

INTERNATIONALIZATION AS A STRATEGIC FACTOR IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC GLOBALIZATION

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INTRODUCTION.

This has been a collaborative research project involving researchers at Nazarbayev University Graduate School of Education and the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education. The principal investigators were Aida Sagintayeva (NUGSE) and Laura Perna (Penn GSE).

The goal of the research project was to explore the role of strategies for internationalizing higher education in developing a nation's human capital. The research team identified and categorized higher education internationalization strategies adopted by nations across the globe and studied in-depth the factors influencing participation in and the benefits of the international student exchange programs sponsored by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

MATERIALS AND METHODS.

To achieve this goal, the research team collected data from a variety of sources including existing documents and reports, as well as individual and group interviews with Bolashak and other international programs graduates as well as with employers of private and public sectors.

The research conducted contributes to scholarship on human capital formation in rapidly developing economies. As such, this research is of national and international importance.

CONCLUSIONS.

This research project generated a number of findings with implications particularly for the Bolashak program and also for student mobility programs sponsored by other nations. This section summarizes insights gleaned about three aspects of the Bolashak program (program participation, benefits, and structure), as well as insights about the forces that influence participation in Bolashak and the benefits of Bolashak. The findings raise a number of questions that require further consideration and have important implications for policy and practice.

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