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FEATURES OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE MYKOLAIV REGION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE REFORMS OF THE 1950S

The purpose of this article is to investigate the specific features of the development of the higher education system in the Mykolaiv region in the context of the educational reforms of the 1950s, as well as to determine the role of regional higher education institutions in training engineering, technical, and pedagogical personnel for the post-war industrial development of Southern Ukraine. Particular attention is paid to the analysis of the activities of the leading educational centers of the region, in particular the Admiral Makarov Mykolaiv Shipbuilding Institute and the Mykolaiv State Pedagogical Institute, which played a key role in shaping the scientific, technical, and educational potential of the region.

The methodological framework of the study is based on a combination of general scientific and special historical methods. The problem-chronological method was used to highlight the main stages in the development of the higher education system during the period under study; the comparative-historical method was applied to analyze changes in the structure and functioning of higher education institutions; and the structural-system approach was employed to examine the relationships between educational institutions and industrial enterprises in the region. In addition, the historical-genetic method made it possible to trace the formation and development of educational institutions in the Mykolaiv region under the conditions of post-war economic modernization.

The article analyzes the processes of reforming the higher education system in the Ukrainian SSR during the 1950s and their impact on the development of regional educational centers. It has been established that one of the key factors in the development of higher education in the Mykolaiv region was the growing need for engineering and pedagogical personnel required by the regional industrial complex. The study reveals the specific features of the functioning of the Admiral Makarov Mykolaiv Shipbuilding Institute, which provided training for engineers for the shipbuilding industry and actively developed research activities in the field of marine engineering. The activities of the Mykolaiv State Pedagogical Institute, aimed at training teaching staff and strengthening the educational potential of the region, are also examined. It is demonstrated that higher education institutions in the Mykolaiv region operated in close interaction with industrial enterprises and research institutions, which contributed to the formation of the scientific and technological potential of the region.

Conclusions. The study demonstrates that the educational reforms of the 1950s contributed to the modernization of the higher education system of the Ukrainian SSR and strengthened the role of regional higher education institutions in training qualified specialists. The higher education system of the Mykolaiv region played an important role in the socio-economic and scientific-technological development of the region by ensuring the training of engineering and pedagogical personnel and by strengthening the links between education, science, and industry.

Key words: *electrical engineering, innovations, history of science and technology, Mykolaiv region, scientific schools, educational reforms, post-war modernization, polytechnic institutes, technical education, Ukraine.*

Statement of the Problem. In the mid-twentieth century, the higher education system in Ukraine underwent significant transformations as a result of large-scale socio-economic and political processes of the post-war period. After the Second World War, the Soviet Union faced the challenge of rebuilding its devastated economy and restoring industrial enterprises, transport infrastructure, energy supply systems, and other key sectors.

Achieving these objectives required a substantial increase in the number of qualified specialists capable of modernizing production, advancing science and technology, and implementing new technological solutions. Under such conditions, the system of higher education acquired particular importance, serving as a crucial instrument for the training of engineers, scientists, and educators for various sectors of the national economy.

An important milestone in the development of higher education was represented by the educational reforms of the 1950s. This period was characterized by the gradual reorganization of the institutional structure of universities and institutes, the improvement of educational curricula, the expansion of the network of higher educational institutions, and the strengthening of the connections between education, science, and industry. The training of engineers and technical specialists was given particularly high priority. This emphasis was associated with the rapid development of industry, the growth of the military-industrial complex, the involvement of the USSR in the arms race, and the broader scientific and technological competition with Western countries. Under these conditions, the higher education system was expected not only to prepare qualified specialists but also to contribute to the development of the state's scientific and technological potential.

The reforms in higher education also had a significant impact on the development of regional educational centers, including those in the Mykolaiv region. In the post-war period, the Mykolaiv region remained one of the most important industrial centers in southern Ukraine. Shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, metal processing, transport infrastructure, and other sectors of the regional economy developed dynamically. The growth of these sectors was directly dependent on the training of highly qualified specialists, which reinforced the decisive role of regional higher education institutions. These institutions ensured the development of human capital for industry and contributed to the advancement of scientific and technological research within the region.

In this context, the study of the specific features of the development of higher education in the Mykolaiv region within the framework of the educational reforms of the 1950s is of particular importance. An analysis of the activities of regional institutes, changes in the structure of the educational process, the expansion of academic programs, and the strengthening of links between higher education institutions and industrial enterprises makes it possible to better understand how the educational system functioned during a period of active socio-economic transformation.

