

The British Council

International Guide to Qualifications in Education Fourth Edition

Higher degrees

Full-time postgraduate studies (*aspirantura*) leading to the qualification of kandidat nauk (candidate of sciences) normally last three years and include original research and publication. The doktorantura (degree entitled **doktor nauk**) is, in British terms, a higher doctorate.

The further degree of kandidat, is often considered roughly equivalent to the **PhD**, and some Russian *kandidaty* style themselves 'Dr' when abroad.

ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION

Many higher education institutions have specialist departments responsible for running professional updating courses. These are developing academic programmes in the field of psychology of adult learning, and they are establishing links between such departments and their counterparts in the United Kingdom and North America. In addition, distance education techniques are widely practised. The development of open university and college systems is taking place, based on Western experience and example. The non-formal sector is particularly active. The All-Union Society of Knowledge (*Znanie*) is now considerably reduced in influence. The old political programmes have virtually disappeared, to be replaced by intense activity in the field of independently provided courses for the general public, especially where these have a vocational orientation: foreign language courses are a good example.

Professional and learned societies, especially in engineering and the applied sciences, are increasingly active in monitoring and providing adult continuing education. Independent trade unions and the emergence of an open labour market have led to the development of parallel worker and trade union education, which is very different from the heavily politicized 'education' provided formerly in this context.