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## **MULTILINGUALISM AS A GLOBAL TREND AND A STRATEGY FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF HIGHER PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION IN UKRAINE**

Multilingualism in the global context is becoming a tool for the development of professional higher education. In an increasingly interconnected world, knowledge of several languages not only contributes to personal development, but is also a prerequisite for a successful career. In Ukraine, in view of the processes of integration into the European Union, the modernization of higher education through the introduction of multilingualism is of particular importance. In many countries, multilingualism has already become part of educational strategies, contributing to the development of competitiveness, cultural exchange and the expansion of scientific and economic opportunities.

**The purpose** of this work is to analyze the role of multilingualism as a global trend and a strategy for the modernization of higher professional education in Ukraine. In accordance with globalization processes and integration trends, the study of many languages is becoming an important element of training future professionals who are able to work in an international environment. The report aims to explore how multilingualism can contribute to improving the quality of higher education, the development of scientific and educational communications, and ensure the competitiveness of Ukrainian graduates in the global labor market. The report will also consider the challenges and opportunities that arise when integrating multilingual approaches into higher education, in particular in Ukraine.

Multilingualism is not only a cultural, but also an economic and social phenomenon that demonstrates the new realities of a globalized world. Today, the ability to communicate in key languages is one of the basic requirements for specialists in the international labor market. Teaching foreign languages at schools and higher educational institutions has become mandatory for the training of personnel capable of working effectively in the international environment. For example, in the European Union, many countries are actively implementing bilingual and multilingual educational programs that provide a high level of communication between representatives of different nations and cultures. Foreign language training programs remain an important part of education, ensuring the mobility of students and professionals, allowing them to actively interact in the international scientific and business space. In addition, multilingualism is a factor in the development of scientific research, since knowledge of foreign languages allows access to a wider range of scientific sources and participation in international projects. [1]

The Ukrainian system of higher education has a long tradition of teaching in the Ukrainian language, which is a mass element of national identity. However, the need to integrate foreign languages into the educational process is becoming more and more necessary. Currently, one of the main challenges for Ukraine is to ensure an adequate level of foreign language proficiency among students and teachers of higher educational institutions. English, as the international language of science and business, should become the main tool in the educational process. However, to date, only a fraction of Ukrainian students have a sufficient level of English proficiency in order to study in the programs considered in this language. In addition, many universities face the problem of insufficient qualifications of teachers who are able to perform classes in English. [2]

Another aspect is the problem of a significant number of curricula that do not allow you to get education based on foreign languages. To do this, it is necessary to create bilingual or international master's and bachelor's programs, to develop new standards and courses that allow students to acquire knowledge not only in their native language, but also in a foreign language. Proficiency in multiple languages expands employment opportunities, allowing graduates to work for international companies or participate in international projects. It also contributes to the development of the country's intellectual potential, provides access to the best practices, technologies and innovations used in the EU.

To introduce multilingualism into the higher education system of Ukraine, it is necessary to develop a comprehensive strategy that will include not only the introduction of foreign languages in the educational process, but also the development of international educational programs, the mobility of students and teachers, as well as the creation of conditions for scientific activity at the international level. One of the important steps is the development of bilingual or multilingual programs that will help students obtain diplomas from both Ukrainian and foreign universities. Such programs are already being successfully implemented in a number of universities, and this is an important condition for the integration of Ukrainian higher education institutions into the international European academic community.

Multilingualism in Ukraine offers a number of advantages for the higher education system. Firstly, it allows Ukrainian students and teachers to be part of the global scientific and educational environment, which is a key factor for the development of new scientific directions and innovations. Knowledge of foreign languages makes it possible to participate in international conferences, publish scientific papers in international journals, as well as attract foreign partners for joint research. Secondly, multilingualism promotes intercultural dialogue and broadens students' horizons. The opportunity to interact with people from different cultures not only enriches the personal experience, but also fosters tolerance and mutual understanding, which is the place for a globalized world. [3]

To sum up, multilingualism is one of the key factors in the modernization of higher professional education in Ukraine, as it ensures the integration of Ukrainian higher educational institutions into the international educational space, improves the level of communication between students and teachers, promotes scientific mobility and enhances professional training. However, achieving these goals requires comprehensive support from the state, academic institutions and other stakeholders, including development of language infrastructures, translation services, and improvement of foreign language teaching methods.

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