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ACADEMIC MOBILITY AS A MECHANISM OF INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE AT UNIVERSITIES

Introduction. Today, education and knowledge are becoming supranational and interstate processes. A single global educational environment is being created by harmonizing educational practices in different countries and through mutual recognition of educational documents. The Common European Higher Education Area and the Common European Research Area form the foundation of the modern European knowledge society. The Common European Education Area, on the one hand, stimulates increased mobility of students and teaching staff. On the other hand, academic mobility is a prerequisite for forming this shared space. Academic mobility expands the individual's professional development opportunities while improving the workforce's quality in the national economy [1].

The main goal is to review the current state of academic mobility in Ukraine and globally using analytical data and highlight key international educational programs that facilitate academic mobility within the European educational space.

Firstly, academic mobility allows students to gain knowledge by studying for one or more semesters at another higher education institution that offers training in the same specialty. This process allows for later recognition of completed courses and periods of study. In addition, it contributes to the more effective development of a person's intellectual potential. Academic mobility is characterized as a dynamic phenomenon, a form of educational internationalization that facilitates the integration of individuals into the global education system [2].

Secondly, academic mobility plays a key role in forming both a person

and a professional, as it forces a person to analyze and find solutions in various life circumstances, considering their cultural context and the views of another culture. It helps to broaden thinking by developing the ability to compare, teaches to choose the best interaction strategies, considers cultural differences, forms readiness for effective intercultural communication, and deepens understanding of other cultures. Several specialized programs with tremendous funding support mobility in the European Union's education field. For example, the Erasmus program for higher education aims to develop professional skills and increase students' chances in the labor market, which positively affects the competitiveness of the European economy; improve the quality of the educational process, both teaching and learning; implement a strategy for modernizing higher education in the countries participating in the program and help build the capacity of partner countries [1].

Thirdly, the Opportunities program opens new horizons for European scientists, contributing to forming a powerful and rapidly expanding knowledge base. It covers several key areas: building research infrastructure, supporting research for small and medium-sized enterprises, developing knowledge areas, strengthening research capacity, popularizing science in society, and special activities within the framework of international cooperation [1].

The current implementation of academic mobility in Ukrainian higher education institutions includes several key initiatives: the establishment of branches of international universities in Ukraine to facilitate student exchanges; the development of an information resource that contains detailed information about universities around the world, Europe, and Ukraine, as well as information about international mobility programs; internationalization of curricula and bringing them in line with international standards; creation of web platforms to promote the activities of established effective mentoring system to support students' mobility needs; organizing services to help students adapt to new educational environments, such as cultural integration; and providing students with thorough preparation for studying abroad through specialized courses,

conferences, and various events [2].

Conclusion. To further expand academic mobility, it is critical to include countries that fully support student self-realization in Ukrainian higher education, which integrates into the European educational space. The key task is ensuring movement, opening prospects, and facilitating employment. Undoubtedly, it is necessary to deepen the study of Ukraine's international dialogue with the European Union and actively disseminate the analysis results of the experience gained by organizing and conducting seminars, training, and conferences. It will help intensify the international activities of Ukrainian universities. As a result, it will provide access to advanced technologies and methods in education, increase competitiveness, and accelerate integration into the global scientific and educational community.

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