

EDUCATION TRAINING AND YOUTH TREATY ARTICLES AND LEGISLATION

1. Article 165 TFEU provides that the EU has supporting competence in the area of education. Article 166 further describes action to implement a vocational training policy
2. The EU is expressly given **external competence** - i.e. the power to act externally and enter into negotiations and commitments with third countries and international organisations - in the areas of education and training by Articles 165 and 166 TFEU.
3. Article 165 specifically prohibits any **harmonisation** by the EU in the area of education.
4. What this means in terms of UK action in the area of education and training is that the UK is free to make its own laws regardless of any action the EU takes, assuming it is not precluded by EU action in other areas, such as the internal market. It also means that externally, the UK is free to enter bilateral and multilateral international agreements, again provided this is not precluded by overriding EU external competence arising out of EU competence under other areas.
5. The Council may adopt recommendations in the area of education, training and youth.
6. Article 148 states that the Council will draw up annual employment policy guidelines and that Member States will report against these. Such reporting may include education issues.
7. Article 165 provides for the development of youth exchanges and specifically allows action to encourage the participation of young people in democratic life in Europe.
8. There is one EU directive - **Directive [77/486/EEC](#) on the education of the children of migrant workers** - this directs Member States to take appropriate measures to promote the teaching of the mother tongue and culture of the country of origin of the children of migrant workers from other Member States. However, the Directive has not been implemented by the UK, nor it has not been fully implemented in any other EU country.
9. **Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013** established the programme *Erasmus+: the Union programme for education, training youth and sport*
10. There has been one other regulation adopted related to education - **Regulation (EC) No [452/2008](#) concerning the production and**

development of statistics on education and lifelong learning – this regulation establishes a common framework for the systematic production of statistics in the field of education and lifelong learning.