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ENGLISH AS A KEY TOOL OF GLOBALIZATION IN MODERN SPECIALISTS' PROFESSIONAL FORMATION

The modern world is at the stage of active development, rapid changes and corresponding challenges that primarily affect the socio-political, economic, and cultural life of countries all around the world. The key process in society is globalization characterized by active deepening, interpenetration, and integration at the regional and international levels. The growing role of external factors in the economy, the creation of a single world market without national barriers and ensuring the common game rules for all participants is the main list of globalisation economic aspect (Bohashko, 2015, 1).

The purpose of the work is to determine the role of the English language as a key tool of globalization in modern specialists' professional formation.

Currently, education is an important factor in integration processes and economic growth, aimed to increase both individual and social labour productivity, which is caused by the gained skills and knowledge accumulation (Mykhats, 2004, 3). The analysis of the leading countries' education systems allowed the academic community to identify key trends that correspond to the requests and needs of a modern student personality, particularly in higher education.

One of the leading educational reforms is the implementation of the Bologna Process, when the Bologna Declaration in 1999 was signed (4). The Bologna Process aims to unify national education and research systems in the European area with common requirements, criteria and standards, in particular through the introduction of a credit system based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

(ECTS); introduction of two-cycle education; education quality control; students and staff mobility implementation; ensuring graduates' employability; assuring the European education system attractiveness etc. (2).

Ukraine became a member of the Bologna Process in 2005, joining the European Higher Education Area together with 48 other countries. Today, state policy in the field of education and research plays a decisive role in ensuring the development of human capital and obtaining economic benefits in the form of sustainable growth and a competitive economy. Achieving these goals requires coordinated political initiatives, effective management decisions and long-term investments. Additionally, in 2014 the Association Agreement of Ukraine with the EU clearly defined the obligation to reform and modernise the system of secondary, higher, vocational training, non-formal education for young people, distance learning and lifelong education (5). The next 2015 year, in accordance with the President of Ukraine Decree No. 641/2015 On the announcement of 2016 the Year of English language in Ukraine it was emphasised that “taking into account the role of the English as a language of international communication, with the aim of promoting its study to expand citizens' access to global economic, social, educational and cultural opportunities opened up by the knowledge and use of the English language, ensuring the integration of Ukraine into the European political, economic, research and education area, in support of the Go Global program defining the study of English as one of the development strategy priorities” (6). Finally, in 2022, the Ukrainian government applied to join the European Union with the aim of gradual integration into the EU single market and eventual accession into the EU. According to the adopted decisions and signed agreements at the state level, we can stress that the national policy and the field of education move along the European vector, taking into account the best practices, leading experience and local realities.

Expanded cooperation borders for Ukraine and its citizens, public and private sector and other participants in socio-political, economic and cultural life must be

supported via a “common language”. Considering national transformations and importance of the adopted legislative changes, we conclude that increasing the level of English language proficiency and the development of language skills in general is a cross-cutting priority for both transnational cooperation and state reforms, as well as modernisation of the field of education.

The sphere of education is a key stage for the massification of the English language for various segments of the population. The introduction of norms for the study of the English language, the approval of relevant acts, regulations and laws will strengthen every active citizen, which is a key and driving force in building the country’s capacity. At the stage of “creating” a high-quality and competitive specialist on the labour market, it is higher education that provides opportunities with the help of an appropriate level of English language proficiency to gain experience within international academic mobility, good practices and experience of the EU, observe European colleagues, and obtain the latest knowledge from foreign primary sources etc. Regardless of the level of education: whether it is a bachelor’s, master’s degree, PhD, dual education, advanced training, every participant in the educational process currently has access to formal and informal education in order to master the appropriate level of English on the way to reaching new professional horizons.

Summarising the above mentioned, we emphasize that learning English within Ukrainian realities and the national political vector is becoming a critically important tool for every citizen to strengthen their own professional potential for the development of quality skills, labour market competitiveness, international cooperation, world market involvement, implementing state reforms and reconstruction of Ukraine in the post-war period.

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