

LALI AKHALADZE

IUNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE AND NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (DIRECTION OF INCLUSIVE EDUCATION)

The higher education qualifications framework has been defined under Order №120/N of 2010 of the Minister of Education and Science of Georgia. The framework provides systematized higher (academic) education qualifications currently in force in Georgia. Commensurate with Annex №4 of the aforementioned framework inclusive education is one of the sub-fields of education and is part of the speciality of Education Science.

Inclusive education involves the inclusion of students with all kinds of special education needs into the general education process along with their peers. Inclusive education also involves teaching of students with disabilities by applying individual and/or modified education plans, i.e. apart from special knowledge, an inclusive education specialist must be equipped with essential teaching competences.

Experience with the inclusive education obtained within the Western and Georgian educational area demonstrates that the above-mentioned sub-field has to be one of the sub-fields of teacher education direction, rather than a specialization within Education Science. Therefore, considering circumstances of the current planned reform in the education system, we regard the removal of the aforementioned deficiency from the higher education qualifications framework as feasible.