

**French Presidency of the European Union
Conference
Career Transitions and Lifelong Guidance: Building an European Response**

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Workshop 2: Guidance and workforce entry: preventing students leaving school without qualification

Subtopic: How to support young people in difficulty

Guidance for young people in difficulty

Summary

The main aim of the presentation is to discuss different aspects of guidance for young people in difficulty. Providing guidance services to the disadvantaged, at-risk of social exclusion or unemployment or other target groups in difficulty is expressed as a priority in main EU and national lifelong guidance policy documents. EU and national strategies of guidance for young people at risk must be supported by proper theoretical framework, methodology and research data. Guidance approaches should include: acknowledging the complex nature of the phenomenon, identifying various groups of the young in difficulty, evaluating their needs and providing with flexible support. Interdisciplinary solution, accompanied by active dialogue between different education, labour market institutions, community, guidance providers and users is needed together with preventive measures. Guidance services should be provided to variety of target groups, within different contexts, settings (e.g. multi-professional cross-sectoral working) and methods. Using of EU structural funds to develop programmes for the drop-outs, trough the example of Lithuania is going to be presented as well.

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