**Summary of the Ph.D. Thesis**

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“The implementation of the culture of sustainable development in vocational training for the local community”

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**Abstract**

Implementation processes of the concept of sustainable development are of particular importance in the modern world. This concept seems to be the basis for the functioning and development of most societies around the globe. Without grounding its principles in the consciousness of people and their way of life, the process of implementing the idea can be significantly delayed. The presented work checks the level of rooting the culture of sustainable development in vocational education for the benefit of the local environment.

The thesis consists of a theoretical and empirical part. The first chapter presents the history of work within the United Nations leading to the creation of the idea, its specificity in the face of antagonistic interpretations of social development processes at the turn of the century, the diversity of sustainable development goals, the rooting of the concept in political, economic and educational practice in the global and local dimension. The second chapter is devoted to labor market issues. Scientific and technical progress, globalization and glocalization as the most important features of the modern labor market are discussed. It is shown how under the pressure of the labor market, the traditional model of vocational education and career counseling is re-evaluated. The literature on interesting forecasts for the labor market in the 21st century was also reviewed. The third chapter traces the history of the city of Legionowo as a center of general education and career counseling, a participant in activities for sustainable development. An attempt was also made to characterize the Legion's labor market. The fourth chapter is devoted to the description of the project Vocational education in schools as a springboard for sustainable development of staff on the labor market in Legionowo. This project served as an example of implementing a culture of sustainable development in vocational education for the benefit of the local environment. The circumstances of the project's creation, assumptions and implementation strategy, summary and results are presented.

The study, presented in the empirical part, was conducted on a group of 442 students and 13 vocational counselors from 4 lower secondary schools and 3 complexes of upper secondary schools from the Legionowo poviat. 221 respondents participated in the project “Vocational education in schools as a springboard for sustainable development of staff on the Legionowo labor market” (“Trampolina”), the remaining 221 respondents did not participate in the project and formed the control group. For the purposes of the study, an original questionnaire was developed. The questionnaire consisted of three parts: the first concerned the students' decisions regarding their further educational and professional career, the second - their knowledge about sustainable development, and the third - the role of a career advisor and the assessment of the situation on the labor market in Legionowo. Research has shown that students from both groups are characterized by a not very high level of knowledge about sustainable development, global problems that trouble the world, they have little knowledge of international institutions that make efforts to promote sustainable development, and they read few books on the subject. When making decisions regarding the choice of school, the help of a career counselor was mostly indicated by the participants of the “Trampolina” project. Questions regarding the offer of Legionowo schools showed that it is perceived by young people as not very interesting. Also, only about 15% of the respondents from both groups expressed their willingness to work in Legionowo. This may be due to the shortage of students' knowledge of the functioning of the labor market, as shown by the research.

Looking for the reasons for this state and ways to change it, one should look at the condition of vocational education and the level of cooperation between the labour market and vocational education. One of the proposed solutions may be to increase the role of education in shaping young people's knowledge of sustainable development and awareness of contemporary problems. It would also be advisable for vocational counselors to act more effectively in the process of making educational and professional decisions by students and to increase the level of cooperation between the labour market and vocational education in the appropriate employment and education of graduates.