

Aida Hadzialic leads video game delegation in the US

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On 13–17 June, Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic is traveling to the United States to participate in the Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3), the world's largest video game trade fair, in Los Angeles, California. The aim is to promote the Swedish gaming industry.

"One in every ten people in the world – around 700 million people – plays Swedish video games. This is why it is extremely important for me to draw attention to this type of sector of the future," says Ms Hadzialic.

For the past few years, Sweden has been the fastest growing country in the gaming industry, with a turnover of approximately EUR 6.5 million each year, spread across 170 companies. The purpose of the visit to the E3 trade fair is to help Swedish companies in their contacts with international counterparts and to discuss how the Government should work on skills supply in the sector.

Ms Hadzialic will also meet representatives of various organisations and companies that work on how to naturally incorporate new technology and ICT in education.



Aida Hadzialic to speak at European Youth Forum in Brussels

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On Thursday 14 April, Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic will travel to Brussels to participate in the European Youth Forum's Council of Members, together with European Commissioner Tibor Navracsics. Ms Hadzialic will give a speech describing how she became involved in politics and discussing the importance of giving young people influence and power to shape their own lives.

Ms Hadzialic will also take part in an exchange of experience on Europe and youth for inclusive societies, with a special focus on education within the framework of the Paris Declaration.

"Xenophobia, nationalism and extremism are spreading around Europe. The solution lies in broad measures that will promote more jobs, increased equality and stronger education. I look forward to talking about this at the European Youth Forum," says Ms Hadzialic.

The European Youth Forum is an umbrella organisation for 100 youth organisations from all over Europe. European Commission Vice-President Jyrki Katainen, from Finland, will also participate in the day's events.



Aida Hadzialic in the Netherlands to discuss external grading

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On 24–25 February, Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic will visit the Netherlands. There, she will visit the IB Global Centre (the International Baccalaureate Global Centre for the Africa, Europe, Middle East region) to hear about their work on external marking and grading.

She will also meet representatives of the Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science to discuss efforts in the Netherlands to improve the attractiveness of the teaching profession.



OECD to report on how the Swedish education system compares internationally

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On Tuesday 24 November, the OECD will present its report 'Education at a Glance'. Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic will give her comments in connection with this.

'Education at a Glance' is the result of a collaboration between the OECD countries' governments, experts and authorities. The aim of the report is to analyse and compare education systems using indicators. A special overview of how Sweden's education system compares internationally will be published in the form of a Country Note.

There will be an opportunity for individual interviews and the press briefing will be webcast at regeringen.se. Please bring your press credentials.

Time: 11.00

Where: Lilla pressrummet, Press Centre, Rosenbad



Aida Hadzialic to visit New York and speak at the United Nations

Published 27 May 2015 Updated 27 May 2015

Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic is travelling to New York today. On Friday she will speak on Sweden's youth policy focus in a panel in connection with the 20th anniversary of the UN World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (WPAY).

WPAY provides a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of youth around the world. It includes 15 priority areas and contains proposals for action in each one of these areas. Ms Hadzialic has been invited because of Sweden's international reputation in the area of youth policy and young people's rights.

The programme in New York also includes school visits. On Thursday morning Ms Hadzialic will visit West Side High School, known for its commitment to socially excluded young people, where the principal will host a tour and talk about the school. In the afternoon, Ms Hadzialic will visit Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation, a school with a broad approach to innovation and extensive use of digital technology.



OECD presents Swedish school review

Published 17 May 2015 Updated 17 May 2015

Today, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) presented the Government with its report 'Improving schools in Sweden: An OECD Perspective'. The review was conducted in light of Swedish pupils' falling performance in the OECD's PISA survey. Work began in March 2014, the OECD presented its preliminary conclusions in Stockholm in December the same year, and the final report was presented today.

In April 2015, the Government appointed a schools commission, headed by Anna Ekström.

"We welcome the OECD's report and will now pass it to the schools commission. Partly based on the OECD's recommendations, the schools commission will submit proposals aimed at improving learning outcomes, teaching and equity in Swedish schools. The commission will present its proposals by January 2017," says Aida Hadzialic, Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training.

The recommendations of the OECD report focus on three priorities: conditions that promote quality and equity across Swedish schools, a long-term human resource strategy to build capacity for improved teaching and learning, and strengthened policy steering and accountability with a focus on improvement.

"The Government is already investing in many of the measures that the

OECD recommends. For instance, the Government has announced a primary school pledge with targeted efforts for the early school years and a long-term strategy to make the teaching profession more attractive by investing in higher teachers' salaries, an educational research institute and measures to reduce teachers' administrative burden," says Gustav Fridolin, Minister for Education.



Press invitation: OECD presents school review

Published 30 April 2015 Updated 17 May 2015

On 4 May, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) will present the Government and the schools commission with its report 'Improving schools in Sweden: an OECD perspective'.

The OECD will present its results and recommendations at the press conference. The review was conducted in light of Swedish pupils' deteriorating performance in the OECD's PISA survey. Work began in March 2014, the OECD presented its preliminary conclusions in Stockholm in December the same year, and now the final report will be presented.

In April 2015, the Government appointed a schools commission, which among other things based on the OECD's recommendations, is to submit proposals aimed at improving learning outcomes, teaching standards and equity in Swedish schools.

Andreas Schleicher, Director of the OECD Directorate of Education and Skills, Graham Donaldson, professor at the College of Social Sciences at Glasgow University, and Marco Kools, analyst at the OECD, will participate.

Schools commission chair Anna Ekström, Minister for Education Gustav Fridolin, and Minister for Upper Secondary School and Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic will also take part in the press conference.

The report will be available on the OECD website on Monday 4 May at 09.45.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Time: 4 May at 09.45

Location: Bella Venezia, Rosenbad.