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THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN YOUTH

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Abstract

The article examines the importance of information technologies (IT) in the formation and development of the modern generation of youth. It analyzes the key areas of digital transformation that affect education, employment, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement among young people. The study highlights the significance of digital literacy and innovative thinking as factors for successful adaptation of youth to contemporary socio-economic conditions.

Keywords: information technologies, youth, digital literacy, education, innovation, digital transformation.

Introduction

Information technologies (IT) have become an integral part of modern society, determining its development directions and shaping new social and economic relations. Their influence is especially evident among young people, who are the most active users of digital resources and technologies.

Youth development is directly related to the level of access to modern technologies, the skills to use them effectively, and the ability to apply digital tools for learning, creativity, and professional growth. Therefore, the role of IT goes far beyond technical progress — it becomes a means of self-realization, socialization, and economic participation for the younger generation.



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1. Information Technologies and Youth Education

One of the most important areas of IT application is education. Modern digital platforms, electronic libraries, and online courses (Coursera, EdX, Udemy, etc.) provide young people with access to knowledge regardless of their geographical location or financial situation.

In Uzbekistan, digital technologies are actively integrated into the education system: the national platform EduMarket has been established, the “ZiyoNet” system is developing, and distance learning and interactive educational resources are being implemented. These initiatives contribute to the formation of digital literacy and critical thinking skills among students, which are essential in the 21st century.

2. Information Technologies and Youth Employment

IT creates new forms of employment and entrepreneurship. Young people are actively engaged in freelancing, IT startups, e-commerce, and remote work.

In Uzbekistan and across Central Asia, IT parks are being established where young specialists develop innovative projects in programming, robotics, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity. For example, IT Park Uzbekistan, founded in 2019, has become an important platform for supporting youth startups, training in digital technologies, and helping young entrepreneurs enter international markets.

3. Information Technologies and Civic Engagement

The development of IT contributes to the growth of civic engagement and social responsibility among young people. Social networks, online platforms, and mobile applications enable youth to participate in social initiatives, environmental projects, volunteer activities, and scientific competitions. Moreover, digital technologies provide opportunities for interaction with government institutions through e-government systems, allowing access to information about social programs, educational grants, and career opportunities.

4. Challenges and Prospects of IT Use Among Youth

Despite the obvious advantages, there are several challenges:

- ✓ Digital inequality between urban and rural areas;



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- ✓ Insufficient level of cybersecurity awareness;
- ✓ Risks of information addiction and cyber threats;

The need to form an ethical culture of digital technology use.

For effective utilization of IT in youth development, it is necessary to enhance the digital education system, implement state programs for IT literacy, support youth innovation projects, and expand international cooperation.

Conclusion

Information technologies play a key role in youth development, forming a new generation characterized by high levels of knowledge, mobility, and creativity. For Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries, digital youth development is a strategic direction ensuring competitiveness and sustainable social progress.

Developing digital skills, integrating IT into education and business, and creating a favorable innovative environment are the most important conditions for the successful self-realization of youth in the 21st century.

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