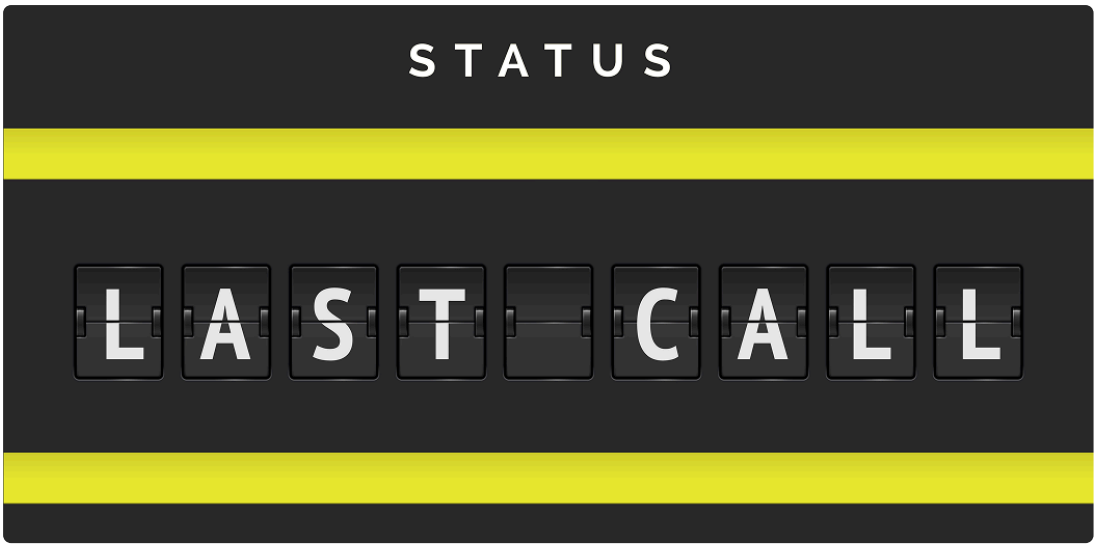
ROAD TO TORINO

Issue 05 | Last call for the Torino Global Skills Summit



01
BEYOND THE SUMMIT STAGE

In just a few days, participants from across Europe and beyond will gather for the Torino Global Skills Summit 2026. Over the past months, we have explored the ideas and priorities shaping the Summit's three tracks. But beyond the programme itself, a wider community of partners, institutions, networks and initiatives has also been helping to shape the conversation.

Across Europe, the Mediterranean, Africa and the Eastern Partnership region, these initiatives are exploring how skills can support economic transformation, democratic participation, mobility, innovation and social cohesion. Many of these conversations will come together in Turin.

This edition of the newsletter looks at some of the partnerships, dialogues and initiatives contributing to the discussions that will continue in the Summit.

02
GOVERNANCE, PARTNERSHIPS AND LOCAL ACTION

Effective skills policies depend on cooperation.

The Governance Learning, Action and Dialogues (GLAD) network supports

reforms in vocational education and training, lifelong learning and employment policies by connecting governments, social partners, business organisations, civil society and practitioners committed to mutual learning and policy dialogue.

As part of the Summit, GLAD participants will examine how skills policies contribute to local value creation, social cohesion, democratic resilience, recovery and reconstruction. Discussions will also explore the role of partnerships and local alliances through initiatives such as the "Education City" concept.

03
BACK TO BASICS

While much of the discussion on skills revolves around technology and the jobs of the future, we need to ask ourselves what capabilities will people need to navigate change in their daily lives.

Organised within the framework of the Supporting Education and Reforms for Skills (SER) programme, the Back-to-Basics pre-Summit event explores foundational skills such as critical thinking, creativity, curiosity, media literacy and innovation. Participants will discuss how these capabilities help individuals navigate artificial intelligence, information overload and rapid social change.

The event reinforces that technological transformation depends on the convergence of technical skills and the human capabilities that underpin lifelong learning, adaptability and innovation.

04
GIVING YOUNG PEOPLE A VOICE

Young people are both the beneficiaries of skills policies and crucial contributors to the debate.

Through initiatives such as Your Skills, Your Voice – Youth Lab on the Future of Skills, the Young European Ambassadors network and the PLENUM dialogue, young people will engage directly with policymakers, ETF experts and institutional leaders to discuss future skills, education reform and the challenges shaping younger generations.

The PLENUM session creates a space for dialogue between youth representatives and decision-makers in a structured dialogue designed to promote participation, mutual learning and collective problem-solving. Inspired

by deliberative approaches to democratic engagement, participants will discuss future challenges and identify priorities together.

These initiatives reflect the Summit's commitment to ensuring that conversations about the future include those who will live and work in it.

05
SKILLS, INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The conversation on skills increasingly extends beyond education and labour policies.

International financial institutions, development partners and regional organisations are exploring how skills influence investment performance, competitiveness and long-term economic transformation.

One example is the dialogue From Investment to African Capabilities, organised with the African Union Commission and the African Continental Qualifications Framework (ACQF) Network. The discussion will examine how Africa-Europe cooperation, regional integration and strategic investment can support workforce transformation, mobility, competitive value chains and quality jobs.

The dialogue highlights how sustainable investment goes beyond infrastructure and financing, requiring capable people, strong institutions and effective qualifications systems.



06
INNOVATION BEGINS WITH PEOPLE

Innovation is also taking place outside conference rooms.

The UNIMED Start Cup Competition – Entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean will welcome university students from across the Mediterranean region to present entrepreneurial ideas developed through cross-border cooperation. Hosted within the framework of the Summit, the competition aims to strengthen entrepreneurship, employability and local development while encouraging cooperation between universities and institutions across the region.

The initiative demonstrates how skills, innovation and entrepreneurship can create opportunities far beyond policy frameworks alone.

07
THREE LESSONS WE ARE LEARNING ON THE WAY

Skills conversations happen across many communities
From governments and social partners to universities, development banks, youth organisations and local actors, a broad range of stakeholders are contributing to the Summit.

Partnership matters
Whether supporting governance reforms, entrepreneurship, mobility or investment, effective collaboration remains a recurring theme across the Summit ecosystem.

Skills connect local action and global challenges
From Turin to the Mediterranean, Africa and the Eastern Partnership, the initiatives surrounding the Summit demonstrate how skills contribute to economic transformation, social cohesion and sustainable development.

08
GET ON BOARD AND SEE YOU IN TURIN!

Over the past months, the Road to Torino series has explored the ideas, partnerships and initiatives shaping the Torino Global Skills Summit 2026. The conversation now moves from preparation to action.

Visit our Torino Global Skills Summit webpage to keep updated and find all necessary information about this event.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Torino Global Skills Summit 2026
23-25 November 2026
Turin, Italy

Skills for People • Skills for Business • Skills for Society
Participation by invitation.
#TSS26 | #GlobalSkillsLocalDevelopment | #MySkillsMyImpact

Find out more:
https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/torino-global-skills-summit-2026

European Training Foundation
Viale Settimio Severo 65, 10133 Torino

TORINO GLOBAL SKILLS SUMMIT 2026

EUROPEAN SKILLS & VET WEEK 2026