Youth Unemployment – How Do The Austrians Do It?

OSCE 25th Economic and Environmental Forum, Vienna

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23 January 2017

Youth unemployment rate (15-24) in European comparison November 2016

Eurostat (09.01.2017); Austria: November 2016 1) September 2016; 2) October 2016
How Do The Austrians Do It?

- Relatively low level of total unemployment (November 2016: Ö: 5.8%; EU 28: 8.3%)
- Stronger economic development over the past decade than that of many other European countries
- Flexicurity
- Dual apprenticeship training system
- Training Guarantee for Young People (role model for the implementation of the “European Youth Guarantee”)

European Youth Guarantee – results so far

- The Youth Guarantee has helped to improve the lives of millions of young people.
- Around 9 million young people have taken up an offer of employment, education, traineeship or apprenticeship under the Youth Guarantee. Of all the offers made, the majority (over two-thirds) were offers of employment.
- Three years on from when the Youth Guarantee took off, young people’s labour market performance has improved significantly.
  - There are almost 1.5 million fewer young unemployed in the EU and 900,000 less young people not in employment, education and training (NEETs).
  - Youth unemployment has dropped from a peak of 24.4% in the first quarter of 2013 to 18.9% in the second quarter of 2016.
  - The share of 15-24 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEETs) has fallen from 13.2% in 2012 to 12.0% in 2015.

European Youth Guarantee – success stories

- **Spain**
  - significant **structural reforms of the apprenticeship system**
  - leading to an increase in the number of apprentices from 4 000 to 15 000 in just three years (between 2013 and 2016).
  - During the same period, the number of enterprises participating in apprenticeship training grew from barely 500 to 5 660.

- **Bulgaria**
  - a **network of youth mediators** was put in place in 2015 to reach out to non-registered NEETs in their direct environment and activate them.
  - Youth mediators act as intermediaries with public institutions that provide social, health, educational and other services.


Unemployment rates by educational attainment level (%) in Austria 1990 – 2015 (National data)
It’s not enough. What’s new on the Austrian labour market for young people?

• The Compulsory Education/Training till 18 programme
  – was adopted in 2016 by the Austrian government and is currently being implemented.
  – As of the 2017/18 school year every young person is to continue education/training following completion of compulsory school.

• The Training Guarantee for young people until the age of 25