

## THE FUTURE OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN THE VALENCIAN COMMUNITY

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There is unanimity in affirming that Vocational Training is the key of our future, both at the level of employability and at the level of economic growth.

I am a member of the **Valencian Council of Vocational Training**, the highest advisory body for institutional participation, coordination and advice of the Government in everything related to Vocational Training. Any similarity between what is written in the Decree 219/2014 -that regulates the powers of said Council- and what really happened at the meeting on July 28 is *pure coincidence*. We live in a virtual globe of "*fiction*" dressed in participation and democracy.

The Valencian Government boasts of having implemented 270 new Training Programmes to improve the public offer in the 2021/22 academic year, all of them of public ownership. That is very good, and everyone without exception applauds it. Unfortunately, and consistent with its ideological vision, it does not accept that the schools of Social Initiative are also public offer, for all purposes. They speak of "Public-Private" collaboration because they need companies so that students from Public Schools can do their training practices there, but they do not accept the social initiative education sector as a leading actor in training. They are not able to understand that those schools have a mentality that is in tune very well with the business mentality, and that Public Schools could benefit greatly if educational collaboration alliances were promoted between both type of schools.

We need a new generation of politicians, younger, less imprisoned by history. Any "*exclusively*" state structure turns out to be very expensive and very uncompetitive, and therefore doomed to mediocrity and failure. This is not a prophecy, it is a historical analysis.

This old-fashioned mentality does not understand that quality and educational success are not achieved exclusively with the contribution of resources (economic or human), but mainly with the establishment of alliances and the improvement of quality in the human factor. It is not a matter of allocating more resources, but of optimizing those already allocated and making the union stronger.

The language and mind-set of companies is that of results. This Department of Education continues with the socio-political-economic categories of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They should travel, leave their offices, their city, their unsuccessful meetings ... and open their eyes to reality, freeing themselves from their philosophical-theoretical constructions.

How easy it is to spend public money, which is not yours. And how sad it is to hear those responsible for this waste saying that they are the defenders of that money, when in practice they waste and squander it. There is talk and it is presumed of social dialogue and there is no dialogue: there is a "simulation" of dialogue. We talk about social justice and justice is not promoted, because sometimes it is acted against it knowingly, regardless of the "*collateral damage*" that this may produce on people. A pity...

Fortunately we have now a new Directorate General for Vocational Training that has already shown signs of having this creative, positive and constructive vision of the future. New sap... It has difficult and ambitious challenges, such as promoting Dual Vocational Training, reducing school failure in Vocational Training, promoting educational innovation, etc. I would like to convey to you the assurance that you have the full support of the concerted private sector for your success.