

# Elite Institutional System of Higher Education in Ukraine: the current trends of development.

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# Elite Institutional System of Higher Education in Ukraine: the current trends of development.

**Basic conceptual argumentation  
for the defense and development  
of an elite institutional system  
of higher education**

**A) Conservative Approach**

**B) Liberal-Democratic  
Approach**

# Elite Institutional System of Higher Education : Conservative and Liberal-Democratic Approaches

## **A) Conservative approach**

1. The support of mechanisms for the reproduction of the top positions in the system of social stratification.
2. Need to ensure quality training for effective further use material and financial capital.
3. Using higher education as a significant mechanism of social selection.
4. Elite professional higher education - the basis of cultural capital, the main factor of life success and career chances.
5. Number of elite universities should not be large, (but their budget would be great to recruit eminent scholars to provide the scientific schools and develop university infrastructure).

## **B) Liberal-Democratic Approach**

1. Elite institutional system of higher education is not completely "closed" system, it is really "open" to all people who want to obtain high-quality knowledge.
2. Elite universities provide opportunities to continue studies at graduate and postgraduate talented bachelors from other non-elite universities.
3. Elite universities - an important factor in changing status position and social mobility.
4. Diploma of elite universities - a guarantee of successful employment at the labor market.
5. An elite university is a real and referential institutional model of higher education; each non-elite university should strive to become an elite, so the number of elite universities should increase.

# Higher Education System of Ukraine: main developments 2005-2010

1. Ukraine joined the Bologna Process in 2005. Key developments since then include: approval of an action plan on Quality Assurance in higher education; amendments to the law on HE has been prepared according to Bologna provisions and recommendations; Ukraine has become a governmental member of the European Quality Assurance Register.

# Higher Education System of Ukraine: main developments 2005-2010

## 2. Current challenges include:

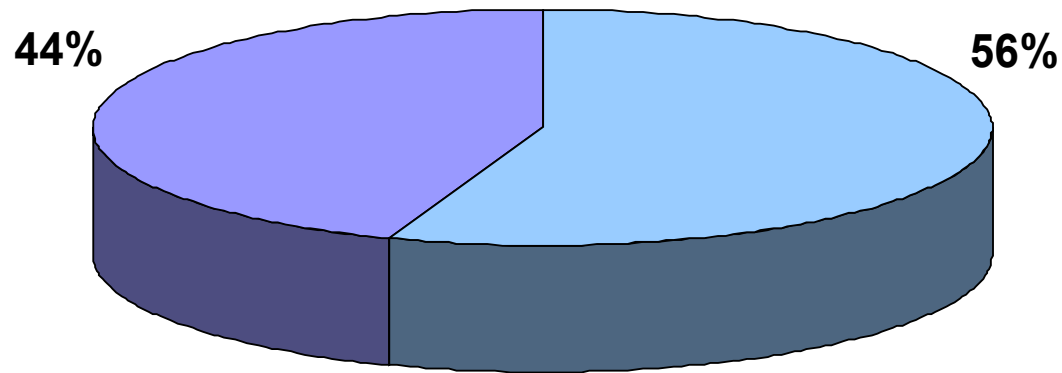
- introduction of the innovative institutional structure, three-cycle system and joint degrees;
- establishing programmes for foreign students;
- aligning university programmes with Bologna structure;
- development of the national qualifications framework for lifelong learning;
- creating mechanisms for recognition of prior learning;
- implementation of the Diploma Supplement in the EU/CoE/UNESCO format;
- creation of the national QA agency;
- increasing outward and inward mobility;
- assuring portability of student grants and loans;
- provision of equal access to higher education;
- curriculum reform with a view to the needs of employers;
- promotion of cultural values and democratic ideals.

