Abstract

In this paper we will try to indicate selected educational, scientific-research and inter-professional aspects of social work autonomy in the university education of social workers in the Slovak Republic. We understand the autonomy of social work as a personalised ability of social work to identify, profile and solve one’s own education, scientific-research, professional, organisational and other intra-field components independently.

Key words: social work, autonomy, legitimacy, education, organisation of studies, profession, social policy, social pedagogy, psychology, accreditation, legislation, quality of study.

Introduction

The renaissance of social workers pre-graduation preparation and its gradual contextualisation under the conditions of university studies has been in place in Slovakia for more than two decades. Since its revival, the university education of social workers has been organised as a component of European educational space in accordance with the Bologna Declaration.

The constituting of social work as a study field, scientific field and profession is obviously influenced by identification and new challenges related to this process are responded to. One of them is the autonomy of social work, i.e., a personalized ability of social work to identify, profile and solve one’s own educational, research-scientific, professional, organisational and other inter-field components independ-