INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES FOR BLENDED AND DISTANCE LEARNING IN UNIVERSITIES OF UKRAINE DURING THE FULL-SCALE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN WAR

"An educational institution should become a place where a healthy and competent generation is brought up..."

Olena Zelenska

In the 31st year of Ukraine's independence, the large-scale armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine began, and at the same time, the most difficult period in the modern history of the Ukrainian people, who at the cost of their own lives are choosing a free, democratic future, the preservation of their statehood, territorial integrity, the right to the Ukrainian language, education and culture. Today, thousands of Ukrainian education seekers, educators, and scientists defend the sovereignty and independence of their native land with weapons in their hands. Defending the Motherland, hundreds of them sacrificed the most precious thing - their own lives - and will forever remain Heroes of Ukraine. Others struggle on the educational front - in school classrooms, university classrooms, in conditions of lack of electricity, heat, and water, ensuring the educational process.

Since February 24, 2022, Ukraine's education system, like the rest of the country, has been operating under extreme conditions.

In May last year at the All-Ukrainian Forum "Ukraine 30. Education and Science" [1] during three days scientists and experts discussed current trends in education and science, current transformations of the educational process under martial law in Ukraine. The participants of the event, including representatives of the Office of the President, the Cabinet of Ministers, the Verkhovna Rada, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ukrainian Institute for Educational Development, Ukrainian and foreign educators, concluded that Ukrainian education will be able to withstand the main challenges of the time, despite the difficult conditions, only by adhering to the strategic course of modernization and renewal of the educational process, which was determined by the Cabinet of Ministers on the eve of Russia's aggressive attack on Ukraine [7].
The Strategy for the Development of Higher Education in Ukraine for 2022-2032 determines the directions of development of the higher education system at the present stage of development of society and the country's economy, defines its main characteristics to be formed by 2032. This Strategy is based on Ukraine's desire to become an equal member of the European community, and its strategic and operational goals are in line with Ukraine's commitments to intensify cooperation with the European Union in the field of higher education, in particular in digitalization.

"In 2020. The European Commission has approved the Digital Education Action Plan for 2021-2027, which takes into account the challenges posed by the acute respiratory disease COVID-19 caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, and provides for two priority areas such as accelerating the development of effective digital educational ecosystems, which requires the availability of developed infrastructure, communications and digital equipment, effective planning and development of digital capacity, including modern organizational capabilities, trained scientific, research and teaching staff, who are in the implementation of the strategic goal ("Trust of citizens, the state and business in the educational, scientific, innovative activities of higher education institutions") and in the implementation of the operational goal to create conditions for the development of innovations, effective implementation of new knowledge and technologies with the participation of higher education institutions, digitalization is one of the priority tasks.

Under such circumstances, the system of education and science of Ukraine faced unprecedented challenges and threats, which, despite the active hostilities and aggression of the Russian Federation, require an operational response primarily to preserve the lives of all participants in the educational process, to realize the right to education given the security situation in the specific territory, ensuring continuity and equal access to educational services for internally displaced children and refugee children abroad, assessment of educational needs. Another important task is to provide information and analytical support to the Ministry of Education and Culture based on "evidence-based policymaking" for the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of education under martial law: development and modernization of educational management information systems, introduction of new and improvement of existing digital distance learning tools; development and popularization of special web resources and platforms for psychological support of participants in the educational process, strengthening international cooperation, etc.

In the conditions of martial law in Ukraine, the need to determine the form of organization of the educational process has become urgent. Taking into account the real threat to the life and health of participants in the educational process as a result of armed aggression and the declaration of martial law in Ukraine, the Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On some issues of organizing the work of institutions of professional higher education during martial law" dated 07.03.2022 № 235 [4] was discussed.

In this extremely difficult time for Ukraine, when Ukraine is creating a new history, Ukrainians have united, and everyone is "fighting" on their front. The sphere of education and science, without exaggeration, is a strategic resource on which the well-being of people, the provision of national interests, the development of intellectual potential, and the formation of the human capital of Ukraine. Therefore, today, when the Ukrainian people are giving a heroic rebuff to the Russian aggressor, each of us is on the educational front line, and our responsible work brings Ukraine's victory closer every day.

Preserving the nation's intellectual potential in times of war requires qualitative changes in the higher education system. To ensure these processes, a comprehensive approach to improving the activities of an educational institution through the digitalization of all processes, taking into account the accumulated international experience and the peculiarities of the educational process in Ukraine during the war, is required. A common feature of all successful countries is the
recognition of the priority of intellectual potential for to ensure sustainable development of the country.

It should be noted that the organization of the educational process depends on the security situation in each region of Ukraine. The structure and duration of the school week, day, classes and rest, as well as the forms of organization of the educational process are determined by the pedagogical (academic) council of the educational institution within the time limits, provided by the educational program (curriculum) (in accordance with the volume of workload and taking into account the age characteristics, physical, mental and intellectual development of students, peculiarities of the region, etc. [6].

The organization of the educational process in wartime is a new challenge for all scientific and pedagogical workers and directly those seeking education. The choice of the platform, the placement of lecture and practical materials, the format of receiving tasks, all these are not just elements but a system that works well if it is well thought out and submitted in advance.

Most educational institutions are reorganized according to the development and use of information technologies in knowledge dissemination. One of the main manifestations and consequences of globalization is increased competition in various forms, including education.

The new Ukrainian educational institution is a place of learning and competence development in any conditions. Times are changing, and the educational process should be adapted to the needs of students. Therefore, the main, basic component of the National Technopark for Education Quality Improvement is the introduction of competency-based education into the educational space, including the functioning of offline and online resources of educational values, a radical renewal of the system of training and support of a competent teacher for the New Ukrainian Education. The development of innovative technologies is becoming the basis for large-scale educational reforms that transform education into a productive sector of the economy.

The political and social changes taking place in Ukraine make it necessary to accelerate the reform of the education system. The basis of socio-economic development of the information society is the production of information and knowledge. Remote restrictions have increased the need for new approaches to learning, for large-scale implementation of online technologies, fundamental changes in methodological approaches that would ensure an effective combination of direct and indirect forms of interaction between students and teaching staff.

Today, the whole world is in conditions of the need to work differently. You should not put pressure on the education worker if he/she does not succeed in something, support and help are important. Too high requirements for the "virtual ideal" teacher or student, as well as the lack of a clear regulatory framework in the context of the existence of many other educational problems regarding the implementation of distance learning do not contribute to an effective solution to the problem. Modern information technologies open up new perspectives for increasing the efficiency of the educational process. A great role is given to the methods of active learning, self-education, distance educational programs.

Innovation in education is seen as a realized innovation in the content, methods, techniques and forms of educational activities and personal development (as methods, technologies), in the content and forms of organization of management of the educational system, as well as in the organizational structure of educational institutions, in the means of teaching and upbringing and in approaches to social services in education. This significantly improves the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the educational process, so pedagogical innovation in accordance with the peculiarities of the latest processes in education should cover certain theoretical blocks of concepts and principles, namely: creation of new things in the system of education and pedagogical science, perception of new things by the social and pedagogical community, application of pedagogical innovations, a system of recommendations for theorists and practitioners on the knowledge of innovative educational processes in education and their management.
The current state of development of world science: characteristics and features

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