

UK NORDIC BALTIC SUMMIT: 19-20 JANUARY 2011



THEME:

Jobs, Family & Gender Equality

TITLE OF PRESENTATION:

How to combine theoretical and practical/workplace training

Synopsis:

Combining theoretical and practical training benefits both business and graduates. Young people with work experience are more attractive to businesses - which ensures a low youth unemployment, not least for young males, who otherwise stand to become tomorrow's losers.

Presenter:

Jørn Neergaard Larsen, Director General of the Confederation of Danish Employers (DA)

Short Biography:

Since February 1, 1996, Mr. Neergaard Larsen has been the Director General of DA. He is member of the Executive Committee of BUSINESSEUROPE, of several boards concerning the labour market and of two major Danish pension groups. He is member of the Danish Government's Commission for Growth.

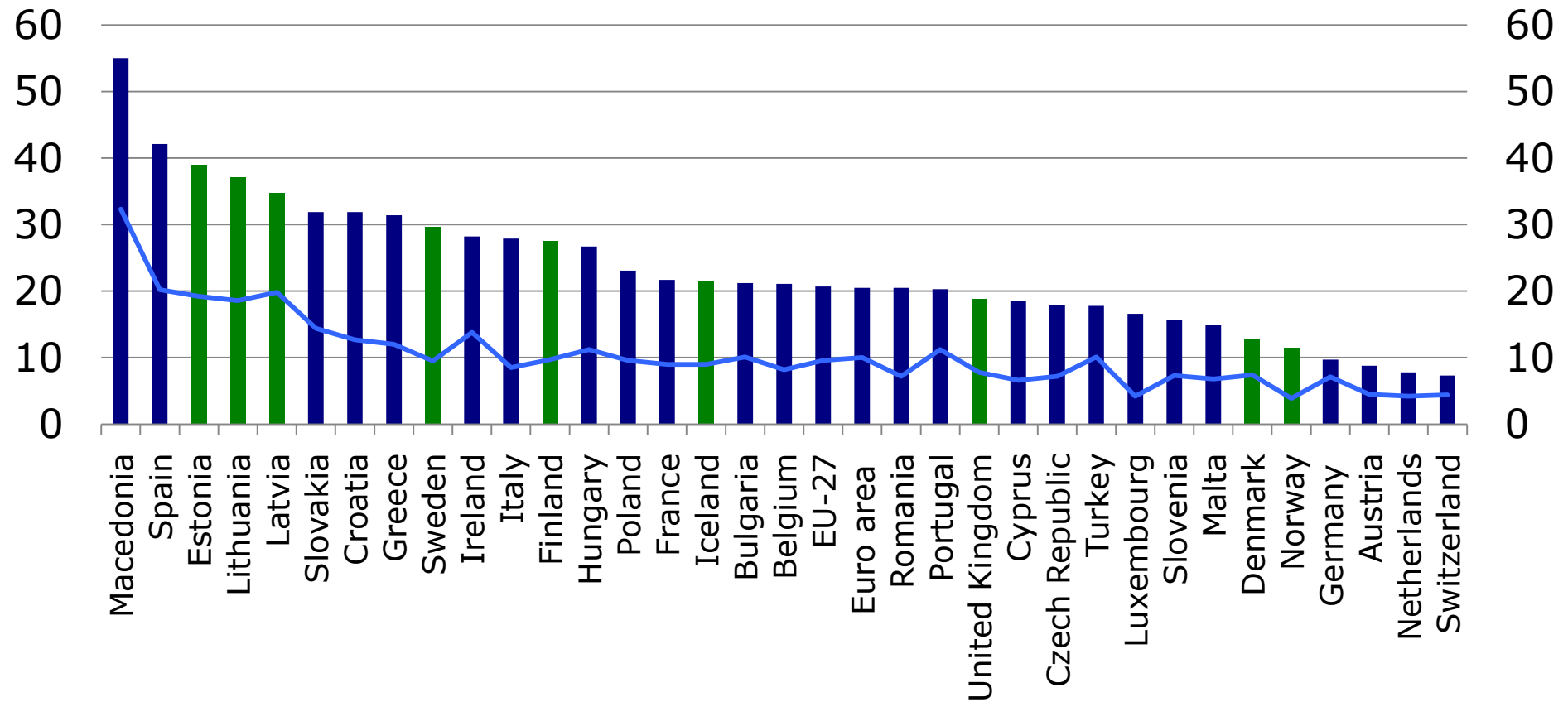
Companies look for graduates with work experience

- Vital that young people gain experience in the labour market during their studies
- Combining theoretical and practical training benefits both business and graduates
- Linking education and employment generates positive synergies between the areas – and secures a smooth transition into employment

Youth unemployment

Unemployment rates (percentage), 2010

■ Unemployed 15-24 — Unemployed 15-64



Data: Eurostat LFS 2010

Vocational education and training

- One explanation for the low youth unemployment in Denmark is found in VET
- Nearly all VET-graduates are in employment after a year, which also applies to young, male immigrants
- 2/3 of the training takes place at a company
- VET-graduates attain solid working experience and can contribute to the production from day one

A number of countries have substantial workplace training

- Germany, Austria, Netherland and Switzerland have substantial workplace training
- Iceland and Norway have elements of work based training in their VET-systems
- Other countries have more school based systems

Universities

- About 70 percent of Danish university students have a student job (typically working 10-15 hours per week)
- Linking university studies with relevant business cases - such as using the company as a case study for a dissertation - generates positive synergies between the areas
- Student workers contribute with the latest knowledge from universities