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European Training Foundation

TORINO GLOBAL SKILLS SUMMIT 2026

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OGR, Torino: 23-25 NOVEMBER 2026

DRAFT AGENDA 23 November 2026

19:00–21:00	**Welcome dinner and networking** **Start-cup awards (OGR - Binario 3)** *dress code Cocktail attire*

DRAFT AGENDA 24 November 2026

09:00–09:30	**Welcome to our home in Torino (Fucine)** ***Pilvi Torsti**, Director, ETF* ***Stefano Lo Russo**, Mayor of Turin* ***Alberto Cirio**, President of the Piemonte Region* ***Christophe Perrin**, Director, ITCILO*
09:30–10:15	**Skills, Europe and global challenges** *Why skills matter for competitiveness, cooperation and resilience (Fucine)* ***Moderated by Pilvi Torsti*** ***Opening Remarks: EU Commissioner Roxana Minzatu – Video Message*** ***Interventions:*** ***Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca, former Prime Minister of Romania, CoR rapporteur for opinion on the European Skills Guarantee and Skills Portability* ***Muoria Esther Thaara**, Principal Secretary, State Department for Vocational Education and Training, Kenya* ***Shada Islam**, Journalist and Commentator* ***Armando Barucco**, Secretary General, European University Institute* ***Closing remarks: Mario Nava**, Director General, DG EMPL*

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10:15–11:00	*From near and far: international perspectives on skills (Fucine)* *Shared challenges and what is needed from international cooperation on skills* *Moderated by Cristina Mereuta, ETF* ***Inas Dahadha Attari**, Minister of Labour, Palestine* ***Kubatbek Narynbek uulu**, Deputy Minister of Science, Higher Education and Innovation, Kyrgyzstan* ***Driton Sulejmani**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Science, North Macedonia* ***Oleksandra Husak**, Director General, Ministry of Education and Science, Ukraine* ***Azat Atayev**, Vice Minister, Ministry of Education, Turkmenistan* ***Saleh Algoul,** Deputy Minister, Ministry of Higher Education, Libya*
11:00–11:15	**What it takes to make a difference (Fucine)** *ETF Director Pilvi Torsti in conversation with young ambassadors from across the regions and opening marketplace*
11:15–11:45	Coffee and networking
11:45–12:30	**Skilling me softly: connecting people, business and society (Fucine)** *Setting the scene for the discussions ahead: how skills connect individuals, business and societies* ***Moderated by Georgios Zisimos, ETF*** ***Sean Slade**, Global Education Advisor, Australia-USA* ***Vishal Talreja**, Co-founder, Dream a Dream, India* ***Christian Bodewig**, Director, World Bank Group* ***Vassilios Demetriades**, MINTRA Global Ambassador* ***Pavel Trantina**, European Economic and Social Committee* ***David Storer**, CLEPA, Automotive industry*
13:00–13:45	**Torino Student Plenum (Duomo)** *A hearing with youth participants*

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12:30–13:50	**Lunch and networking**
13:50–14:00	**What's next** Plenary session
14:00–15:30	**SKILLS FOR PEOPLE** *"Skills portability and migration in the Mediterranean and beyond: making learning visible, comparable and valued" (Binario 3)* ***Moderated by Sona Kalantaryan, ETF*** *DG MENA, European Commission (tbc)* ***Steven Engels**, Head of Unit, Professional Qualifications and Skills for Competitiveness, DG EMPL, European Commission* ***Alexander Studhoff**, Team Leader, Enquiries and International Advisory Services, Bundesinstitut für Berfusbildung, Germany* ***Yousef Al-Abdallat**, Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center, Jordan* ***Alaa K. Ashmawy**, President, National Authority for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Education, Egypt*
	SKILLS FOR BUSINESS *"Skills for a competitive Europe: innovation, SMEs and the green transition" (Fucine)* ***Moderated by Olena Bekh, ETF*** ***Daniel Isenberg**, Scale Up Ecosystems, USA* ***Hana Uraidi**, Senior Advisor to HRH Prince ElHassan for humanitarian affairs and refugees, Jordan* ***Mart Aro,** Entrepreneur, Dream Apply, Estonia* ***Mirlinda Kusari-Purrini**, Founder and CEO, SHE-ERA programmes, Kosovo* ***Maryna Popovic**, Handicraft Chamber of Ukraine* ***Radmil Polenakovikj**, Professor, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, North Macedonia*
	SKILLS FOR SOCIETY *"Trust, alignment, dialogue: building effective skills systems (Duomo)* ***Moderated by Matthias Themel & Siria Taurelli, ETF*** ***Laura Corrado**, DG EMPL (tbc)* ***Lidia Salvatore**, Expert, Cedefop* ***Andrew Bell**, OECD Centre for Skills* ***Mohammed Slassi**, Higher Council for Education, Training and Scientific Research, Morocco* ***Jelena Budimcevic**, Advisor, Employers Association, Serbia* ***Goran Spasovski**, CDVE, North Macedonia* ***Dafina Peci**, National Youth Congress, Albania*

