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**New insights of VPL of the most important skills for personal development**

In 2020, only 9.9% of the European population aged 16 to 74 left school early. Several studies have been conducted to understand the disadvantaged backgrounds of the learners with special needs or fewer opportunities. Opportunities in society for the low-skilled are negatively affected by different kinds of problems, e.g., health and private circumstances. According to the OECD (2018), it is important to use and improve the skills of all people, including low-skilled. One of the most important goals of learning is to increase the rate of social inclusion and ones own personal development. Several studies show that investment in personal development in some cases seems to gaurantee more chances for life than just investment in career learning. Investment in transversal skills gives the opportunity to embrace learning in a holistic approach and to ensure that everyone in society can optimise his or her personal development and chances on the labour market. The TRANSVAL-EU project is a European project, which studies the opportunities and the necessary conditions of VPL of transversal skills for all citizens in our European society. Questions which will be answered during this presentation are what the global definition of transversal skills is and why these are so important for personal development. Besides, one gets an overview of the different specified transversal skills and the best European practices of validation of prior learned transversal skills. This gives the opportunity to enrich your own work as a researcher, teacher, professional, policy-maker and trainer or coach in education in order to optimise VPL for personal development for citizens throughout Europe.