

The significance of geographic researches for general education

Perhaps I am right in my opinion that my teachers had no idea what our society or future will be like after 20 years from graduation. The same is applicable nowadays. We don't know will the environment be more sustainable, securer, more democratic, more prosperous or not, it certainly depends on our present actions, but one we could clearly state that the technologies are developing in accelerating rate and it is becoming impossible to give to students knowledge relevant to future, if the main focus will be again on acquiring knowledge and memorizing facts. It's important to develop specific skills together with knowledge, e.g., researches competences that are developing all required skills how to collect arrange and analyze data, and to make a knowledgeable conclusions based on evidences.

Making researches and developing research skills are new for national curriculum; somehow this is integrated in different subjects of various grades. There is a new curriculum "Geographic research" for high school.

During the course student will be able to observe natural, social, economic processes and patterns and determine population needs and problems, will be able to study them and plan the solutions within the research in a written form. Students will draw graphs and maps. The research topics should be selected according to an interest and age of students and they have to link it with the real life problems. We think that the course will rise an interest to the subject and their motivation, will change their attitudes towards the natural and social environment, they will develop their social skills and became active citizens.

The conference will give a possibility to present what is planned new in general education and how it is planned to develop, the importance of researches. The paper will show how to prepare high school students for further university education and give them possibility actively participate in more advanced researches.