At the same time, the examination of the historical experience of higher education development at the regional level remains important even under contemporary conditions. The educational system continues to be a key factor in the development of the intellectual potential of the nation and in the preparation of specialists for various sectors of the economy. Therefore, research into the processes of reform

in higher education and their impact on the development of regional educational centers contributes to a deeper understanding of the patterns of development of the Ukrainian educational system and its role in the socio-economic progress of society.

Review of Recent Studies and Publications.

The issues of development and reform of the higher education system in Ukraine during the second half of the twentieth century have attracted considerable attention from contemporary scholars in the fields of the history of education, pedagogy, and social history. Academic literature examines both the general trends in the transformation of the educational system and specific aspects of state educational policy, the functioning of higher education institutions, and the training of academic and teaching staff.

Among the works devoted to the general patterns of the development of higher education in Ukraine, studies on the history of the formation of university education occupy an important place. In particular, the textbook by Z. Nahachevska and O. Dzhus examines the evolution of the higher education system from its formation to the present day, analyzes the organizational principles of the functioning of universities, and highlights the role of state policy in shaping the educational system [1]. The authors emphasize that in the second half of the twentieth century significant changes occurred in the structure and content of higher education, associated with economic modernization and the growing demand for qualified specialists.

A significant contribution to the study of the history of higher education was made by A. Aleksiuk, who in his fundamental work on the pedagogy of higher education examined the theoretical and methodological foundations of organizing the educational process in higher educational institutions in Ukraine. The study highlights the principles of training specialists within the Soviet educational system and the role of universities in the formation of academic and pedagogical personnel [2].

A comprehensive analysis of the development of the higher education system is also presented in the collective work edited by V. Kremen and S. Nikolaienko. This publication examines the main stages in the formation and development of higher education, the features of its institutional structure, and the role of state educational policy in shaping the country's educational space [3].

A separate group of studies is devoted to the development of the educational system in the post-war period. In particular, the work by T. Vasylichuk and co-authors analyzes the restoration and development of higher education in the Ukrainian SSR during the

1940s–1950s, examining state policy in the field of education, the reconstruction of the material and technical base of higher educational institutions, and the expansion of the network of technical and pedagogical institutes [4].

Issues related to the evolution of pedagogical science and the training of academic and teaching personnel are addressed in the work of S. Mamychenko, which traces the development of higher education pedagogy in Ukraine and examines the influence of socio-political transformations on the functioning of educational institutions [5]. A related set of issues is examined by L. Sihaieva, who analyzes the development of adult education systems and the formation of lifelong learning models that contributed to the expansion of access to higher education in the second half of the twentieth century [6].

Among more recent studies, the monograph by H. Sichkarenko deserves special attention, as it analyzes the historical experience of reforming the higher education system in Ukraine and the evolution of mechanisms for governing the educational sphere [7]. General aspects of the development of Ukraine's educational system are also highlighted in the collective publication *Education in Ukraine: History, Present State and Prospects of Development*, which examines the main stages in the formation of the country's educational landscape [8].

Certain aspects of the transformation of the educational system in the post-war period are also addressed in the work of M. Mykytenko, which analyzes changes in the functioning of educational institutions during the 1950s–1960s and the role of educational reforms in shaping the system of personnel training [9].

Thus, contemporary scholarly literature examines various aspects of the development of the higher education system in Ukraine during the second half of the twentieth century, including issues of state educational policy, the transformation of the structure of higher education, and the training of personnel. At the same time, most studies are national in scope and focus on the general trends in the development of the educational system. The regional dimension of this issue, particularly the specific features of the development of higher education in the Mykolaiv region in the context of the educational reforms of the 1950s, remains insufficiently explored in the existing literature, which necessitates a more detailed study of this problem.

Research Objectives. The purpose of this article is to conduct a comprehensive study of the specific features of the development of the higher education system in the Mykolaiv region in the context of the

educational reforms of the 1950s, as well as to determine the main directions of transformation of regional higher educational institutions during this period. The study analyzes the impact of the educational policy of the USSR on higher education in the Ukrainian SSR and highlights the specific features of its implementation at the regional level.

The research examines the development of the network of higher education institutions in the Mykolaiv region, changes in the organization of the educational process, the improvement of specialized training of personnel, and the expansion of the material and technical base of educational institutions. Particular attention is devoted to the analysis of the activities of the leading educational centers of the region, in particular the Admiral Makarov Mykolaiv Shipbuilding Institute and the Mykolaiv State Pedagogical Institute, which played a key role in the training of engineers and teachers for the southern regions of Ukraine. The analysis of these processes makes it possible to reconstruct the relationship between higher education reforms and post-war socio-economic transformations.

