



WORLDSKILLS EUROPE
**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2025





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BOARD FOREWORD

The ninth edition of EuroSkills, hosted by Denmark in the city of Herning in September 2025, saw 578 talented young professionals from 32 countries come together after months of preparation to compete for the chance to become Best in Europe in 38 different skills.

With the theme **“Skilled for a Greener Future,”** EuroSkills Herning 2025 was the largest and most sustainable EuroSkills to date, welcoming nearly 103,000 visitors over three days of action-packed competitions, and showcasing the essential contribution that skilled young professionals are making in building a sustainable future for Europe.

EuroSkills Herning also put technical and vocational education and training firmly at the heart of the political agenda in 2025. Alongside the Competition, European ministers and officials, including European Commission Vice President Roxana Minzatu, came together to discuss the future of vocational education in Europe, and to witness skills excellence firsthand through touring the Competition halls.

We were also honoured to welcome HM The King of Denmark to EuroSkills Herning, a visit which made a lasting impression, with The King mentioning the visit and the Competitors he had met in his New Year’s speech.

We are incredibly grateful to our hosts and to everyone who played a part in making EuroSkills Herning 2025 so memorable.

At our 2025 General Assembly, we officially welcomed **North Macedonia** as the 34th Member of WorldSkills Europe, confirmed **Finland as the host of WorldSkills Europe General Assembly 2026**, adopted the **WorldSkills Europe Strategy 2030**, and saw **Patrik Svensson** re-elected as a Member of the WorldSkills Europe Board, continuing in his role as Chair of the Competitions Committee.

In other developments during 2025, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Danish diversity and inclusion organisation, **Divers**, to foster collaboration in **improving gender balance across skills**, and renewed our partnership with **Fanuc**, the world’s leading manufacturer of industrial robots, and WorldSkills Europe Premium Sponsor.

In the following pages, you can read about the successes of EuroSkills Herning 2025, preparations for **EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027** and **EuroSkills Geneva 2029**, as well as more detailed information about the key decisions and outcomes of our 2025 General Assembly.

As we look towards the next EuroSkills Competitions, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to all Members, Competitors, Experts, volunteers and our Secretariat for their tireless commitment and support, ensuring that the WorldSkills movement in Europe continues to empower young people to thrive in both work and life, and to strengthen Europe’s competitiveness.

EUROSKILLS HERNING 2025

The ninth edition of EuroSkills welcomed 578 skilled young professionals from 32 countries to Herning, Denmark, in September 2025 for the chance to become Best in Europe in 38 skills.

Guided by the theme **“Skilled for a Greener Future,”** EuroSkills Herning 2025 shone a light on the essential contribution that skilled young professionals make to our societies, and how their **technical expertise and creativity** can address the challenges of tomorrow, while shaping greener and more resilient communities, and building a sustainable future for Europe.

EuroSkills Herning 2025 was the largest edition of the European Championship for Young Professionals to date, welcoming **almost 103,000 visitors** to experience the excitement of the competitions. Visitors had the opportunity to test their abilities in 13 “Try-a-Skill” activities, and to follow the Sustainability Trail, developed in collaboration with Partners and exhibitors including WorldSkills Europe Premium Sponsors Grohe and PPG, that guided visitors through selected stands and competitions showcasing sustainability in action across different industries.

EuroSkills 2025 culminated in a spectacular **Closing Ceremony**, during which the **Jos de Goey Best in Europe Award 2025** was presented to **Loris Cubizolles of France**, who won the **Gold medal in CNC Milling**.

The Competition welcomed many VIP visitors, including **HM The King of Denmark** and European education ministers, whose visits underscored the high-level support for vocational skills in shaping Europe’s future. Alongside the Competition, European education ministers and officials, including **Roxana Minzatu, European Commission Vice President**, gathered for a **Skills Policy Summit** to discuss the future of vocational education in Europe.



Thanks to grant funding from the **Villum Foundation**, EuroSkills Herning 2025 partnered with **Divers**, a **Danish diversity and inclusion organisation**, to establish a **European network of female Ambassadors** representing different technical and vocational fields, to serve as role models for young women. Divers also offered interactive activities during EuroSkills Herning to introduce them to a community of inspiring female role models working in traditionally male-dominated trades.

Hosting an international event on the scale of EuroSkills is only possible thanks to the support of many institutions, organisations and individuals. WorldSkills Europe is grateful to the **EuroSkills Herning 2025 team**, the **Ministry of Children and Education in Denmark**, **Herning Municipality**, the **Central Jutland Region**, **WorldSkills Denmark**, the **Danish Employers’ Association**, the **Trade Union Movement’s Main Organisation**, **WorldSkills Europe Member Country organisations**, **Sponsors**, **Partners**, **Experts**, **employers**, **training institutions**, **schools**, and all the **volunteers** who made the event such a success.

