The Possibilities of Education of Students with Special Needs at Universities in the Czech Republic Aiming at the University of Ostrava in Ostrava

Abstract

The aim of this paper is to present the possibilities to support students with special needs at universities in the Czech Republic. The paper focuses on the theoretical and legislative scope of the issue and it analyses the current situation of students with special needs at universities in the country. It is also referred to the ongoing project at the University of Ostrava in Ostrava which is focused on the active support of the tertiary education of students with special educational needs.

Keywords: University in the Czech Republic, students with special needs, support, current situation of students with specific needs, project at the University of Ostrava

1. Introduction

The period of the past 20 years represents significant political and social changes in the Czech Republic. In the context of political changes a strong need emerged to transform the social system, which contains education as its significant part. Until the 90s of the 20th century, the education of individuals with special needs was strictly segregated. However, after the political system had changed, many challenges from abroad came into the Czech Republic. These new opportunities involved integrated education of both able-bodied pupils and students with special needs. We can say that it was the area of education which