

The "Conseil de l'Education et de la Formation" in the French Community of Belgium – the CEF

- An advisory body bringing together 28 member organisations, all the participants in education and vocational training
- A place of encounters and synergies between education and vocational training
- The CEF, a French Council to create links within a [Federal State](#)

OUR JOB:

THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING WITH A VIEW TO LIFELONG LEARNING

In a nutshell

The CEF is not a management organ, which exists elsewhere in the structure of the French Community, and nor it is a decision-making organ.

It is, however, an Advisory Body, which tries to have a viewpoint that is both prospective and pragmatic, given the expertise and experience of its members and project coordinators and the frequent calls upon field professionals and the results of research.

The Conseil de l'Education et de la Formation is currently the only institutional place where all levels of education and training are discussed together with all their partners. The works and debates of the CEF participate in order to avoid breakdowns: between regional and local policies, and between the lifelong learning paths of French-speaking citizens.

In this way, the CEF contributes widely to ensure that connections are established between the French Community, Walloon and Brussels (COCOF). Its Advices enlighten the governments concerned and are often taken into consideration in the construction of education policies.

The missions of the Conseil de l'Education et de la Formation

- Promoting the vocational training organized in the Walloon region and within the Brussels COCOF, and the Education organized or subsidized by the French Community, with respect for the autonomy and pedagogic freedom of the organizing bodies, on the basis of the existing Council works.
- Dealing with all subjects concerning the future of education and vocational training by establishing links between them. It must submit Advices on all fundamental educational reforms, including any changes to the duration of compulsory education, and all training reforms, including the coordination of employment and training policies.
- Studying the education-training-employment accord and the evolution of the employment market and opportunities upon leaving the various levels of study and training.
- Ensuring the liaison with the economic and social environments for the determination of a policy aiming to meet the needs of education and training, and notably to ensure the necessary accord with the employment market.
- Over the last few years, the CEF has been paying particular attention to the impact of the Lisbon process (Bologna and Copenhagen) on Education and Training. It played a supervisory role in this field, which was replaced with a role of transmission, dissemination, popularization and a real expertise in several European matters.

The topics tackled at the CEF

The evolutions relative to education or training

- management of basic knowledge
- key competences

- the issue of textbooks
- lifelong learning
- school dropouts
- the issue of training courses
- the development of creative abilities
- pre-school learning of French...

The link between education and training

- adult learning: studies, training, vocational insertion
- relations between education and vocational training
- new jobs of adult training officers in adult education and vocational training, etc.

The impact of the Lisbon objectives and the “2010 & 2020 Education and Training” programs

- the European qualifications framework and the implementation of a French (Belgian?) qualifications framework
- impact of a learning outcomes approach
- validation and recognition of non-formal and informal learning
- the system of credits for education and professional training (ECVET)
- the monitoring and the impact of the “2010 Education and Training” programme / response to European consultations (modernisation of compulsory education, ECVET, EQF, etc.)

Participation at EUNEC, the European Network of Education Councils

- highlighting of the works of the CEF through sharing between peers members of [EUNEC](#)
- a way of being direct representatives of Europe with regard to the future of education and training.

The CEF, a cross-disciplinary Council

The Conseil de l'Education et de la Formation (CEF) [Education and Training Council] is one of the advisory bodies attached to the General Secretariat department established on 12 July 1990 (and reaffirmed in 2001) by decree.

It has the generic mission of promoting education and training. It is therefore incumbent on it to deal with all matters concerning the future of education and training by establishing links between these two worlds.

In order to respect the specific problems of the environments of training and education, the CEF has three authorities: the Education Chamber, the Training Chamber, and the Council bringing together these two authorities and alone authorised to issue [Advices](#).

The CEF is composed of representatives of all stakeholders in education and vocational training with a view to lifelong learning.

The Chambers manage the cases that concern them more specifically, in accordance with an agreement made in Council. But the Advices are made in Council, bringing together the two Chambers, usually by consensus.

Since 2008, the [Advices](#) have been brief and have drawn on dense and highly documented examination files, published by the secretariat under the responsibility of the [chairmen](#).

Six [project coordinators monitor](#) the cases and conduct the examinations. They are often invited as experts to various circles in Belgium and Europe.

***A new website to follow the CEF's activities and publications:
www.cef.cfwb.be/ even in English and in Flemish.***

Belgium, a federal state

Belgium is a Federal State composed of 3 Regions and 3 Communities. Each has its own Parliament and its own Government.

The Federal State has its own organs and separate jurisdictions.

BELGIUM

THE FEDERAL STATE



The Regions are responsible for vocational training, and the Communities organise compulsory education, including technical and vocational and higher education.

The CEF is a Council of the French Community and its Advices concern the whole of the French-speaking part of Belgium.

THE COMMUNITIES

 **THE FLEMISH COMMUNITY**



 **THE FRENCH COMMUNITY**



 **THE GERMAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY**



THE REGIONS

 **THE FLEMISH REGION**



 **THE BRUSSELS-CAPITAL REGION**



 **THE WALLON REGION**