# Higher Education System of Ukraine: main developments 2005-2010

3. Ukrainian government's efforts to establish and develop **an Elite System of Higher Education** through the creation of new institutional networks:
  - the network of “National Universities”;
  - the network of “Research Universities”

*\*For Ukraine the term since 1991 –to 1999 was the period of intensive and dynamic development of the institutes of higher education. Such intensive development Ukrainian government regarded as an important factor of social control over the youth groups because the mass youth unemployment ( till 60%) could become a serious condition of social disorganization. But since 1999 the process of institutional development has been stopped. Moreover, since 2006 the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine had withdrew the state’s license for educational activity from 90 institutes of higher education.*

# The structure of the institutional system of higher education in Ukraine (2010)



- The sector of state's institutions of Higher Education - 479
- The sector of municipal or private institutions of Higher Education - 383
- **The total - 862**

# The structure of the institutional system of higher education in Ukraine

1 .In 2010 Ukrainian system of higher education organizations involves 862 ( 906 in 2009 ) - higher education institutions of I-IV accreditation levels. The total number of students is near 2,7 mln. The network of state's institutions of Higher Education in Ukraine (479) includes professional colleges (237), academies and universities (242). The sector of municipal or private institutions of HE was also considerably enlarged – to 383 ( 268 professional colleges; 115 - academies and universities).



# The structure of the institutional system of higher education in Ukraine

2. Professorial-teaching staff (now 12252 professors, 45 300 docents) constantly renews by skilled personnel. But the process of this renovation really determines by another processes of the *degradation*

a) of the system of Scientific- Research Institutes (more than 300) and

b) of the institutional system of National Academy of Science of Ukraine.

## The current trends of development of the elite institutional system of Higher Education in Ukraine

The process of commercialization of Higher Education institutional system in Ukraine is the indispensable result of its progressive integration into institutional mechanisms of market economy. But this process produced some contradictions between the sector of state's institutions of HE and the sector of private institutions of HE . In order to develop the resource basis of the state's system of HE Ukrainian government decided to select a group of advanced universities by increasing their budget by 15% and **create a network of "National universities"**. In 2009, the number of such universities reached 120 .

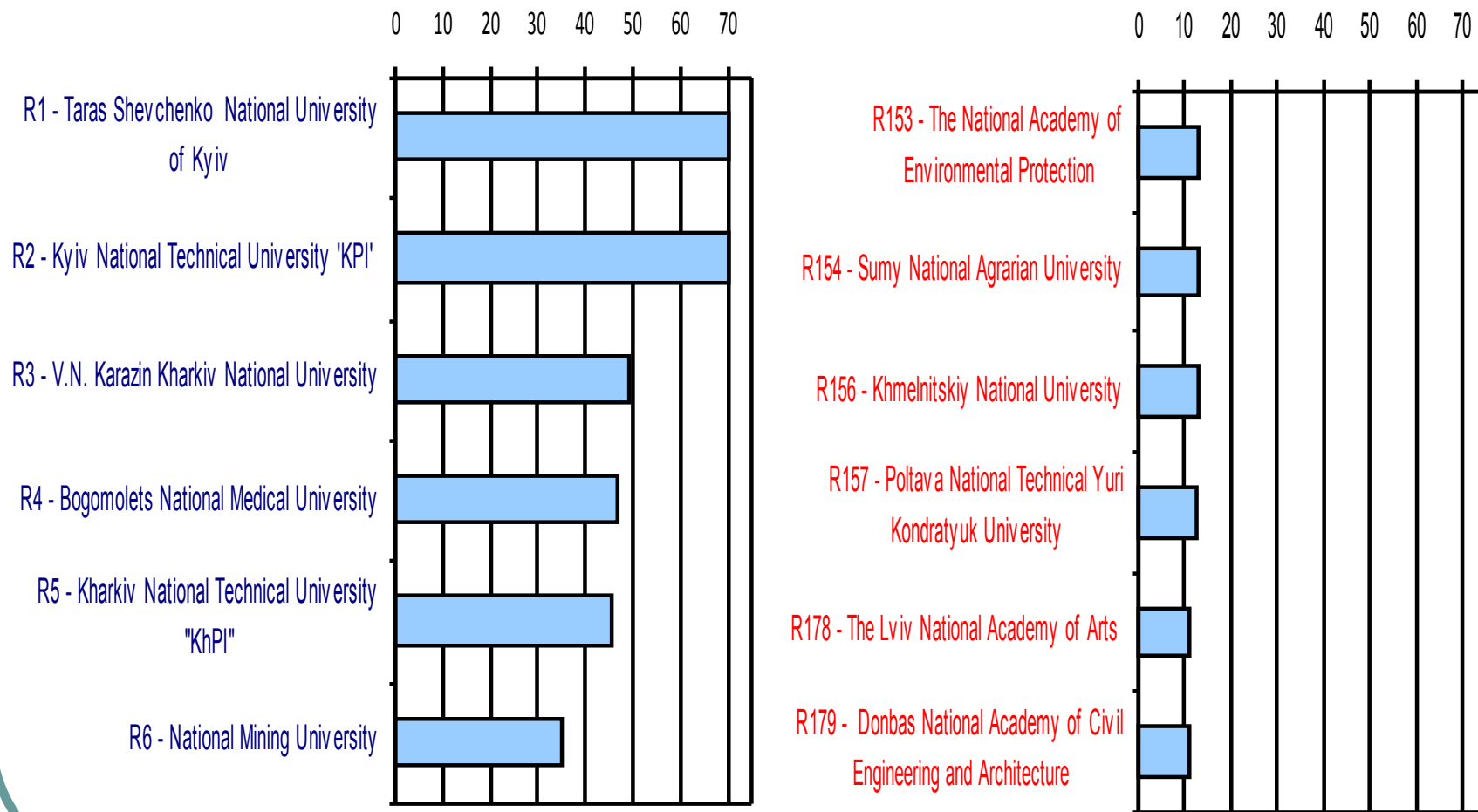
## The current trends of development of the elite institutional system of Higher Education in Ukraine

