

Different Aspects in Post-Higher Education Systems of Finland and Uzbekistan

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Abstract: This article provides detailed information about the specific features of the post-doctoral education system of the Finnish state, the stages of the academic career after the doctorate (post doctorate) educational system. As well as, some suggestions and comments were made regarding the application of some acceptable aspects of the education system of the Finnish state to the education system of our country.

Keywords: Finnish education system, post-secondary education, doctoral studies, post-doctoral studies, licensed pedagogue, scientific-pedagogical personnel.

It should be noted that more than 20 normative legal documents have been adopted aimed at state support for the development of science in our country and they are based on the principles of continuity, openness, transparency and competition. The main goal of this is the rapid development of socio-economic fields by improving science until 2030 and the wide use of scientific and innovative potential with the full mobilization of scientific-pedagogical, scientific-intellectual and financial resources and the priority directions of regular reform of science in the future. As well as determination, training of highly qualified scientific personnel with modern knowledge and independent thinking, raising the work of modernization of scientific infrastructure in the country to a qualitatively new level.

According to paragraph 3 of the Decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on November 6, 2020 "On additional measures to further improve the education system" PQ - 4884, introducing the positive experience of the Finnish state in the field of education into the education system of Uzbekistan, as well as on June 21, 2022 "In accordance with the Resolution No. PQ-289 "On measures to improve the quality of pedagogical education and further develop the activities of higher educational institutions training scientific and pedagogical personnel at least 5 percent of the professors and teachers of the specialized departments of higher educational institutions training pedagogic personnel are recruited from the extra-budgetary funds of these institutions" at the expense of foreign countries, they are tasked with taking measures to improve qualifications and send them to internships on the basis of competition.

In fact, there has been a lot of talk lately about the Finnish experience of education. First, during our president's visit to the Syrdarya region, Shavkat Mirziyoyev announced that textbooks will be developed for primary schools based on "Finnish educational standards" and explained that "Finland's public education, as well as the higher education system is a competitive and model education system in Europe and the whole world". Later, at a meeting with the President on issues of strategic development of the Kashkadarya region, an instruction was given to implement the Finnish education system in 48 schools of the region starting from the 2023-2024 school year. It was reported that representatives of the State Inspectorate for Quality Control of Education discussed this issue with Finnish experts.

It should be noted that large-scale work is being carried out on the application of the Finnish experience in the educational system of our country. We will focus on what are the special features of this state education system. Finnish children start school later than in some countries. They are admitted to school from the age of 7. “It has been scientifically proven that sending children too early to school is not beneficial”, - say the Finnish experts. In addition, it is no exaggeration to say that Finland's continuing education system is based on the principles of inclusive education. Equality, fairness, academic and financial freedom, self-sacrifice, non-discrimination in the education system are one of the priority and main criteria of the Finnish education system.

It should be noted that in today's globalization and changing times, the whole world is facing certain problems for effective and high-quality development and implementation of programs for a specific educational system. Information and communication technology skills, thinking based on modern trends, team and remote work skills, skills and issues related to robotics, artificial intelligence, finding time and opportunity to learn new discoveries of the 21st century has become one of the urgent issues of today. Also, there is no need to explain that the development of educational programs that can meet the needs of the times, raising the worldview of pupils and students, changing their thinking and outlook in accordance with the needs of the times and educating independent thinking mature personnel is one of the acute and topical tasks of the current era.

It should be noted that on the initiative of the leadership of the State University of World Languages of Uzbekistan, a group of professors and teachers participated in the training program aimed at getting to know the Finnish educational system and sharing experience from January 14-26 this year. Personally, I am as a professor of the university, I took part in demonstration classes at universities, high schools, preschools in the Finnish educational system of Jyväskylä, together with the participants of the professional development program, improved my skills at the University of Helsinki and language teaching centers and also studied the Finnish education system closely.

During this training, we were interested in some aspects of the Finnish post-secondary education system.

The post-secondary education system of the Finnish state has its own characteristics and features. In this country, post-secondary education is considered a one-step system and ends with the successful defense of a dissertation written to obtain the scientific degree of PhD (Doctor of Philosophy). Teachers who got Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) scientific title are divided into two categories. Employees of the first category will spend their future careers working on research and development. They are engaged in post-doctoral work while the employees of the second category of academic degrees devote their acquired theoretical knowledge to practice.

If we make a comparative analysis, at the moment, the post-higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan is a 2-tier system. First, the dissertation must be prepared for obtaining the basic doctoral degree, that is, the doctoral degree for getting PhD scientific degree and the second, the dissertation must be defended for the doctoral degree, that is, the Doctor of Science (DSc) degree. In addition, in the post-higher education system of our country, it is possible to engage in scientific work by preparing documents on the basis of independent research without entering the basic doctoral course or doctoral course (DSc), without separating from practical production. Independent studies are also organized for the preparation and defense of a doctoral dissertation, in-depth study of a specific specialty and for obtaining the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Doctor of Science (DSc) from a specific higher educational institution for the training of highly qualified scientific and scientific-pedagogical personnel.

