

How do European policies address Earth Observation and skills?

ROOT analysed how European and national policies address Earth Observation and skills development.

117
policies analysed

EU + International
+ National

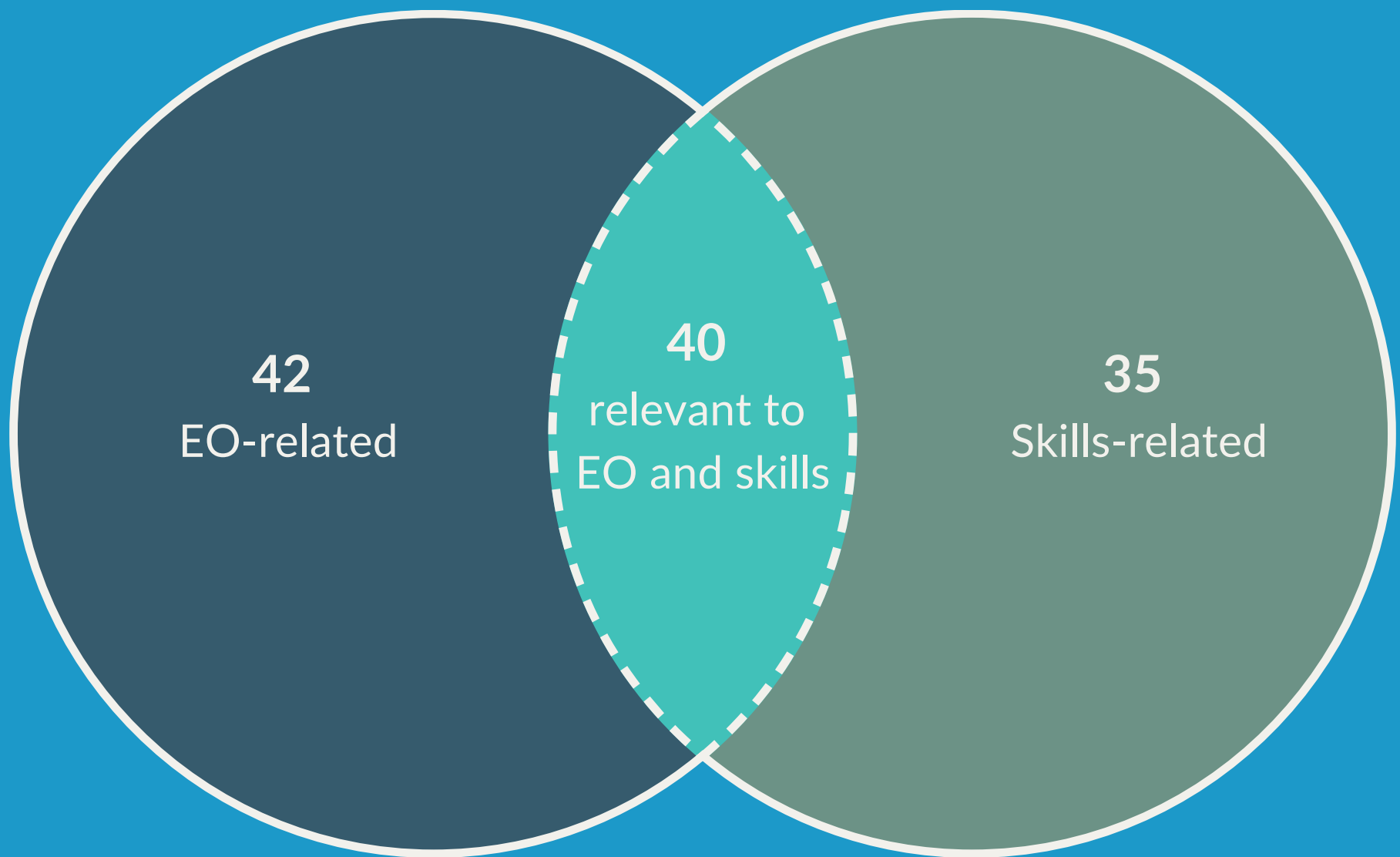
4 countries
examined in depth



Co-funded by
the European Union

What does the policy mapping show?

117 policies analysed



The mapping shows where EO and skills priorities converge and where they remain separate.

What does policy tell about EO skills?

DISCONNECTED

Skills policy ↔ EO policy

Skills policies rarely address EO explicitly, while EO workforce policies often lack concrete education, training or career-guidance instruments.

DELIVERY GAP

EO policy

Skills needs identified



Awareness raised



Education & training



Employment pathways

SPACE + SKILLS

EU level

Space + skills are beginning to connect.

National level

Equivalent mechanisms are not yet evident in the four countries analysed.

ROOT Opportunity

ROOT can help connect existing skills policies, funding and delivery mechanisms with EO skills needs.

Four countries, four policy landscapes



ITALY

Strong EO policy alignment

Regional differences in implementation.



