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ECER VETNET Proceedings

Map of top keywords 1998 to 2008 [\[Download/print in PDF\]](#)

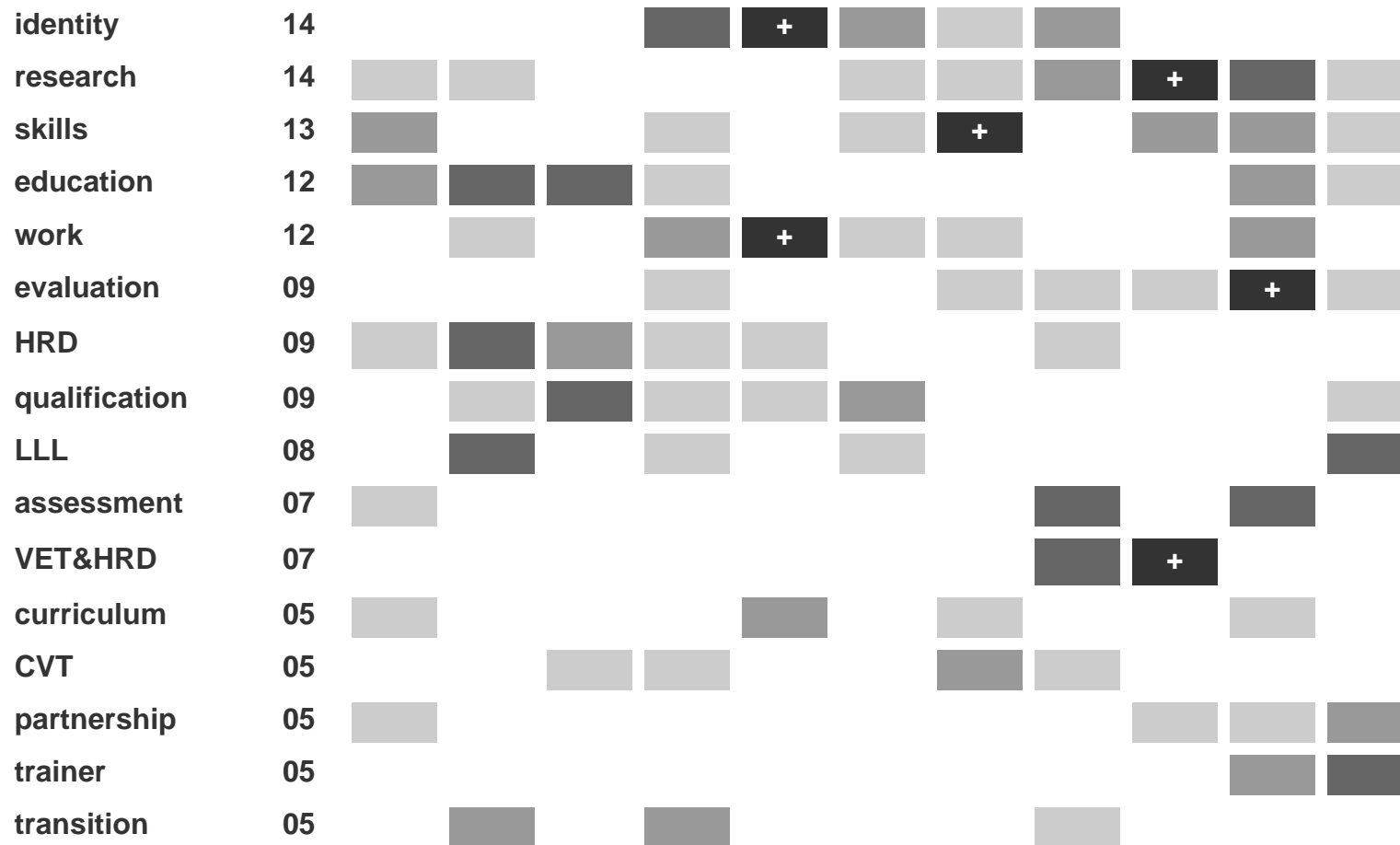
Proceedings papers > [\[1998\]](#) [\[1999\]](#) [\[2000\]](#) [\[2001\]](#) [\[2002\]](#) [\[2003\]](#) [\[2004\]](#) [\[2005\]](#) [\[2006\]](#) [\[2007\]](#) [\[2008\]](#)

NOTE

This map highlights thematic trends of papers based on a keyword analysis (see [Index of keywords](#)). Keywords have been drawn from the titles and/or abstracts of the proceedings papers (1 to 3 keywords per paper). The map includes the most frequent keywords (22), each of which occurs in at least 5 papers, with a total of 293 hits related to 249 papers (representing nearly 80% of all proceedings papers 1998 to 2008). The number of hits per paper and year is indicated by 4 levels of grey:


 < 1 paper < 2 papers < 3 papers + < 4 or more papers

Keyword / Year	Total hits	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
learning	46	< 1 paper	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	+ < 4 or more papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers
VET	31	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers	< 1 paper	< 3 papers	< 3 papers		+ < 4 or more papers	< 1 paper	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers
training	25	+ < 4 or more papers	< 1 paper	< 3 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 1 paper	< 1 paper	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers	< 2 papers	< 1 paper
competence	23		< 2 papers			< 1 paper	< 3 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 2 papers
learning & work	21			< 2 papers	< 2 papers	< 2 papers	< 3 papers	+ < 4 or more papers	< 1 paper	< 2 papers	< 1 paper	+ < 4 or more papers
knowledge	17	< 3 papers			< 1 paper	< 2 papers	< 1 paper	< 2 papers	< 2 papers	< 2 papers	< 1 paper	< 3 papers



A few comments on thematic trends (related to the distribution of keywords in the map above)

The most striking aspect is the position of **learning** as the *dominant theme* throughout the 11-year period. Its leading role was already identified in an earlier thematic analysis of European VET and HRD research (see [Trend 2005](#)). Furthermore, the breakdown of topics associated with learning (see [Index](#)) reveals a broad thematic spectrum which goes far beyond the specific area of VET.

Both **learning** and the two following keywords **VET** and **training** are fairly evenly represented across the time period, thereby demonstrating a *thematic continuity of research*. This also applies to less frequent keywords including **knowledge**,

skills, work, lifelong learning and curriculum.

Several keywords start, or their frequency increases, later in the period, thus providing evidence of *newly arising themes*, for instance **learning & work** (starting 2000), **competence** (increasing from 2002 onwards) and **evaluation** (reappearing since 2004).

Other keywords which are confined to the beginning of the period indicate *discontinuing themes*. Most clearly, **HRD** research seems to have lost its early significance - probably due to the emergence of the parallel European HRD conferences from 2000 onwards. Similarly, themes related to **qualification** are found more in the first half of the period, with only one reappearance in 2008, possibly as a signal of new relevance in the context of ECVET/EQF.

Finally, a few keywords only turn up for brief time spans, but then fairly frequently. Mostly they arise from specific European projects or events, producing a *thematic highlight*, with hardly any predecessor or follow-up. Prominent examples among the top keywords are **identity** (EU project) and **VET&HRD** (round-table sessions). Also, the brief appearance of more common themes such as **CVT** and **trainer** is mainly due to specific EU projects.

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Set up: 13/10/2008

Last update: 15/10/2008

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