

UP-TO-DATE STATE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMS IN BELARUS AND GERMANY

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Globalization processes, rapid development of information technologies and communication systems, transformation of social and economic relations have changed the structure of the international labour market and created new demands for staff competence and qualification. Professional education plays more and more important role and is considered to be the factor of successful self-realization of a person in modern society.

Belarusian system of higher education preparing specialists for various branches of the national economy is an example of quality education. Study programs combine the peculiarities of national education system and world practice what promotes integration with the European higher education.

Our system of higher education includes educational, research and governing institutions that use unified official standards and rules in the processes of teaching, management, assessment and research. Higher education is provided by:

- public (state) educational institutions;
- private (non-state) educational institutions.

Main decrees governing higher education are the following:

- ✓ Decree: Concept of the Development of Higher Education in the Republic of Belarus. Year: 1998.
- ✓ Concerns: All higher educational institutions.
- ✓ Decree: Law about the Studies of Foreign Citizens in the Republic of Belarus. Year: 1993.
- ✓ Concerns: All higher educational institutions.

Stages of studies:

- non-university level post-secondary studies;
- non-university level;
- university level studies;
- university level second stage: Specialist Diploma / Master's degree;
- university level third stage: Post-graduate studies (Aspirantura and Doktorantura).

Also our country provides non-traditional studies:

- distance higher education;
- lifelong higher education;
- higher education training in industry.

Today the number of students of different universities is about 300 thousand in our republic. There are 43 state and 16 not state higher educational establishments. We can speak about increase in the enrolment of students. Nowadays higher education institutions train specialists in 360 specialities and more than 1000 specializations what allows to satisfy almost all requirements of the republic economy. Belarus holds the leading position among the CIS countries in the sphere of higher education.

Germany with its traditions of professional education, tracing back to the Middle Ages, is considered to be the leading European educational system. As a result of consecutive modernization the system of professional education of Germany is highly efficient.

There are public and private state-recognized institutions of higher education categorized as follows:

- universities and equivalent higher education institutions;
- colleges of art and music;

- fachhochschulen.

Main decrees governing higher education are the following:

- ✓ Decree: Higher Education Acts of the 16 Länder.
- ✓ Concerns: Higher education institutions of each Land, taking into account general regulations of the Hochschulrahmengesetz.

University level studies:

- university level first stage;
- university level second stage: Hauptstudium;
- university level third stage: promotion.

Also Germany is famous for its non-traditional studies:

- distance higher education;
- lifelong higher education;
- higher education training in industry.

In total, there are 383 high schools, from them 103 universities and 176 Universities of Applied Sciences in Germany. The main principle of higher education in Germany is "academic freedoms". German students can choose what lectures and seminars to attend. Another important principle of German universities is combination between training process and scientific research. Thanks to a unique combination of theory and practice, and participation of German real economic sector, the system of professional education creates the best preconditions for successful professional future. There are many examples of successful cooperation of universities and foreign research institutes increasing competitiveness of German graduates.

To promote high quality of the Belarusian higher education the following elements of the German educational system can be introduced into the Belarusian system of higher education:

- combination of old university traditions and modern achievements of science;
- interaction of educational activities and scientific research;
- "academic freedoms".

Literature references

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