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Strategy of Slovak Republic's Government to use higher education as an investment in human capital

Abstract

The Master thesis on the topic “Strategy of Slovak Republic’s government to use higher education as an investment in human capital” presents results to the following research question: To what extent is it a part of strategy of Slovak Republic’s educational policy to use higher education as an investment in human capital? The thesis specifically focuses on the idea of human capital contributing to growth of economy and society, however it does not oppose and refuse other importance and value of human capital. The thesis presents theoretical background of the concepts of human capital, higher education and the higher education as an investment in human capital. In the analytical part, there is research of Governmental strategic documents concerning higher education presented; international discourse and other related studies considered; and results of empirical research based on interviews with experts on higher education in the Slovak Republic presented. The results of analysis are, for example, that based on legislative regulation, long-term strategy of government serves only as a guideline for individual universities/colleges, which are obliged to prepare their own long-term strategies, including strategies regarding higher education as an investment in human capital. Theoretically, participants of higher education process, such as Government, universities/colleges, scientific academies, etc., consider the importance of quality and effective human capital. However, in practice no obligations, common goals and tools are defined and implemented, to create a cooperation framework for strategy of development of human capital using higher education.