



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Ministry of Science
and Education



Teachers
and Trainers
for the Future

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INVITATION

Presidency Video Conference

Teachers and Trainers for the Future: Towards the 'New Normal'

29 June 2020

On behalf of Croatia's Presidency of the Council of the European Union, it is my pleasure to invite you to the **Presidency Video Conference *Teachers and Trainers for the Future: Towards the 'New Normal'***, to be held on 29 June 2020.

The Presidency video conference builds upon the Council's work on the Conclusions on European Teachers and Trainers for the Future and the Conclusions on Countering the COVID-19 Crisis in Education and Training, during Croatia's Presidency.

Teachers and trainers, in all sectors and at all levels of education and training, are indispensable carriers of all the developments in education and training, as well as an essential driving force for countering the crisis in education and training. They have a crucial role in assuring that individuals of all backgrounds and ages have access to quality education and necessary support in completing their degrees, so that they can live, learn and work in the world of today, as well as create and lead changes in the future. Moreover, European teachers and trainers, being the cornerstones of the European Education Area, have a central role to play in promoting the European dimension of learning and teaching, supporting learners in understanding and experiencing the sense of European identity and belonging.

In the context of constant social, cultural, economic, scientific and technological developments, and in particular taking into account the extraordinary and challenging circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, demands, responsibilities and expectations put before teachers and trainers are increasing. Continuous novelties, as well as unprecedented challenges, have an effect not only on the competences required, but also on teachers' and trainers' well-being and the attractiveness of the teaching profession.

The Presidency video conference is open to experts and policy makers, members of European stakeholder organisations and consultative bodies, as well as teachers and trainers themselves.

The program will start at 9 AM (CET) with welcome addresses followed by keynote speeches, a ministerial panel and thematic sessions covering topics related to European teachers and trainers at all levels of education and training, and it will finish at 5 PM (CET). The keynote speakers will present their views on the most prominent challenges that teachers and trainers are facing, including in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, as well as their visions of the possible future development of the after-crisis 'new normal', whereas the ministers of education taking part in the panel will share their views on how the crisis can stimulate innovation. Participants will have an opportunity to listen to the interventions and debates, as well as to send comments or questions during the video conference.

More information on the pre-conference and the conference programme can be found on the conference website: <https://hrpresedu.eu/>.

You are kindly invited to register online, via the following link: <https://bit.ly/36zxM79> no later than 23 June 2020. For all questions, please contact the organisation team via the following email address: HRPRESEDU2020@mzo.hr.

We look forward to welcoming you to the conference.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Blaženka Divjak, PhD

Minister of Science and Education





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8:30 – 9:00	Introduction of participants to the virtual platform
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome by the Presidency, prof. Blaženka Divjak, PhD, Minister of Science and Education, Republic of Croatia Welcome speech by Maria Gabriel, Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
9:30 – 10:00	<i>Teachers in the times of COVID-19</i> , Andreas Schleicher (tbc), OECD
10:00 – 10:30	Keynote speaker, Pasi Sahlberg, expert
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 12:00	Introduction: prof. Blaženka Divjak, PhD, Minister of Science and Education, Republic of Croatia <i>How can the crisis stimulate innovation?</i> Ministerial panel building on the Council Conclusions on the European Teachers and Trainers for the Future and the Council Conclusions on Countering the COVID-19 Crisis in Education and Training Moderator: Lidija Kralj, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Science and Education, Croatia
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break
13:00 – 14:00	Thematic Session 1 – <i>Pedagogy in virtual environment</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Thematic Session 2 – <i>Evolving roles of teachers and trainers in VET and AL</i>
15:00 – 16:00	Thematic Session 3 – <i>University teachers in contemporary teaching and learning</i>
16:00 – 16:15	Break
16:15 – 16:30	Fostering the wellbeing of teachers and trainers
16:30 – 17:00	Reports from the Thematic Sessions, HR PRES
17:00	End of the Conference