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INTEGRATING MILITARY HIGHER EDUCATION INTO THE GENERAL HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM: THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS, PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE, AND DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS

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Abstract

This scientific article examines the theoretical and methodological foundations for integrating military higher education into the civilian higher education system, taking into account contemporary requirements as well as international and national experience. Particular attention is paid to the significance of this integration in the context of digital transformation, competency-based education, and national security needs. Scientifically grounded proposals and recommendations are developed for the effective integration of military higher education into the national higher education system under the conditions of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Keywords: Military higher education, higher education, integration, military personnel training, national security, educational reforms.

Introduction

In the 21st century, rapid changes in the international security environment, the emergence of military and political conflicts, and new types of threats—such as cyberattacks, information warfare, and hybrid conflicts—have imposed fundamentally new requirements on military education systems. Under these conditions, preserving military higher education in a purely traditional form is no

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longer sufficient; rather, its integration with the modern higher education system has become a strategic necessity.

Integrating military higher education into the general higher education system enhances the intellectual potential of military personnel, promotes the development of scientific research, and increases the social prestige of military service. Therefore, this issue is relevant not only from the perspective of the military sector, but also in terms of overall state policy.

Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of Integration

The integration of military higher education with civilian higher education systems is primarily based on systemic and competency-based approaches to education. The competency-based education model aims to equip military specialists not only with professional knowledge, but also with strategic thinking skills, decision-making abilities, teamwork competencies, and leadership qualities.

Scientific literature emphasizes that educational integration is achieved through interdisciplinary knowledge connections, modernization of educational content, and the implementation of innovative pedagogical technologies. This approach is increasingly reflected in military education, contributing to its effectiveness and relevance.

Analysis of International Experience

In developed countries, military higher education is closely linked with civilian universities. For example, in the United States, military academies cooperate with universities to implement joint programs in engineering, information technology, international relations, and management.

In Germany and France, military education systems have been adapted to the requirements of the Bologna Process, enabling military personnel to obtain bachelor's and master's degrees. This significantly expands their opportunities for professional activity in civilian sectors after completing military service.

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The Importance of Integration in Contemporary Conditions

Today, military education curricula must include disciplines related to digital technologies, artificial intelligence, unmanned aerial systems, cybersecurity, and information analysis. Effective instruction in these areas requires close cooperation with higher education institutions that possess advanced scientific and technological potential.

Integrating military higher education into the general higher education system:
improves the quality of education;
promotes the development of scientific research;
enhances the competitiveness of military personnel;
strengthens the national security system.

Integration of Military Higher Education in the Context of Uzbekistan

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, ongoing reforms in the higher education sector are also influencing the military education system. Military training centers and military departments have been established within higher education institutions, providing students with the opportunity to acquire military knowledge alongside their academic studies.

This system contributes to the formation of patriotic values among youth, the creation of a reserve of trained military personnel, and the strengthening of the practice-oriented nature of education.

Challenges and Ways to Address Them

The integration process faces several challenges, including:
inconsistencies between curricula;
limited material and technical resources;
shortages of qualified teaching staff.

To overcome these challenges, it is necessary to:
develop unified educational standards;
introduce digital learning platforms;
strengthen cooperation between military and civilian academic staff.

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Conclusion

Integrating military higher education into the general higher education system represents one of the most effective approaches to training military personnel capable of meeting contemporary challenges. This process contributes to ensuring national security, improving the quality of education, and enhancing scientific potential. Therefore, the consistent continuation of reforms in this direction is of critical importance.

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