



Asociación Española de  
Escuelas de Segunda  
Oportunidad

# Trajectory and impact

Gracias al apoyo de:





# Introduction

In Spain, thousands of young people have their education interrupted before completing compulsory schooling. This situation not only limits their personal and professional development, but also poses a structural challenge to social cohesion, economic competitiveness, and equal opportunities in the country.

Despite the progress of the last decade, the early school leaving rate is still around 13.6%, above the European average, which shows the persistence of a structural gap that particularly affects young people in vulnerable situations.

In this context, Second Chance Schools (E2O) have emerged as an innovative and effective solution for reintegrating young people who have fallen out of the education system and the labor market. Through a flexible, person-centered model connected to the business sector, S2S offer personalized pathways that combine training, support, and skills development, opening new opportunities for social and professional inclusion.

Since its creation in 2016, the Spanish Association of Second Chance Schools has been working to consolidate and recognize this model at the national level, contributing to transforming life trajectories and building a more inclusive and equitable education system.



# Origins and context

E2O España was formally established on March 3, 2016, driven by six non-profit socio-educational entities from different territories of the country.

These organizations already had extensive experience in supporting vulnerable youth, with high success rates in educational attainment and employment. However, they lacked consistent recognition from public authorities.

The model is inspired by:

- The Second Chance Schools system developed in France
- The concept of “second chance” was first included in the European Commission’s White Paper on Education and Training (1995)

From its inception, the Association has conceived as a collaborative network that seeks not only to improve socio-educational intervention, but also to influence public policies.



# Development of the E2O model

To guarantee the quality and consistency of the model, E2O Spain created an accreditation process (labellisation) that certifies those schools that meet defined standards.

This system is based on:

29 quality indicators, of which 18 are mandatory

Five fundamental principles:

## **1** Recognition of Public Administrations

**2** **Objective: To promote the lasting professional and social integration of unemployed young people who are outside the education system:**

**3** **Development of social and professional skills**

**4** **Collaboration with companies**

**5** **Networking**

This framework has made it possible to consolidate a homogeneous, evidence-based, and results-oriented model.

# Growth and consolidation

Since its creation, E2O Spain has experienced sustained growth both in the number of schools and in territorial reach.

- 2016: Foundation of the Association
- 2016: Development of the accreditation process and initial accreditation of 27 schools
- 2025:
  - 50 accredited schools
  - Presence in 10 Autonomous Communities
  - Second largest network of Second Chance Schools in Europe

Furthermore, the Association has strengthened its internal governance by creating the youth representative, guaranteeing the direct participation of young people themselves in decision-making.



# Social and educational impact

The E2O model has demonstrated high effectiveness in improving opportunities for young participants.

Key data (2023–2024 academic year):

- More than **8,500 young people**
- Nearly **1,000 professionals** involved
- Nearly **70% of young people** continue to study or work six months after completing their program

These results reflect the model's ability to generate personalized pathways to success, promoting social inclusion and employability.





# Institutional recognition

One of the greatest achievements of E2O España has been its recognition within the state regulatory framework.

- **2022:** The new Vocational Training Law incorporates the concept of “Second Chance Center”
- **Royal Decree 659/2023:**
  - It explicitly integrates Second Chance Centers into the Vocational Training System
  - It recognizes its role in providing care to groups with special difficulties

This recognition represents a key milestone in consolidating the model and ensuring its long-term sustainability.



## Networking and international dimension

E2O España is characterized by a strong collaborative approach:

- Exchange of best practices at the national level
- Active participation in European networks
- Presence on the Board of Directors of the **European Association of Second Chance Schools**.
- Cooperation in the Mediterranean area, through the **Mediterranean New Chance network**.

This networking strengthens innovation, mutual learning, and the international projection of the model.

# Conclusion

In less than a decade, E2O España has gone from being an initiative driven by six organizations to becoming a consolidated network, institutionally recognized and with a significant impact on thousands of young people.

Its evolution demonstrates that it is possible to build inclusive, effective, and scalable educational models.

The future challenge lies in continuing to expand its reach, strengthen its recognition, and continue contributing to a more equitable education system.





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