

# KHAZAR UNIVERSITY

Education Policy Institute

**Hamlet Isaxanli**

([hamlet@khazar.org](mailto:hamlet@khazar.org))

**2014**

# KHAZAR UNIVERSITY

- Established in 1991 (20.XII.1990 - 18.III.1991)
- 1st private higher education institution in Azerbaijan
- English - primary language of instruction
- Bachelors, masters, and PhD degree programs; academic research, training, and industry relations
- 2000+ students: 307 graduate students
- 250+ instructors and researchers
- Approximately 240 international partnerships

# CAMPUSES

**Neftchilar campus**



**Bashir Safaroghlu campus**



**Alatava campus**



**Binagadi campus** – under construction (w.b. ready for 01.09.2014)  
Dunya School and Khazar training site

# SCHOOLS AND DUNYA SCHOOL

- School of Engineering and Applied Science
- School of Economics and Management



- School of Humanities and Social Sciences
- School of Education
- Dunya School (IBO program)



# INSTITUTES AND CENTERS (1)

- ◉ Division of Graduate Studies and Research
- ◉ Library Information Center
- ◉ Caucasus Research Resource Center (supp. by **Carnegie Foundation**)
- ◉ Eurasia Extractive Industries Knowledge Hub (supp. by **Revenue Watch**)
- ◉ School of Project Management (supp. by **BP and ESI**)
- ◉ Development Center
- ◉ **Institute of Education Policy (IEP)**
- ◉ Institute of Politics
- ◉ Khazar Internet Institute
- ◉ Psychological Counseling and Psychotherapy Center
- ◉ Quality Assurance Center
- ◉ Assembly of Science and Art

# INSTITUTES AND CENTERS (2)

- ◉ Career Center
- ◉ Center for International Students and Scholars
- ◉ Technopark and Innovation Center
- ◉ Legal Education Center (USAID)
- ◉ Area Studies Center (PS)
- ◉ Translation Studies Center
- ◉ Environmental Research Center
- ◉ E-Learning Center
- ◉ Media Center
- ◉ Migration Competence Center (Supported by European Commission)
- ◉ Economics and Business Research and Training Center
- ◉ Khazar Training Center
- ◉ Economic Policy and Development Center
- ◉ Khazar University Press (ISBN, ISMN)

# IEP: GOALS AND VISION

- Participate in the creation of Khazar University: education policy, educational content, various training models, administration, finding financial support, writing projects (research, international experience, planning, implementing)
- **Partners:** Khazar, other Azerbaijan universities, American and European experts as consultants (on international level and in project writing)

# IEP: EARLY INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 1992-1996+: long-term partnership with UCLA (University of California Los Angeles)
- 1994-97+: Georgia State U(Atlanta) Business administration +Stanford U+UC Berkley+ ...
- 1995: Invited by Great Britain's "Foreign and Commonwealth Office" to meet with: UCL; Imperial College of STM -London; U of Westminster -London; I. Newton Inst for Math Sci; Cambridge; Oxford; U of Edinburgh; Napier U-Edinburgh, U of Lancaster, U of C Lancashire, Anglia Polyt U



# IEP: MAIN SPHERES OF ACTIVITY

- Development strategy for Khazar University. IEP was created for **research, training and projects**. Consolidated former centers dealing with research, training and projects for **unified coordination**.
- **Main activities:**
  - curriculum preparation;
  - quality assurance and accreditation;
  - teacher training;
  - learning and evaluation;
  - distance (and e-)learning;
  - library and information system;
  - educational administration and management;
  - university-industry relations;
  - comparative education;
  - history and philosophy of education;
  - research and recommendations about government policy on education

# EDUCATION POLICY INSTITUTE

- **“Translation and Publishing Project”** under the US government grant: to translate from English to Azeri, and publish a number of American textbooks in History and Journalism; to support partly publishing first volume of **Khazar Comprehensive English-Azerbaijani Dictionary**.
- The first in Azerbaijan **American type of MBA at Khazar** with support of **Georgia State University -Atlanta** and Eurasia Foundation. There have been around 20 visits by the GSU professors to Khazar. The same number of KU professors passed training at GSU.

