CROATIA

RANK IN EU-27

13TH

OVERALL SCORE
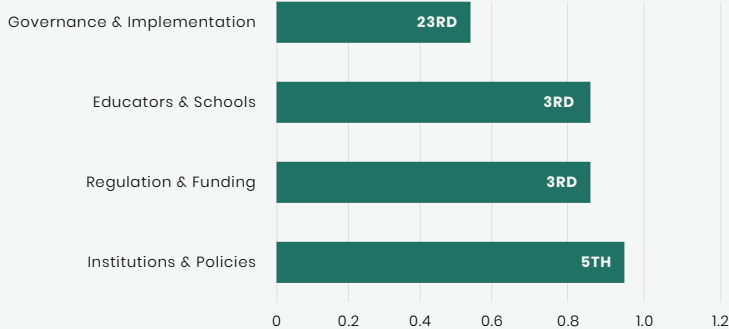
0.612

LEARNING PARTICIPATION AND OUTCOMES

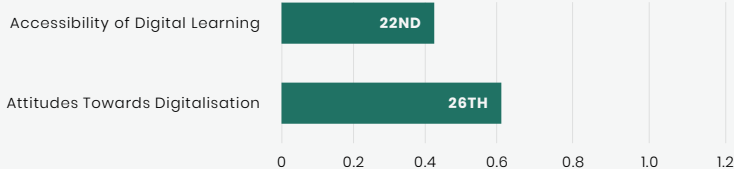**RANK 24TH**
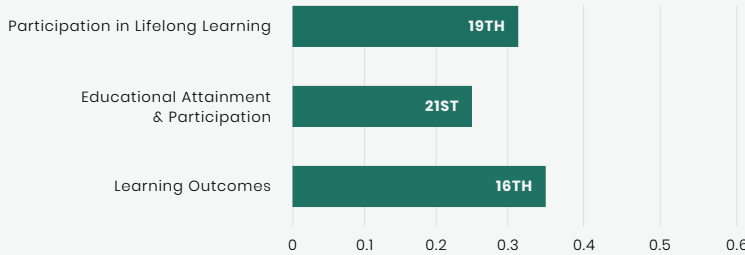
Participation in Lifelong Learning	19TH
Educational Attainment & Participation	21ST
Learning Outcomes	16TH

0   0.1   0.2   0.3   0.4   0.5   0.6

INSTITUTIONS AND POLICIES FOR DIGITAL LEARNING

RANK 3RD

Governance & Implementation	23RD
Educators & Schools	3RD
Regulation & Funding	3RD
Institutions & Policies	5TH

0   0.2   0.4   0.6   0.8   1.0   1.2

AVAILABILITY OF DIGITAL LEARNING

RANK 21ST

Accessibility of Digital Learning	22ND
Attitudes Towards Digitalisation	26TH

0   0.2   0.4   0.6   0.8   1.0   1.2

MAIN OBSERVATIONS

- Croatia is in the European average in terms of the digital learning readiness index in Europe. Its main strength comes from the available institutions and policies for digital learning (rank 3rd).

- However, the country scores poorly in availability of digital learning as well as in participation in lifelong learning.

- Attitudes towards digital innovation in Croatia are highly sceptical and some of the most negative in Europe.

- There seems to be a lack of quality of governance and policy implementation of digitalisation reforms in the education system.

TAKEAWAYS:
WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS COUNTRY?

- Digitalisation of learning in elementary and secondary schools is being carried out through the e-Schools Programme, which is funded by European Structural Funds and European Regional Development Funds.

- The specific goals of the e-Schools Programme include the provision of a reliable ICT environment tailored to the needs of schools and improving the efficiency of the education system to enhance digital competences contributing to the digital maturity of schools.

- In digitally mature schools, teachers use various types of technology to enhance teaching, develop their own digital content and support self-taught learning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Croatia is not performing well on international tests (e.g. PISA) and there is considerable dropout from tertiary education. This led to reforms in the education system pushing for the digitalisation of learning, strengthening the capacity of education to better prepare students for the labour market and lifelong learning. This needs to continue.

- Schools need a more powerful digital infrastructure to comply with the ambitious objective of digitally mature schools; policies should also aim to decrease regional disparities in school infrastructure.

- It is also recommended that educators are empowered and better trained for raising new generations of digitally competent citizens.

KEY REFERENCES

Croatian Government (2014), "Strategija obrazovanja, znanosti i tehnologije" [Strategy for Education, Science and Technology], Zagreb.

CARNet (2015), "eSchools Program", Zagreb.

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