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Over 700,000 Participants for the First Vocational Skills Week

The first European Vocational Skills Week took place between 5 and 9 December and closed with an estimated 702,250 people taking part in more than 900 activities across Europe. More info on the event can be found [here](#).

Around 1,400 participants joined the workshops, conferences and other events in Brussels. At national level, Spain, Hungary and Croatia organised the highest number of events during the week. The social media campaign was also successful with over 8,800 posts reaching almost a million viewers (on Facebook, Twitter, etc.)

An award ceremony was organised at the closing event. For example, it included a company and apprentices award in the context of the [European Alliance for Apprenticeships](#), and the most innovative provider of vocational and educational training (VET). In total nine awards were presented by European Commissioner Marianne Thyssen for outstanding, innovative or remarkable performances.

Background: the aim of the Vocational Skills Week was (1) to demonstrate the role of VET for skills and jobs, innovation and competitiveness and (2) to make participants discover how they can use and improve their talents and abilities through VET. The week covered themes such as adult learning and reskilling, youth employment, VET's contribution to competitiveness and jobs, apprenticeships and mobility, businesses and VET, etc.