In a broader academic context, this study aims to deepen the understanding of the development of regional educational centers in Ukraine during the second half of the twentieth century and to identify the specific characteristics of the functioning of higher education within the framework of the educational reforms of the 1950s. This, in turn, contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of the role of higher education in the development of human capital in industrial regions and in promoting scientific and technological progress.

Exposition of the Core Material. The post-war period marked an important stage in the development of education in the Ukrainian SSR. During the 1950s, the state actively promoted the modernization of the economy, the development of science and technology, and the training of specialists for higher education. Within the framework of educational reforms, regional centers played a decisive role in ensuring the training of personnel necessary for economic development. One of such centers was the Mykolaiv region. During this decade, the region became a major industrial center, with the rapid development of shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, metal processing, and transport infrastructure. The growth of these industries required the training of a significant number of specialists with technical and pedagogical qualifications who played a vital role in the development of the Mykolaiv region.

In the 1950s, the regional education system continued to develop on the basis of processes initiated

in the post-war period. The material and technical resources of educational institutions were gradually expanded, laboratories and specialized classrooms were developed, curricula were improved, and the number of students increased. One of the key trends of this period was the strengthening of practical training. Particular attention was paid to the organization of internships that combined professional education with the acquisition of applied professional skills.

A key factor in the reconstruction and further development of the region was the activity of technical specialties within higher education institutions, which ensured the growth of the engineering and scientific-technical potential of the Mykolaiv region [10, p. 447].

In the 1950s, the Admiral Makarov Mykolaiv Shipbuilding Institute became one of the leading technical institutes of the Ukrainian SSR, training engineers in the field of shipbuilding. The activities of the institute were closely connected with the needs of the major shipbuilding plants of Mykolaiv and design bureaus, which determined the specific character of its educational programs.

During this period, the structure of the institute continued to expand, new departments were established, and the development of shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, and marine technologies became firmly established. Particular emphasis was also placed on the development of promising research aimed at solving pressing problems in shipbuilding. Researchers of the institute focused on improving ship designs, developing energy systems, and increasing the efficiency of technological processes in shipbuilding.

An analysis of the data on the number of graduates of the Mykolaiv Shipbuilding Institute indicates that during the 1950s their number gradually increased to approximately 400 specialists per year. At the same time, the level of engineering training was considered quite high. The educational process was characterized by considerable attention from the teaching staff to students, as well as by the students' own strong motivation to acquire solid professional knowledge. These graduates later formed the core of the engineering corps of the shipbuilding industry, occupying leading positions in enterprises and design organizations. Many of them became leading specialists, directors, chief engineers of shipbuilding plants and design organizations, as well as chief designers of projects for new modern ships and vessels [11, p. 47].

During the 1950s, the institute established scientific cooperation with leading research institutions of the country. Industry-specific scientific and technical conferences were organized, focusing on issues

such as the improvement of marine steam boilers and high-speed methods of metal processing. Scientific research conducted by the institute's academic staff, both theoretical and experimental in nature, was closely connected with the needs of industrial production. Each year the range of research topics expanded: between 1951 and 1955 more than 150 research projects were completed. By 1955, as many as 83% of the institute's teaching staff were involved in research activities. Some scientific works of the institute's lecturers were translated into foreign languages and published abroad. This became one of the first examples of the institute's scholars entering the forefront of national scientific development and confirmed the growing research potential of the institution in the post-war period.

The advancement of technical education also played a decisive role in shaping the educational potential of the region through the activities of the Mykolaiv State Pedagogical Institute. In the 1950s, this institution provided training for teachers for schools and other educational institutions across the southern regions of the Ukrainian SSR. The activities of the pedagogical institute were focused on further developing teacher training and improving teaching methods [12, p. 37].

During this period, the pedagogical institute gradually expanded its faculties and academic programs, increased student enrollment, and improved its curricula. The institution played a significant role in the socio-economic development of the region throughout the 1950s. Its activities were closely connected with the needs of industry, science, and education, which contributed to the training of highly qualified specialists and to the development of the scientific and technological potential of modern Ukraine.

Conclusions. Thus, the conducted research demonstrates that the educational reforms of the 1950s became an important stage in the development of the higher education system of the Ukrainian SSR and significantly influenced the emergence and strengthening of regional educational centers. During this period, the organizational structure of higher educational institutions was gradually improved, curricula were modernized, and the material and technical base of institutes was strengthened. The state paid particular attention to the training of engineers and technical specialists, which was обусловлено the requirements of industrial development, the expansion of the defense industry, and the broader national scientific and technological competition.