- **George Mason University (GMU), US: Conflict Analysis and Resolution Program** proposed by the **US Peace Institute**. Conferences, faculty exchanges, and student exchanges for one-year studies at GMU.
- **Regional Caucasus Studies Program** (Khazar U IEP, supported by USAID). 9 universities from **South Caucasus, Turkey and USA**.
- **2000-2001: Minority Education Policy in Azerbaijan and Iran** (IREX supported Research project of Khazar University, UCLA-USA, and Tabriz University),
- **2001: Establishing a Teacher Training Center** within Institute of Education Policy at Khazar University (supported by IREX-Carnegie Foundation and California State University in Los Angeles) + student exchanges in economics and management fields.

- **Cooperation with the Caspian Study Program, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.**
  - 1) In April 2001 the panel discussion held at Harvard University on "Negotiations on Nagorno-Garabagh: Where do we go from here?" (Professor Hamlet Isaxanli, Rector of Khazar University, Ambassador Carey Cavanaugh, the U.S. co-chairman of the OSCE Minsk Group, and Professor Ronald Suny, from the University of Chicago.
  - 2) Current Trends in Education in Azerbaijan, A Discussion at Harvard University, 2001.

2001: Khazar University IEP with the Harvard University Caspian Study Program held **international conference: "Nagorno-Garabagh: Peace and War"** (19 June 2001) and **international conference: "Identity of Azerbaijan"** (21 June 2001). Azeri governmental authorities and foreign diplomats participated.

- The first in Azerbaijan **Career Center for students and alumni** was started at Khazar (with the help of Eurasia Foundation in October 1999). Career services include consulting, career assessment, graduate studies planning, information on potential employers, etc. Networking with the local industries allows matching career needs with employers' needs.
- The first in the South Caucasus **University Legal Clinic** established at Khazar (with support of the American Bar Association): (a) to carry on the social function of rendering free legal assistance to the most indigent groups of population, (b) to train future lawyers in acquiring practical skills necessary for their legal practice, c) establishment of **Moot Court Room** at Khazar, etc. **Columbia University, USA** supported the project development.
- Development Programs of **Khazar U and Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, S. Korean Institute of Economy**:
  - 1) Corporate Management in Azerbaijan,
  - 2) Macro-economic development and Economic Development Foresight/prognostics (supported by Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan)



## KHAZAR SUMMER AND WINTER SCHOOLS

- ◉ **1) International Human Rights summer school** with OSI/Soros Foundation (1999). Participants and lecturers from various countries.
- ◉ **2) Summer schools in Economics and Management as well as Library Information Services**
- ◉ **3) Summer camps at Khazar for Oxford U and Cambridge U students**
- ◉ **4) Winter school for Hebrew U students**
- ◉ **5) Ecology summer school for Maryland U students**
- ◉ **6) Summer school for students from various German universities**

- 1999 **NATO-Khazar** project on “**Internet Center Development at Khazar University**” (project directors: Hamlet Isaxanli and, Walter Kaffenberger, NATO Scientific Affairs Division, Brussel NATO Headquarters). New for the country technical decisions (like radio modems) were used for providing connectivity. Successful implementation of the mentioned project allowed Khazar University to become one of the initiators of creating **a National Academic Information Network - AzNET**.
- The **World Bank** supported establishment of a regional depositary Center at the Khazar Library. **Asian Development Bank** -the same. This means that a copy of every title published by these banks becomes available for the Khazar Library users.
- **Academy for Educational Development** (AED) awarded the Khazar IEP a grant to provide training for **small and medium businesses** throughout Azerbaijan (in Sheki, Zakatala, Balakan, Guba, Xachmaz zones for over 90 participants. Other trainings for **middle school teachers involved in teaching Economics** both in Baku and in the regions.

