Everyone has the right to quality and inclusive education, training and life-long learning in order to maintain and acquire skills that enable them to participate fully in society and manage successfully transitions in the labour market.

1. What are the demands of Social Platform & its Members?

- Ensure the right to universal, quality, affordable, accessible and inclusive public education throughout the life-course for all;

- Create a holistic life-long learning perspective and enable people at all life stages to continue learning and developing their competences, including through non-formal and informal education;

- Promote a learner-centred, rights-based approach, which puts people, their potential, and their aspirations at the heart of any learning activity, particularly for those who are especially vulnerable in education systems;

- Ensure that educational approaches supported by the ESF+ or other EU funds are part of a rights-based approach for delivery on the priority of promoting social inclusion and fighting poverty;

- Comprehensively collect data disaggregated by groups in vulnerable situations to detect existing shortcomings in the functioning of education systems.

2. Why do we make these demands?

- 10.2% of 18-24 yos completed lower secondary education and were not in further education or training;

- 16.4% of the 20-34 yos were not in education, training or employment;

- Groups in vulnerable situations are more likely to leave school early or not be in education, training or employment;

- The COVID-19 pandemic has increased inequalities between learners.

3. How should they be implemented at EU level?

- Strongly implement these priorities through projects using EU funding;

- Continue developing EU frameworks for the collection and exchange of good practices;

- Increase emphasis on inclusive and life-long learning in the European Semester process.

Our chapter on principle 1 also includes recommendations on the Digital Education Action Plan, the Skills Agenda and Skills Guarantee as well as the Erasmus+ fund. Read more in our full paper.