

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE IN Ph.D. EDUCATION

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The knowledge-based economy agenda focusing primarily on accountability and efficiency in higher education necessitates also a closer examination of the processes and practices universities employ to ensure the quality of education. The issue of quality is of a particular importance in doctoral education often associated with an individual endeavor characterized by invisible and often opaque rules and practices. However, with the recent trend to establish more structurally organized Ph.D. programmes in Kazakhstan providing more support to doctoral students, the issue of internal quality assurance is obtaining a greater significance. Thus, based on literature review this study focuses on international practices promoting internal quality assurance in Ph.D. programmes, as well as refers to the experience of Nazarbayev University recognized as a leading research university in Kazakhstan.

Key words: Internal quality assurance, Ph.D. programmes, education standards and guidelines, research proposal, peer-review.

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