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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(24.8.2026)

Country-specific recommendations are based on challenges identified in the country reports. The 2026 country report for Poland notes that gender disparities in employment are high. The gender employment gap is 1.6 percentage points above EU average. In 2023, women accounted for only 17% of tertiary students and 17.5% of professionals in the field of information and communication technology.

The report highlights challenges affecting both women and men, including the low efficiency of vocational education and training, which limits graduate outcomes. Employment among graduates declined from 82.3% in 2022 to 76.9% in 2025. Labour market segmentation is identified as a general challenge.

The Commission continuously monitors relevant data using Eurostat and other official indicators. The framework is reviewed by the relevant subgroups of the Council's consultative committees¹ to ensure that developments affecting different demographic groups are adequately reflected providing for an evidence-driven assessment, considering inequalities and country-specific contexts.

In line with Articles 121 and 148 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Commission draws up recommendations for the Council on economic, social, employment and budgetary issues based on the country reports, which were consulted with Member States and considering their requests and comments. After publication, the recommendations are examined by the relevant Council preparatory bodies and Member States' delegates². Amendments are proposed before finalisation and submitted to the Council. The comments of Member States were considered throughout the process. The Council adopted the texts of the recommendations on 10 July 2026 and are now final³.

¹ The Indicator Group of the Employment Committee and the Indicator Subgroup of the Social Protection Committee.

² The Economic and Financial Committee, the Economic Policy Committee, the Employment Committee, and the Social Protection Committee.

³ <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11133-2026-INIT/en/pdf>.