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Skills and Education for Europe's Competitiveness

The European Commission's Union of Skills initiative outlines concrete steps to address current challenges. But it also offers a valuable opportunity to discuss how higher education contributes to society and the economy, particularly in the context of the green and digital transitions.

A key premise is that, even with improved data quality, including through the use of AI, responding in a timely manner to changing skills demands will remain difficult. This is due to the complex and interrelated factors involved, such as technological innovation, migration, and demographic shifts, as well as the relatively long lead times inherent in higher education.

This presentation invites discussion on whether and how this could be improved, and what the implications would be for higher education provision and institutions. It is informed by a recent statement from the European University Association in response to the Union of Skills.