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15:30–16:00	**Coffee and networking**
16:00-17:30	**SKILLS FOR PEOPLE** *"Inclusive skills in an enlarged and global Europe: advancing the employability of youth, women and persons with disabilities" (Binario 3)* ***Moderated by Piotr Stronkowski and Outi Karkkainen, ETF*** ***Chiara Adamo**, Acting Director, DG INTPA, European Commission* ***Hiba Abu-Libdeh**, CEO, Sinergy for Renewable Energy Solutions, Palestine* ***Patima Chongcharoentanawat**, Director, Strategic Studies and Research Division, National Economic and Development Council, Thailand* ***Ilaria Favero**, Chief of Adolescent Development and Participation, UNICEF* ***Konstantina Leventi**, Disability Support Europe* ***Gordana Vukčević**, Deputy Director, Employment Agency of Montenegro*
	SKILLS FOR BUSINESS *"Investing for impact: the role of financial institutions in skills development" (Fucine)* ***Moderated by Donatella di Vozzo & Nikola Radovanovic, ETF*** ***Ayako Inagaki**, Deputy Dir. General Sectors Group, Asian Development Bank* ***Gehad Amer**, Director of the Federation of Egyptian Industries, Egypt* ***Michaela Hauf**, Deputy Head of Unit, DG ENEST* ***Fulvio Capurso**, Head of Unit, DG MENA* ***Joyce Lyian**, Head of Division, European Investment Bank* ***Biljana Radonjic Ker-Lindsay**, Associate Director, European Bank of Reconstruction and Development* ***Angelo Cappetti**, Director, Unione Industriali Torino*

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16:00-17:30	**SKILLS FOR SOCIETY** *"Skills for peace, reconstruction and just transitions: developing human capital for resilient societies" (Duomo)* ***Moderated by Wouter Van Damme, Tamar Kitiashvili, Fabio Nascimbeni, ETF*** ***Elizabeth Ninan Dulvy**, Senior Education Specialist and Skills Policy & Regulations, World Bank Group* ***Rami Mehdawi**, Assistant Deputy Minister for Funding, International Cooperation and Labour Market Affairs | Ministry of Labour, Palestine* ***Ada Shima**, Labour Market Consultant Albania* ***Julia Dicum**, Director of Education, UNRWA* ***Iryna Shumik,** Director, General Directorate for Vocational Education and Training, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine* ***Sandra Brkanovic**, Director, ERI SEE*
19:30-22:30	**Skills and the city, networking event** **OGR – Sala Fucine** *Dress code Business casual*

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09:00-10:00	**Skills without borders: partnerships for shared prosperity** *How international partnerships on skills can turn shared priorities into local opportunities (Fucine)* ***Moderated by Thierry Foubert, ETF*** ***Sukti Dasgupta**, Director, Employment, Skills and Enterprise Department, ILO* ***Kassim Bouhou**, AFPA* ***Cristina Prandi**, Rector, University of Turin* ***Jean Van Wetter**, CEO, Enabel* ***Jane Cohen**, International Energy Agency*
10:00–11:30	**SKILLS FOR PEOPLE** *"Forever a learner: upskilling and reskilling in a changing world" (Binario 3)* ***Moderated by Lisa Rustico, ETF*** ***Mathieu Bousquet**, Director, DG ENEST, European Commission* ***Jasna Jovanovic**, Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation, Montenegro* ***Levan Kvatchadze**, DVV international* ***Tanja Kotevska**, Greenagro, North Macedonia* ***Adeel Tariq**, LUT University, Finland* ***Takhir Aslyaliyev,** Vice-president, Workforce Development Centre, Kazakhstan*
	SKILLS FOR BUSINESS *"Artificial intelligence, skills and institutions: managing systemic transformation" (Fucine)* ***Moderated by Jan Peter Ganter de Otero, ETF*** ***Yuhyun Park**, DQ institute, South Korea* ***Nicoletta Marchiandi** Quatraro, Torino Chamber of Commerce* ***Roksolana Shvadchak**, Ministry of Education, Ukraine* ***Charalambos Vrasidas**, Director, Advancement of Research and Development in Education Technology, Cyprus* ***Mustafa Canli**, Director General of Innovation Technologies, Ministry of National Education, Türkiye*
11:30-12:00	Coffee and networking

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10:00–11:30	**SKILLS FOR SOCIETY** *"Skills in a global education perspective: needs, gaps and opportunities" (Duomo)* ***Moderated by Marie Dorleans, ETF*** ***Savino Rua,*** *DG Education and Culture, European Commission* ***Andrew Bell,*** *Head of Skills Strategies, OECD* ***Galina Rusu,*** *Secretary General, Ministry of Education and Research, Republic of Moldova* ***Brendan Senior,*** *Head of Education, Training and Work placement Department, IECD* ***Villano Qiriazi,*** *Head of the Education Department, Council of Europe* ***Ramon Irarte,*** *Senior Education Program Specialist, UNESCO*
11:30-12:00	**Coffee and networking**
12:00-12:30	**Shared interests, shared opportunities** *Wrapping up the Summit sessions: how partnerships for skills can help address common challenges within the EU and beyond (Fucine)* ***Moderated by Massimo Gaudina, ETF*** ***Joao Costa****, former Minister of Education, Portugal* ***Adele Bergin****, Researcher, ESRI, Ireland*
12:30-13:00	**Closing session** **Beyond Torino: taking the conversation forward and ETF Green Skills Awards (Fucine)** ***Moderated by Pilvi Torsti and Mario Nava***
13:00–14:00	**Lunch and networking**

