THE FORMATION OF CROSS-CULTURAL COMPETENCE IN THE LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

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The presentation is devoted to the importance of cross-cultural education of multilingual students in the process of foreign language training at the Russian Technical University, since it is the essential part of international communication and mutually beneficial cooperation. As globalization is deepening its roots in national and world affairs and the interconnections between countries of different cultures and languages are becoming stronger than ever, more and more people feel the increasingly negative impacts of the inadequacy of one language as monolingualism gradually but steadily gives way to bi- and multilingualism in daily life activities. Thus, one of the educational aims in the Russian Technical University is to develop students' cross-cultural and linguistic competence. Socio-cultural approach to language teaching is closely connected with the use of foreign language as a means of exploring the world and national cultures. It is an intellectual heritage of other countries and their people, as well as a tool for overcoming cross-cultural misunderstandings. As a result, the teaching of communication competence in English is implemented in the course of cross-cultural dialogue based on the socio-cultural perception of the world. Since International Studies is one of the issues in the Russian Government Educational Standard for Teaching Foreign Languages, the author of the presentation came up with the project named "Guide to the English Speaking World" which includes the main cultural facts about the Commonwealth of Nations and five English speaking countries (the USA, the UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand), guizzes with keys for selfcontrol and tests to be done in the classroom. Moreover, the above mentioned ISP contains the English Speaking World in Pictures, namely a section with the photos of famous personalities, places of interest and national symbols. All the components of the above-mentioned project are represented at the website of Ivanovo State Power University (www.ispu.ru) and are available for all university students. The effectiveness of the project lies in the implementation of the new forms of language education via the application of modern information technologies, leading to the improvement of cross-cultural linguistic competence and the intensification of language-learning motivation.