

# The importance of developing global competencies from the perspective of students in the Republic of Croatia



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## **Sažetak**

Global competencies encompass cognitive, socio-emotional, and ethical aspects that facilitate comprehending diverse viewpoints, acting in the public interest, and fostering democratic discourse. Therefore, the goal of this research is to determine how students of various studies in the Republic of Croatia understand the importance of global competencies and the way to implement knowledge about global competencies in the micro and macro environment. In the focus group, 7 students from different studies throughout the Republic of Croatia participated. Since the focus group involved online communication, and the interaction of the participants was recorded and the conversation was then transcribed, the research participants agreed to voluntarily participate in the research at the very beginning and were familiarized with the purpose of the research and the comprehensive analysis of data that guarantees their anonymity. The questions, which tried to stimulate an in-depth discussion on the mentioned topic, were formulated according to the PISA questionnaire (2018), which contains thematic units on the development of global competences as an additional, innovative domain. Through a qualitative approach that includes the thematic analysis of focus group data, it was determined that students of various studies in the Republic of Croatia did not encounter courses that emphasize the development of global competencies, even though they understand the importance of developing them. The research results point to the importance of innovating the development of global competencies in the study programs of higher education institutions in the Republic of Croatia to continuously develop awareness of the importance of global competencies in all levels of initial education.

## **Ključne riječi**

*culture of society; focus group; PISA questionnaire; student attitudes*

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