The duration of studying for a doctorate (PhD student) in Finland is 4 years. However, the actual duration may vary depending on the field of study and the individual development of the researcher. For example: 4 to 6 or 7 years can be extended.

During this period, the doctoral student will be entitled to free education. However, state scholarships for this period may vary depending on a number of factors, such as the university, field of study, specific doctoral program, and available funding. Here are some important points regarding scholarships for PhD students in Finland:

1. **Fully funded positions:** Some doctoral positions in Finland are fully funded. This usually covers tuition fees and is given in the form of a monthly stipend for living expenses. These fully funded positions are often funded by the researcher's special project funds.
2. **Stipends:** A monthly stipend for PhD students in Finland can range from around €1,500 to €2,500 and more, depending on the university, the source of funding and the cost of living in the region where the university is located.
3. **Additional funding:** In addition to the stipend, doctoral students may be able to finance research-related expenses such as travel, participation in international conferences, practical experiments and research materials.
4. **External funding:** some PhD students receive external funding through scholarships, grants or research contracts from Finnish or international funding agencies, research councils and organisations, foundations or private organisations.
5. **Part-time work:** Some PhD students can supplement their income by working part-time as a lecturer or research assistant. However, the availability of such opportunities may vary.
6. **Tax:** It should be noted that doctoral scholarships and other forms of financial support in Finland are taxable. Therefore, it is recommended to clarify the tax and taxation results with the university or relevant government authorities.

In general, doctoral students in Finland have access to various forms of financial support and the amount of stipend or stipend they receive may vary depending on individual circumstances and the funds available for their specific academic program or research project.

The first important thing to do in order to enter the doctoral program is to get the approval of the scientific advisor. In this case, you will need to write a research plan of no less than 5-6 pages and justify and prove the relevance of your work to the scientific supervisor.

Admission to doctoral studies takes place twice a year - in April and August (application deadlines may vary depending on the university and program). An accepted doctoral student is allowed to attend all classes at the university for four years. In the Finnish postgraduate education system, there is a requirement to earn 260 credits for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree, 60 of his/her credits are allocated offline, that is, to specific audience classes and 200 credits are allocated to work on the doctoral student's own scientific research. More precisely, in addition to carrying out scientific research on the topic of the dissertation, the doctoral student must publish articles on his research and in turn collect a certain number of credits (ECTS) for the courses he/she graduated from the university. In Finland, a doctoral student will have to take a large number of courses and seminars within the "core" and "underlying" specialization disciplines while majors determine the general direction of research activities, minors indicate what courses a doctoral student will take for overall development. As part of the doctoral program, the first-year doctoral student is required to take an average of 7 semester courses in each specialty, approximately 14 courses in total.

The post-doctoral academic career in Finland consists of the following five stages: **post-doctoral** (tutkijatohtori) allows the graduate of the doctoral program to prepare for an academic career as a continuation of his academic career. This stage is usually continued as a junior researcher for three to five years.

Associate professor (docentti). In order to receive this title, the employee must have several scientific publications, as well as be able to demonstrate pedagogical skills and functional duties, assigned services. At the university, associate professors usually hold the positions of teachers or senior research staff.

Assistant professor (apulaisprofessor) This position appeared relatively recently in Finland. The contract for the position of assistant is usually concluded by the employer from two to five years, depending on the employee's seniority. After the expiration of the specified period, the academic council of the university evaluates the employee's work and research activities. After that, he decides to extend his contract for another period. At the end of the second contract, the assistant can be promoted to the next level.

Senior teacher (yliopistonlehtori) - an intermediate position between the position of assistant and the position of professor. An employee at this level performs the duties of an associate professor, but cannot lead a department.

Professor (Professor). To occupy this position, candidates should have scientific publications in international prestigious journals, publish a monograph, have a high hirsh index, participate in prestigious projects and have exemplary services in research and teaching activities. The main obstacle for the candidates of professor title is the limited number of these positions in universities.

Obtaining the academic title of professor is a very difficult process not only for foreigners, but also for residents. This is primarily due to the lack of offers and secondly, you cannot find out about vacancies in newspapers and magazines or on employment websites. This information is primarily university internal information. Also, more than 70% of university employees are university graduates.

Doctoral students in Finland can obtain an intermediate license (lisensiaatti) degree halfway through their studies. The license includes the development of a short scientific thesis containing original research defended orally at the university. Acquiring this qualification confirms the researcher's ability to independently apply scientific research, scientific method and thinking. Also, if the doctoral student does not decide to work with full-time doctoral work, it will provide as official documentation of their educational level for employment. Undergraduate degrees have subject/field-specific titles such as "Doctor of Medicine" or "Bachelor of Science in Technology".

