

Taxonomy of corruption in higher education system of Azerbaijan

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Corruption in higher education is a worldwide occurrence and particularly common in developing countries. Empirical studies of the causes of corruption are fairly new for us. In order to devise anti-corruption programmes in Azerbaijan it is necessary to know the *nature, characteristics, patterns and organizational structure* of this phenomenon in Azerbaijan.

The **purpose** of this article is to analyze and investigate causes and consequences of corruption, specific character of corruption in education system of Azerbaijan, principles of define the education quality, impact of corruption on high education quality.

This article builds on the available literature and author's knowledge to construct a new taxonomy describing corruption in higher education system of Azerbaijan by distinguishing education-specific and general (administrative) corruption.

Five overlapping subcategories were identified within education-specific corruption depending on the participants involved in the act of exchange and the area of its occurrence. Different types of corruption may require different theoretical and methodological approaches if research is to be conducted on educational corruption.

There are different levels of corruption in teaching process. **Three types of education specific corruption** possess similarities that allow for regrouping them into two categories based on the area where exchanges occur.

First, student—faculty exchange and some cases of student-administrator exchange occur in the area directly related to academic activities. These cases might be grouped into a category termed *academic corruption*.

Second, student—staff and some cases of student-administrator exchange occurs in the area of student services and may be termed *corruption in services*.

Third is accredited corruption, where the students are not involved in this case. Therefore, this taxonomy serves as a starting point for future studies.