

EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

PLEDGE

SINDEP, National and Democratic Teachers Trade Union, Portugal: Mr João Rios, General-Secretary

Description

SINDEP represents all grades of education, public and private, including VET teachers, trainers and educational support staff in Portugal. SINDEP is the only national Education Trade Union affiliated to UGT (The Portuguese National Confederation of Workers), a member of ETUCE (European Trade Union Committee for Education) and IE (International Education).

SINDEP fully supports the objectives of the European Alliance for Apprenticeship. We are also supporting ETUC and ETUCE actions to improve work-based learning of VET students.

Actions carried out

In line with the objectives of the European Alliance for Apprenticeship , SINDEP will work on:

- to promote the European Alliance for Apprenticeship and raise awareness among policy makers, companies, VET providers and VET schools and above all among the VET teachers and trainers about the importance of work-based learning;
 - to advocate the necessity to provide all VET students with the possibility of practical learning in companies which should lead to employment;
 - to improve dialogue with the Ministry of Education and Economy on work-based learning;
 - to initiate dialogue with companies about work-based learning;
 - to improve quality of teaching and training in VET, apprenticeship and work-based learning;
 - to demand from the Ministry of Education and Science initial and continuous professional training of VET teachers in order to improve the qualifications of VET teachers that must be at a high level;
 - to demand from the Ministry equipped classrooms with good working conditions providing them with suitable, update technological devices;
 - to provide time for discussion among teachers, trainers, students and families in VET schools to ensure that the students receive clear guidance and correct information about courses for present and further studies and levels of employability;
-

SINDEP will advocate and cooperate on the following:

- Initiate a dialogue with society focusing attention on parents and families to raise awareness about the need of young people to be qualified. Also, be conscious about the values (respect, responsibility, discipline) learnt at school and in an apprenticeship;
- Motivate companies, especially small and medium size enterprises, to establish permanent contact with VET schools in their region in order to provide work-based learning places for the students;
- Find possibilities to set up a sustainable cost-sharing system to finance work-based learning;

Added value

- Improving quality of the VET system and establishing more work-based learning places in Portugal.
- Increasing partnership and cooperative work among national actors to implement the initiative.
- Improving employability of VET students.
- Raising awareness and campaign for the provision of well funded, well resourced quality work-based learning.

Partners

Portuguese workers, students, parents, teachers, VET teachers and trainers, employers, companies, ministries, regional and local authorities and wider stakeholders.

The European Alliance for Apprenticeships is a multi-stakeholder initiative steered by the European Commission. The originator of the pledge is solely responsible for implementing the actions outlined in the pledge and commits to report back on the implementation of the commitments at the end of 2013, and to announce the follow up in 2014 and beyond Website: ec.europa.eu/apprenticeships-alliance Email: eafa@ec.europa.eu