

Spain introduction

After the general elections in April 2019, and a shift on the Spanish political scene, there have been some tensions and disagreements in the government, resulting in an unstable budget and undecided future track of development. Meanwhile, the local education providers keep working to address social issues, such as migration and unemployment.

Recent developments in Spain

Throughout the years, adult education has been receiving more and more attention from cultural institutions and the Labour Department. EAEA members in the country contribute the ongoing shift to immigration. Adult education is therefore seen as a solution to integrating foreigners into Spanish society and the job-market.

On the agenda of EAEA members is the promotion of lifelong learning, literacy education and the professional development of adult educators.

Spain has increased access to adult education for young people aged 16-18 who attend work which otherwise prevents their access to traditional education programmes for students their age. This is a strong initiative for supporting vulnerable school drop-outs develop a more positive relationship with education and training.

Links to EU and international policy Spain

The main barrier to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in Spain are the lack of initiatives for migrant learners, however, a lot of attention is paid to migrant children without families. In order to deliver Goal 4 Spain have focused their efforts in organisational and systemic initiatives. For instance, an EAEA member is participating in the European Vocational Skills Week. In addition to this, in September, an EAEA member is hosting the Adult Learners Day to discuss learning for the pleasure of learning, and learning what you are interested in, not what you are being offered.

Challenges and recommendations in Spain

EAEA member in Spain recommends establishing a well-functioning system of coordination between three departments of the ministries of Education, Labour, and Social Affairs and Culture. The education provision in Spain is also in need of modification, especially when it comes to innovation. Professionals need to be offered good development programmes and new methodologies need to be improved and applied. There is a significant gap between literacy and basic training that needs to be addressed as well.
