

Maria Borshchevska: Diploma from the regional university: where do I go further?

Throughout the last few centuries the role of a University Diploma has greatly changed. The core of the problem is deeply connected with social and psychological aspects of living. Thus, the quality of education and a diploma as its proof should suit the modern standards of life. It is common knowledge that nowadays too much emphasis is placed on educational qualifications. However, it is highly debatable whether a diploma is a principal guarantee or just a premise of a brilliant career.

To begin with, there is still a certain number of people who believe that with a diploma from a highly prestigious university they will get a well-paid job there and then. I am inclined to think that a diploma had a real power only in the former USSR. My parents who had successfully graduated from the State Universities were offered opportunities to have appropriate jobs and positions. But it is no longer so.

In the year 2010 I shall get my Master's Degree in Psychology and shall be left on my own to look for a job.

My strong belief is that a diploma is only the first step on the career ladder. It gives you a chance of further development.

As you may have heard, from a psychological viewpoint, a person's behavior is determined by a number of his motives which are placed in a certain hierarchy. A dominating motive defines all the aspirations of a person for the present period of time. As far as I am concerned, my dominating motive is self-realization in a career aspect. The trouble is the branch of science I am majoring in is not well-spread in Ukraine yet, so I have set my mind to take part in some educational exchange programme according to my speciality to enlarge my knowledge as well as practical skills. Then I would like to return home to share my scientific and cultural experience and start working for the benefit of our country.

Nevertheless, we shall see what tomorrow brings, but things are not at all bad today. There have been some changes of late: our government has already taken up some measures to increase the value of a university diploma. But it seems to me that there are still certain shortcomings. Take Bologna system, for example. It seems so completely arranged on the surface, but it is only the tip of the iceberg, in fact. Thus, my peers and I have become an "under test material" in this tedious process of continuous alteration and transformation. It appears to me that our country only creates the vision of keeping up with its European Joneses. Actually, for our diploma to be of a real value in Europe it should not just meet certain European standards of education, but also define really profound knowledge.

All things concerned, I believe that all deserving people who have a Diploma from the State University should receive a state guarantee so that they have a chance to lead a really productive life. It may keep top people with a higher education where they think they belong – at the top.