

## Choice of Institute and Future Plans (Keller Magdolna)

*Aim of research.* The questionnaire surveying taken with the students of the Hungarian Teacher Training College in Beregszász, Ukraine, in May 2002, is the first step of a greater research project. The project will include all the institutes of tertiary education in Beregszász, Debrecen, Nagyvárad, and Nyíregyháza, and respectively all the Hungarian students learning outside the country's borders.

*Research methods.* The partial results (taken by random sampling among college students) have been analyzed from multiple aspects. The questionnaire used in the research project included direct questions concerning both the future plans and the choice of institute, and questions concerning students' socio-cultural background, relationships, and former school and work experience. Our inquiry was mainly directed to the students' long-range plans, and to their opinion about whether the certificate acquired in the chosen institute would help them in the realization of their plans. The examination was also concerned with the rating of how many students had chose the institute they were learning in, in the first place; whether they had other postgraduate plans, and if they had, what type were these. We tried to take a multiple- viewpoint survey of the students' motives when they thought and decided about their future.

*Research outcomes.* The research outcomes concerning the choice of institute refer to the fact that although only a small percentage of the students would have liked to attend another institute, and the majority is completely satisfied with their choice, after graduation most of them still plan further studies. We examined which factors, concerning the future plans presumed remaining on the homeland, and which directed towards the strategy of going abroad. On the basis of previous results, a significantly higher rate of those students plan to remain on the homeland, who

- have former working experience in their mother-country;
- preference of Hungarian language characterizes their language use, or even they do not speak the state- language or Russian well;
- parents, and friends are mostly or exclusively Hungarian.

*Pedagogical and educational benefits of the research.* For the time being - as against our expectations - we could not point out any relationship between language knowledge and work. Our variables need refining in this respect. The fact that those students who speak the state-language well, plan to settle in Hungary or in other European countries in a significantly higher rate, denotes a significant difference comparing our hypothesis. The reasons lying behind this question need further and more detailed analysis.