Successful defense of the doctoral dissertation/thesis is the most important requirement for the doctoral degree. It should demonstrate independent, original research that contributes to science through new scientific knowledge. There are no strict rules for the volume of the dissertation, but it is usually 200-300 pages. A dissertation can also be in the form of a monograph or compilation thesis consisting of several scientific research articles. The volume of this pamphlet, which includes the articles in the form of a monograph is 50-60 pages. In the course of research, intermediate results are published from time to time and in this place, of course, scientific journal publications are considered more prestigious than collections of abstracts of scientific conferences.

All scientific articles and manuscripts included as part of the compilation thesis must be the original work of the doctoral dissertation. A lead author may also be involved in publishing with them. Postgraduate doctoral students in Finland are required to publish at least 3 to 5 research papers as part of their research. At least one of the articles should be published in the scientific journal of the educational institution where the research is being carried out. Defended and accepted license abstracts may also be included in the collection. The thesis is written in the language of instruction at the university (usually Finnish or English) under the supervision of one or more advisors.

After completion of the doctoral dissertation/thesis it goes through a rigorous examination process. First, the university usually appoints an evaluation committee consisting of at least three expert reviewers. One of them can be from another Finnish or foreign international university. Based on the confidential written statements, this expert committee decides whether the dissertation can undergo public examination or not. If approved, the final step is an oral defense event known as a public examination or argument. The defense is a public event publicized throughout the university and open to any guests. It is led by the supervisor of doctoral student

and includes a presentation by the candidate summarizing their research. The defense process will be in the form of questions and answers by the members of the evaluation committee and the participants. Dissertation defense process is very carefully planned and takes place in formal form and it can last 3-4 hours. During the defense of the dissertation, the opponent and the members of the expert group question the researcher on all questions related to the research work. The scientific supervisor must have studied all the subtle aspects of the doctoral student's scientific work in detail and carefully. This is an important contribution based on doctoral research. In this process, knowledge of a foreign language is also tested and a conclusion is given. Of course, the doctoral student has the right to express his opinion on the questions asked during the defense process, to defend and justify his position by answering each question clearly and succinctly.

After considering any necessary changes and modifications to the defense the expert committee members will vote on whether to award the doctorate. In order to be eligible for the doctoral degree, the candidate must receive a positive decision from the members of the expert committee. After a full vote, the candidate is awarded a special title such as "Doctor" or "Doctor of Philosophy". Candidates who have successfully defended will be awarded a special hat and a sword in addition to a diploma in a symbolic form.

If you are a non-resident and wish to obtain a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree by studying at a doctoral program in Finland, you should pay attention to the following:

1. You usually need a master's degree in a relevant field or an equivalent academic degree to be eligible for postgraduate studies in Finland. Your master's degree must be in a field (specialization) closely related to your intended doctoral research.
2. Doctoral programs in this country are definitely offered by universities. You can apply directly to the university for the doctoral course that interests you. For more information and specific requirements, you can visit the websites of Finnish universities offering doctoral programs or contact the admissions offices directly. They can provide you with the latest information on application procedures, eligibility criteria and any additional requirements.
3. As part of your application, you must submit a detailed research proposal describing the relevance of your research topic, research objectives, research methodology and your contribution to the field of study. Because this application and rationale is an important component of your research and a factor that shows your readiness for doctoral research. Application procedures, deadlines and requirements may vary by university and program. It is recommended that you carefully review the application guidelines provided by the University.
4. Depending on your chosen university and program, you will be required to participate in an interview or take an examination as part of the selection process. This is a framework and opportunity to discuss your interest in research and your suitability for the degree and programme.
5. Since many doctoral programs in Finland are taught in English, that's why you are required to speak English well. Some programs linked to local communities or institutions require knowledge of Finnish or Swedish.
6. Please note that while some doctoral positions are funded, others may require you to provide your own funding through fellowships, grants, foundations, or research contracts. Funding opportunities available through universities, research organizations, funding agencies and other external sources will need to be explored.
7. Having a scientific supervisor or advisor is usually one of the important requirements for studying for a PhD in Finland. The scientific supervisor is a person who guides and advises the doctoral student during his studies.
8. If you are a non-resident person, that is, as a foreign student, you are planning to study for a doctorate in Finland, then you need to obtain a student visa or an immigrant residence

permission. It is recommended that you research the immigration requirements and procedures before your planned arrival in Finland.

9. By fulfilling the above requirements and following the application process, you can obtain a doctorate (PhD) degree in Finland and contribute to the development of knowledge and skills in your chosen field of study.

In conclusion, it should be noted that Finland's post-higher education system differs from the post-higher education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan with a number of specific features.

However, in both countries, candidates who have completed their doctoral dissertations must develop a new set of theoretical rules that are considered a major achievement for the development of a promising direction in the relevant field of research, and provide solutions to important socio-economic, scientific or practical problems. Also, the theoretical-methodological and methodical foundations, scientific-based technical or technological solutions that contribute significantly to the development of the socio-political or economic network should be improved. The collected materials should be analyzed using certain scientific methods, the obtained scientific results should be objectively evaluated and conclusions should be drawn. In this point, the main criterion for choosing a problem, on the one hand, depends on its "scientific features" and on the other hand it is explained by its exact solution within the specified period.

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