- **Scholarships and exchanges** supported by Fulbright Program, IREX, ACTR/ACCELS undergraduate exchange program, Muskie Fellowship Program, Freedom Support Act Program, Contemporary Issues Program, Open Society Institute, British Chevening Program, British Council Scholarships, German DAAD program, etc.
- Undergraduate and graduate student and faculty exchange programs based on bilateral agreements with universities of USA, Canada, Europe, Middle East, S-Korea, Japan, China, India, Malaysia,...
- **Courses for credit for students of Leiden Un (Netherlands) and instructor exchange**

- **Library Automation and Collection Development** (Eurasia Foundation, UCLA, Japan Foundation, others)
- **Publishing Development Program in Azerbaijan** 1998-2000 (US Department of State and the University of Michigan Press).
- Establishment of **National ISBN and ISMN centers** within Khazar University Press.
- **External Quality Assessment Projects:**
  - 1) BP Azerbaijan - 2004,
  - 2) Salzburg Seminar - Visiting Advisors Program - 2006, **both are published.**

## SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON EDUCATION

- ◉ UNESCO, Paris 2005: «Higher Education in Azerbaijan» (Khazar U IEP, H.I.)
- ◉ UNESCO, Baku 2005: «Student Support System in Higher Education Institutions»(Khazar U IEP, H.I.)
- ◉ 2005: Azerb Moving Towards European Higher Education Area (Country Report for Council of Europe on Bologna Process -Khazar U IEP, H.I.).  
To inform, prepare, deliver, participate in signing of Bologna Agreement, Bergen, Norway.
- ◉ Capacity Development Strategies in Knowledge and Learning in a Country with Transition Economy: The Azerbaijan Case (for UNDP Global Event, Madrid, 2006. Khazar U IEP, H.I.)



- **Heriot-Watt University - BP - Khazar University Partnership** on collaboration in the **graduate program in Petroleum Engineering**. **Faculty development and Scholarship** for Khazar's students.
- Joint **researches, conferences, and student exchange scholarship with BI Norwegian School of Management** (supported by Norway Government).
- 2007-2008 Project on **International Accreditation of Dünya School** affiliated with Khazar University in order to receive World IBO authorization. Currently (from 2009) Dünya School is successfully implementing IB Diploma Program.

## 2007: ADAPTATION OF BACHELOR PROGRAMS TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Preparation, presentation and implementation of plan initiated by IEP and carried out jointly with Education Commission for President of Azerbaijan Republic

- ◉ There were 513 majors (44 of them were in multiple tracks). The new list of majors was reduced to 154 based on their names and content.
- ◉ UNESCO's coding system was applied (earlier codes were based on combinations of letters and numbers. New codes are based on the simple three-step UNESCO code, for example, in 050206 the 05 is the level of education, 02 stands for humanities and social sciences and 01 shows the date).

- **Preparation of the Technopark** concept. America, Europe, East Asia.
  - Film and animation center. Construction materials lab. Electronics and equipment lab...
- Germany's **EUROPEAN-PEN International**, France's **ORT** and Azerbaijan's **Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population** joint project with **Khazar University**, “**Virtual Business Design and Implementation in Azerbaijan**” (supported by World Bank).
  - To help graduates find work, they are employed by a virtual business in a real office to give them additional knowledge and skills through a special curriculum. They are connected to a virtual network.
  - Khazar University technopark helps new businesses to start

## EUROPEAN UNION TACIS TEMPUS PROJECTS

- ◉ **1998-2001: European Union TACIS Tempus** awarded Khazar University a grant for developing a project in “**Academic Quality Assurance**” with support of the **Nottingham Trent University (UK)** and the **Haarlem Business School (The Netherlands)**. **First** quality assurance center developed in Azerbaijan.
- ◉ **2000-2003: European Union TACIS Tempus project:** “**Development University Student Services**”. Partners: **Middlesex University, London** and **University of Sannio, Benevento (Italy)**. **Khazar University- coordinator**.
- ◉ **2007-2008: “Designing Quality Assurance Systems in Azerbaijani Universities”** (**Khazar University- coordinator**)
  - (1) Upgrade of the Quality Assurance Centre at Khazar University - a private university, which already serves as a developed model for other higher education institutions in Azerbaijan as well as in the larger region.
  - (2) Establishment of Quality Assurance Centres (QACs) at Baku State University and Azerbaijan State University of Languages

