



# DRIVES Quarterly Newsletter

## Issue No. X | June 2021

### INTERVIEW



**Ana Mendes Godinho**

Portuguese Minister of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security

### Interview with the Portuguese Minister for Labour, Solidarity and Social Security, Ms Ana Mendes Godinho

This edition is dedicated to the importance of the automotive industry for our economies and the recent impacts, such as technology and COVID19, have had on the sector, particularly on workers.

Protecting jobs has been a priority for the EU and its Member States. Towards this end, the EU has established strategy and schemes to support the automotive industry cope with changes in competences, while at the national level, Portugal has launched a new scheme to help unemployed and promote apprenticeships and has allocated funds under its national recovery plan.

In her interview, the minister also gave us her view on the importance of the European blueprints, particularly in the current situation, in guaranteeing that education and training sector swiftly match the automotive ecosystem skills needs.

[Click here](#) to read the full interview.

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# DRIVES' News

## **Launching the Good Practice Resource website**

One of the key recommendations identified in the Apprenticeship Marketplace Report in early 2020 was the creation of a central repository to host ideas and examples of innovative and best practices. After much work from the partners in work package 5 – Apprenticeships, including the Gestamp Technology Institute, Mondragon University, TU Graz, IDESCOM, VSB-Technical University Ostrava and Enginuity, a webinar was held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April to launch the Good Practice Resource. [This is a section within the DRIVES Framework website](#) that details a number of key themes that also came out of the Marketplace Report as well as the case studies themselves.

## **DRIVES Learning Platform is growing!**

Partners involved with DRIVES skills framework (WP3) have been finalising the strategy regarding the Trainer Interaction Courses. The training materials available are a direct result of the joint work of WP3 and WP4 in identifying the automotive industry needs in reskilling/upskilling, stemming from the sector after new mobility dynamics and automotive industrial transformations. So far, we have had more than 700 people registered to attend 23 training courses (MOOCs) online. Visit the [DRIVES Learning Platform!](#)

## **DRIVES Apprenticeship Survey 2021 - We want to hear from you!**

We invite you to [answer our short survey](#) to support the future-proofing of skills and allow the EU automotive workforce to continue to compete on a global scale. The results will inform the Good Practise Resource and also a Marketplace report due later in the year.

## **Automotive Skills Alliance (ASA)**

ASA is an ambitious partnership involving different stakeholders from different background into the automotive ecosystem: industry (both large companies and SMEs), education and training providers, national and regional authorities, trade unions, and trade associations representing a

workforce of more than 14 million people in a vital sector for European competitiveness. The ASA's conception was envisaged as a key action to broaden the outcomes already achieved in the EU-Projects DRIVES and ALBATTIS. Its first steps took place in November 2020, following the launch of the European Pact for Skills by the European Commission, the first action of the European Skills Agenda that plans to strengthen sustainable competitiveness, ensure social fairness, and build resilience to recover from the COVID-19 crisis. [Read more here.](#)



[For more information follow our most recent](#) report to find out what we have been up to recently!

*Stay tuned via the DRIVES website and other media channels for more news!*

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## EU's Policy Update

### **Low-emission vehicles – improving the EU's refuelling / recharging infrastructure**

This initiative sets requirements for greatly expanding the EU's network of recharging and refuelling stations for alternative vehicle fuels – mainly electric batteries, natural gas (CNG/LNG) and hydrogen. The goal is to install a sufficient number of points in all countries that are easy to access and use. This is needed to encourage people to use low- and zero-emission vehicles in much greater numbers than currently – one of the EU's climate objectives in the new European Green Deal. Public consultation to open soon.

