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МІЖКУЛЬТУРНІ ТА ОСВІТНІ ЦЕНТРИ
ЯК ІНСТРУМЕНТ ПОВБУДОВИ СТАЛОГО ПАРТНЕРСТВА

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ЦЕНТР МІЖКУЛЬТУРНОЇ КОМУНІКАЦІЇ ТА СОЦІАЛЬНОЇ
ІНТЕГРАЦІЇ ІНОЗЕМНИХ СТУДЕНТІВ ЯК ЗАСІБ
ІНТЕРНАЦІОНАЛІЗАЦІЇ ВИЩОЇ ОСВІТИ
CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL
INTEGRATION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS AS A MEANS OF HIGHER
EDUCATION INTERNATIONALIZATION

The internationalization of higher education is one of the extremely important factors for the development of contemporary higher education. It becomes especially relevant in the context of its transformation processes, which requires new approaches to ensuring their efficiency and effectiveness.

Various aspects of higher education internationalization have been studied in the works of Ukrainian and foreign scientists (N. Avshenyuk, F. Altbach, S. Verbytska, O. Govorovska, M. Debych, V. Zinchenko, O. Ignatova, T. Klyuchkovych, I. Myhovych, J. Knight, O. Nitenko, I. Stepanenko, T. Finikov, G. Khoruzhiy, etc.).

We agree with the statement of I. Myhovych that "internationalization of higher education is a process of introducing international and intercultural components into the research, educational and administrative components of national higher education institutions and other parties in this process" [2, p.51].

The integration of internationalization processes into the educational activities of modern educational institutions helps to improve the quality of higher education, enables the introduction of educational innovations into the process of professional training and personal development of modern youth, ensures the development of intercultural communication skills and intercultural competence formation.

Education of foreigners and stateless persons, which is one of the priorities of international higher education in Ukraine in modern conditions, is simultaneously associated with the problems of their socio-cultural adaptation and integration into the socio-cultural space of the country, educational and cultural environment of higher education institution, is an important area of the internationalization of higher education. In this regard, there is a need to intensify participation of applicants for higher education in internationalization processes, which is realized, in particular, through the activities of student government, the importance of which in the structure of higher education is enhanced by a student-centered approach to education. For the implementation of such involvement, the Center for Intercultural Communication and Social Integration of Foreign Students has been established at the Student Council of the Kharkiv State Academy of Culture.

The Center aims to form a sustainable socio-cultural basis for the social development of the personality of foreign applicants for higher education, their professional development, which contributes to improving the quality of professional education and social development of an individual. Due to the implementation of joint projects, Ukrainian and foreign applicants for higher education enter intercultural communication, make the dialogue of cultures the reality. The work of the Center is aimed primarily at organizing socio-cultural activities of foreign applicants for higher education, their cooperation with the representatives of Ukrainian society in extracurricular activities.

In the Kharkiv State Academy of Culture, representatives of student self-government bodies, deputy deans responsible for educational work, curators, teachers, library staff, dormitory commandants, medical workers, Ukrainian and foreign graduates are involved in the development of the program of the Center for Intercultural

Communication and Social Integration of Foreign Students, and its implementation. The activities of the Center are coordinated by its chairman, who is a representative of the student government.

The activities of the Center for Intercultural Communication and Social Integration of Foreign Students help to resolve the following socio-pedagogical tasks: improve the educational and cultural environment for self-realization of foreign applicants for higher education; provide them with social protection, social assistance and support in order to overcome the "culture shock", and for their successful social adaptation, social integration and social individualization; creation of social and educational conditions for creative social and cultural cooperation, and therefore to ensure successful education in the chosen specialty.

In accordance with the socio-pedagogical tasks, the program of the Center was developed, which is being implemented in the following areas [1]:

- Implementation of educational activities (along with the employees in structural units responsible for training of foreign students) that promotes social adaptation and integration of foreigners in the educational and cultural environment of higher education, aimed at interaction with the representatives of various services with whom foreign applicants contact in the process of their studies and extracurricular activities, to drag foreign students into social interaction in various spheres of life, enrichment of life experience, assimilation of social information, formation of speech communication skills.

