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THE EVOLUTION OF THE CONCEPT OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN MODERN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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ABSTRACT

The article explores the changes and transformations of the concept of academic freedom in the context of modern higher education institutions. The author examines the historical context of the formation of this concept, starting from its inception, and analyzes the impact of socio-cultural and technological changes on its evolution. The article examines key aspects of academic freedom, including freedom of research, expression, choice of educational materials and teaching methods. Particular attention is paid to changes in the application of academic freedom in modern conditions, such as the influence of political factors, the development of online education and changes in public perception of the role of universities. The author offers a reflective look at the current challenges and prospects associated with the evolution of academic freedom, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a balance between freedom and responsibility in educational processes. In conclusion, the article provides recommendations for preserving and strengthening academic freedom in the modern educational landscape.

KEYWORDS

academic freedom, modern educational institutions, evolution of the concept, academic standards, academic ethics, student rights, university autonomy, academic censorship, intellectual freedom, freedom of research, academic structures and their influence, protection of academic interests.

INTRODUCTION

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Academic freedom is a key element of the educational process that forms intellectual independence and diversity of ideas in educational institutions. Over time, this concept has undergone changes, reflecting the challenges and trends of modern education. The idea of academic freedom originated in medieval universities, where teachers and students had a certain degree of autonomy in choosing curricula and discussing issues[1]. However, even at that time, she was subject to restrictions by church and state authorities.

With the development of education and science, academic freedom has acquired new aspects and challenges. In modern educational institutions, this concept covers not only freedom of choice of academic disciplines, but also freedom of research, expression of one's own opinions and participation in public life. Modern challenges such as censorship, political pressure and the commercialization of education pose a threat to academic freedom. Educational institutions face a dilemma between maintaining an open exchange of ideas and limiting content according to different interests. The digital revolution is also contributing to the evolution of academic freedom. Online platforms, instant access to information and global communication networks create new opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and ideas, but at the same time raise questions about privacy and security.

To maintain academic freedom in modern educational institutions, active protection is necessary. This includes developing clear policies, supporting public dialogue, and creating

mechanisms to ensure independence from external pressures. In the future, academic freedom will continue to evolve under the influence of changes in the educational and scientific paradigm[2]. It is necessary to strive for a balance between the open exchange of ideas and the observance of ethical and legitimate standards. Academic freedom is a fundamental concept underlying higher education and research activities. Over time, this concept has evolved, reflecting changing socio-cultural, technological and political realities. Today, academic freedom finds itself at the crossroads of tradition and innovation, facing challenges that present both new opportunities and potential threats.

The idea of academic freedom has its roots in medieval universities, where teachers and students had a significant degree of autonomy in the management of educational processes and research activities. However, over time, this concept has undergone changes reflecting political and social transformations. Modern technologies play a key role in changing the face academic freedom. Virtualization of educational processes and access to a huge amount of information create new opportunities for students and researchers[3]. However, as the digital field grows, questions about data privacy, digital control, and cybersecurity sensitivity also arise.

Modern educational institutions strive integrate a variety of perspectives into learning and research. This includes a variety of cultures, gender identities. and viewpoints. The

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intervention of different voices contributes to the enrichment of knowledge and provides a wider range of research approaches. Academic freedomrelated constraints and challenges are also being brought to the fore. The increasing influence of politics on education, the threats of censorship and regulation pose serious challenges to freedom of thought and research. Modern universities and colleges are rethinking their role in society, striving to create educational environments that actively promote development of critical thinking and civic responsibility. This requires a balance between freedom and responsibility.

In the future, academic freedom will continue to evolve under the influence of new technologies. social movements and political shifts. It is important to maintain a balance between freedom and limitations in order to provide a dynamic and innovative educational space.

Academic freedom is a fundamental principle of higher education, embodying openness, independence and freedom of thought in the learning environment[4]. This concept has been undergoing evolution throughout the long history of universities and colleges, and in modern conditions has become the object of discussion and change under the influence of socio-cultural, technological and political changes. Academic freedom has its roots in medieval universities, where teachers and students enjoyed a certain degree of autonomy in making educational and decisions. However. research the true breakthrough occurred in the age of Enlightenment, when the ideas of freedom of

thought and expression began to receive universal recognition. The great minds of that time supported the concept of freedom of academic research as a key element of intellectual progress.

