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HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES THROUGH LIFELONG EDUCATION¹

***Abstract:** The paper deals with the concept of lifelong education in the context of relationship between higher education and needs of the labour market and requirements of future employers of university graduates. The aim of the paper is to identify the demands of business entities and institutions placed on present and future employees, and in this way to present basic information and instructions to educational entities on how to provide for education. This is accomplished via the analysis of demands of selected respondents (employer entities) on their employees. The paper contains two chapters dealing with the subject and philosophy of the present research and with the requirements for job performance as viewed by employers from various industries. The results obtained are related to the problem of employability on the labour market.*

***Keywords:** lifelong education, long-term unemployed, educational environment, European Union, key competences, holistic development, human resources, employer requirements, job performance, labour market, personality traits, Strategy of Lifelong Learning and Lifelong Guidance, Slovak Republic.*

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Motto: When planning for a year, plant corn. When planning for a decade, plant trees. When planning for life, train and educate people. Chinese proverb: Guanzi (c. 645BC) [3]

Qualitative changes in society and in the economy in the 21st century, which may also be referred to as the century of knowledge, are reflected in the importance attached to human factor. In this context, there is a rising need for identifying human resources, selecting suitable human resources for the performance of activities, eliminating moral obsolescence of knowledge and skills, as well as for focusing on the development of lifelong education.

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