

ELLI Index in Brief

What Is the ELLI Index?

The European Lifelong Learning Index (ELLI) is an annual measure of Europe's "state of play" of learning throughout the different stages of life from "cradle to grave" and across the different learning environments of school, community, work and home life. The ELLI Index measures learning in four different domains taken from the UNESCO framework completed by Jaques Delors that include learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and learning to be.

Why Do We Need ELLI?

As the pace of globalization increases and the economies of the world become increasingly focused on knowledge and skills, learning is becoming one of the dominant forces in deciding the success and sustainability of individuals and nations.

ELLI introduces a new perspective on monitoring learning by collecting data from a broader spectrum than any previous attempts in measuring the state of learning. The richness of the ELLI index and database highlights the role of learning not merely through education systems but in all aspects of human activity. In particular, it explicitly connects successful learning with outcomes, such as social cohesion, that characterize well-functioning societies.

How Does ELLI Work?

ELLI is a Composite Index, a measurement instrument that combines different indicators and statistics to compile an overall score for a specific subject or phenomena that is not directly measurable. Composite Indices, like the Consumer Price Index or various national stock indices, are widely used to measure, monitor and analyze trends or for regional and international comparisons.

ELLI combines 36 indicators to compile an overall index as well as four subindices. Indicators, taken from various data sources, reflect a wide range of learning activities, such as participation rates in formal education and training, literacy skills, employees participating in vocational training, internet access and usage, civic engagement and cultural activities.

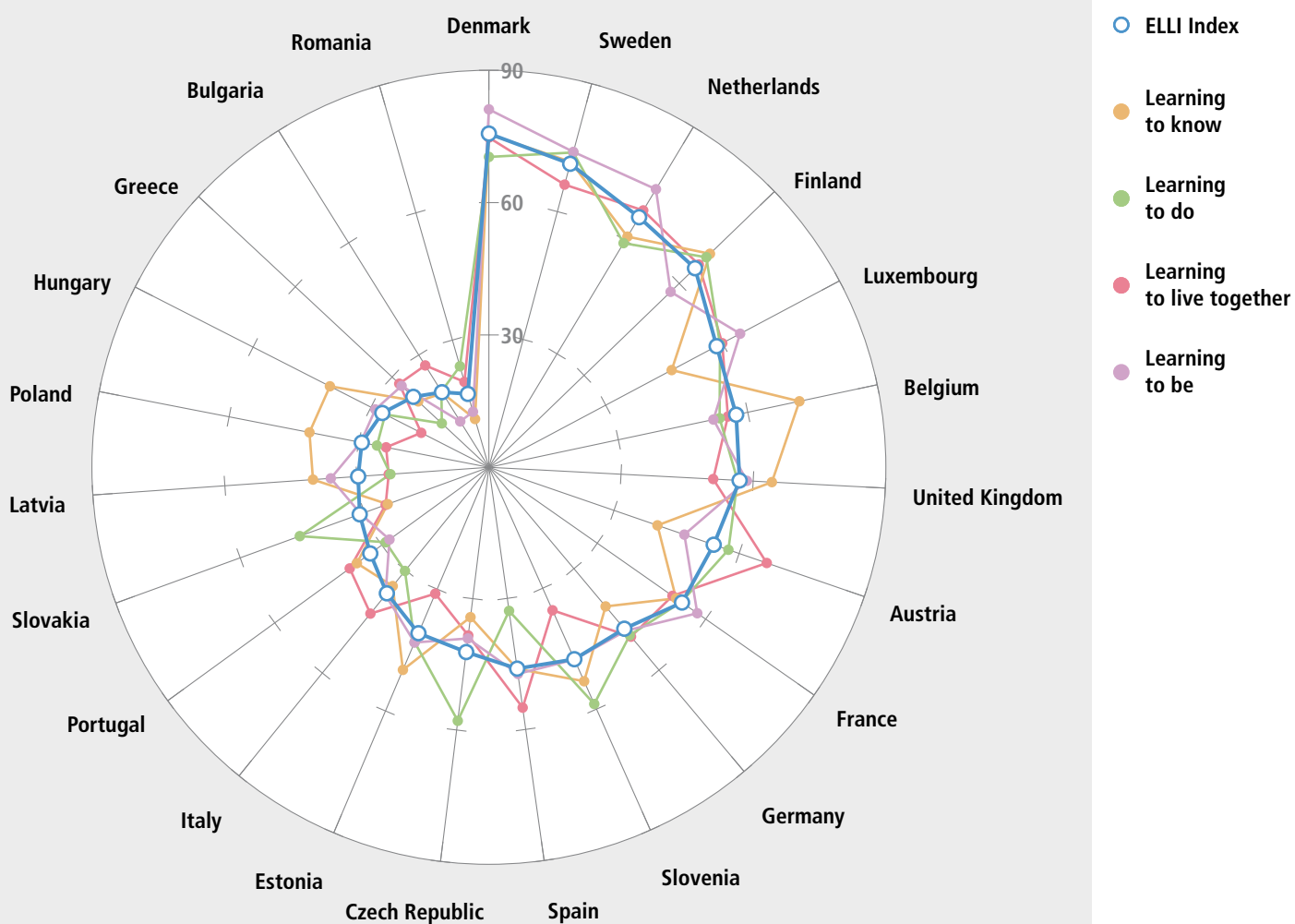
ELLI Index Results at a Glance

The overall ELLI Index results show that the Nordic countries Denmark, Sweden and Finland and, in addition, the Netherlands rank highest. Particularly Denmark and Sweden have been the most successful countries in Europe at implementing the idea of lifelong and lifewide learning.

The top performers are followed by a group of countries that consist of mainly Central European and Anglo-Saxon countries. The next group of countries, which are below the EU average,

are from Southern and Eastern Europe and range from the Czech Republic to Poland. The lowest performing group of countries is also comprised of Southern and Eastern European countries, including Hungary, Greece, Bulgaria and Romania. However, there are many exceptions to these general patterns. Slovenia, a former communist country and new member of the European Union, performs well, scoring above the EU average on par with Germany. Countries also have their own areas of relative strength and weakness across the four learning domains (know, do, live together and be).

ELLI Index Results 2010 – Lifelong Learning in the European Union



Address | Contact

Bertelsmann Stiftung
Carl-Bertelsmann-Straße 256
33311 Gütersloh
Germany
www.bertelsmann-stiftung.de

Dr. Ulrich Schoof

Project Manager
Programm Zukunft der Beschäftigung/Good Governance
Phone +49 5241 81-81384
Fax +49 5241 81-681384
ulrich.schoof@bertelsmann-stiftung.de

www.elli.org