

HISTORY OF ACTIVITY OF FOREIGN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: *The importance of internationalization is reflected by becoming a dominant strategy to develop higher education. As well as it has become a key factor in the development of national economy and mechanisms for promoting cultural diversity and national education system. This paper provides an overview of processes of the internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan in the context of reforms implemented in higher education. Specifically, it discusses the role of the internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan. The primary purpose of the article is to highlight the brief history of this phenomenon, and its current state, as well as rationales of internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan.*

Keywords: *Internationalization Higher education, Strategy, Reforms And development.*

The Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education is responsible for the higher education system and its restructuring. During the transition period, higher education was hindered by a shortage of laboratories, libraries, computers, data banks, and publishing facilities to disseminate research findings; however, progress can also be seen. There are 62 higher education institutions, including 2 academies (in Uzbekistan, as it was in the Soviet system, the word academia means the top-level research and educational institutions), 16 universities (*universitet*), and 44 institutes (*institut*). In 1999 to 2000 the system provided education to about 166,000 students. The Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences is the leading institution in all types of research. Only top graduate studies can be conducted within the Academy. Universities and institutes are both research and educational institutions. Universities are educational institutions responsible for the preparation of skilled professors and teachers, as well as academic staff and researchers in a variety of disciplines. Institutes are responsible for the preparation of various specialists.

Globalization and internationalization have entered history as critical influential processes of the century. Internationalization is changing the world of higher education, and globalization is changing the world of internationalization (Knight J, 2004). In the next 25 years, the internationalization process has evolved from a small marginal level to a global scale and has become the main strategy and dominant trend in higher education (Knight & De Wit, 2018). At present, this strategy contributes to the further integration of higher education of the countries into the world higher education area and the development under the influence of this process. The process of internationalization in

higher education has covered the nations of the world on a global scale. The internationalization of higher education has different characteristics in many countries around the world. Particularly in the Republic of Uzbekistan, it is crucial. The internationalization of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan has received more attention after independence. After gaining independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan, like other countries of the world, began to pursue a comprehensive development. In the development of a particular state, literacy of the population plays an important role. Taking it into account, the Republic of Uzbekistan began to carry out serious reforms in the educational system in increasing the literacy of the population. In the framework of such reforms, the internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan reflects in such aspects studying abroad, development of international relations, wide application of international standards into the higher education system, development of integration in higher education, etc. After gaining its independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan felt a need for qualified specialists. In the meeting of such needs, it has been seen as the key tool providing young people access to higher education and improving their qualifications in developed countries. For this purpose, special funds were created. Through grant programs, talented students were selected. It was begun to train specialists in higher education institutions in developed countries. In this regard, more attention has been paid to create a personnel base that gained modern knowledge based on world standards and can contribute to the development of the country. In addition, the qualitative improvement of living standards of the citizens in the Republic of Uzbekistan has led to the desire to study individually in foreign countries. The Republic of Uzbekistan drew attention to the principles of democracy and transition to the market economy after independence. Increasing international cooperation in issues of a diplomatic and economic, cultural relations with developed countries was emphasized. As a result of such cooperation, foreign universities and branches began to operate in the Republic of Uzbekistan. After 2016, the measures carried out in higher education have reached a new level. Like the majority of countries, the Republic of Uzbekistan has further intensified the efforts to raise the activity of higher education institutions to the level that can meet international requirements. Successful integration into world higher education has become a key area of Uzbekistan's higher education policy. In the policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the internationalization of higher education, it is possible to see that increasing the number of foreign universities and branch campuses and corporations with developed countries are emphasized. The research aims to study the peculiarities of internationalization of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The research attempts to find the answer to the question of why the internationalization of higher education is important for the Republic of Uzbekistan. The purpose of this paper is to highlight the peculiarities of internationalization of higher education, its importance and the extent of its fulfillment in the Republic of Uzbekistan. In particular, efforts aimed at the development of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the rationales of

internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan will be considered. The impact of the internationalization of Higher Education on the development of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan is analyzed in this study. This paper is significant in highlighting the process of internationalization of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The internationalization of higher education is not new to Uzbek researchers. It is mentioned in the research of the following Uzbek scholars: Eshchanov R, Hodzhaniyazov S, Matlatipov G, Lutfullaev P, Khushnazarov M, Ibadullaeva D and more. Although the internationalization of higher education is mentioned in many local and international scientific articles, there is no scientific study in the Republic of Uzbekistan that provides theoretical insight into the internationalization of higher education. That is, peculiarities of internationalization of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan, its importance, the current state, and rationales are not fully covered by Uzbek researchers. This, in turn, led to the emergence of this research. The present study addresses the peculiarities, current state and rationales of internationalization of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The methodology part of the study explains what methodology will be used and how this study will be conducted. In the literature review, analysis of theoretical backgrounds, which is the basis for investigation of the internationalization of higher education in the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is then followed by a brief description of the history of the internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan. The current state of internationalization of higher education and international relations will be described in the next paragraphs. Next, it illustrates the rationales of the internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan. Next, it discusses the role of the internationalization of higher education in Uzbekistan.

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