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INTERNATIONALIZATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

IN UKRAINE

Knowledge and information is one of the key driving forces of the economics of developed countries. The access, distribution and creation of these economics are largely within the educational institutions. Internationalization of higher education is a phenomenon that affects the development of education in the world. It is one of the important directions of educational policy. That's why internationalization of higher education is in the focus of researchers.

A prominent Canadian researcher, Professor Jane Knight introduces the concept of internationalization as «the process of integrating international, intercultural and global elements into the educational (pedagogical), scientific administrative functions of a particular organization» [6]. Internationalization takes place in three directions. The first area is based on cooperation between universities; the second one is based on interstate cooperation, the embodiment of which is the Bologna Process; and the basis of the third area is the supranational process taking place within the European Union. The level of development of educational services in Ukraine occurs in the context of long-term changes in the educational sector, and in the conditions of intensification of the processes of internationalization of higher education in the world market of services.

The urgency of the problem lies in the fact that the higher education system of Ukraine is in a state of reformation and changes in mechanisms, priorities and instruments of regulation. Their effective identification and implementation require a clear identification of individual higher educational institutions in the world market of educational services, and of the higher education system of Ukraine in general.

Internationalization is one of the factors of the emergence of the global space of higher education. It is classified as external (international academic mobility) and internal (introduction of world standards, internationalization of training courses, intercultural programs, etc.).

According to the definition of UNESCO, mobile international students are the students who have crossed national or territorial borders for study purposes and who are currently statistically considered to be outside their country of origin [5, p. 188]. According to the OECD, in 2010 more than 4.1 million students studied outside the country of their origin [7, p. 56]. According to UNESCO, student mobility has increased by 300% over the past 25 years, and according to expert estimates, it will reach 4.9 million in 2025. The number of Ukrainian international students is about 35,000. And Ukrainian students enter mostly the universities and colleges of European Union, the United States and Canada. Education abroad is available to Ukrainians through scholarships at host universities. According to the Centre for Social Research, the number of Ukrainian citizens in the Polish universities has tripled in the last five years, has doubled in Spain, Italy and Canada, and has increased by 41% in the Czech Republic, Austria and the UK.

Analysing the possible consequences of an in-depth free trade agreement between the EU and Ukraine in the field of higher education, one should proceed from such three basic components of the university's activities as educational, scientific and research activities and commercial activity. Unfortunately, commercial activity is the most closed of all other types of university activities. The formation of highly competitive research universities in Ukraine is more of a priority. The sources of financing of scientific and technical works in Ukraine show that the share of customers from foreign countries is quite high. It indicates their high internationalization. However, there is a tendency for its growth, but it should be recognized that the overall financing of scientific and technical works in Ukraine is low [2, p. 81]. The high number of students per 100,000 population makes it possible for Ukrainian

universities to survive, as Ukraine is ahead of most EU countries and approaching the US level.

However, so far European students have chosen countries other than Ukraine to study. This situation can be explained by the fact that the choice of universities by Europeans is largely based on the place of educational establishments in various international and national rankings. If European universities are poorly represented in the top ten of most rankings, then in the first hundred universities their place ranges from 30 to 50%, and domestic universities are not represented at all in the first hundred universities of all rankings.

In 2002 the Ukrainian State Centre for International Education of Ukraine was established by analogy with the establishment of institutes in the leading EU countries to attract foreign students. Today there are 197 universities of all levels of accreditation in Ukraine, where 52711 foreign students from 137 countries are trained [4, p. 65]. The number of foreign students in Ukraine increased in from 15,000 in the early 2000s to almost 50,000 students in 2011. It has made possible to join 20 leading countries in the world who are leaders in international education. Studying foreigners as one of the elements of Ukraine's export potential, provided an opportunity to replenish the treasury of universities in 2011 for \$ 100 million US, and the state as a whole – for \$ 500 million USA [3].

One of the aspects of deepening commercialization and attracting to the international market of educational services is participation in the Bologna process in order to create the European Higher Education Area [1, p. 122]. The Diploma supplement recognized in Europe is introduced in higher education institutions to fulfil the obligations of Ukraine as a member of the Bologna Process. The purpose of the Diploma supplement is to provide objective information to enhance international «transparency» and fair academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates, etc.).

This will facilitate the employment of graduates of the universities which are the members of the Bologna process.

Consequently, domestic universities rank much lower than the European universities in the leading rankings of universities in the world, where the indicators of the international activity of universities are of great importance. The degree of internationalization of the domestic higher education industry is moderate and corresponds to the level of economic development of the country. Ukraine holds strong positions in the international educational market. Ukraine is rated by experts as one of the 20 leading countries in the world who are leaders in international education. The participation of universities of Ukraine and the EU in the Bologna Process creates the preconditions for the formation of a common-European market for educational services.

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