

POSITION PAPER TEDUTRAIN'25



United Nations
Economic and Social
Council (ECOSOC)

Comitee: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Country: Spain

Agenda Item: Tackling Youth Unemployment and Promoting Sustainable Economic Growth

Name: Elif Eylül Mirza

The Kingdom of Spain considers youth unemployment as a structural issue that undermines social justice and the resilience of the economy and that therefore it requires a profound analysis. Among the problems is a skills mismatch, as young people leave education unprepared for the labour market. This situation also causes a rise in the number of NEETs (Not in Education, Employment, or Training), which increases the economic cost and intensifies social exclusion. Spain holds that the path to sustainable economic growth is not simply raising employment rates but also making sure that young people find secure and productive jobs, in accordance with the Decent Work guidelines.

Spain is a country with extensive national experience in combating youth unemployment and informal employment, particularly in Southern Europe. The country's national policies have focused on providing concrete solutions to the problem of precarious employment in modern labor markets, as also mentioned in the Guide. In this context, Spain has implemented labor market reforms aimed at protecting young people from high temporary contract rates and has acknowledged the necessity of strengthening access to education with employability. Furthermore, using European resources, Spain is preparing youth for future job demands by investing in the digital skills and sustainable skills required by the green economy, as outlined in the Guide.

To resolve the global youth unemployment problem, Spain requests that the ECOSOC committee focus on eliminating the weak links between education and industry. To this end, the adoption of Dual Vocational Education and Training (Dual VET) systems as an international standard and the provision of technical support to member states for the establishment of these systems are proposed. Additionally, to reduce the economic costs of informal and precarious employment, policy measures should be encouraged through international organizations (ILO, UNDP) to guarantee the principles of

"Decent Work" in all member states. Finally, to meet future skills demands, it is proposed to support curriculum modernization and lifelong learning programs, particularly project-based learning and mentorship programs, to enhance the digital and soft competencies of young people.

Bibliography

International Labour Organization (ILO), Global Employment Trends for Youth 2022

International Labour Organization (ILO), World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2023

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), OECD Skills Outlook 2022: Paving the Way for a Skilled and Sustainable Future

World Economic Forum (WEF), Future of Jobs Report 2023

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Industrialization and job creation for youth