- Organization of the activities to familiarize foreign students with the socio-cultural environment around: guiding tours around the educational institution; acquaintance with the infrastructure of the city; presentation of dormitories and infrastructure around them. Such activities are aimed at adapting foreign students to new socio-cultural conditions, formation of skills needed for interaction with various social institutions, gradual development of social space where a foreigner will have to live for several years, obtaining professional education. The development of knowledge concerning the norms of behavior in the educational and cultural environment of a

higher educational institution, about the personality as a subject of educational and professional activity, providing emotional comfort in the educational and cultural environment of higher education and sociocultural space of Ukraine was facilitated by interactive meetings of Ukrainian and foreign students “We are neighbors in the dormitory”,” Is a dialogue of cultures among young people possible?”, “Sharing experiences”, “It’s interesting to know... “, “Future profession: ways of realization in various countries”; participation in student self-government, volunteer activity; event tours around the city together with Ukrainian students of Kharkiv State Academy of Culture specializing in "Museum and Monument Studies”, “Tourism”; business and role-playing games “My future profession”.

- Organization of cooperation between foreign and Ukrainian students for the implementation of socio-cultural projects and activities aimed at intercultural dialogue and creative interaction. During such cooperation, the academy forms groups including foreign and Ukrainian applicants where students can communicate, being involved in active professional and socio-cultural activities in a non-traditional educational and cultural environment. Such activities help forming productive interpersonal relationships. Brainstorming: “How can we help foreign students succeed?”, “What can surprise Ukrainians: a debate in the kitchen”; “What kinds of Ukrainian art will interest my fellow-countrymen the most?”, “Where will I invite my fellow-countrymen: tourist routes in Ukraine”; socio-pedagogical quest “New Year: different traditions of celebration” aimed at forming positive perception of new socio-personal experience in the educational and cultural environment of a higher educational institution of foreign students as well as their willingness to perform educational and professional tasks properly.

- Carrying out events directed on the attraction of foreigners to Ukrainian national and cultural traditions by means of extracurricular activities, on social integration into the educational and cultural environment of higher education institutions: days (weeks) of Ukrainian culture, trainings, debates, round tables, master classes, excursions, a series of events dedicated to national traditions, cultural

features of the regions of Ukraine. The formation of knowledge about traditions, customs, norms of behavior in Ukrainian culture and society, the development of values, active assimilation of traditions, customs and norms of Ukrainian culture contributed to the lectures-presentations: “Ukrainian folk architecture”, “Plant and animal symbols of Ukrainians”, “Ukrainian embroidery”, “Customs and rites of Ukrainians”, “Charms of Ukrainians”, “Artists of Ukraine”, etc.; extemporaneous lectures: “Ukrainian house”, “Ukrainian traditional dress”, “Secrets of Easter eggs”, “Motanka doll in Ukrainian culture”, “Culture of the peoples of Ukraine”; watching the video film “Ukraine – China: Dialogue of Cultures”.

Foreign students were also acquainted with Ukrainian feature cinema, in particular, they watched and made a detailed analysis of such feature films as “Forest Song. Mavka” (1980, directed by Yu. Ilyenko), “Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors” (1964, directed by S. Parajanov), “Evening on Ivan Kupala” (1968, directed by Yu. Ilyenko) and others. As a result of watching feature films and purposeful systematic work, foreign students should both learn the content of the film, and understand its details, learn to evaluate events, describe the characters and communicative situation presented in the film.

- Carrying out by foreign students of the events directed towards the acquaintance with cultural traditions, customs, literary heritage, theater and cinema of their country: evenings-presentations of foreign students’ native cultures (for example, “Mysterious world of China”, “Unknown Turkey”, “Traditions of the Arab world” etc.); visualized conversations with the use of virtual collages (conducted by foreigners for the representatives of the educational and cultural environment of the academy): “Art of my home country”; exhibitions of creative works of foreign students; organization of cultural and artistic events; presentation of national cuisine; presentation of the educational system of the students’ native country.

During the preparation and holding of such events, value guidelines for intercultural interaction takes place, communicative skills are developed, thus creating the atmosphere of friendliness and creative cooperation. Joint planning and decision-making help to overcome intercultural communication barriers, involve foreigners in student government

that facilitates their own socio-cultural projects and optimizes social individualization in non-traditional educational and cultural environment of higher education.

Thus, the activity of the Center for Intercultural Communication and Social Integration of Foreign Students implemented within the student government allows to involve foreign graduates in a broad socio-cultural context, to implement intercultural communication in various forms and situations of social interaction that positively affects the development of social intelligence, tolerance, interpersonal and intercultural relations, communicative competence of foreign students, i.e. promotes their socialization in the educational and cultural environment of higher education and the success of internationalization in the educational space of modern Ukraine.

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