Chapter 10

Internationalization of Library and Information Science Education in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan:
Implications in Central Asia

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ABSTRACT

Internationalization of education is of particular importance both for improving the quality of library and information education and for strengthening scientific, cultural, and political development in countries in Central Asia. The discussion in this chapter is divided into two parts: 1) library and information education in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as part of the Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union, which specifically provides an overview of the current policies of the higher education internationalization, current state of library development and library education, the challenges and recommendations for improvement; and 2) challenges and opportunities common in Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan and a general conclusion internationalization of Library and information science education in these four countries.

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is a continuation of the discussion on internationalization of library and information science education in Central Asia and will continue to review the state of the issue in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The basic strategic aspects of the development of higher education in each of the republics, the trends in training library personnel, the trends, policies, problems and their possible solutions in the sphere of internationalization of library and information education in the countries are highlighted and analyzed.

TAJIKISTAN

The Policy of Internationalization in Higher Education

The requirements for the educational process are based on the provisions of Tajikistan Law on Education (2013) (DeYoung, Kataeva, & Jonbekova, 2018). The educational process should be organized in such a way that students acquire self-education skills and learn how to effectively use information in their professional activities. Higher education has become a diversified social and organizational activity, and the development of society depends on the success of higher education.

The importance and significance of issues related to the development of professional and pedagogical competence are noted in such legal acts as the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan on Education (2013), On Education in Higher Educational Institutions and Professional Training after Graduation dated 19.05.2009 (Law on Higher and Professional Education (2003, amended in 2009) and some concepts, such as the Concept on Education in the Republic of Tajikistan, the Concept of the Development of Vocational Training in the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as in state standards on general and vocational education. The approaches defined in the documents are aimed at training a specialist who possesses general cultural and professional competencies corresponding modern requirements for training a specialist, economic and cultural development of a society, and participation of a specialist in mastering a universal culture.

The importance of education in the socio-economic development of modern Tajikistan is determined by understanding that the country's future and the well-being of its citizens depend on how effectively the national education system is able to develop their intellectual potential. The National Education Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2020 defines the role of education as a key resource for the socio-economic development of the country and its citizens.

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