Dialogue in the Context of Intercultural Competence

Baiba Briede

Abstract. The concept of intercultural competence refers to openness to diversities. It is widespread in various fields of work and life in general. Intercultural competence involves both social and cultural aspect. Knowledge of languages is an important part of both aspects and it covers peculiarities of the vocabulary, communicative skills, etc. Dialogue is one of the intercultural competence expression forms. It is accepted by the United Nations as a means of understanding diversities. Dialogue is described as a two-sided process of information exchange where both sides understand message and they respect each other. It is also analysed from philosophical, linguistic, political and interpersonal relations aspect in the research. Conditions (interaction of equal partners, tolerance, listening skills, common aims, clearly transmitted information, knowledge of local social and physical environment) of true dialogue are revealed.