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CHALLENGES FOR THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

Internationalization of higher education studies – case studies from Polish technical universities

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ABSTRACT

Internationalization of study is one of the most important processes which development can be observed in higher education in the first decade of the 21st century. It, of course, existed all over the world for ages, and always was one of the engines which stimulated development of research as well as teaching. Poland entered the international market of higher education just about 30 years ago when started to take part in many European projects (TEMPUS program is worth mentioning) but especially after joining EU in 2004 and taking part in creation of EHEA and ERA. However, despite many activities and programs performed, the level of internationalization of Polish higher education belongs to the lowest among OECD countries. For this reason internationalization of Polish higher education institutions is currently one of most important goals defined in *the Strategy for the Development of Higher Education: 2010–2020* commissioned in 2009 by the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland (KRASP) and the Polish Rectors Foundation (FRP) [1]. Among operational goals this report indicates the following needs: increasing attractiveness of Polish universities as partners in international educational and research area; giving international character for educational and research activities carried out at Polish universities; improving the image of Polish higher education in the world.

In the paper there will be presented information on activities currently implemented by the Polish Ministry of Higher Education and especially the higher education institutions to improve internationalization of Polish universities [2]. Some activities as summer schools, double diploma and T.I.M.E. programmes, English language courses and international accreditations will be discussed on the example of activities of selected technical universities

REFERENCES

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