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## **ALTERNATIVE IT-EDUCATION IN UKRAINE**

Nowadays education plays an important role in everyone's life. In recent years, the field of information technology is gaining popularity. Ukraine is no exception.

The new revolutionary institutions have become an alternative to traditional educational institutions, courses and online courses. One of them is UNIT Factory .

UNIT Factory (Ukrainian National IT Factory) — Ukraine's only institution that works by innovative standards. Institution trains Peer-to-Peer (P2P) IT specialists.

Here they are trained not only to program but also to work in a team and to find extraordinary solutions. Another feature is that there are no teachers, work-books or lectures here. The selection does not take into account diplomas or results of EIT. It all depends only on the student's abilities and motivation.

The training plan is based on an up-to-date system - gamification. The acquisition of knowledge is accompanied by "pumping" the character. Knowledge is obtained by completing quests and gaining levels. Another feature of UNIT Factory is that the curriculum effectively combines professional development with soft skills development and interpersonal communication.

It's no secret that young people need opportunities. IT sector provides many of them. You just need to be persistent and purposeful in learning. UNIT Factory aims to help young people gain a specialty that will open up opportunities for continued professional growth.

It also takes into account that graduates have always been in demand in the job market and involved in exciting, large-scale projects in the modern digital age.

One of Ukraine's main strengths is its human potential. To realize it, it is necessary to educate a young generation of professionals who are in demand in the labor market today and will become even more needed in 5-10 years.

To successfully compete in the international arena, Ukrainian IT companies need specialists with high level of training. Graduates of technical colleges and numerous programming courses often do not meet this requirement - employers are forced to re-teach or re-teach them.

The IT school program was launched last year and is designed for an average of three years. However, some students are ahead of the program, so the first graduates at UNIT Factory are expected in six months.

The school prepares in eight areas: software architect, network architect, network administrator, technical team leader, web developer, mobile developer, IT security specialist and video game developer.

At the same time, the school does not seek to teach the student everything once and for all. The goal of UNIT Factory is to teach students to learn and work effectively with information.

Valeria Zabolotnaya notes that everything changes in the market. In three years, languages (programming) and technologies will be different. Therefore, it would be rash to assume that we can teach someone a genuinely limited amount of knowledge. Our task is to give them a base and teach them to learn very quickly [1].

As a result, the graduate will be "able to take any unstructured unfamiliar task and solve it." At the same time, during the training, students also gain experience in real projects, as in the process of training they undergo two internships in companies. For example, Global Logic, Luxoft, Sensorama, RelateData, Webby Lab and many others

UNIT Factory provides training for qualified IT professionals capable of quenching the staffing of Ukrainian companies. The unique project system maximally adapts graduates to work on real-world business tasks.

Not only does this open up opportunities for young people to gain high-paying, promising jobs and thus help Ukraine to develop an innovative economy in the face of fierce competition with other countries.

Vasyl Khmelnytsky, founder of K.Fund explains: “The UNIT Factory challenges the traditional education system. Companies do not need papers on graduation from a prestigious university, but professionals who successfully implement projects. Our graduates will gain knowledge, skills and experience to help them find high-paying jobs in leading Ukrainian and foreign companies“ [3].

Steve Wozniak, Apple's founder also specifies the important role of the UNIT Factory [4].

So, in conclusion we can say that Ukraine is open for every young person to gain knowledge in information technologies that are popular not only in European countries but also in the whole world.

#### REFERENCES

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