

# Acronyms and Abbreviations<sup>1</sup>

ANFC (*Acuerdos Nacionales de Formación Continua*).

The National Agreements on Continuing Vocational Training first signed in 1993, then renewed in 1996 and which opened the third and youngest subsystem of the VET provision in Spain.

APL (Accreditation of Prior Learning). (Also named as RPL, see below).

AROPE (At Risk Of Poverty and Exclusion).

It is an indicator included in the Europe 2020 Strategy approved by the Council of Europe in June 2010.

BOE (*Boletín Oficial del Estado*).

The Official Bulletin where all laws, decrees and legal rules are published with validity country-wide.

CCOO (*Comisiones Obreras*).

One of the largest trade unions in the country, in the 1960s and 1980s linked to the Communist Party.

CCSE (see GESO below).

CEDEFOP (European Centre for the Development of Vocational Education and Training).

CEO (*Director Ejecutivo/Chief Executive Officer*).

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<sup>1</sup>In order to explain some of the notions in this list, we have followed the glossary published by Cedefop (2014). Terminology of European education and training policy. Luxembourg, Cedefop.

CEOE (*Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales*).

The Spanish Confederation of regional Employer Organizations.

CEPYME (*Confederación Española de la Pequeña y Mediana Empresa*).

The Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium Enterprises.

CFGM (*Ciclos Formativos<sup>2</sup> de Grado Medio*).

Intermediate level VET or VET level 2, one year VET after successful completion of compulsory school.

CFGS (*Ciclos Formativos de Grado Superior*).

Higher level VET or VET level 3, usually two years VET after successful completion of the Baccalaureate.

CIG (*Confederación Intersindical Galega*).

Galician trade union that joined CEOE, CEPYME, CCOO and UGT in the General Council of FORCEM.

CIFP (*Centro Integrado de Formación Profesional*).

Vocational Education and Training Centers, dependent either from the Department of Education or the Department of Employment, that offer education and training of both formal and non-formal training, both initial and continuing, for young people and adults, for employed and unemployed people.

CNAE (*Clasificación Nacional de Actividades Económicas - National Classification of Economic Activities*)

CNCP (*Catálogo Nacional de Cualificaciones Profesionales*).

Spanish National Catalogue of Vocational Qualifications. It consists of instruments and actions which are necessary to promote and develop the integration of Vocational Education and Training, as well as to assess and accredit professional competencies.

CNED -14 (*Clasificación Nacional de Educación 2014*).

The National Classification of Occupations as defined by the Spanish National Statistics Institute.

CNR (*Centro Nacional de Referencia*).

Vocational education and training schools, depending upon the Department of Education, that are acknowledged as national reference centers for one sector or occupational area, in charge of supporting the task of updating the curricula of all qualifications within the sector.

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<sup>2</sup>Formative Cycles are the name that Vocational Qualifications or Vocational courses provided by the formal VET system receive.

CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility).

CVET Continuing Vocational Education and Training (see FC below)

EEC (European Economic Community).

EIE (*Empresa e iniciativa emprendedora*).

It is one of the few compulsory common subjects to all CFGS qualifications. It consists of basic knowledge on management and entrepreneurship, in order to facilitate the set up of one's own company.

ESF (European Social Fund).

ESL (Early School Leaving).

EU (European Union).

FC (*Formación Continua*).

Continuing Vocational Training, the subsystem addressed to the employed workforce, it is not part of the school system.

FCT (*Formación en Centros de Trabajo*).

Work placement, a compulsory subject that all formal VET students must take, be it in CFGM or CFGS, lasting between 300 and 700 hours approximately. Students keep their status as students, do not get a wage nor a subsidy of any kind. Approved in 1990, it was one of the major changes in formal VET and it got companies involved in actual delivery of vocational education.

FOL (*Formación y Orientación Laboral*).

It is one of the few compulsory common subjects to all CFGM and CFGS qualifications. It consists of an introduction to the world of work, with contents of three kinds: labor rights, labor search and health and safety issues at work.

FORCEM (*Fundación para la Formación Continua*).

The Continuing Training Foundation that was established in the mid 1990s and shut down before the end of the century, being replaced by FTFE (see below) and later on FUNDAE (see below).

FPB (*Formación Profesional Básica*).

It is the Basic Vocational Qualification or Vocational Qualification level 1, which is provided still within compulsory school and for students who will have difficulties in achieving the GESO. It is also known as PFI (*Programes de Formació Inicial*) in Catalonia.

FPE (*Formación para el Empleo*).

Non-formal vocational training, consisting of vocational training for the employed workforce as well as for unemployed people.

FPO (*Formación Profesional Ocupacional*).

Non-formal vocational training, consisting of vocational training for the unemployed, it plays the role of non-formal initial VET.

FTFE (*Fundación Tripartita para la Formación y el Empleo*).

It was a public-private trust, integrated by representatives of the government, employers and trade unions in order to set the mechanisms and assure quality of continuing vocational training. It was renamed in 2015.

FUNDAE (*Fundación Estatal para la Formación y el Empleo*).

Since 2015, it is the new public-private trust in charge of the management of continuing training in the country.

GDP (Gross Domestic Product).

GESO (*Graduado en Educación Secundaria Obligatoria*).

