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Session ‘Access to Archives of International Organisations’

“Old roots for new routes”
The role of Cedefop’s archives in preserving and valorising institutional memory

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The role of Cedefop’s archives: What is recorded? How is it used?

Main points:
1. The archives of Cedefop
2. Understand the field: where are we coming from?
3. Show case of social dialogue at EU level: a laboratory
4. Documenting the role of social partners: a unique place for social dialogue
5. History showcase
6. Conclusions
1. The archives of Cedefop: short history

- 1975-1995: Cedefop in Berlin, no archives
  - Role of the Head of Administration
  - Some good practices, e.g. MB, Bureau on MF
- 1995: move from Berlin to Thessaloniki (AFS), boxes not staff!
- 1999: new building and archives service
  - Personal initiative & interest
  - Role of HAEU
- 2000: setting up archives
  - archives policy
  - deposit agreement with EUI
- 2004: first deposit of Cedefop historical archives
- 2008: new archives room for all Cedefop’s outputs
The role of Cedefop’s archives

➢ Writing VET history


❖ The purpose was to promote a better understanding of present-day vocational education and training by pointing to the historical development at national and international levels as well as at the influence of VET on European integration.

➢ VET models in Europe

❖ Understand the past to predict the future (e.g. Dual system, apprenticeships)

➢ Show case of social dialogue at EU level

❖ Quadripartite Management/Governing Board comprising social partners

❖ Documenting the role of social partners

➢ Institutional memory

❖ Centralised archives & records bank

❖ 2015: 40 years exhibition, conference, publication by Archives service
Towards a history of vocational education and training (VET) in Europe in a comparative perspective

Proceedings of the first international conference
October 2002, Florence

Volume II
The development of VET in the context of the construction of the EC/EU and the role of Cedefop

Lorenzo Mechi: Vocational training from the birth of the ECSC to the early years of the EEC.


Elena Dundovich: The Economic and Social Committee’s contribution to establishing a vocational training policy 1960-75.

Maria Eleonora Guasconi: The European trade unions and Cedefop: an analysis of labour’s approach to vocational education and training in the 1970s.

Georges Saumier: The place of vocational training in François Mitterrand’s idea of a European social space (1981-84).

Vincenzo Romano: Historical review of the social partners’ contribution to developing vocational training in Europe.

Antonio Varsori: Vocational education and training in European social policy from its origins to the creation of Cedefop.

Laura Leonardi: The role of vocational education and training and Cedefop in EC/EU social policy.
2. Understand European vocational training: a challenge from the 50s and the initiative of the European Economic and Social Committee

Sources: all materials collected for the VET-History project

- 50’ ECSC: restructuring of 2 key sectors after WW2
- Part dedicated to workers and re-training
- 60’ Commission initiative to launch a proposal for a common policy of vocational training
- ‘resistance’ of the Members States
- Social partners in the European Economic and Social Committee take the lead for the creation of an European Institute for vocational training
- 1975: creation of Cedefop with seat in (West) Berlin
First steps


Sowjet-Drohung gegen Errichtung eines EG-Zentrums in Berlin


Europa an der Spree

Gromyko äußert sich kritisch über das geplante EG-Institut in Berlin.

"Noch keine feste Meinung zum EG-Zentrum in Berlin" Eine Erklärung Falins.

Bonn (dpa), der sowjetische Botschafter in Bonn gestern im WDR erklärte, die sowjetischen Forderungen sind bereit, die geplante niederländische Regierung habe sich bis jetzt noch keine endgültige Meinung über die geplante Errichtung eines EG-Instituts für Berufsbildung in Berlin geäußert.