In the 20th century, academic freedom became a struggle against totalitarian ideologies such as fascism and communism, which suppressed freedom of thought and subordinated education to political goals. The protection of academic freedom has become part of the struggle for democracy and human rights[5]. During these years, many universities adopted charters of academic freedom, which guaranteed the independence of teachers and researchers from influences. Modern educational external institutions face a number of challenges that have an impact on the concept of academic freedom. One such challenge is the digital revolution, which has changed the way information is disseminated and created new opportunities for learning and research. On the one hand, this expands the freedom of access to knowledge; on the other hand, questions arise about authorship and control of information.

Academic freedom is a fundamental principle of the educational system, embodying the ideals of freedom of thought, research and learning. However, this concept is undergoing evolution in modern educational institutions, reflecting changes in society, technology and approaches to education. Academic freedom found its roots in medieval universities, where scientists and students enjoyed relative independence in their research and teaching. Over time, this concept has

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become inextricably linked to the ideals of freedom of speech and expression. Today, academic freedom is facing new challenges such social change, political tensions, technological progress. Social movements for equality and inclusivity have made adjustments the understanding of freedom within educational institutions.

The introduction of modern technologies also contributes to the evolution of academic freedom. Virtual platforms, online courses and remote learning create new scenarios for knowledge sharing, but at the same time raise questions about privacy and information security. The globalization of education brings a variety of cultural contexts to educational institutions[6]. This requires a rethinking of traditional ideas about freedom in the context of a diversity of values and views. Modern universities strive to balance academic freedom with responsibility and ethics. The adoption of codes of conduct, the regulation of relations between teachers and students, as well as conflict management are becoming important aspects in ensuring fairness and security in the educational space.

In the future, academic freedom is likely to continue to adapt to changes in society[7]. The need to develop new norms and rules to ensure balanced freedom and safety of learning will become more relevant in an ever-changing world.

Academic freedom is a fundamental principle underlying higher education. It students, faculty, and researchers with the opportunity to freely exchange ideas, research,

and opinions within the university community. The concept of academic freedom has ancient roots, but its essence and perception are constantly evolving under the influence of sociocultural changes and technological progress.

The idea of academic freedom dates back to medieval universities, where scientists and students had some degree of independence from church and state. Nevertheless, the real recognition of academic freedom came in the age of Enlightenment. In the XVIII century, scientists began to advocate the idea of freedom of thought and study, defending the right to freely discuss ideas and criticize even authorities. Modern educational institutions continue to develop and refine the concept of academic freedom in order to meet the challenges of modern society. With the expansion of access to information and global interaction, universities are facing new questions and problems related to this principle. In modern conditions, academic freedom acquires new aspects in the context of the use of electronic resources[8]. Students and teachers can share ideas and information online, but questions about data privacy, digital security, and copyright arise.

In recent decades, the emphasis on diversity and inclusion in universities has also influenced the understanding of academic freedom. Educational institutions strive to create an environment in which every member of the community feels respected and is free to express their opinions. while respecting the diversity of points of view. Global challenges such as the pandemic also have an impact on academic freedom. The expansion of distance learning and restrictions on movement

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may affect the exchange of ideas and research, requiring new approaches to ensuring academic freedom in a virtual environment. Today's discussions around academic freedom include questions about the balance between freedom of speech and prevention of discrimination, ensuring safety in the educational process and digital information management.

The evolution of the concept of academic freedom reflects changes in society, technology and education. Modern educational institutions face challenges and find new ways to balance freedom and responsibility in the modern world. Academic freedom remains a key principle determining the dynamics and quality of higher education.

The evolution of the concept of academic freedom in modern educational institutions indicates the need to adapt to the challenges of the time. Preserving the principles of freedom in the context of new realities is becoming a difficult but important task aimed at ensuring high-quality and fair education in our time. The evolution of the concept of academic freedom in modern educational institutions is a complex process reflecting the changing values and challenges of modern society. Today, the balance between freedom and responsibility is becoming the cornerstone for maintaining a high level of education and research activity in a changing world. In conclusion, academic freedom remains a fundamental element of the educational system that promotes intellectual growth and innovation. Its evolution highlights the need for constant discussion and compromise in a changing educational landscape.

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