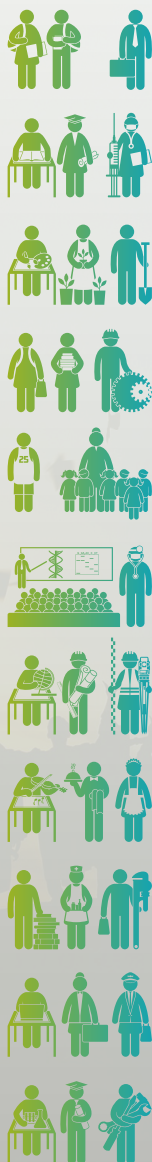


ABOUT THE PROJECT

EDU-LAB is a three-year Horizon Europe project (2025–2027; Grant Agreement #101177428) that examines how young people (15–30) move through education and training into employment across Europe. The consortium brings together 11 partners from 9 countries (including the UK and Kosovo) and works with stakeholders at every level. The project focuses on four main strands of research:

- Modelling pathways and transitions (WP1): Mapping how young people progress through education into the labour market, and identifying the personal and social factors that shape these journeys.
- Assessing policies and investments (WP2): Evaluating how policies and funding influence equity, inclusion, participation, and completion, and how efficiently they achieve results.
- Quantitative analysis and expert survey (WP3): Combining large-scale data with the OSES Delphi survey of policymakers, educators, employers, youth organisations, and other stakeholders to assess current systems and future challenges.
- Listening to young people (WP4): Running case studies in 12 regions across 7 countries, using focus groups, workshops, and diaries to capture youth experiences directly.

Findings are brought together in policy recommendations (WP5) to guide decision-makers. Together, these activities aim to reduce early school leaving, raise attainment, expand work-based learning, and create fairer opportunities for young people across Europe.



THE CONSORTIUM

Economica Institute of Economic Research

Project Coordinator

Austria

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Greece

CeiED at Lusófona University, Lisbon and Porto

Portugal

Evaluation Agency Baden-Württemberg

Germany

Otto-Friedrich University of Bamberg

Germany

AlmaLaurea Interuniversity Consortium

Italy

Kolegji AAB

Kosovo

Birmingham City University

United Kingdom

Maria Grzegorzewska University, Warsaw

Poland

University of Graz

Austria

Tampere University

Finland



Economica Institute of
Economic Research
Austria



National and Kapodistrian
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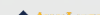
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Kolegji AAB
Kosovo



Birmingham City
University
UK



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University, Warsaw
Poland



University of Graz
Austria



Tampere University
Finland

EDU LAB RESEARCH AGENDA

EDU-LAB explores how social, economic, and institutional factors shape the choices and opportunities of young people as they move from education into work. The project asks:

- What are the typical and less common pathways through education, training, and employment?
- Which personal factors (such as gender, background, or migration status) and institutional systems (like schools, labour markets, or public services) influence these transitions?
- How effective are current policies, investments, and support measures in making these pathways more inclusive and resilient?

By combining comparative research, data analysis, expert perspectives, and youth-led studies, EDU-LAB delivers new evidence and models to inform more effective education and employment systems across Europe.

A Horizon Europe collaborative project
Grant Agreement # 101177428
Project Duration: 2025-2027



Funded by
the European Union

edu-lab-project.eu



EDU LAB

European Youth in Transition to
Education and Labour

RESEARCH TEAM LEADERS



EDU-LAB Kick-off event
Vienna, February 2025

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Prof. Petri Nokelainen
Tampere University (TAU)

Prof. Natalia Waechter
University of Graz (UNI Graz)

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Follow the EDU-LAB project to stay updated on the latest research, results, and events as we explore youth transitions across Europe



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CASE STUDIES



Twelve detailed qualitative case studies will be implemented in seven project countries using the research approach and design described in WP3 and WP4. The seven countries involved in the case studies are illustrative of the diversity that characterizes Europe concerning three key contextual dimensions that influence young people's pathways and transitions in education and training and from education and training to the labour market: welfare regimes, the structure and organization of E&T systems and their linkages to the labour market, and the level of regulation of the labour market.

The twelve locations in these seven countries were selected based on criteria allowing the identification of cases exemplifying relevant features of the national context, such as diversity of education and training offer, more/less affluent areas in urban, suburban or rural areas, high/low rates of early school leaving or youth not in education employment or training, high/low rates of youth unemployment.

Finland: Tampere and Helsinki region
Case studies 1-2

UK: Birmingham and Worcestershire
Case studies 3-4

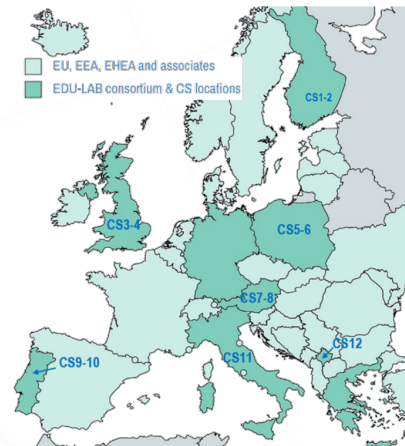
Poland: Warsaw and Łódź
Case studies 5-6

Austria: Vienna and Graz region
Case studies 7-8

Portugal: Porto and Santarém
Case studies 9-10

Kosovo: Pristina region
Case study 11

Italy: Bologna region
Case study 12



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*Youth in education and labour transitions:
Knowing what you do and doing what you know*