E-PORTFOLIO AS A TOOL FOR ORGANIZATION OF LIFE-LONG LEARNING

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Life-long learning is not just a trend in the modern society, it is a great vital necessity in the society where a lot of professions appear and disappear every year. It becomes crucial for any specialist to arrange appropriate learning through the life and to show diplomas, certificates and other evidences of the gained skills and knowledge. E-portfolio is usually used as a complex resume with all achievements but it also is able to support succession and flexibility during the organization of lifelong learning.

A lot of educational institutions offer their students platforms with templates to create their e-portfolios. These e-portfolios provide information about curriculum, timetable, and campus life. Here professors can give tasks and tests and then check them. But for future professional life the most valuable part of the e-portfolio is assessments [1, 2, 4] as they can allow to be qualified as a specialist in some field. Each new educational institute will offer to create an e-portfolio and the succession in learning can be lost. While arranging self-education it is good to register all the achievements on an independent platform, that means to create own e-portfolio.

Centralized educational system of the Republic of Belarus has facilities for creating a platform for e-portfolios thus they can become education and work online registers. The authenticity of the provided data may be secured by electronic signatures by educational institutions, employers and qualification commissions. The e-portfolios of this type give the opportunity to optimize the learning management system as they can track the whole educational process: all studied subjects, all courses and self-learning (qualification in this case can be proved by a chief or a qualification commission). Thorough registration let learners and educational institutions create individual learning plans and provide succession of learning, and employers will get the opportunity to find specialists with definite set of skills.

When timing the learning process the flexibility of education is of great importance. Busy life can dictate the necessity to gain new knowledge and skills by different means, like distant courses, self-learning, evening classes and so on. Individual learning plan (ILP) is often seen like flexibility, but ILP is normally arranged to study within one educational institution during some agreed period of time [3, 4]. Flexibility of educational system means that a person chooses educational institutions, targeted courses, master-classes and appropriate time and place for these activities. Educational institutions will be able to offer corresponded classes to potential students using hashtags with specified interests in e-portfolios. It will widen the choice of classes and courses and will let the students build their own educational routs in accordance to the changing demand of the labour markets.

It is obvious that educational institutions will enjoy close relations with potential students as it allows to enrich their educational activities, to adjust their curriculums to the demand and so to become more competitive in the market.

The information society needs new approaches and tools in all spheres of national economy and private life. E-portfolio as a register for work and educational experience can help to organize appropriate life-long learning and if necessary smoother transitions from one profession to another.

References

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