



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Three4GlobalSkills

29 October 2026 · Atelier29, Brussels

MORNING

08:00–09:00

Arrival & Registration

Welcome coffee and tea. Informal networking before the start of proceedings.

09:00–09:15

Opening & Welcome

Welcome address setting out the aims of the day and the rationale for the joint Three4GlobalSkills conference.

· Master of ceremony: Terry Martin, SPIA (Link4Skills)

09:15–10:15

Session 1 — Introduction: Megatrends, Knowledge and Policy Responses

The opening substantive session establishes the intellectual and policy frame. Following an introduction of drivers of skills shortages; principal investigators introduce the three projects and present the Link4Skills Navigator.

- Chair: Colleen Boland — Radboud University (GS4S)
- Tesseltje de Lange & Pascal Beckers — Radboud University (GS4S)
- Vidmantas Tūtlys — Vytautas Magnus University (Skills4Justice)
- Izabela Grabowska — Kozminski University (Link4Skills)
- Representative of the European Commission (tbc)

10:15–11:30

Session 2 — Skills Shortages: Evidence and Recommendations

Examines drivers and manifestations of skills shortages — skill waste, overeducation, re- and upskilling needs, mismatches, and automation. Researchers present comparative findings across partner countries.

- Chair: Izabela Grabowska — Kozminski University (Link4Skills)
- Sara Korbi — FIERI (GS4S)
- Michaela Potančoková — IIASA (Link4Skills)
- Jonathan Winterton, Leeds University Business School (Skills4Justice)
- External discussant: Berk Erdem, Migration expert

11:30–11:45

Coffee Break

11:45–12:45

Session 3 — Business Strategies for Tackling Skills Shortages

Focuses on how businesses respond to labour shortages. Findings from 2,000+ enterprises in Estonia, Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland; analysis of automation strategies; lessons from sectoral skills partnerships.

- Chair: Pascal Beckers — Radboud University (GS4S)
- Ayse-Saka Helmhout — Radboud University (GS4S)
- Friedrich Poeschel — EUI (GS4S)
- Michaela Potančoková — IIASA (Link4Skills)
- Francesco Vittori, University of Verona (Skills4Justice)

12:45–13:45

Lunch Break

AFTERNOON





13:45–15:15

Session 4 — Labour Migration and Third Countries: a conversation on Skills Shortages and Development

Widens the lens beyond Europe to examine how migration to the EU affects skills formation and development in origin countries. Contributions from Egypt, Bangladesh, Ghana, Nigeria, the Philippines, Indonesia, Morocco, Ukraine, India, North Macedonia, Türkiye and Ethiopia.

- Chair: Dina Abdel Fattah — American University in Cairo (GS4S)
- Marla Asis — Scalabrini Research Center, Philippines
- Mary Setrana — University of Ghana (Link4Skills)
- Rajan Irudaya — the International Institute of Migration and Development (Link4Skills)
- Shakirul Islam — OKUP (GS4S)
- Violeta Cvetkoska, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje (Skills4Justice)
- Godfried Engbersen — Erasmus University Rotterdam (Link4Skills)
- Mariavittoria Garlappi — The European Training Foundation

15:15–16:15

Session 5 — EU Talent Partnerships 2.0: Conditions for Success

Reviews past and current mobility schemes and asks what conditions would make the next generation of EU Talent Partnerships viable, credible and fair. Focus on design, feasibility, mutual benefit, rights protection and institutional realism.

- Chair: Maegan Hendow — ICMPD (Link4Skills)
- Ida Kristina Kühn — ITB Bremen University, Germany (Skills4Justice)
- Clémence Ghighi — Head of sector Talent Pathways, Legal pathways and integration unit, DG HOME
- Veronika Bilger or Caitlin Katsiaficas — ICMPD (Link4Skills)
- Sandra Lavenex — University of Geneva (GS4S)

16:15–16:30

Coffee Break

16:30–17:30

Session 6 — Long-Term Perspectives: A Conversation on Skilled Migration and Policy

An audience-led conversation on the long view: what lies ahead for skilled migration, what strategic lessons can be drawn, and what longer-term recommendations should inform European public policy.

- Chair: Pascal Beckers — Radboud University (GS4S)
- Anna Triandafyllidou — (Link4Skills)
- Jasmijn Slootjes — Migration Policy Institute Europe (GS4S)
- Vidmantas Tūtlys — Vytautas Magnus University (Skills4Justice)

17:30–17:45

Closing Remarks

Closing remarks by Tesseltje de Lange.

The conference will be live-streamed. Registration for online participation is possible via this [link](#). Contact: ksenija.ivanovic@ru.nl