Entscheidung des Europäischen Rates um Berlin

Keine Rückendeckung für Berlin.
3. Show case of EU social dialogue: a quadripartite Management/Governing Board comprising social partners

**Sources:** MF of 1976-1990 Management Board meetings, correspondence

- Cedefop: a European laboratory of social dialogue
- first Community organisation of its type in which employers’ and employees’ representatives enjoyed an absolute majority and hence greater responsibility all of which was in keeping with the political guidelines laid down by the Council resolution of 21st January 1974 concerning a social action programme (minutes of 1st MB meeting 23-24 Oct 1975 in Berlin)
- Composition of Cedefop Governing Board (3 + 2 groups) and nomination
- Roles and responsibilities of the groups & Bureau
- Recognition of the SP for the development of vocational training policies at national, regional, local, sectoral levels
- Selection of directors: R. Faist (CFDT), E. Piehl (ETUC), J. van Rens (EESC)
3. Documenting the role of social partners in Cedefop MB/GB:

**Sources:** Annual & progress reports, minutes of GB meetings, correspondence

- Taking account that Cedefop was the first EU organisation set up to put in place a social dialogue at European level, the role of the GB as a quadripartite body is particularly ‘visible’ in setting up the work programme since 1976

- AR 91 - MB presented as example of effective dialogue
- AR 96 - MB looks at needs of social partners
- AR 00 - new priorities approved by MB - competences, lifelong learning etc.
- AR 09 - role GB members in fostering partnerships with stakeholders
- As members of the Governing Board, social partners influence Cedefop’s work programme and medium-term priorities. They help ensure that the focus of activities is well aligned with the policy needs of their constituencies.
Themes of the work programme inspired by social partners

Sources: work programmes, minutes of Bureau meetings, written questions

- 1978: Migrants, women and youth:
  - Vocational training aspects in relation to equal opportunities for women
  - Vocational training aspects in relation to improved opportunities for migrant workers
  - Youth Unemployment in relation to vocational training and transition from school to working life

- 1980: Consequences of technological development for vocational training
  - Provide social partners with a means of analysing the effects of technological development on job contents
  - Financing of vocational training

- 1983: Social and vocational integration of young people
- 1985: The professional profile of the equal opportunities counsellor, Socio-occupational integration
- 1987: The role of the social partners in initial and continuing vocational training
- 1988: Training and employment of disabled persons
- 1989: The role of vocational training as a factor of integration for disadvantaged population groups
- 1999: Needs and problems of mobility in Europe
- 2000: Supporting social dialogue and social partner training organisations
- 2009: Working and learning of older workers
- 2016: Labour market integration of migrants
CEDEFOP

WORK PROGRAMME 1978

approved by the
Management Board
(18 January 1978)

How to proceed?

Continuing Education
Training the Trainers

Youth
Women
Migrants

What can be done for the vulnerable groups in order to prevent them from becoming outsiders?

Immediate measures
4. History Showcase

- 40 years exhibition:
  - Justify and raise awareness of the existence of the institution
  - Engage staff, make aware of future historical value of their current work
  - Explain the difference (common event with Eurofound)
  - Mixture of panels, documents, texts and artefacts
INAUGURATION DURING THE COLD WAR 1977

Along with other initiatives, a decision was made in the Cold War to launch a project to create a European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training. The purpose was to demonstrate that a European policy for vocational training could be implemented and managed by member states without the interference of the Western Allies or the Soviet Union. The headquarters of the Centre in Brussels, capital of the then West Germany and the European Community, was already in place by 1977. The Centre aimed to develop and implement training programmes for the second workforce. The Centre played a central role in the European training framework.
5. Conclusions

- Study the (particular and original role) of agencies in the European construction
- Cedefop archives: digital and open access, to be part of the institutional Open Access policy
- Public documents VS data protection: transparency of public debate
- Governing Board: leading role of the social partners in order to reflect the challenges and changes of the European society
- Learning from the past: understand the lessons & predict the future
- Adapt for future needs
Vocational training of young migrants in Belgium

This study was undertaken jointly by the Working Group on Migration and Inter-Ethnic Relations (Group d'Etudes des Migrations et des Relations Interethniques - Université Catholique de Louvain) Project coordinator: Hélène Guerre.

This is the second study to be undertaken as part of a project on "THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF YOUNG MIGRANTS IN BELGIUM, FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM, DENMARK AND LUXEMBOURG".

It includes the latest and most relevant documentation and statistical data on this subject.

This study which looks at the overall situation of the immigrant population, and young immigrants in particular, analyses such problem areas as the transition from school to working life and the inadequacies of initial training with relation to the vocational training needs and labour market situation.