GOOD PRACTICES IN CROSS-BORDER EDUCATION. CASE STUDY FOR EDUCATIONAL INTERNATIONALIZATION AVANT LA LETTRE

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Abstract

Educational Internalization as a worldwide spread concept is quite recent in the field since it has come to be largely implemented and gained popularity over the past 20 years. It is important to point out the fact that, among the 14 faculties constituting the portfolio of the institution we represent, "Dunarea de Jos" University of Galati, Romania, there is a cross-border faculty that has been operating since 1999, under the auspices of the transnational collaborative partnership between Romania and the Republic of Moldova. This faculty can successfully constitute a model of good practices in cross-border collaboration since its main objective is the implementation of the principles of educational internationalization, all the more so since the beginning of the project, there have been as many pro arguments in support for its continuation and expansion, as many arguments that seemed to exist against, including both social, economic and political arguments. It worth noticing the fact that, 24 years ago, Romania, an ex-communist country, and the Republic of Moldova, a former Soviet country, managed to implement and develop a revolutionary concept at that time. The present article aims at disseminating those strategies that led not only to broadening the academic experiences of students and academic staff in pursuit of cross-cultural experiences and internationalization of the curriculum and research, but also contributed to the linguistic and cultural reintegration of the population of the Republic of Moldova, constituting an important factor of geopolitical balance in South-Eastern Europe.

Keywords: Cross-border education, educational internationalization, partnership.