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# Counselling - Poland

## 1. Current situation resp. reform approaches in the field of vocational guidance and counselling

As a consequence of the change of the political system after the breakdown of the Soviet Union and in view of the accession to the European Union there has been a comprehensive reorganization of the educational system in Poland. In this regard the reform of vocational guidance and counselling played an important role. The vocational counsellor has been newly registered in the catalogue of professions and specializations.

In Poland vocational counselling is under the responsibility of two ministries:

The **Ministry for Education and Sport** is responsible for tasks in the area of orientation and vocational counselling for children and teenagers. Under the control of the Educational Department are psychologic-pedagogical information centres for pupils, parents and teachers. Above all, vocational counselling takes place at schools, being given mainly by subject teachers who also organize internships for their pupils. It is planned, however, to engage a specialized vocational counsellor in the future in order to support the vocational orientation of pupils and to prepare the entrance into work life.

The **Ministry for Economy and Labour** is responsible for vocational counselling of adults. Counselling takes place in the agencies of employment offices. The subject of vocational counselling is closely connected with the efforts to improve the quality of vocational training. In view of the high rate of unemployment in Poland there is a high need for counselling, especially in view of the vocational training and retraining of skilled employees. The previous model of a profession "for the whole life" becomes increasingly replaced by the "career advancement model", involving continuous further qualification.

### International Mobility

Poland participates in the European programmes Leonardo da Vinci and Sokrates for implementation of mobility. The National Resource Centre for Vocational Guidance (NRCVG) being affiliated to the EUROGUIDANCE network as well as the EURES counselling support interested persons who gather information on training and working chances abroad.

## 2. Organizations offering counselling on vocational guidance for the crafts sector

Area	Institution	Type of counselling	Counselling	Special target groups
<b>State-run employment administration</b>	<b>Employment offices</b> 16 central employment offices in each region (WUP), more than 350 local employment offices ( PUP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vocational counselling</li> <li>• retraining, employment service, career planning</li> <li>• individual career management</li> <li>• aptitude test</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fair</li> <li>• one-on-one interviews</li> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• group work</li> </ul>	Unemployed adults, adolescents up to 25 years (also degree holders of universities and crafts sector), disadvantaged and job seeking persons
<b>School facilities</b>	all types of schools  psychological-pedagogical information centres  School facilities for career planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• training, career choice</li> <li>• aptitude test</li> </ul>		apprentices, disadvantaged persons
<b>Economic associations and organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chambers of skilled crafts / trade guilds</li> <li>• OHP (vocational training centre for slow learning adolescents)</li> <li>• Centres supporting business set-ups</li> <li>• Centres for patents and rationalization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vocational trainings</li> <li>• career planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• information days / actions</li> <li>• contests</li> <li>• training courses</li> <li>• seminars</li> </ul>	adolescents, small business sector (also jobless craftspeople and employed persons)
<b>Other organizations</b>	Charity associations and religious orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• psychological care</li> <li>• vocational counselling</li> <li>• social support</li> <li>• scholarships</li> </ul>		Disadvantaged adolescents
	private recruiters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• employment service</li> <li>• vocational counselling</li> </ul>		all target groups

### 3. Craftspeople going abroad

**Eures** – labour market services; realized by employment agencies as well as by trade unions and employers' associations. Comprising above all labour employment service and mobility counselling on national and EU labour market.

Leonardo da Vinci Programme – mobility projects, internships in various EU countries and in different branches of crafts sector.

### 4. Information sources for crafts sector on vocational training and employment chances abroad

Source of information	Kind of information
National resource centre for vocational counselling (Euroguidance), located at Ministry for Economy and Labour <a href="http://www.mpips.gov.pl">www.mpips.gov.pl</a>	employment service, vocational counselling
Employment offices of district centres – career planning and information <a href="http://www.wup.poznan.pl">www.wup.poznan.pl</a>	internships, training courses, employment service, vocational preparation
Schools – school facilities for career planning (SzOK), universities – career offices (higher training level for crafts sector)	exchange programmes, internships, further training
OHP – Working Club (Training Centre for slow learners) <a href="http://www.ohp.pl">www.ohp.pl</a>	
Network Eures <a href="http://www.eures.praca.gov.pl">www.eures.praca.gov.pl</a>	programme exchanges, internships, further training
National Leonardo Agency <a href="http://www.bkkk-cofund.org.pl">www.bkkk-cofund.org.pl</a>	Programmes: internships, exchange of experiences

### 5. Potential users of MOBILINT training modules

- Vocational counsellors at various types of schools
- Employees at psychologic-pedagogical information centres
- Employment offices
- Charity associations supporting adolescents and jobless persons seeking employment
- Private job centres