



Greater Region

Annotated bibliography

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| Document title, year of publication | <i>Die Großregion: ein grenzüberschreitender Berufsbildungsraum?</i> (equivalent to: The Greater Region: a cross-border vocational education and training area?) 2018 | |
| Complete bibliographical references, access (DOI), if possible | Dörrenbächer, Peter H. (2018): “Die Großregion: ein grenzüberschreitender Berufsbildungsraum?”, in: Pallagst, Karina; Hartz, Andrea; Caesar, Beate (ed.): <i>Border Futures – Zukunft Grenze – Avenir frontière: Zukunftsfähigkeit grenzüberschreitender Zusammenarbeit</i> . Arbeitsberichte der ARL 20, available at https://shop.arl-net.de/media/direct/pdf/ab/ab_020/16_grossregion_berufsbildungsraum.pdf , (accessed 21 September 2020). | |
| Type of publication | Scientific article | Theory |
| Language(s) | German Abstract available in English | |
| Key words | cross-border vocational education and training (VET); cross-border cooperation; cross-border labour market; cross-border VET Saarland - Lorraine; cross-border VET framework agreement; Greater Region; Europeanisation; knowledge society | |
| Abstract | The article discusses past and present approaches to cross-border vocational education and training (VET) in the Greater Region, which includes the territories of Lorraine (France), Wallonia and Ostbelgien (Belgium), Saarland and Rhineland-Palatinate (Germany), as well as the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. Of particular interest are the latest framework agreements on VET that exist in the Greater Region, as well as the question of whether the Greater Region already represents a cross-border VET area. | |
| Content and main findings | The Greater Region , with its approximately 220,000 cross-border commuters, is one of the most important and most researched cross-border labour markets worldwide . In recent years, cross-border vocational education and training (VET) has come to the fore, raising the question of whether the Greater Region, with its high level of cross-border cooperation and VET framework agreements, can already be considered a cross-border VET area. | |

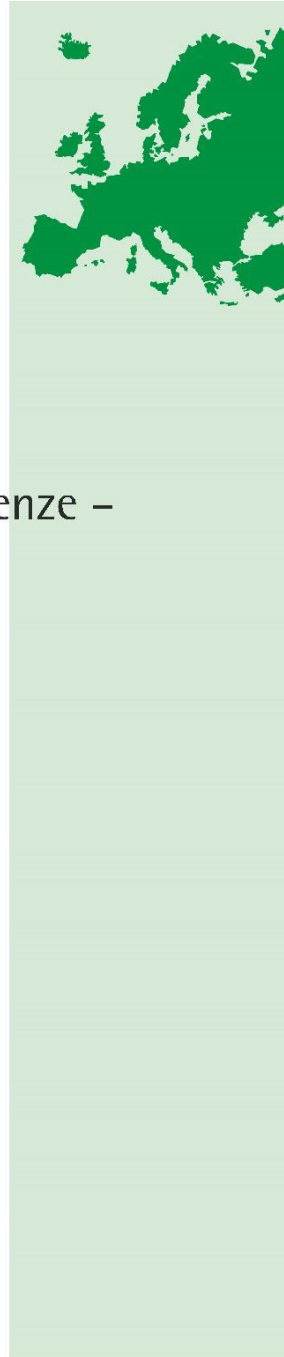
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| | <p>Dörrenbächer begins with an overview of initiatives aimed at developing Europe into a competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy, such as the Lisbon Strategy. Subsequently, he focuses on the economic and demographic discrepancies that exist within the Greater Region, e.g. in relation to the age structure of the population and youth unemployment. Considering these factors, cross-border VET in general, and especially in the Greater Region, has gained importance in recent years and could be seen as a promising concept for the future.</p> <p>After outlining existing cross-border VET initiatives in the Greater Region, Dörrenbächer reviews two of the most prominent VET framework agreements in greater detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rahmenvereinbarung für die Kooperation in der grenzüberschreitenden beruflichen Aus- und Weiterbildung Saarland – Lothringen (2014) (Framework agreement for cross-border VET cooperation between Saarland and Lorraine) ● Rahmenvereinbarung über die grenzüberschreitende Berufsbildung in der Großregion (2014) (Framework agreement for cross-border vocational education in the Greater Region). <p>Additionally, he briefly mentions that further framework agreements are planned, e.g. between Luxembourg and Lorraine, as well as Lorraine and Rhineland-Palatinate (Germany).</p> <p>Dörrenbächer concludes that the number of cross-border VET initiatives is increasing and that cooperation has become more pragmatic and flexible, leading to an integrated cross-border VET market. Nevertheless many challenges remain to be addressed. One of the main difficulties is the insufficient language proficiency of future trainees, followed by the lack of interest for cross-border VET programmes, which is also due to insufficient information about respective programmes. Further challenges involving intercultural issues involve existing stereotypes and unrealistic expectations from trainees and employers. Economic challenges also exist, particularly regarding the financing of cross-border VET programmes. Dörrenbächer further concludes that, for now, the Greater Region can only partially be considered a cross-border VET area, and that further initiatives and developments are needed.</p> |
| Remarks | |

Book cover:

Available at https://shop.arl-net.de/media/direct/pdf/ab/ab_020/ab_020_gesamt.pdf (accessed 21 September 2020).

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Zukunftsfähigkeit grenzüberschreitender
Zusammenarbeit

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