Also mentioned as CCSE (Certificate of Compulsory Secondary Education), it is the General Certificate in Secondary Education (GCSE), achieved after successfully completing compulsory secondary education. It is a requirement, since the 1990 reform, to have access to any post-compulsory offer within the Education System, that one can also achieve after 18 through registration in adult education schools.

IGE (*Instituto Galego de Estatística*).

Galician Institute of Statistics.

ICT (Information and Communication Technologies).

ILO (International Labour Organization).

INAEM (*Instituto Aragonés de Empleo*).

Region of Aragón Institute of Employment.

INCUAL (National Institute of Qualifications in Spain).

INE (*Instituto Nacional de Estadística*).

Spanish National Institute of Statistics.

ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education).ITL (*Individual Training Leave*).

Also known as PIF (see below). It is one of the possibilities a worker has to enrol in continuing vocational training, consisting of a maximum of 200 hours a year for the worker to take part in training of his/her choice, instead of attending already planned courses by the company, employers or unions.

IVET Initial VET

Vocational Education provided by the school system to young people, it includes FPB, CFGM and CFGS

LES (*Ley de Economía Sostenible*).

Approved in 2011, it was a law that intended to reshape the productive system of Spain and to facilitate decision making at different levels, VET included, in order to improve the productive and economic planning in the country to avoid huge impacts of financial crisis like the ones suffered in 2008.

Level 1 VET (see FPB)

Level 2 VET (see CFGM).

Level 3 VET (see CFGS).

LGE (*Ley General de Educación*).

It was the Act that modernised the school system in 1970 and that brought VET as an inherent part of the system, as it has remained ever since.

LOCFP (*Ley Orgánica de las Cualificaciones y la Formación Profesional*).

Proposed by the conservative party, it is the only Act on Education since Spain recovered democracy in 1975 that has not been contested but approved with the support of the main political parties, employer representatives and the largest trade unions in the country. Passed in 2002, it set up the basis towards the reunification of the three parallel subsystems that there still exist nowadays.

LOE (*Ley Orgánica de Educación*).

Passed in 2006, this law attempted to confirm some of the major features of LOGSE that the conservatives had tried to suppress in 2002.

LOGSE (*Ley de Ordenación General del Sistema Educativo*).

Approved in 1990 by the Socialdemocrats, this Act on Education introduced a couple of relevant features in terms of VET. First, the extension of the compulsory age of schooling for people under 16. Second, the proclamation of a comprehensive system for compulsory secondary education, hence avoiding segregation measures. Third, the need to have the Graduate in Secondary Education in order to enter Intermediate VET; which in fact implied the end of formal VET as a compensatory measure.

LOMCE (*Ley Orgánica para la Mejora de la Calidad de la Educación*).

It is the current law on Education, passed in 2013 by the conservatives and reintroducing segregation in the secondary system while considering VET as the alternative for the working class, limiting access to the post-compulsory academic pathways.

MECD (*Ministerio de Educación, Cultura y Deporte*).

Also known as MEC, it is the Department of Education, whose responsibilities have varied according to decisions of the different governments of the nation. The formal VET system depends from this Department, which fixes the nation-wide rules that apply in all regions.

MESS (*Ministerio de Empleo y Seguridad Social*).

It is the Department of Employment and Social Security, responsible for non-formal training as well as continuing vocational education and training.

NPNFP (*Nuevo Plan Nacional de Formación Profesional*).

It was the National Plan on VET, between 1998 and 2002, and the one which concluded by the approval of the 2002 LOCFP.

OECD (The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).  
PC (*Plan de Centro*).

It is a yearly plan that every school in the educational system must have and which should serve as a guideline to exercise its limited autonomy and to facilitate its management.

PCPI (*Plan de Cualificación Profesional Inicial*).

Basic Vocational Education, or VET level 1, between 2006 and 2013. See also FPB.

PGS (*Programas de Garantía Social*).

Basic Vocational Education, or VET level 1, between 1994 and 2006. See also FPB.

PIAAC (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies).

PIF (*Permisos Individuales de Formación*).

NPNFP (*Plan Nacional de Formación Profesional*).

National VET Plan, valid between 1993 and 1998, which was intended to coordinate initial VET, both formal and non-formal.

PNL (prácticas no laborales)

Work placement en la FPE que students must take. La duración es la que se establezca en el certificador e profesionalidad coespondiente. Igual que en la FCT, students keep their status as students, do not get a wage nor a subsidy of any kind.

R&D (Research and Development).

RIS (Regional Innovation System).

Regional analysis of innovation implemented in Europe to develop the Lisbon Strategy.

RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning).

SDG (Sustainable Development Goals – United Nations).

SDGF (Sustainable Development Goals Fund – United Nations).

SEPE (*Servicio Público de Empleo Estatal*).

It is the current branch of the Department of Employment in charge of Active Employment Policies, unemployment subsidies as well as many types of non-formal training provision and all regulations on Continuing Training.

SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) UGT (*Unión General de Trabajadores*).

It is one of the oldest trade unions in the country, linked to the Socialist Party since its creation in the early 20th century.

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UN (United Nations).

UNDP (United Nations Development Program).

VET (Vocational Education and Training).

Vocational training within the education system: medium-level training cycles and higher-level training cycles

VT (Vocational Training).

Vocational training out of the education system, providing occupational certificates and vocational qualifications.