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**Abstract**

This paper analyzes the integration process of higher education institutions (HEIs) in Kazakhstan within the context of the European education area. Academic experts and students carried out comparative sociological research of Kazakhstan, the findings of which are presented here. Empirical evidence shows how the Bologna process is shaping culture in Kazakhstan by inverting negative attitudes towards the transformations on the national HEIs? and individual levels. The authors reveal political economic and cultural advantages of Kazakhstan?s entry to the European education area. The research enables the authors to give a latent assessment of the positive and negative attitudes of the university academic society in regards to ongoing changes such as the modernization of the education processes and new education services. It also determines perspectives about the further development of educational institutions in Kazakhstan. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)