### **Revision of the End of Life (ELV) Directive**

The evaluation's provisional conclusions are that the ELV Directive has enabled the elimination of hazardous substances from cars, attainment of the recovery and recycling targets, increase in collection points for end-of-life vehicles. But an important problem in the implementation of the Directive is the large number of "missing vehicles", which are not reported, and represent about 35% of estimated ELVs each year, so approximately 4 million vehicles per year. The ELV Directive is also not fully adapted to address the challenges posed by the evolution in the production of vehicles since its adoption in 2000 (increased use of new materials such as plastics, of electronics, critical

raw materials and carbon fibre, as well as expected development of the market for electric vehicles). Public consultation to open soon.

### **Public consultation on vocational education and training and Adult Learning.**

The European Commission has opened up an open public consultation, until 24 of September, to feed into a proposal for a **Council Recommendation on Education for Environmental Sustainability** later this year. The Recommendation will deal with all types and levels of education, including **vocational education and training and Adult Learning**. [Click here](#) to participate.

### **Pathways to school success – tackling underachievement in basic skills and early leaving from education and training**

To achieve the European Education Area by 2025, the Commission plans to launch the ‘Pathways to school success’ initiative. [Click here](#) to participate. In particular, it aims at identifying: main priority areas where new or reinforced action is needed at various level and in different education and training sectors to reduce low-achievement and increase secondary education attainment for all; new challenges and objectives to be addressed, especially following the Covid crisis; tools and processes that could additionally support efforts to promote school success for all.

[Read more here.](#)

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## **EU News**

### [The end of VET as we know it?](#)

An opinion piece by ETF Director, Cesare Onestini.

In 2018, the European Training Foundation launched an exploration of the future world of skills and skills development. We looked at the different factors driving global change – digitalisation, automation, global value chains, demographic trends,

migration, climate change – and examined their impact on the countries where we work, that is to say North Africa, the Eastern Mediterranean, the Western Balkans, Turkey, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

### [Next generation pure electric Volvo comes with LiDAR technology and AI-driven super computer as standard to help save lives](#)

Volvo Cars' forthcoming fully electric flagship SUV will have industry-leading safety technology as standard

### [Just Transition demands a European legal framework on anticipation and management of change](#)

Equivalent resources are necessary for the transformation of the rest of our manufacturing base – notably the automotive and mobility eco-systems which today employ over 14 million workers.

### [EAfA publishes the results of its recent Apprenticeships Coalition Survey](#)

Between 1 February 2021 and 3 March 2021, EAfA conducted a survey to map apprenticeship coalitions/alliances, understand their main characteristics (e.g., composition, coordination structure, etc.) and identify key challenges to their development.

### [5G Technology shift arrives in automotive](#)

Electrification, autonomy, and connectivity are transforming the automotive sector, and Alex wanted to talk about connectivity.

### [How the European automotive industry aims to build back semiconductor and chip supply](#)

OEMs, suppliers and EU officials are considering how best to develop Europe's semiconductor supply bases to mitigate current and future shortages, but the broad gaps at many levels – including for older, larger chips – mean there will be no magic bullet

### [Europe's first digitalised chip plant opens in Dresden](#)

German engineering and technology company Bosch opened a new semiconductor factory, fully networked with 5G mobile technology, in Dresden on Monday (7 June).

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# Events

- [Electromobility: a green boost for European automotive jobs?](#), 1st July 2021
- [International Conference on Mechanical and Automobile Engineering](#), 1 July 2021 - 3 July 2021
- [Power2Drive Europe 2021](#), 21 July 2021 - 23 July 2021
- [28th EuroSPI Conference](#), 1 to 3 September 2021
- [Automechanika Frankfurt 2021](#), 14 to 18 September 2021
- [Automotive Supplier Summit 2021](#), 4 October 2021
- [Global Automotive Components and Suppliers 2021](#), 9 November 2021 - 11 November 2021
- [Automotive Interiors Expo Europe 2021](#), 9 to 11 November 2021
- [Annual Automotive Lightweight Materials Conference 2021](#), 11 to 12 November 2021
- [Tire Cologne 2022](#), 24 to 26 May 2022

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For more information on our project:



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