

# Labour Shortages and Skill Mismatches: How bad will it get? What can be done?



**Expert Discussion**  
**Thursday 30 March 2023**  
**House of Industry, Vienna**  
**organised by 3s Research & Consulting**

Global energy transitions, AI-based technologies encroaching on all life-spheres and ageing workforces are just some of the developments challenging societies and industries in high-income countries around the world. Skill shortages in all sectors and at all levels in Austria and throughout Europe are increasing, but so is the fear of job losses due to automation and new forms of work.

Skill shortages and skill mismatches are detrimental in multiple ways: Employers struggle to find qualified personnel not only to maintain productivity but also to promote innovation within a competitive global market. While the highly qualified can be more selective in their career choices, those with low or soon to be outdated skills are in danger of ending up in precarious situations. This could lead to the hampering of a greener future in combination with more frequent labour disputes.

How can political systems and in particular the education and training sector contribute to tackling skill shortages and other mismatches? Will skill mismatches in Europe continue to increase? These, and other related questions will be discussed by leading economists, sociologists and educationalists from the UK, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, and other countries together with Austrian representatives engaged in research and management of skill policies.

*3s invites to an International Expert Discussion on Thursday 30 March 2023, 10-13am, in the House of Industry, Schwarzenbergplatz 4, 1031 Vienna*

## Expert Discussion

### ***Labour Shortages and Skill Mismatches: How bad will it get? What can be done?***

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House of Industry, Schwarzenbergplatz 4, 1031 Vienna

Spiegelsaal

## Programme

10.00 - 10.15 Welcome and Introduction

**Viktor Fleischer, IV & Jörg Markowitsch, 3s**

10.15 - 11.00 "Skills and the Labour Market: Now and in the Future"

Keynote by **Ken Mayhew**, Emeritus Professor of Education and Economic Performance and Emeritus Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford

11.00 - 11.15 Q&A

11.15 – 12.15 Plenary Discussion with international researchers and Austrian stakeholders

- **Giorgio Brunello**, Professor of Economics at the University of Padova
- **Terence Hogarth**, Institute for Employment Research, University of Warwick
- **Petya Ilieva-Trichkova**, Institute of Philosophy & Sociology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- **Manuela Vollmann**, ABZ-Austria
- **Johannes Schweighofer**, Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour and Economy
- **Ursula Bazant**, Head of Education & Training at ÖBB Infrastruktur AG

moderated by **Didier Fouarge**

Research Centre for Education & the Labour Market, Maastricht

12.15 – 13.00 Lunch: Snack & Drinks

**Maximum number of participants: 50. Please register [here](#)**

**For barrier-free access and any other requests, please contact:**

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This event is organised as part of the HORIZON-Project [Skills2Capabilities](#)

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