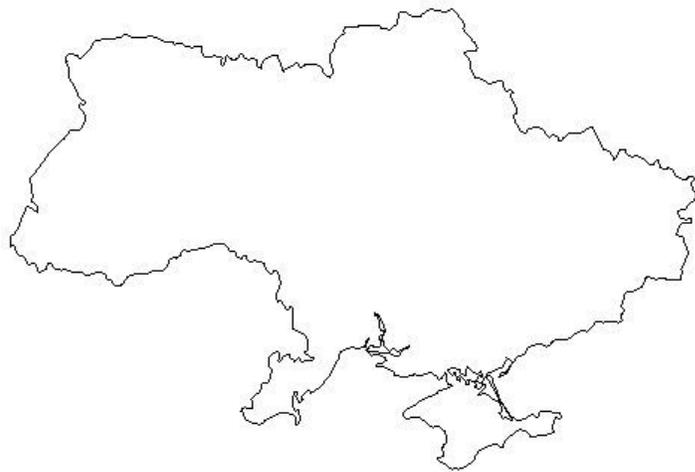


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***The Ukrainian Standardized External Testing Initiative (USETI)
Review of the University Compliance with
Conditions for Admission***



Submitted by:
American Institutes for Research

With:
American Councils for International Education

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Report on the Monitoring of Ukrainian Higher Educational Institutions Admission Rules

INTRODUCTION

As in 2008, USETI assisted the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine in the latter's efforts to strengthen the integrity of testing-based HEI admissions by monitoring specific HEIs that had been flagged previously as violators of national admission policy (per the Ministry's Conditions on Admission) or had been otherwise included in a sample for monitoring by the Ministry. A secondary purpose of comparative legal analysis conducted under this study was also to generalize typical areas of non compliance by HEIs with the Conditions on Admission, for use by the Ministry in better shaping admissions policies and procedures in the future.

The initial plan was for a Ministry-led policy work group to take the findings presented below and the by HEI materials prepared by Mr. Baryshnykov, a USETI consultant. However the Ministry chose instead to use materials prepared by Mr. Baryshnykov for immediate enforcement follow up. As this enforcement follow up was undertaken, the Ministry did not engage an in-depth discussion based on the findings. However, the materials can be used in the general policy debate in the future, and should be used in this manner.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF HEIs FOR COMPLIANCE REVIEW

1. Ukrainian HEIs selection was conducted according to the following criteria:
 - HEI admission rules compliant with the current legislation of Ukraine;
 - HEI admission rules compliant with the Admission conditions to the HEIs of Ukraine approved by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (MoES) as of summer 2009;
 - Accessibility of HEI admission rules through the Internet with the use of the authorized web pages of the respective HEIs;
 - Specific HEI admission rules and laypeople (potential students and their parents) perception and understanding of the HEI admission rules.

METHODOLOGY

2. Monitoring of the admission rules to Ukrainian HEIs was conducted according to the following plan.
 - 2.1 Analysis of the admission conditions to the HEIs of Ukraine approved by the Order of the Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine #802 of September 02, 2009 with the amendments introduced by the Order #1065 of November 25, 2009 regarding their compliance to the current legislation of Ukraine and to the requirements of international obligations assumed by Ukraine.
 - 2.2 Forming a list of Ukrainian HEIs of the third and fourth levels of accreditation in which admission rules will be monitored (total number – 100) on the condition of providing a representative sample according to the regions of Ukraine and study programs covered.
 - 2.3 Composing a survey according to which HEI admission rules will be analyzed.
 - 2.4 Receiving data as to the availability of HEI admission rules through the open Internet sources.
 - 2.5 Monitoring of the HEI admission rules.

FINDINGS

3. According to the monitoring results the following generic mistakes and violations were revealed:
 - 3.1 Not taking into account the amendments introduced by the Order #1065 of November 25, 2009 in the HEI admission rules texts of certain HEIs. This violation was detected in more than 50% of the HEI admission rules texts out of those monitored.
 - 3.2 Absence of the correctly stated rules regarding foreign candidates including candidates from those countries with which Ukraine had bilateral agreements as to the admission rules. This violation was detected in about 15% of the monitored texts.
 - 3.3 Absence of any rules or norms for verifying candidates' submitted documents (especially those providing the right for certain admission privileges) for their validity and authenticity. This violation is characteristic of almost all the monitored admission rules.
 - 3.4 Absence of the complete text of the HEI admission rules on the authorized web pages of respective HEIs. This violation is characteristic of 15% of the monitored texts.
 - 3.5 Use of the HEI admission rules texts that were effective the previous year. This violation was characteristic of 2% of the monitored texts.
 - 3.6 Complicated structure of the HEI admission rules texts making them difficult for understanding by candidates and their parents. This is characteristic of 10% of the monitored texts.
 - 3.7 Incomplete or unclear statement regarding making decisions as to the recommendation for admission and actual admission in the HEI admission rules texts. This violation is characteristic of 30% of the monitored texts.
4. In general considerable progress in comparison with the 2008 admission campaign should be noted:
 - HEI admission rules became more compliant with the Ministry Conditions for Admission;
 - Structure and content of the HEI admission rules texts became clearer for candidates and their parents;
 - The most glaring violations and mistakes were removed from the HEI admission rules texts;
 - References to the apparently illegal examinations and tests prohibited by the Conditions for Admission were removed from the majority of the HEI admission rules texts.
5. Such rare violations and mistakes as having double admissions for entering certain faculties, apparent contradictions of HEI admission rules and Conditions for Admission, conducting additional tests for candidates, references to non-existing normative legal acts still remain in very few HEI admission rules texts.

Monitoring started on July 29, 2009

Monitoring completed on September 1, 2009

Monitoring conducted by M. Baryshnikov