

Comparison of Generic Entrepreneurial Competences of Hungarian, Slovenian, German and Finnish Students

Klemen Širok

University of Primorska, Faculty of Management, Slovenia
klemen.sirok@fm-kp.si

Marja-Liisa Kakkonen

South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences, Finland
marja-liisa.kakkonen@xamk.fi

Societies, business and technologies are changing rapidly, therefore students in higher education need to acquire several generic competences offered on all degree programmesⁱ in order to be in a better position on a changing labour market.ⁱⁱ In general, one can say that generic competences are important as they are the mechanism for linking individual behaviour to business performanceⁱⁱⁱ. Knowing the perceptions of competences' holders carries no less importance.^{iv v vi vii}

Presented research adopts the international comparative perspective chosen for following reasons. First, certain entrepreneurial types exist among new students regardless of their national background^{viii}. Second, higher education is engulfed in the process of integrating an international, intercultural, or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery^{ix x}. Third, culture influences perceptions^{xi}. The study is aimed at mapping out generic competences business students on the convenience sample of 358 first-year students: 177 from Hungary, 70 from Germany, 56 from Finland and 55 from Slovenia.

The preliminary results indicate some significant differences between students across all six main groups of generic competencies: self-confidence and self-image, persistence and goal-orientation, creativity and initiativeness, uncertainty-tolerance, accuracy and responsibility and social skills. Further statistical analysis will explain the identified differences and provide ample evidence for implications relevant for development of future business management programmes. In the future the research will be upgraded into longitudinal one, with aim to assess the role of business management programmes in generic entrepreneurial competences development.

Keywords: generic, competence, entrepreneurship, higher education

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