

## UDC 378.1

**V.V. Zianko**, D.Sc. in Economics, Prof. (VNTU, Vinnytsia)

**T.D. Nechyporenko**, PhD in Economics (VTVC, Vinnytsia)

### ADAPTATION OF UKRAINIAN HIGHER EDUCATION TO EUROPEAN STANDARDS

The process of adaptation of Ukrainian higher education to European standards in the context of globalization and integration processes reveals a number of systemic problems. Outdated governance models, insufficient funding, a gap between labor market needs and educational programs, and the lack of effective mechanisms to ensure the quality of education limit the ability of domestic universities to provide competitive training. To overcome these challenges, a comprehensive transformation of the higher education system is needed, including modernization of the governance system, development of academic mobility, strengthening of international cooperation, and increasing the role of science in the educational process.

One of the priorities of modern state policy in the field of education is to ensure equal access to quality education. Historically, the level of public participation in education governance has depended on the socio-cultural context and political conditions. Today, in the context of globalization and democratization of society, it is important to find an optimal balance between state regulation and public participation in the management of educational institutions. For effective adaptation to European standards, it is necessary to:

- to conduct an in-depth analysis of contradictions: to identify and analyze the discrepancies between the existing system of higher education in Ukraine and the requirements of the Bologna Process and other European initiatives;

- to identify and classify problems: to identify key problems that hinder the full integration of Ukrainian higher education into the European educational space;

- to study the dynamics of changes: to analyze the pace and directions of reforms in higher education, identify factors influencing these changes, and predict possible development scenarios;

- to develop a development strategy: to create a clear and consistent strategy for the development of higher education, which includes the implementation of European standards, improving the quality of educational services and ensuring the competitiveness of Ukrainian graduates in the global labor market [1; 3].

Modernization of the higher education management system in Ukraine in the context of European integration requires the introduction of effective mechanisms for assessing the quality and effectiveness of educational programs. The creation of a national system for monitoring the quality of education will allow:

- to ensure transparency and accountability: to create conditions for an objective assessment of the activities of higher education institutions and the effectiveness of state policy in the field of education;
- to stimulate quality improvement: to direct the efforts of higher education institutions to continuously improve educational programs and services;
- to ensure compliance with European standards: to compare the results of Ukrainian higher education institutions with the performance of European universities and identify areas for further development.

The changing role of higher education in modern society necessitates a rethinking of traditional approaches to managing the educational process. Modern higher education must meet the following requirements:

- individualization of learning: ensuring that each student can choose an individual educational path in accordance with their interests and labor market needs;
- results orientation: transition from quantitative indicators to assessing the quality of acquired competencies;
- cooperation with business and the public: ensuring close links between higher education and the real economy, as well as public involvement in the education management process.

The conservatism of the Ukrainian higher education system significantly limits its ability to self-renew and adapt to the rapidly changing requirements of modern society. To ensure the sustainable development of domestic higher education, a systematic approach is important, which provides for:

- comprehensive monitoring: research of the interaction of the educational system with the socio-economic environment, as well as analysis of internal processes and management mechanisms;
- innovative approaches: application of interdisciplinary research and strategic planning tools to develop effective models of higher education development;
- broad stakeholder engagement: active participation of all stakeholders (universities, government agencies, businesses, NGOs, students) in decision-making and reform implementation;

– performance evaluation: development of effective tools for monitoring and evaluating the results of educational activities, which will allow measuring progress in achieving the goals.

The adaptation of Ukrainian higher education to European standards is a complex process, complicated by a number of problems. First, there is a discrepancy between national legislation and European standards. Secondly, limited funding does not allow to ensure proper quality of education and introduce innovations. Third, the curricula often do not meet European requirements. In addition, academic mobility is limited due to bureaucracy and language barriers. Outdated infrastructure and low levels of internationalization are also serious problems. Integration of Ukrainian higher education into the European space requires:

- ensuring accessibility and quality of education;
- developing life skills and training specialists for the labor market;
- promoting social mobility;
- institutionalizing quality assurance;
- modernizing curricula;
- developing research activities;
- creating a favorable environment for academic mobility.

These steps will facilitate the gradual adaptation of national higher education to European standards, creating conditions for its innovative development and integration into the European and global educational space.

Thus, it can be stated that a systematic approach to higher education management and the introduction of effective quality assessment mechanisms are necessary conditions for Ukraine's successful adaptation to European standards. Only under such conditions will our country's higher education be able to meet the requirements of modern society and ensure the competitiveness of graduates in the global labor market.

### **Information sources**

1. Challenges of legal science and education: an experience of EU countries and introduction in Ukraine: Collective monograph. Frankfurt (Oder): Izdavnictva «Baltija Publishing», 2020. 468 p.

2. On the Sustainable Development Goals of Ukraine for the period up to 2030: Presidential Decree 722/2019 of 30.09.2019. URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/722/2019#Text>

3. Nicolas Schmitt from the Report on Comparison of the European Qualifications Framework and the Ukrainian National Qualifications Framework. URL: <https://europa.eu/europass/system/files/2023-02/Comparison%20report%20final%20rev%202023-02-2023%20UA.pdf>