

Satisfaction with quality of university education among recent graduates in Bulgaria

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The article discusses the relation between socio-demographic characteristics of recent graduates and their satisfaction with the quality of university education in Bulgaria. Further, it examines a correlation between students' satisfaction and their expectations for later professional realization.

Although there are studies concerning higher education in Bulgaria, they are mostly motivated from macro economic point of view. The article addresses the question of quality of higher education from individuals' point of view, in respect to students' satisfaction. A survey has been carried out among 750 students, graduated Bachelor degree in 2005 from 25 higher schools in Bulgaria. The students' satisfaction is measured through direct question, as well as, via the calculation of a so-called Index of Satisfaction.

The findings indicate no relationship or weak relationship between socio-demographics and the Index of Satisfaction. Contrarily to the assumption for strong connection between satisfaction with higher education and expectations for professional realization, such a relation has not been indicated.

Key words: quality of higher education; students' satisfaction; expectation for later professional realization