

E-MODERN INTERNATIONAL DISTANT EDUCATION ESPECIALLY FOR THE ERASMUS+ STUDENTS AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Prof. Dusan Soltes, PhD.

Faculty of Management, Comenius University

Bratislava, Slovakia

The paper is dealing with some impact of the recent global pandemic of COVID – 19 on the education in general and regarding the specific problems of international higher education under the EU/ERASMUS+ mobility of teachers and students in particular

Some background information

When we look at the latest development in the education we could see a certain paradox. While in all the walks of the socio- economic life the latest ICT including the nanotechnologies, mobile phone communications, Big data, IoT, etc. have been widely applied and practically utilized, we could see that in the education itself these modern technological achievements have not made any more important impact. In general, the modern ICT technology was practically available in the educational processes only mostly by using the power points presentations and all the education process used to be carried out in the class rooms and/or lecture rooms supported by white/black boards, etc.

Impact of COVID-19 on the higher education Under the EU/ERASMUS+

Some three years ago in 2020, when the COVID-19 has become a global pandemic and unfortunately as also in Slovakia among the first used to be closed schools and as the latest for some short time reopen and so on. In view of this negative situation and development it was necessary to find some ways and means to continue with the educational and learning when the schools had to be closed. Then only started the practical application of some already existing but before the outbreak of this pandemic not widely utilized ICT applications and that being e.g. the MS Teams, Zoom and some other similar online education systems that enabled various before that not so much utilized systems of education and learning as

home education

distant education,

online education,

hybrid education,

mobile phone education,

self-studies,

prerecorded classes, etc.

Especially for the foreign students studying under the EU/Erasmus+ mobility program, all these various forms of a distant education have had a very practical meaning and relatively useful application.

In the paper we will be dealing in more detail with these new modes of the distant international education and learning regarding its positives but also negatives as well as problems to be removed in the future.