>
14:30 – 15:30	<p><b>Expert session: Quality Assurance in Finnish Education</b></p> <p>by representative from the Finnish Education Evaluation Centre (FINEEC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr Harri Peltoniemi, Director of FINEEC</li> </ul> <p>Address: Hakaniemenranta 6, 00530 Helsinki</p> <p><i>(coffee/refreshment station available)</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	Q&A, discussions

19.00 – 21.00	Official dinner – Restaurant Meripaviljonki, Säästöpankinranta 3, Helsinki
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## DAY 3 - THURSDAY 19 September 2024

Time	Venue: Helsinki-Tallinn ferry and the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Estonia
06.20 - 06.45	Transfer by bus from hotel Radisson to the harbour and check-in & boarding
07:00 – 08:15	Breakfast onboard of the ferry from Helsinki to Tallinn
08:15 – 09:15	Thematic discussions and preparation for the visit to the Ministry (onboard of the ferry)
10:00 – 11:30	<b>Visit to the Ministry of Education and Research, a brief overview of the Estonian Education system and current topics</b>  Teachers in Estonian Education System – overview of major reforms of teaching profession at different levels of education – teachers policy agenda today and tomorrow
12:00 – 13:30	<b>Site visit to an educational institution</b> (State Gymnasium) in Tallinn – discussions with principals and teachers: <b>Pelgulinna State Gymnasium</b> ( <a href="http://www.perq.ee">www.perq.ee</a> )
13:30 – 14:30	Networking lunch at the Pelgulinna State Gymnasium
15:00 – 17:00	<b>Site visits to educational institutions in Tallinn</b> – discussions with principals and teachers  <b>Group 1:</b> Kindluse School (Roheluse tee 4, Rae vald): <a href="https://kindlusekool.ee/">https://kindlusekool.ee/</a> <b>Group 2:</b> Peetri School (Pargi tee 6, Rae vald): <a href="https://peetri.edu.ee/">https://peetri.edu.ee/</a> <b>Group 3:</b> School of Pedagogical Sciences of Tallinn University <a href="https://www.tlu.ee/en">https://www.tlu.ee/en</a>
17:00 – 18.30	Guided tour in Tallinn
18:45	Departure from Tallinn harbour – check-in and boarding
19:00 – 20.00 20:15 – 21:15	Dinner onboard of the ferry Conclusions, drawing lessons and take-aways from Day 3 on the ferry from Tallinn to Helsinki

## DAY 4 - FRIDAY 20 September 2024

Time	Venue: Trade Union of Education in Finland (OAJ)
09:00 – 10:30	<b>Expert Meeting: Teachers' Role and Perspective in Education Systems and Reforms</b>  Trade Union of Education in Finland (OAJ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Katarina Murto, president</li> <li>- Katariina Kattelus, I vice-president</li> <li>- Lauri Hietalahti, II vice-president</li> <li>- Anitta Pakanen, III vice-president</li> </ul> Teacher shortages, attractiveness of teaching profession, career development and working conditions of teachers at all levels of education, lessons learned
10.30 – 11:00	Coffee break  Address: Kellostila 7, (on pedestrian level), meeting room: Valopiha
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Results of the Online Survey and Key Data teachers - Main take-aways by country delegations</b>
12:30 – 13:00	<b>Conclusions and next steps</b>
13:00 – 14:15	Farewell Lunch at OAJ
14:30 – 16:00	Guided tour in Helsinki