Lifelong Learning In and For a Digitized Economy - A Connectivity perspective

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Abstract:

There is currently a vivid discussion on possible consequences of the digitalization of the economy for vocational learning and professional development, often summarized under the label of industry 4.0 or VET 4.0. The general line of these discussions seem to emerge encompassing three phenomenon in the middle: one stream is focussed on media competencies needed for living in a digitalized world, a second on the future of vocations and working tasks and the last one is centred around dispositions regarding changes and disruptions in professional life. My presentation will summarize these streams and discuss the latter one profoundly under the perspective of 'connectivity'. The concept of connectivity (Tynjälä 2010) is currently linked to VET and workplace learning. The core focus is on the bridging between learning contents, methods, places, agents and modes of organisation at different levels but still not much centred on the professional life course and working biographies forced to deal with changes. Some basic points for a more dynamic connectivity view on lifelong learning are suggested.