




bringing neighbours closer

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Recommendations for Lifelong Policy in the Republic of Latvia

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Recommendations for Lifelong Policy in the Republic of Latvia

To improve the competitiveness and foster the knowing and educated society, it is necessary to recognize and accept lifelong learning as the means that develop people's enterprising traits, employment, adaptability skills, active participation in society, and personal self-actualization.

Lifelong learning has developed as an educational process comprising the informal education combined with formal education, developing inborn abilities besides new competencies.

The target groups for lifelong learning are economically active and economically non-active inhabitants as well as people with lower level of skills, people with special needs and people at the age of pension and pre-pension period.

The main institution for implementation of lifelong learning policy is the Ministry of Education and Science. There has been established Lifelong Learning Development Council which aim is to promote coordinated activities of ministries, municipality institutions and social partners so that to foster the lifelong learning policy according to the interests, skills of the inhabitants and socio economic needs of the regions according to Regulation No.111 of the Cabinet of Ministers from February 23, 2007 'On Guidelines of Lifelong Learning Policy' and later according to Regulation No.254 of the Cabinet of Ministry of the Republic of Latvia from May 9, 2008, "On the Program of Lifelong Learning Policy Guidelines for 2007-2013 Implementation in 2008-2010".

In the normative regulation there is no stated role and place for the university colleges in the implementation of lifelong learning, thus the activities of the university colleges depend on initiative and understanding of each university college itself regarding the content and essence.

The main suggestions refer to

- Formation of qualification framework structure
- Starting the role and place of university colleges in the lifelong learning system
- The Charter of university college lifelong learning

The main recommendations for the implementation of lifelong learning system in Latvia are the following steps:

- 1) Necessity to adjust the legislation (the documentation has to be put in order on the state level);
- 2) Amendments have to be carried out in the Law on Institutions of Higher Education;
- 3) there have to be worked out Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia which define the recognition of lifelong learning in the higher education.

References:

'Memorandum of Lifelong Learning", European Council, October 30, 2000

Regulation No.111 of the Cabinet of Ministry of the Republic of Latvia from February 23, 2007, 'Guidelines of Lifelong Learning Policy for 2007-2013'

Regulation No.254 of the Cabinet of Ministry of the Republic of Latvia from May 9, 2008, "On the Program of Lifelong Learning Policy Guidelines for 2007-2013 Implementation in 2008-2010"