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Main trends of educational reform in Ukraine: employers' attitude

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Main trends of educational reform in Ukraine: employers' attitude

Rodion Kolyshko IPQ Kyiv, September 27, 2018







• General observations

- There is no general concept of education reform in Ukraine. All changes are fragmented, not linked to each other, not well discussed with stakeholders (except VET reform)
- Changes have political background and not always motivated by real need of society
- Employers are engaged fragmentally, policy makers do not consider labor market needs in the process of education and training







Secondary school

- Positive features
 - New Ukrainian School concept since this year
 - Main points (employers' point of view):
 - Including Key Competences for LLL in the educational standard
 - Professional orientation of 9-th class graduates into two (three) further streams: academic and vocational on the basis of the independent assessment
 - Alliances of secondary schools and VET schools

Concerns

- Old law (1999)
- Stereotypes (VET school is a "second choice")
- Not readiness of the VET network







VET

• Positive features

- Newest draft, based on the latest legal changes
- Well organized process of drafting (white and green books, concept, political proposal, draft)
- Broad autonomy of VET institutions (financial, operational, educational)
- Close link to regions and regional labour market

• Concerns

- Finance from regions (VET should "serve" the needs of regions only?)
- VET councils efficiency
- Not readiness of the VET institutions for changes
- Lack of the contingent
- No responsibility for the quality of training and education







Higher education

• Positive features

- 2014 first law in the line of new legal acts
- In line with Bologna process
- Broad autonomy of the HE institutions for cooperation with employers
- Standards and programs developed with the competence-based approach and/or on the basis of occupational standards

Concerns

- State order state finance budget organization status
- Disbalance of contingent distribution (region center trend)
- No orientation at the labour market needs
- Not many occupational standards development old curricula
- No responsibility for the quality of training and education







Conclusions Reforms in education sphere go on, and this is VERY GODD!!!!!

- BUT:
 - No general vision of the result of the reform
 - Law on education adopted 2017 had to be adjusted with earlier adopted Law; VET law should be adjusted to the laws on HE and education; further law on secondary education should be adjusted with...?
 - Relatively law engagement of the main stakeholders in the policy development and drafting processes, few amendments are adopted



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info@ipq.org.ua

rkolyshko@gmail.com



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<u>www.ipq.org.ua</u> <u>Rodion.kolyshko@ipq.org.ua</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/Iнститут-професійних-кваліфікацій</u>