WHAT EXISTS TODAY

2006: Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning that defined the competences each and every citizen needs.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

▶ The 2006 Recommendation was followed by a majority of Member States that implemented related reforms to their educational system.
▶ June 2016: the New Skills Agenda for Europe shed light on the need to review and update the 2006 Recommendation on Key Competences.

The latest OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) data shows that one in five pupils in the EU has insufficient proficiency in reading, mathematics and science. Between 2012 and 2015, the trend in underachievement for the EU worsened. 20% of the EU working age population have low literacy and low numeracy skills and 44% of the EU population have low or no (19%) digital competencies.

In the countries involved in the OECD Survey of Adult Skills (PIAAC) 2012, between 5% and 28% of adults are proficient at only the lowest levels in literacy and 8% to 32% are proficient at only the lowest levels in numeracy.

WHAT CAN BE DONE IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS?

▶ January 2018: update the Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning key competences: literacy, language, science, technology and engineering and maths, digital competences, personal, social and learning competence, civic and sustainability competence, entrepreneurship and cultural awareness and expression.
▶ As part of the Recommendation, an EU scoreboard will be developed to assess the key competences.

POSSIBLE INITIATIVES WITH A 2025 PERSPECTIVE

▶ Allow for comparability of curricula and study courses across borders.
▶ Set new benchmarks on basic skills (10% of 15-year-olds do not have basic skills; current benchmark is set at 15%).