We congratulate the 578 Competitors for their commitment and dedication to excelling in their chosen field. Each of them has earned the right to call themselves a EuroSkills Champion, having shown the whole of Europe that they are the most talented young professionals in their skills. We hope they will use their Competition experience as a springboard to even greater professional success in the future.



32
COUNTRIES



13 TRY-A-SKILL
ACTIVITIES



1,208
VOLUNTEERS
FROM 43 COUNTRIES



270 GUIDES
FROM LOCAL
VOCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS



578
COMPETITORS



102,934
VISITORS



77,634
CEREMONIES
LIVESTREAM VIEWS



526
EXPERTS

38
OFFICIAL SKILL
COMPETITIONS



25,941 M²
COMPETITION AREA



324
MEDIA
REPRESENTATIVES

WORLDSKILLS EUROPE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2025

WorldSkills Europe Members, Sponsors, and Partners came together for our annual series of strategic meetings at the WorldSkills Europe General Assembly 2025, which took place on 10 September at the MCH Messecenter Herning, alongside the EuroSkills Herning 2025 Competition.

KEY DECISIONS AND OUTCOMES:

NORTH MACEDONIA OFFICIALLY WELCOMED AS A NEW MEMBER



The 2025 General Assembly approved North Macedonia's membership of WorldSkills Europe and warmly welcomed North Macedonia as the newest (34th) WorldSkills Europe Member.

The official membership of North Macedonia is organised by the Centre for the Development of Vocational Education (CDVE), the main public body responsible for improving and developing vocational education and training (VET) at the national level. The Centre undertakes numerous initiatives to enhance knowledge, opportunities, and skills for students, promote excellence in VET, and support participation in international skills competitions.

Becoming a Member of WorldSkills Europe means that North Macedonia will be able to participate in EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 and in future EuroSkills Competitions and related activities.

BOSS LADIES PROJECT

WorldSkills Europe signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Danish diversity and inclusion foundation, Divers, in June 2025, establishing a framework of cooperation to promote diversity and inclusion throughout the WorldSkills movement in Europe.

At the General Assembly, Divers presented WorldSkills Europe Members, Sponsors, and Partners with an update on its Boss Ladies project, an initiative and community of technically skilled women from across Europe who challenge outdated gender stereotypes and lead the way as women in traditionally male-dominated trades and industries.

WorldSkills Europe and Divers will continue to work together to promote awareness of potential barriers, particularly in areas where women are underrepresented, track progress in female participation, identify areas for improvement, and share best practice within the WorldSkills Europe community.



WORLDSKILLS EUROPE BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Patrik Svensson, Director of International Affairs for WorldSkills Sweden, was re-elected as a Member of the WorldSkills Europe Board following a vote by Members. Patrik continues in his role as Chair of the Competitions Committee.

WORLDSKILLS EUROPE STRATEGY 2030

The General Assembly voted to adopt the updated WorldSkills Europe Strategy 2030. Work on the Strategy began at the General Assembly 2024 in Luxembourg and Members contributed to its development through several rounds of consultation.

The WorldSkills Europe Board worked intensively during 2024-25 to refine a broad set of inputs into a focused and practical strategy which underpins WSE's position and decision making for everything from resource allocation and messaging to partnership negotiations and portfolio decisions.

The WorldSkills Europe Secretariat is now mandated to develop an implementation plan (setting out the key activities and programmes for the next five years), which will be aligned with the strategic priorities.

FINLAND CONFIRMED AS HOST OF WORLDSKILLS EUROPE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2026

WorldSkills Europe Members voted unanimously in favour of Finland's bid to host the WSE General Assembly 2026 in the city of Helsinki. The event is scheduled for 9-12 June 2026 at the Scandic Grand Central Hotel, which is in the heart of the city.

The proposed programme will focus on creating opportunities for dialogue and exchange on competition-based learning and other innovative approaches to TVET among all 34 WorldSkills Europe Member Countries. Skills Finland has experience in hosting a successful WorldSkills Europe General Assembly, having previously hosted the General Assembly in Helsinki in 2015.



THANK YOU

*to our General Assembly 2025 hosts
– the Organising Committee of
EuroSkills Herning 2025 and MCH
Messecenter Herning – for their
excellent organisation and hospitality.*

EUROSKILLS DÜSSELDORF 2027



In a symbolic moment concluding the EuroSkills Herning 2025 Closing Ceremony, the WorldSkills Europe flag was passed from EuroSkills 2025 host nation, Denmark, to the two nations that will co-host EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 – Germany and Luxembourg.

Competitors André Pauly (Germany) and Laurence Bley (Luxembourg) had the honour of receiving the WorldSkills Europe flag from Louise Søtoft Pedersen (Denmark), starting the official two-year countdown to the 10th edition of EuroSkills.

EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 marks the first time in the history of WorldSkills Europe that two countries – Germany and Luxembourg – are jointly hosting a EuroSkills Competition. Under the motto 'Skills! Shape Your Future', Germany and Luxembourg want to motivate young people to shape their professional future and discover the diversity of professions – both in Düsseldorf and in the run-up to EuroSkills through cross-border activities.



Germany and Luxembourg are preparing to welcome around 850 skilled young professionals from 34 countries to participate in up to 45 skill competitions and five presentation skills at the Messe Düsseldorf from 22-26 September 2027. Around 150,000 visitors from across Germany and abroad are expected to attend the event.

EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 will also mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of WorldSkills Europe, reflecting two decades of inspiring young professionals, raising skills standards, and fostering vocational excellence across Europe.

euroskills Düsseldorf 2027

Preparatory work for the Competition gathered pace throughout 2025. At the WorldSkills Europe General Assembly in Herning, CEO of EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027, Dawid Solak, presented a status report to Members, Sponsors and Partners, which included updates on the progress of all technical, operational, partnership and MarCom aspects of the project.

The next Progress Meeting between WorldSkills Europe and EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 is scheduled for 10 February 2026 in Düsseldorf; the Skills Development Workshop (SDW) is scheduled for 16-20 March 2026 in Luxembourg, and the Competition Preparation Meeting (CPM) is scheduled for the end of January 2027.

EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 is supported and endorsed by a number of key partners, including the German Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia's Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs and the State's Ministry of Economics, Innovation, Digitisation and Energy, Luxembourg's Ministry of Education, Children and Youth, the City of Düsseldorf, and Messe Düsseldorf.



EUROSKILLS GENEVA 2029

In 2025, the EuroSkills Geneva 2029 Organising Committee completed its first full year of activity, transitioning from event attribution to a tangible, institutionally grounded project. Efforts concentrated on establishing governance foundations, building national partnerships and collaboration with WorldSkills Europe, and defining the strategic framework for delivery through to 2029.



GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURING

The Organising Committee's Board provided strategic oversight throughout the year, clarifying decision-making processes and coordination with operational leadership. A structured recruitment process was conducted in 2025, resulting in the appointment of an experienced CEO, set to take up the role in January 2026 — marking a decisive step in the project taking shape as a credible international event.

The Swiss federal government confirmed its support for the project, establishing the financial foundation for delivery through to 2029.

NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN ALIGNMENT

Coordination with SwissSkills, Switzerland's national skills competition body, was strengthened in 2025, aligning strategic objectives and positioning EuroSkills Geneva 2029 as a lever for vocational education and training in French-speaking Switzerland and beyond.

The Organising Committee integrated into the WorldSkills Europe framework, covering competition standards, governance requirements, brand and visual identity guidelines.

EUROSKILLS HERNING 2025 AND EUROSKILLS DÜSSELDORF 2027

At EuroSkills 2025 in Herning, the EuroSkills 2029 Organising Committee ran a promotional stand presenting Geneva as 2029 host city and engaging European delegations directly. The delegates returned with a clear sense of the event's scale and what delivering it demands. In addition, the EuroSkills Herning 2025 Organising Committee concluded a formal handover to the EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 and EuroSkills Geneva 2029 Organising Committees in December, transferring strategic and operational knowledge and experience.

Separately, exchanges with the EuroSkills Düsseldorf 2027 team covered lessons learned and potential synergies.

OUTLOOK FOR 2026

2026 will mark a phase of structuration for EuroSkills Geneva 2029. Priorities include securing definitive financing commitments, finalising the brand book, progressively strengthening the organisational structure, and deepening institutional and economic partnerships. The foundations built in 2025 position the project to move into detailed operational planning.



EuroSkills Geneva 2029 is scheduled to take place in September 2029 at the Palexpo Geneva.



WORLD SKILLS EUROPE

MEMBER COUNTRIES

Our 34 Member Countries cover more than half of the European population

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| • Austria | • Hungary | • North Macedonia |
| • Belgium | • Iceland | • Norway |
| • Croatia | • Italy | • Poland |
| • Cyprus | • Ireland | • Portugal |
| • Czech Republic | • Kazakhstan | • Romania |
| • Denmark | • Latvia | • Serbia |
| • Estonia | • Liechtenstein | • Slovakia |
| • Finland | • Lithuania | • Slovenia |
| • France | • Luxembourg | • Spain |
| • Germany | • Montenegro | • Sweden |
| • Greece | • The Netherlands | • Switzerland |
| | | • UK |



WorldSkills Europe Sponsors and Partners see a role for industry, education, government, and policy makers to work together to raise the profile and recognition of skilled professionals across Europe. Through EuroSkills Competitions, together we are increasing the abilities, status, and economic prospects of young people.