PORTUGAL

Strategically aligned with priorities

Gaps remain in implementation and skills.



NETHERLANDS

Mature EO and space ecosystem

Potential disconnect between sector development and the skills dimension.



GREECE

Growing EO and space policy ambition

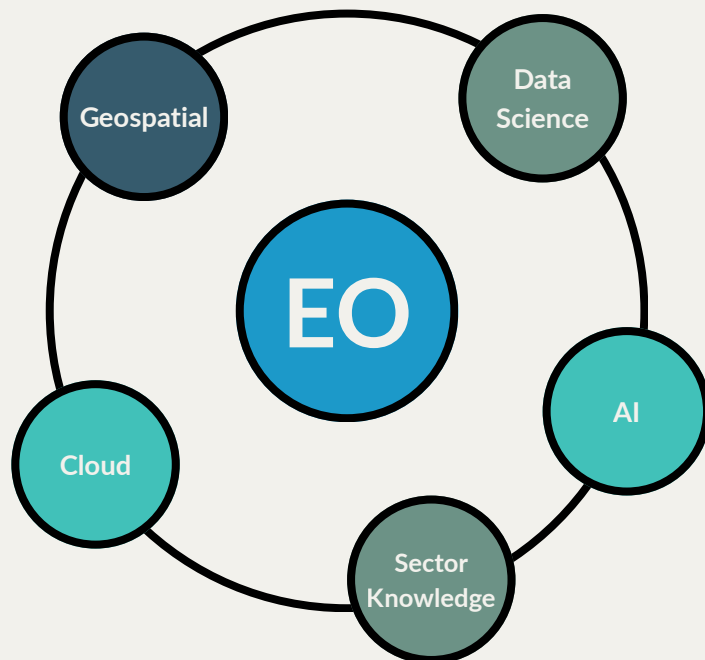
Challenges linked to skills development, retention and reskilling.

One European policy context, four different national landscapes.

What are stakeholders seeing on the ground?

SKILLS

Growing demand for hybrid profiles



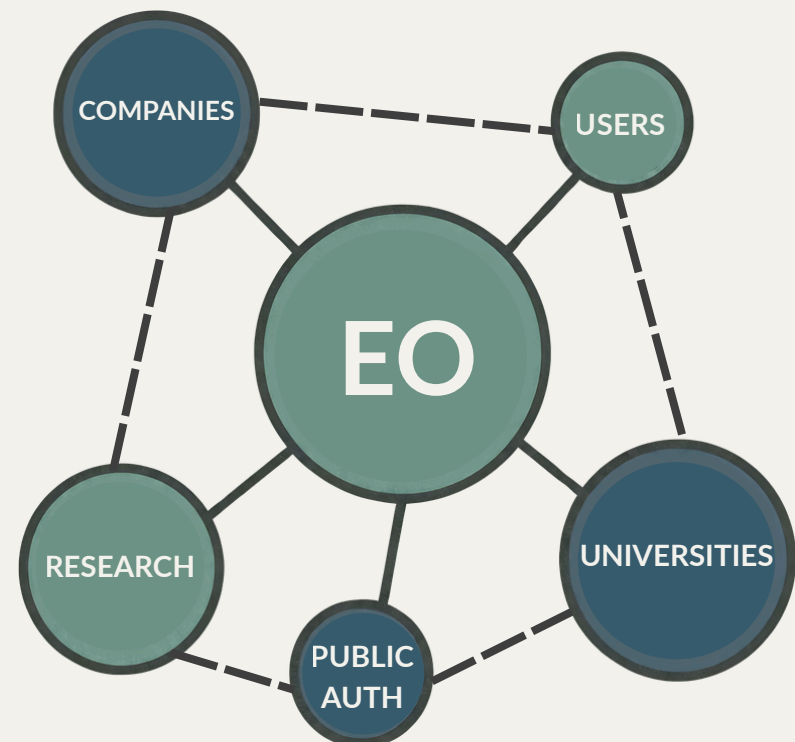
APPLICATION

From capability → solution

Future competitiveness will depend on translating EO capabilities into concrete solutions for users.

COLLABORATION

Cooperation connects skills development with real needs



DATA

From access → exploitation

EO data are increasingly available. The challenge is turning information into operational knowledge and value.

Stakeholder insights reveal gaps that policy documents do not always capture.

What can be done to strengthen the EO skills ecosystem?



1. Develop a European EO skills ecosystem

Connect education, research, industry, public authorities and innovation ecosystems.



2. Improve visibility of EO careers

Raise awareness of EO professions through career guidance and outreach.



3. Align education with labour market needs

Bring employers and education providers closer together to keep curricula relevant.



4. Strengthen lifelong learning

Expand flexible training, from micro-credentials to professional upskilling.

4 of 8 recommendations are highlighted here.

Explore the full set and the evidence behind them in the ROOT EO Policy Analysis Report.

