



EARLY SCHOOL LEAVING

SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

Final conference of the project
**Improving Employment Opportunities in the Labour Market for Marginalised
Communities**

Wrocław
June 2013



Obszar/kraj	2010	2011	2012	TARGET
EU (27 countries)	14	13,5	12,8	10
Belgium	11,9	12,3	12	9,5
Bulgaria	13,9	11,8	12,5	11
Czech Republic	4,9	4,9	5,5	5,5
Denmark	11	9,6	9,1	9,9
Germany	11,9	11,7	10,5	9,9
Estonia	11,6	10,9	10,5	9,5
Ireland	11,5	10,8	9,7	8
Greece	13,7	13,1	11,4	9,7
Spain	28,4	26,5	24,9	15
France	12,6	12	11,6	9,5
Italy	18,8	18,2	17,6	15
Cyprus	12,7	11,3	11,4	10
Latvia	13,3	11,6	10,5	13,4
Lithuania	8,1	7,2	6,5	8,9
Luxembourg	7,1	6,2	8,1	9,9
Hungary	10,5	11,2	11,5	10
Malta	24,8	23,6	22,6	29
Netherlands	10	9,1	8,8	7,9
Austria	8,3	8,3	7,6	9,5
Poland	5,4	5,6	5,7	4,5
Portugal	28,7	23,2	20,8	10
Romania	18,4	17,5	17,4	11,3
Slovenia	5	4,2	4,4	5
Slovakia	4,7	5	5,3	6
Finland	10,3	9,8	8,9	8
Sweden	6,5	6,6	7,5	9,9
United Kingdom	14,9	15	13,5	:
Iceland	22,6	19,7	20,1	:
Norway	17,4	16,6	14,8	:
Switzerland	6,6	6,3	5,5	:
Croatia	3,7	4,1	4,2	:
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the	15,5	13,5	11,7	:
Turkey	43,1	41,9	39,6	:

Approach to the definition of ESL

Turkish

- Clear, comprehensive and comparable definitions do not exist in the international arena relating to school leaving. Differences in definitions focus on how long and why the student remains separate from the system, what ages and grade levels he/she leaves school.

Irish

- The legal definition of early school leaving refers to non-participation in school before reaching the age of 16 years or before completing 3 years post-primary education, whichever is later.

Approach to the definition of ESL

Czech

- These are persons aged 18 to 24 years with the highest level of education corresponding to ISCED 0, 1, 2 or 3c maximum attained secondary education (without GCSE), **which are further educated**

Polish

- Children and youth not being subject to compulsory schooling in respect of primary and lower secondary schools, and more specifically:
 - 1) 'natural' ESL - caused mostly by fatal accidents or serious injury
 - 2) 'the seeming' ESL - caused by constant or long periods of time trips (students may return to the Polish or new place of residence education system)
 - 3) 'proper' ESL - those students who discard education system at a primary school class VI or class III high school for other than the reasons above.

Definition of the EU

- Early leaver from education and training, previously named early school leaver, generally refers to a person aged 18 to 24 who has finished no more than a lower secondary education and is not involved in further education or training; their number can be expressed as a percentage of the total population aged 18 to 24.

The most common causes of early leaving (min in three of the reports):

- Difficult financial situation – CZ, PL, IE
- Early Pregnancy – CZ, PL, IE
- Causes of health – CZ, PL, IE, TR
- Disability – CZ, PL, IE, TR

Common causes of early leaving (min in two of the reports):

- Dysfunctional family (pathology in the family, violence against children) – CZ, PL
- Learning difficulties, school failure, children less capable, lack of knowledge – PL, IE
- Neglect of parents (parents did not complete the child care) – CZ, PL
- The evil influence of informal groups (subcultures, friends, bad company) – CZ, PL
- Emigration, different cultural patterns of other nations, minority status, fear of assimilation – PL, IE
- Lack of positive role models in family, parental low education level – PL, IE
- Undertaking the work by the students, desire of earning, access to employment – CZ, PL
- Repeat classes – PL, IE
- Transfer to another school, Move or change schools frequently – CZ, IE
- Disciplinary problems, absence – CZ, IE
- Far away to school, the problem of commuting – CZ, PL

Singly specified causes of early leaving

(shown in one of the reports):

- Addiction (general) – *PL*
- Child care for siblings, family help – *PL*
- Misfortune – *PL*
- Inappropriate choice, refocusing – *CZ*
- Low self-esteem or self-efficacy – *IE*
- Primary language other than English – *IE*
- Attend school in large cities – *IE*
- Family households where father is unemployed – *PL*
- Move or change schools frequently – *IE*
- Loss of identity – becoming more like settled and losing their Traveller identity – *IE*
- Early marriage – *IE*
- Behaviour issues of some Travellers and inability of schools/parents to engage with and deal with issues – *IE*
- Hiding identity – *IE*
- Feuding an issue for some – *IE*

Singly specified causes of early leaving (shown in one of the reports):c.d.:

- Low level of aspiration, loss of faith in the sense of learning, devalue education – *PL*
- Parents awkwardness of living – *PL*
- Drug abuse – *PL*
- Parental alcoholism – *PL*
- Lack of specialist care – *PL*
- Conflicts with peers, lack of acceptance by the group – *PL*
- The collapse of authority, a new lifestyle, consumerism, bad models in the media – *PL*
- Parental unemployment – *PL*
- Escape from home – *PL*
- Fear of school – *PL*
- To join the sect – *PL*
- Lack of cooperation between parents and school – *PL*
- Alcoholism of juvenile – *PL*
- Juvenile delinquency, going down the wrong road, collisions with the law – *PL*
- Dislike of school and learning – *PL*
- Students' personality disorder – *PL*

Personal consequences

- Young people that leave school early are more likely to be unemployed as those that complete their education.
- They are more likely to be in blue collar jobs with less employment security and more parttime work.
- Pregnancy, crime, violence, alcohol and drug abuse, and suicide have been found to be significantly higher among early school leavers. Most of these issues are also found to be causes of early school leaving.
- Early school leavers are more likely than other citizens draw on welfare and other social programs throughout their lives.
- Early school leavers have a shorter life expectancy.
- They are less likely to be 'active citizens'.
- ESL is associated with a much lower propensity to become involved in lifelong learning.

Social consequences

- Forgone national income.
- Forgone tax revenues for the support of government services
- Increased demand for social services.
- Increased crime.
- Reduced political participation.
- Reduced intergenerational mobility and poorer levels of health.

Solutions collected from the reports:

- Increasing the motivation of unemployed young people
- Retraining courses
- Creating new jobs for youth groups
- Counseling
- Trainee places
- Community service
- Schools for adults
- Special schools, including schools that prepare their students to employment for disabled and young people vulnerable to social maladjustment
- Out-of-school establishments for continuing education of adults
- Education in the form of vocational training provided by the employer
- Institutions offering multirange and integrated forms of services
- Policies and programmes for young people

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