

# THE EFFECTS OF THE EUROPEAN SEMESTER ON THE NATIONAL BUDGET ESTONIA COUNTRY CASE

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# EDUCATION SITUATION IN ESTONIA

- ❖ 1.3 million people in Estonia
- ❖ Ca 24 000 teachers:
  - + 8 000 kindergarten teachers
  - + 14 000 school teachers
  - + 2000 VET teachers
- ❖ Good education has always been very important
- ❖ Today teachers are not sufficiently valued (TALIS) – EEPU is working on this problem (salary, work load etc)
- ❖ We have good results in PISA tests – it shows the good work of our teachers 😊
- ❖ We have good network of strong comprehensive schools

# PRIVATISATION IN EDUCATION IN ESTONIA:

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- ❖ Historically there have been almost no private schools in Estonia:
  - + 1920 - 1940 only state schools
  - + 1940 - 1990 Soviet Union – no private schools
  - + 1991 all schools state schools or local authorities schools
  - + 1991 - 2010 only few private schools - They were all either owned by the church or used an alternative form of pedagogy (33 private schools)

# PRIVATISATION IN EDUCATION IN ESTONIA:

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- ❖ 2011 new law – local authorities must pay more costs
  - + 2011- 2015
  - +50% private schools (49 private schools)
- ❖ That is not a big problem in Estonia, **yet**.
- ❖ 2015 (2016) new (old) law – it is not mandatory for the local authorities to pay the cost of the school building (they can do it if they want to)
- ❖ We (the EEPU) think that's a good idea!

# TODAY:

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- ❖ 2014 Estonian Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020 (<https://www.hm.ee/en/estonian-lifelong-learning-strategy-2020>)
- ❖ This document describes the current situation in major areas of education. It also lists the goals to reach by 2020 and the financial (ESF) resources needed to reach these goals.
- ❖ Different parties were involved in developing Estonian Lifelong Learning Strategy (EEMU, head masters etc.)

## ESTONIAN LIFELONG LEARNING STRATEGY 2020 MAIN OBJECTIVES

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- ❖ Average salary of teachers should be raised to be 120% of the average salary in Estonia.
- ❖ The two priorities are developing digital learning materials and ensuring adequate infrastructure
- ❖ Another priority is to increase participation in vocational education and training, and its labour market relevance.
- ❖ Apprenticeship-based vocational education. It is a form of vocational education where schools cooperate with different companies and most of the learning takes place at the workplace.
- ❖ Estonian Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020 is an important document.

# THE EEPU AT THE MOMENT:

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- ❖ According to the law, we negotiate the salaries of teachers with the minister of education every year.
- ❖ This year the negotiations have been quite tricky.
- ❖ The goal is to raise the salary of teachers to 120% of the average salary in Estonia.
- ❖ This aim is also in our government coalition agreement, so we hope that we will be able to come a bit closer to this goal next year as well.
- ❖ It will not be easy but we're working on it.

Thank you!