It has been established that regional higher education institutions, particularly those located in the

Mykolaiv region, played a decisive role in implementing these processes. Their activities were directly connected with the needs of the industrial complex of southern Ukraine, especially in the fields of shipbuilding, mechanical engineering, transport infrastructure, and the energy sector. The regional system of higher education ensured the training of qualified specialists capable of contributing to the modernization of production and to the development of the scientific and technological potential of the state.

Particular importance in the training of engineers belonged to the Admiral Makarov Mykolaiv Shipbuilding Institute, which during the 1950s evolved into one of the leading technical institutions in the southern part of the Ukrainian SSR. The institute trained engineers for the shipbuilding industry, actively conducted research and scientific work, and maintained close cooperation with industrial enterprises in the region. Its graduates subsequently formed the core of the engineering corps of the shipbuilding industry and occupied leading positions in enterprises and design bureaus.

At the same time, the Mykolaiv State Pedagogical Institute played a significant role in the development of the educational and scientific potential of the region. Its activities were focused on the training of teachers for educational institutions in the southern regions of Ukraine. The development of teacher training contributed to strengthening the human resources potential general education and to the growth of the intellectual potential of the region.

In the 1950s, the higher education system of the Mykolaiv region played a decisive role in its socio-economic and scientific-technological development. It ensured the training of qualified engineers and teachers, contributed to the development of scientific research, and strengthened the connections between education and industry. Further research should include a more detailed analysis of the regional features of the development of higher education in the second half of the twentieth century, as well as an examination of the role of particular faculties and educational institutions in the development of the engineering and scientific potential of the southern region of Ukraine.

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Нефьодов Д. В. ОСОБЛИВОСТІ РОЗВИТКУ ВИЩОЇ ОСВІТИ НА МИКОЛАЇВЩИНІ В КОНТЕКСТІ РЕФОРМ 1950-Х РР

Метою статті є дослідження особливостей розвитку системи вищої освіти Миколаївської області у контексті освітніх реформ 1950-х рр., а також визначення ролі регіональних закладів вищої освіти у підготовці інженерно-технічних та педагогічних кадрів для післявоєнного індустріального розвитку

Півдня України. Особливу увагу приділено аналізу діяльності провідних освітніх центрів регіону, зокрема Миколаївського кораблебудівного інституту імені адмірала С. О. Макарова та Миколаївського державного педагогічного інституту, які відігравали ключову роль у формуванні науково-технічного та освітнього потенціалу регіону.

Методологічну основу дослідження становить комплекс загальнонаукових і спеціально-історичних методів. Застосовано проблемно-хронологічний метод для висвітлення основних етапів розвитку системи вищої освіти у досліджуваній період, історико-порівняльний – для аналізу змін у структурі та функціонуванні закладів вищої освіти, системно-структурний – для дослідження взаємозв'язків між освітніми інституціями та промисловими підприємствами регіону. Також використано історико-генетичний метод, що дозволив простежити формування і розвиток освітніх інституцій Миколаївщини в умовах післявоєнної модернізації економіки.

У статті проаналізовано процеси реформування системи вищої освіти в Українській РСР у 1950-х рр. та їх вплив на розвиток регіональних освітніх центрів. Встановлено, що важливим чинником розвитку вищої освіти Миколаївщини стала потреба у підготовці інженерних і педагогічних кадрів для промислового комплексу регіону. Розкрито особливості функціонування Миколаївського кораблебудівного інституту, який забезпечував підготовку інженерів для суднобудівної промисловості та активно розвивав науково-дослідну діяльність у сфері морської техніки. Висвітлено діяльність Миколаївського державного педагогічного інституту, спрямовану на підготовку педагогічних кадрів і розвиток освітнього потенціалу регіону. Показано, що заклади вищої освіти Миколаївщини функціонували у тісному взаємозв'язку з промисловими підприємствами та науковими установами, що сприяло формуванню науково-технічного потенціалу регіону.

Висновки. Доведено, що освітні реформи 1950-х рр. сприяли модернізації системи вищої освіти Української РСР та посиленню ролі регіональних закладів вищої освіти у підготовці кваліфікованих фахівців. Вища школа Миколаївської області відіграла важливу роль у соціально-економічному та науково-технічному розвитку регіону, забезпечуючи підготовку інженерних і педагогічних кадрів та зміцнюючи зв'язок між освітою, наукою і виробництвом.

Ключові слова: електротехніка, інновації, історія науки і техніки, Миколаївська область, наукові школи, освітні реформи, післявоєнна модернізація, політехнічні інститути, технічна освіта, Україна.