SIDE EVENTS 23 November 2026

TORINO GLOBAL SKILLS SUMMIT 2026

09:00-16:30	**Strengthening Human Capital Development Governance: The GLAD Network's journey** *A meeting of the ETF's GLAD (Governance Learning, Action and Dialogues) Network.* See full event details and agenda
09.30-17.00	**UNIMED Start Cup competition** *Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean: 16 student teams pitch their innovative ideas to an international jury from the ETF, ITCILO and the private sector.* See full event details and agenda
15:00-18:00	**Back to basics: Building the foundations for the future of skills** **Session 1: Critical Thinking in the Age of AI and media literacy challenges** ***Valeria Kovtun**, Founder, Resilience Lab Cognitive Security & Defence, Ukraine* ***Paula Gori**, General Manager, European Digital Media Observatory, European University Institute* ***Adeline Hulin**, Chief of Unit MIL and digital competencies, UNESCO Communication and Information Sector* **Session 2: Innovation Starts with the Basics** ***Andrew Penaluna**, Director, National Centre for Entrepreneurship in Education* ***Radmil Polenakovikj**, Director of the Business Start-up Centre, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Skopje, North Macedonia* ***Daniel Funeriu**, Former Minister of Education of Romania* **Session 3: From policy to feed: Making education reform matter to young people** ***Azra Mehmedovic**, Young European Ambassador, Bosnia and Herzegovina* ***Norayr Stepanyan**, Young European Ambassador, Armenia* ***Amr Ramadan**, EU Jeel Connector, Egypt; Founder and CEO of Empower Hub* ***Mohammed Khaled Alnaas**, EU Jeel Connector, Videomaker, Libya* ***Fatima Zahra El Maliani**, Young Ambassador, ETF Trainee, Italy*

SIDE EVENTS 23 November 2026

14:00-16:30	**Science and skills diplomacy, a joint event with the University of Torino and the European University Institute** A look at how science, skills and higher education can build trusted cooperation between Europe, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and the rest of Africa. See full event details and agenda A closed-door roundtable discussion under Chatham House rule.

SIDE EVENTS 24 November 2026

18:00-20:00	**Torino Lifelong Learning City: Let's Build the Action Plan Together** A workshop organised by the City of Torino with the ETF, ITCILO, Links Foundation and key local stakeholders to draw up the action plan Torino will adopt as a UNESCO Learning City. See full side event details The working language will be Italian.

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14:30-16:00	**African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF): Delivering the new skills agenda for transformation and jobs** A high-level dialogue with the ETF, the African Union Commission and the ACQF Network. ***Alice Wairimu Kande**, Director General, Kenya National Qualifications Authority* *Stanley Kiptis, Chair, Kenya National Qualifications Authority* ***Hervé Kisula**, Executive Vice President, Club BTP&CMA* ***Désiré Mbay Mukoj**, Director General, Société Congolaise pour le Traitement du Terril de Lubumbashi* ***Esther Thaara Muoria**, Principal Secretary, State Department for Technical, Vocational Education and Training, Kenya* ***Mercy M. Ngoma**, Director General, Zambia Qualifications Authority* ***Jean Van Wetter**, CEO, Enabel* ***Eva Vyncke**, Team Lead Port Labour, Port of Antwerp-Bruges* See full event details and agenda
14:30-16:30	**High level roundtable: Skills Integration in Investment Operations** Presentation of the Joint Orientation Note on Skills Integration in Investment Operations. ***Chiara Adamo**, Acting Director, Human Development, Migration, Governance and Peace, DG INTPA* ***Chrisian Bodewig**, Director Education and Skills, World Bank Group* ***Mathieu Bousquet**, Director for Enlargement, Coordination, Strategy and Investments, DG ENEST* ***Hendrina Chalwe Doroba**, Manager for Education and Skills Development, AfDB* ***Tanja Faller**, Director of Technical Assessment and Monitoring, CEB* ***Julian Frede**, Co-founder and Managing Partner, evolutiq Impact Advisory* ***Francisco Gaztelu Mezquiriz**, Director, DG MENA* ***Ayako Inagaki**, Deputing Director General, Sectors Department 3, ADB* ***Joyce Liyan**, Head of Division, EIB* ***Mario Nava**, Director-General, DG-EMPL* ***Biljana Radonjic Ker-Lindsey**, Associate Director, Head of Access to Skills and Employment, EBRD* See full event details and agenda

SIDE EVENTS 26 November 2026

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09:00-13:00	ETF Governing Board meeting