# Educating citizens at Universities

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Educating citizens at Universities

- What kind of universities do we have?
- What social demands are being satisfied?
- What reorientations are requiered?

## • In Spain...

- Spaniards are the least entrepreneurial of all the Europeans
- Low productivity
- High abandon of university studies

Universities cannot distance themselves from this. Universities could be failing to fulfil their own functions as modern institutions

## Functions of the Universities

•Formation of society's human capital

•Maintain of social leadership on community subjects

•Aiming on educating citizens for the improvement of social coexistence

Universities have to design strategies to face this

## Strategies

•Strategies people-centred

To encourage the individual attitudes and values for co-existence and participation in the development of society

•Strategies institution-centred

These are created inside the universities and are related to the way they are governed and managed and those that arise from the design of educative policies. Educating citizens at Universities

Strategies people-centred

✓ Civic education

✓ Development of human capital

Pestalozzi said: "to educate the head, to educate the hands, to educate the heart" Delors said: "to learn to know, to learn to do, to learn to be and to learn to live together"

#### **MEANS**

Contents

Methodologies

**Faculty** 

#### Educating citizens at Universities

#### Strategies institution-centred

 $\checkmark$  The promotion of the internationalization and mobility for the enrichment of the education process of students and faculty

✓ The creation of research and teaching networks for the interchange of experiences and the aproximation of differents identities

A joint studies supply between universities

 $\checkmark$  And those from the design of higher education policies

All these strategies have to comprise the universities' strategic plans

### Challenges and difficulties



Financing: insufficient and limited from public and private sources



Process of European construction – which, paradoxically, had to bring with itself more European citizenship

Globalization – which narrows the border between the identity and universality



The reception of new inmigrants of diverse cultures and the resulting unemployment and social exclusion Also, for a new civic education in Europe...

₩ 9% of europeans consider that Parliament should legislate on education

67% think that the EU should have competition in scientific and technical research

Could teaching and research be separated? is the role of the University minimal in the scientific and technological production?

#### The time to create more European citizenship

"...universities continue to play a pivotal role in the development of the intellectual, cultural, social and technical dimensions of Europe" Sorbonne Declaration (1998) and ratified in Bologna in 1999 and was remarked on the goals of Lisbon in 2000

#### Universities have a responsibility educating on...



Principles and values of democracy and the respect to the diversity



Continuity of the historical expositions of the humanism and the rationality



Principles of the sustainability and globalization

## What our universities are doing to bring about a change of attitude in individuals?

How are they responding to the need of learning for the change?

UNIVERSITIES HAVE THE MEANS, THE KNOWLEDGE AND THE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PURPOSE

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