# EUROPEAN UNION TACIS TEMPUS PROJECTS

- ◉ **2008-2011: Curricula Reformation and Harmonization in the field of Biomedical Engineering**
  - TEMPUS (17 Institutions from EU and 6 Institutions from Partner Countries).
- ◉ **2012-2015: Curriculum Development and Skills Training in European Union Studies**
  - Khazar- coordinator. (4 European, 6+1 Az partners).
- ◉ **2012-2015: Student support and development systems**
  - Tempus (5 European, 2 Israeli, 11 Former Soviet, 3+1 Az partners). Creating high-level, modern student services by increasing quality of human resources and infrastructure



# EUROPEAN UNION TACIS TEMPUS PROJECTS

- ◉ **2012-2015: Development of Training Network for Improving Education in Energy Efficiency**
  - Tempus (8 Europe, 3 Former Soviet, 3-1 Az). Creating awareness and setting curriculum reform as a priority in the engineering fields.
- ◉ **2013-2015: Migration and Higher Education: Developing Skills and Capacity**
  - (Tempus 6 Europe, 7 Former Soviet, 3+1-1 Az). Develop and realize a master's program for Bologna students in Migration issues.
- ◉ **2013-2016: Documentation for Quality Assurance of Study Programmes**
  - (Tempus 5 Europe, 15 -Former Soviet, 3+1 Az)
- ◉ **2013-2015: “The Establishment of a Foundation for the Integration of Disabled People into HEIs of Azerbaijan”**
  - Khazar- coordinator. (Tempus: 4 Europe, 6+2 Az)

- **Erasmus-Mundus External Cooperation Window program 2007-2014.** Student (undergraduate, master and PhD), faculty and administration exchange supported by European Commission) -1st, 2nd, and 3rd calls.
- **2013: Azerbaijan Legal Rights Consortium project (USAID, Azerbaijan Lawyers Confederation).** Education and training in legal rights. Establishment of Legal Education Center at Khazar University.

- **2014: International conference at Khazar under the British Council and Researcher Links scheme** at Khazar University on 25-28 March, 2014. Contributions: Professor Howard Stevenson, Professor Tony Bush, Professor Chris Day (all from **University of Nottingham**) and Professor Hamlet Isaxanli, Dr. Elza Samedova (both from Khazar University IEP), and others: to share knowledge and understanding about the role of educational leadership capacity building within schools systems and system change/improvement. Keynote presentations will focus on recent thinking from both the UK and Azerbaijan, and also draw on wider international research. Local policy input will be provided by the Ministry of Education in Azerbaijan.
- Memorandum of Understanding with Germany's **Renewable Energy** organization to partner in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

# WORLD BANK AND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: TRAINING COURSES

- ◉ 2012-2013: (10 days - 60 hours). Training for 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers in the following subjects:
  - Mathematics
  - Foreign language
  - Life skills
- ◉ Executed by IEP: training in 38 regions (Aran and Upper Karabakh) for 1582 foreign language teachers; in Lankaran region for 644 mathematics teachers, and in Ganja-Gazakh for 580 life skills teachers.
- ◉ Training included preparation and presentation of a textbook on “Applying new subject curriculum on general school levels,” multifaceted technical materials and aids, and setting up conditions for successful training.
- ◉ Testimonies that this was a contribution to the regions’ social life.
- ◉ **Problem:** experience, reputation, and quality play a small role, while finances play a large role, in competition!?

## WORLD BANK AND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: TRAINING COURSES

**2013: 1.** “Using student assessment results and monitoring research for making decisions about management”. Training for 1281 educational directors, Ministry of Education members, State Students’ Admission Commission members in 58 regions and cities. Khazar University’s IEP evaluation and monitoring training was supported by Turkey agency of international CITO institute.

**2. Training course for elementary teachers.** 722 teachers were trained in Ganja-Gazakh and Upper Karabakh.

# IEP: INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Policy papers** in education, science, culture, youth policy and other fields

- For example: «What makes a good reform program», «The concept of quality in education», «Accreditation: world experience and Azerbaijan», «Education abroad», «New youth policy of a new state», «administrative models in education» and more.
- ◎ **Activity in international scholarship** (representing Azerbaijan, helping international organizations in research, project implementation)