

**GERMANY AND UKRAINE: EDUCATION, ACADEMIC
MOBILITY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN THE FIELD
OF PROFESSIONAL LOGISTICS TRAINING**

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Abstract. *Learning is one of the most difficult processes in the life of any person. In order for a student to have good qualifications in his field, he needs to pay attention not only to theoretical education, but also to try himself in practice. Germany has long been considered a country of logistics and advanced training, but Ukraine is not far behind. This means that academic mobility and international connections in the field of education between these countries are important and promising.*

Logistics is one of the leading industries that covers all aspects of our lives: from the work of large corporations to pizza delivery. Today, logistics is becoming increasingly popular all over the world. This is not only a small part of management, but also a full-fledged separate specialty that should be studied not only in theory, but also well understood in practice.

For specialists and teachers, logistics offers incredible opportunities to participate in well-known conferences and consulting, where they can share their experience and learn new things.

As for students, there are exchange programs with other countries that have long helped students better understand their specialty and acquire knowledge that is passed on by lecturers from other countries.

Germany is one of the leading countries in the field of logistics, and this specialty is not only popular, but also very profitable even for ordinary companies that have their own specialists in this field, in addition to large corporations such as DHL.

When it comes to studying and gaining experience in Germany, it is important to note that the logistics specialty is not available at all higher education institutions. Typically, this area of study is offered only at technical institutes. In universities that are more theory-oriented, logistics can only be taught as one of the subjects of general economics at the undergraduate level, but not as a highly specialized area at the master level.

Despite this, logistics is in great demand in German colleges, where education is combined with practice, and after completing such programs, students can immediately start working in their specialty, albeit with a low salary. For higher level education in Germany, students should choose either institutes with a highly specialized approach or universities.

If a student intends to immediately enter a management position in a large company after graduation, then it is best to choose an institute. Those who plan to work in the scientific field in the future choose a university.

It should also be remembered that if there is cooperation between educational institutions of different countries, then training abroad is usually conducted in English. International students who decide to study in Germany from scratch can also choose *Dualstudium*. This type of education is quite popular among those who want to combine study with work. Students spend 50% of their time studying theory and 50% gaining practical experience in logistics companies [3].

The diversity of study in Germany forces students to make careful choices. However, is training in the “land of logistics” so advanced and useful? Compared to Ukraine, where various types of logistics are studied, in Germany institutes specialize in this science in general.

For example, Ukrainian universities may offer different types of logistics, such as trade logistics, aviation logistics or environmental logistics. In German institutes, more attention is paid to calculations such as mathematical statistics, supply chain studies and long-term practice [6].

In both countries, education is conducted in both the national and English languages. Some German universities, such as the University of Bonn, also allow works and theses to be submitted in French or Turkish. The minimum level of proficiency in the language is B2. Many universities require a language level close to that of a native speaker - C1 [5].

The rating system also differs in Ukraine and Germany. In Ukraine, a cumulative grading system is often used, in which students accumulate points for various assignments throughout the semester. At many German universities, grades are awarded primarily on exam papers (“Klausur”), and projects or homework assignments can earn extra points that can improve a student's final grade.

When considering the structure of study programs in universities, it is important to note the differences in the duration of study. Ukrainian students usually spend 4 years to obtain a bachelor's degree, in German universities this period is reduced to 3 years, and in institutes the duration is 3.5 years. Why such difference? Ukrainian universities include general

education subjects such as physical education, philosophy, history or logic in the first and second semester, even if the student has chosen a technical specialty. In German educational institutions, if a student chooses logistics, all subjects are related to this specialty from the very beginning of their studies, which saves a year of study.

Academic mobility is an important part of education in both countries and includes exchange programs such as Erasmus+. Students can go abroad for a semester or a year to their institution's partner universities. In addition, all German institutes have a compulsory semester abroad, where studies can be conducted in English or another language of the partner country. Successful completion of this semester leads to accreditation and the courses taken will be recognized [4].

Academic mobility allows students to gain experience working with new teachers and improve their language skills. It is important to emphasize that this opportunity makes students more competitive in the international labor market. In addition to Erasmus+, there is also the DAAD program, which provides grants for studying in Germany. DAAD also supports Ukrainian students who want to improve their language skills and study at German universities during the war in Ukraine [2].

Logistics, as mentioned earlier, is not a separate specialty in many higher education institutions in Germany. However, despite this, many leading companies, such as DHL, are ready to accept students for internships, which opens up wide opportunities for their career growth. All German universities have a compulsory practical semester, which gives students many opportunities to plan their future.

In addition to the possibility of academic mobility, scientific work is actively developing in both countries through various activities such as conferences, consultations and trainings. Many higher education institutions regularly hold conferences that are different from the usual student work and have a real contribution to science. These are major works of significant scientific content, useful and important for the development of science. In addition to student conferences, there are also scientific conferences for professionals where important issues are discussed. Both types of conferences are held both at the national level, using the official language of the country, and at the international level in English. Consulting and training are very popular in Germany, and recently this trend has spread to Ukraine. These events help improve skills both in the scientific and social spheres, allow you to exchange experiences with other specialists and find new colleagues, which is an important task for busy people. Considering the

fact that logistics is a fairly young science, conferences, trainings and consulting in this area are not yet so widespread. Scientific work is important for the development of logistics theory, but the exchange of practical experience in real life is also extremely valuable for companies, since it avoids the risk of making mistakes [1].

Conclusion

Thus, both Germany and Ukraine have a fairly wide field for education in the field of logistics. In Germany, such education can be obtained at a college, institute or university. The level of knowledge acquired and the future position with salary depend on the level of the institution from which the student graduated. Unlike Germany, Ukraine offers higher education in the field of logistics, and it is on average a year longer due to general subjects. The advantage of training in logistics in Ukraine can be considered a wide range of training programs - from logistics itself to aviation or environmental logistics. According to the authors, a promising solution would be to use the everyday life of both countries to exchange experiences and international exchanges between students and teachers.

References

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