First attempt to create an elite system of higher education in Ukraine can not be considered as successful, because not all “National Universities” were able to confirm their elite status. In the 2009 National Ranking of UNESCO “Top Ukraine 200” more than 50% of “National Universities” occupied ranking positions from 100 to 200.

# The National Ranking of UNESCO

## “Top Ukraine 200” - 2009

### Evaluation of the integral index of the university\*



# The current trends of development of the elite institutional system of Higher Education in Ukraine

In February 2010, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted a special Decree N163 on the establishment in 2011 of a new elite network - 14 "Research Universities". This Decree provides the following measures :

- increasing the budget of the new Research University by 30%;
- enlargement staff scholars which enable to provide innovating scientific investigations minimum to 300 researchers;
- setting minimum amounts of research funding - 20 million UAH. (2 million Euro);
- the formation of innovative technical parks.

Unfortunately, current economic and financial crisis is a serious obstacle for successful implementation of the Governmental Decree on Research Universities in the next year.

# Conclusions

- **Organization and development of the HE Elite institutional system in Western Europe is based on the principles of liberal-democratic approach which maintain and protect the values of: “institutional autonomy”, “academic freedom”<sup>\*</sup>; “maximization of the talents and capacities of all citizens”<sup>\*\*</sup>.**
- **Elite system of HE in Ukraine is based on the principles of conservative approach which protect the value of institutional selection. So now in Ukraine really exist two institutional networks of elite HE – 1) the network of the “National Universities”; 2) the network of the “Research Universities”.**
- **Today the network of the “National Universities” is in crisis state. So current affords of Ukrainian government to develop the new elite network of the “Research Universities” are closely connected with the question – what we have to do with the network of the “National Universities”?**

*\*Toward the European Higher Education Area: responding to challenges in globalised world.- London Communiqué. - London, 2007.*

*\*\*The Bologna process 2020 – The European Higher Education in the new decade. Communiqué of the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Higher Education. Leuven and Louvain-la-Neuve, 28-29 April, 2009 .- Leuven, 2009.*

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