

Forum on Vocational Excellence 2026

Dual Education and Training for Competitive Regions

Monday, 7 September, Audimax, FH JOANNEUM, Eggenberger Allee 11, 8020 Graz

Time	Topic	Room/meeting point
12:30 – 16:00	<i>Football tournament</i> Meeting point: 12:30, Eggenberger Allee 11, Foyer, Ground Floor Joint walk to ASKÖ Stadium, Schloßstraße 20, 8020 Graz	<i>Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11</i>
16:00–16:30	<i>Registration</i>	<i>Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11</i>
16:30 – 19:00	<i>CoVE Captains meeting</i>	<i>EA11.EG.012 (ground floor)</i>
18:00–19:00	<i>Registration</i>	<i>Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11</i>
19:00	<i>Welcome reception</i>	<i>Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11</i>

Tuesday, 8 September, Audimax, FH JOANNEUM, Eggenberger Allee 11, 8020 Graz

Time	Topic	Room/meeting point
8:30 – 9:30	<i>Registration and welcome coffee</i>	<i>Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11</i>

9:30 – 11:00	Moderation Roswitha Wiedenhofer-Bornemann, FH JOANNEUM and Rogier Elshout, Moderating.eu Welcoming • CoP CoVEs Representatives • Martin Payer, Financial Director, FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences • Antonia Herunter, Member of the Federal Council Opening discussion • Corinna Engelhardt-Nowitzki, Scientific Director, FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences • Andrea Leruste, Deputy Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission • Josef Herk, President, Chamber of Commerce Styria • Jon Altuna, Vice-president EURASHE, coordinator EU4Dual European University Alliance, Vice-rector of Mondragon University, Discussion: European Education for Resilient Regions • Doris Kiendl, Head of Institute of International Management and Entrepreneurship • Birgit Arens, Eurochambres • Regina Friedrich, Industry representative • Pilvi Torsti, Director, European Training Foundation • Pieter Moerman, Katapult	Audimax, Eggenberger Allee 11
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee break and networking	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11
11:20 – 12:30	Keynotes • Stefan Olsson, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission • Katarina Sandbacka, Manager of International Affairs at VAMIA	Audimax, Eggenberger Allee 11
12:30-12:35	Group photo	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11
12:35 – 13:30	Lunch break	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11

13:30	Meeting point Study Visits - look for the guides with a sign with the name of your selected Study Visit on it!	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11
14:00 – 17:00	Study visits • FH JOANNEUM Graz (Applied teaching and research) • HTL Bulme (Green Village) • Agricultural and Forestry College Grottenhof • WKO Styria (Talent Centre and Center of Excellence) • FH JOANNEUM Kapfenberg (Advanced production and computer technologies) • FH JOANNEUM Kapfenberg (Applied Medical campus) - • Anton Paar • Siemens	Meeting point: Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11
14:00- 15:30	Policy round table Moderation: Doris Kiendl and Roswitha Wiedenhofer-Bornemann	Alte Poststraße 147, room 223
17:30- 19:30	Vocational Excellence Exhibition including Welcome drink and appetizers	Körblergasse 111-113, 8010 Graz
19:30- 19:45	Opening Remarks Chamber of Commerce Styria	
19:45- 22:00	COVE Forum Dinner	

Wednesday, 9 September, Audimax, FH JOANNEUM, Eggenberger Allee 11, 8020 Graz

Time	Topic	Room/meeting point
8:30- 9:00	Registration	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11

9:00 – 10:00	Keynote speeches: Birgit Phillips, Head of Learning, Innovation and Technology, FH JOANNEUM Markus Tomaschitz, Company Spokesperson and Chief Human Resources Officer AVL	Audimax, Eggenberger Allee 11
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee break	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11
10:30 – 12:00	Sectoral workshops	See below
	Co-Creating Excellence in Tourism VET: From Innovation to Impact & Consortium Management	EA11.01.128
	Farmers of the future – how do we secure the right skills?	EA11.01.105
	How Hydrogen CoVEs Accelerate the Green Energy Transition: Progress, Gaps and Ways Forward	EA11.01.124
	Imagine, Innovate and Educate: The Educators' Role in Designing of Future of Learning with researchers	EA11.01.114
	Industry 5.0 in HVET through learning factories 5.0, pedagogy and technology towards industry 5.0	EA11.01.126
	It is all about chips!	EA11.02.237
	No One Left Behind: Embedding Social Inclusion in Centres of Vocational Excellence	EA11.01.118
	Rethinking Skills Recognition in VET - From Challenge-Based Learning to Certification	EA11.01.112
	Sustainability of digital learning platforms: a case from the health care CoVEs	EA11.02.230
	The Living Destination: How to find common grounds	EA11.02.240
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	Foyer, Eggenberger Allee 11
13:00 – 14:30	Transversal workshops	See below

	<i>Project Management of Large Erasmus+ Projects</i>	EA11.01.128
	<i>Attracting Girls for Green and Digital Innovation in VET</i>	EA11.02.230
	<i>Building Demand-Driven Lifelong Learning - Through Ecosystem Dialogue</i>	EA11.01.112
	<i>Building Scalable RDI Models for Vocational Excellence</i>	EA11.01.105
	<i>Challenge Accepted: Bringing Real-World Problems into VET</i>	EA11.01.114
	<i>Continuation Strategies</i>	EA11.02.237
	<i>EU4Dual Experience - Joint Dual Micro-Credentials: Challenges and the Way Forward.</i>	EA11.01.124
	<i>From Local Excellence to Global Impact: the International Dimension of CoVEs</i>	EA11.01.118
	<i>The AI Clinic: Solving Real AI Challenges in Vocational Education</i>	EA11.01.126
	<i>The Secret of Data</i>	EA11.02.240
	<i>Unlocking the Power of Dual Higher Education Programs</i>	EA11.02.243
14:30 – 15:30	<i>Moderation</i> Rogier Elshout and Ingerid Dommersnes <i>Conclusions parallel sessions</i> <i>Closing panel</i> • Kai Schmidt-Eisenlohr, DHBW and EU4Dual • Student representative • Boudewijn Grievink, Katapult • Iñigo Araiztegui, TKNKA • Anna Barbieri, European Commission • Bojan Jovanovski, FH JOANNEUM <i>Closing remarks and announcement of next year's COVE Forum</i>	Audimax, Eggenberger Allee 11