

Mechanisms of Education in the Context of the Communist Approach in Western Pedagogy

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Abstract. *On this thesis we examine how these educational principles influenced Western educational reforms, particularly regarding equality, social justice, and collectivism. The study further analyzes the intersection of communist ideals with Western pedagogy, highlighting both adaptation and resistance in educational systems.*

Key words: *Communist education, vocational training, equality, collectivism, Western reforms, social justice, progressive education, social mobility, educational equality.*

Introduction: Education, as a social institution, is strongly influenced by political ideologies. In the 20th century, communist regimes, aiming to create a society under state control and promote equality, developed distinct educational systems. This thesis analyzes the mechanisms of the communist education system and its impact on Western pedagogy. In communist regimes, the main goal of education was to shape citizens loyal to the state and capable of working for the collective good. The education system was based on the following principles:

The education system was designed to teach the ideology of social equality and the struggle against capitalism. Students were provided with the necessary practical skills required for industrial development. Education aimed to eliminate class distinctions and promote equality. In the 20th century, Western educational systems were influenced by communist ideas. Western education, primarily aimed at ensuring social equality and promoting justice, underwent several reforms. These reforms were particularly based on the principles of social justice and equal opportunities.

Progressive education focused on developing democratic values and social cooperation. John Dewey¹ and other educators emphasized the importance of fostering a sense of responsibility toward society.

Collective education in the communist education system, there was a strong emphasis on group work and collaboration, which also influenced Western education in the development of social responsibility.

¹ ¹Dewey, J. (1916). *Democracy and Education*.

Educational Reforms in the West started in the 1960s and 1970s, the U.S. underwent significant educational reforms as part of the civil rights movement, aimed at ensuring equal educational opportunities for all.

The United Kingdom and France after World War II, these countries expanded their state educational systems to provide educational opportunities for every citizen. In the West, the primary goal of the educational system was to provide equal educational opportunities for every child. This was particularly important in capitalist societies, where meritocracy and social mobility were central goals. While the communist regimes aimed to ensure loyalty to the state ideology, Western education was more focused on fostering individual freedom and critical thinking.

The intersection of Communist and Western ideals in the 20th century, education systems around the world underwent significant changes, especially due to ideological shifts and political movements. The influence of communism played a significant role in these transformations, especially its emphasis on equality, social justice and collectivism.

Under communist regimes, the role of education went beyond the simple transfer of knowledge; it became a tool for shaping citizens who would meet the political goals of the state. Education was considered not as a means of personal development or intellectual search, but as a mechanism for creating a unified society united by the principles of collective ownership, social equality and devotion to the state. Thus, the communist education system was focused on discipline, conformity, and the collective good, rather than individual freedoms. Education was aimed at preparing people to participate in the industrial

Conclusion: In conclusion, it should be noted that the educational systems of communist regimes and Western societies in the 20th century were shaped by various political ideologies, but both systems were influenced by common goals — social equality and justice. While Communist education was focused on loyalty to the state, conformity, and collective progress, Western education prioritized individual freedom, critical thinking, and social mobility. Despite these differences, both systems contributed to significant educational reforms that emphasized equality, collective responsibility, and the importance of social cooperation, having a lasting impact on global pedagogy.

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