In 2025, WorldSkills Europe was proud to renew its partnership with **FANUC**, the world's leading manufacturer of industrial robots, and WorldSkills Europe Premium Sponsor.

Representatives from WorldSkills Europe and FANUC met in Luxembourg in November to formally renew the longstanding agreement, reaffirming a joint commitment to advancing skills excellence in industrial automation and robotics across Europe.

This renewed partnership will see FANUC continue its role as a Premium Sponsor of WorldSkills Europe, providing technological expertise and strategic support for the Robot Systems Integration competition at the upcoming EuroSkills events.

With a shared vision to inspire the next generation of highly skilled professionals, this sponsorship extension marks a continued investment in young talent and the future of smart manufacturing.

Laurence Gates, CEO of WorldSkills Europe, said: "We are delighted to extend our collaboration with FANUC, a company that exemplifies technical innovation and training excellence. Our partnership has not only strengthened the competition at EuroSkills but also helped raise awareness among young people of the exciting careers available in automation and manufacturing. Together, we are shaping a more skilled and confident workforce for tomorrow.

Marco Ghirardello, President & CEO of FANUC Europe, said:

"As a company with 50 years of experience in industrial robotics, we are very proud to be a partner of WorldSkills Europe and to give young people an opportunity to learn more about robot programming."

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

PREMIUM SPONSORS OF WORLDSKILLS EUROPE

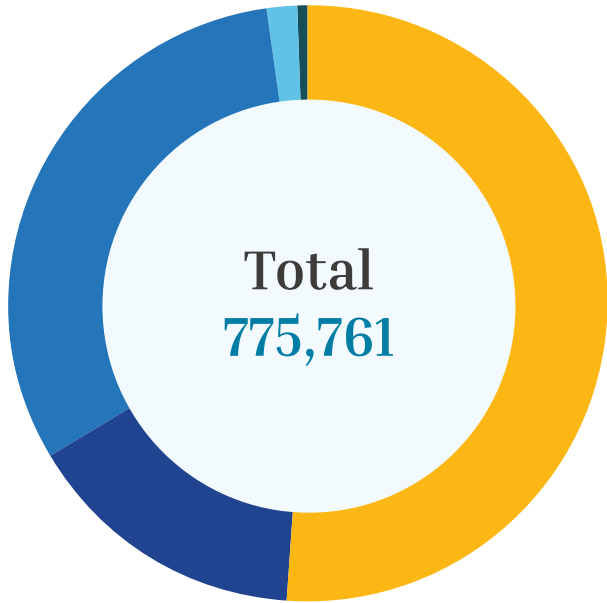


SKILL SPONSORS OF WORLDSKILLS EUROPE



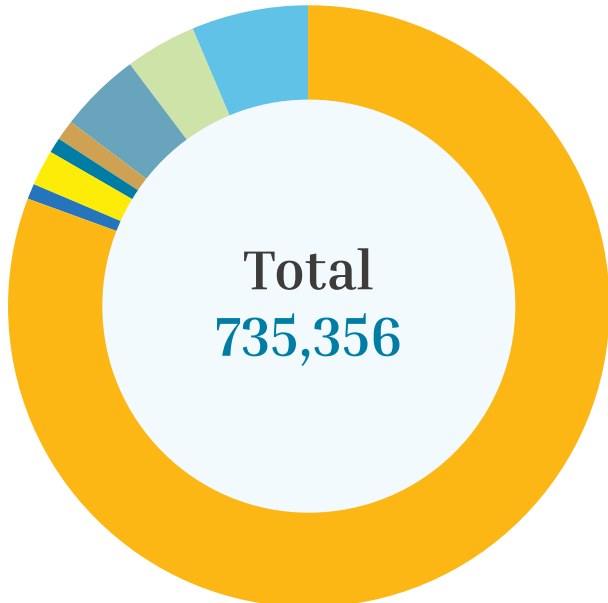
FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME (in euro)



Admission Fees	10,000
Membership Fees	392,899
Sponsorship Fees	115,759
Hosting Fees EuroSkills	241,000
Interest	12,103
Other income	4,000

EXPENDITURE (in euro)



Support services	570,059
Marketing & Communication	5,980
Office costs & external services	12,850
Professional/Consultancy	6,257
ICT	8,082
Travel/Subsistence	30,590
Competitions/Events	57,613
Other costs	43,925

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mr. Ben Blackledge
Chair of the Board

United Kingdom



Ms. Christine Davatz
Treasurer

Switzerland



Mr. Patrik Svensson
Chair
Competition Committee

Sweden



Ms. Alina Fleaca
Vice Chair
Competition Committee

Belgium



Mr. Erik van der Zwan
Member Engagement, and
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The Netherlands



Ms. Laurence Gates
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United Kingdom



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