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Tēžu krājums

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA IN THE COLLECTIONS OF MEMORY INSTITUTIONS

Collection of abstracts

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LATVIJAS UNIVERSITĀTE

#STAND WITH UKRAINE

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Fotografējusi Sarmīte Livdāne
Korektore Ruta Puriņa
Maketētāja Andra Liepiņa

Organizer of conference and compiler Iveta Gudakovska
Translator of preface Andra Damberga
Photography by Sarmīte Livdāne
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SPEICHERS OF INTELLECTUAL MEMORY: THE RESULTS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE MYKHAILO DRAGOMANOV UKRAINIAN STATE UNIVERSITY (KYIV, UKRAINE) AND THE UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA (RIGA, LATVIA)

Volodymyr Yevtukh

Mykhailo Dragomanov Ukrainian State University, Faculty for Social/Political Studies, Pyrohova Str. 9, Kyiv, Ukraine
E-mail: yevtukh@ukr.net

Short general remarks concerning the title of my presentation, in other words, my understanding of the two terms used therein:

a) *Speicher* (German) – repository, also called a warehouse, depot, storage, buffer, stock or reserve, depending on the context, is a place or facility for storing tangible or intangible objects (*Educalingo, the dictionary for curious people*); in our case, it is about intangible objects;
b) *intellectual memory* – it can refer to the recollection of symbolic messages, or it can refer to remembering of meanings, mastery of language. According to René Descartes (1596–1650), intellectual memory takes care of remembering the subject's own states, in other words, reflective memory (*Descartes's Intellectual Memory – Research Gate https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305715479_ Descartes's_ Intellectual_Memory*).

Speaking about cooperation between two our institutions, we have to keep in mind another kind of memory – *sensory memory,* which serves as the transmitter of information. In our context, both kinds of memory are important. Collecting facts, events, judgments (as information) about the cooperation, we are building a base for thinking about intellectualization of the process of cooperation itself and its outputs.

I propose to follow my prolegomena (reflections) about interconnection of intellectual memory and sensory memory looking for grains of intellectual light in the cooperation, which usually can seem quite routine: conferences, seminars, guest lectures, excursions – the attributes of any cooperation. I will try to give an answer to the question of what *Speicher* is here, concerning the way it functions.

I will take several examples from our cooperation to demonstrate how intellectual memory accumulates. All these examples are within the framework of the cooperation between our universities (2008–2022) and in particular during implementation of a common scientific project "Immigrants in the Society: Challenges for Education (2017–2018)".

For reference: August 2022 National Pedagogical Dragomanov University was renamed to Mykhailo Dragomanov Ukrainian State University.

1) **General highlights of cooperation**:
   a) exchange of information about political systems in two countries; about innovative technologies in educational systems; about the level of democracy in management of educational space in Latvia and Ukraine, etc.;

b) exchange of theoretical approaches to the estimation of the role of immigrants in Ukrainian and Latvian societies;
c) exchange of experiences of integration of immigrants into educational spaces of the countries in question.

What, in this context, is deposited in the Speicher of intellectual memory? First of all:

- democratic handling of immigrants (at the level of states and at the level of communities – especially legal regulations);
- open access to social services;
- openness of the education systems for immigrants;
- assistance to immigrants in communication with local population (accent on interethnic tolerance).

2) ***Seminars*** (as an examples: "Educational space in a multicultural environment: trends of the 21st century", "Educational principles of the study of the inclusion of migrants in society", "Educational problems of immigrants in modern society: Ukrainian and Latvian contexts").

What, in this context, is deposited in the Speichers of intellectual memory? Here we are talking about principles: **how to build a common educational space; how to include into this space immigrant segment**.

3) ***Cultural events of the cooperation***. Amazing opportunities to become acquainted with cultural traditions (I am speaking from the Ukrainian point of view) of Latvia and of its peoples: traditions of the castle in Cēsis, Bread Museum and Basilica in Aglona, the Academy of Technologies in Rēzekne, the University in Ventspils, fantastically picturesque coast of the Baltic Sea, incredibly interesting stories about their country and traditions, which were told by our Latvian colleagues.

4) **The outcomes of such a cooperation, in my opinion, are:**

- rapprochement in the understanding of the cooperation partner (i.e., his/her country, culture, traditions of his/her people);
- formation of the foundation for the preparation of joint programmes and joint projects, in particular, in the sphere of education;
- facilitating the integration of the Ukrainian partner into the European and international scientific and educational space through the publication of the results of joint activities (example: the joint publication of Ukrainian and Latvian colleagues *"Immigrants in Society: Challenges for Education in Ukraine and Latvia. International Journal of Smart Education and Urban Society (IJSEUS). 2019. № 10(2)"* is read by more than 30 times, etc.

The information stored in the Speichers (dates, events, details, a fixed description of different activities) should be structured according to the degree of its importance and relevance in compliance with the needs of its possible use (one can say, by preparing the lecture about the country, by preparing a new joint project, by preparing bachelor's or master's theses, or in a conversation with an interlocutor who is interested in our countries – Latvia and Ukraine):

- information of prime necessity (general information that demonstrates your knowledge of the subject);
- information of situational need (information that is necessary for a professional discussion);

- deferred information (information that is necessary for reflections in order to make a decision on a specific issue and submit relevant recommendations).

Conclusion. Mental reflections on cooperation are stored in our intellectual memory, and artifacts are presented in museums enlivening and enhancing our reflections (our memory).

Special remark: cooperation of Ukrainian universities with universities in EU countries contributes to mental/cultural decolonization of activities in post-Soviet space (emphasis on the Ukrainian socio-cultural space).