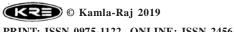
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Problems regarding University Graduates' Employment in Different Regions of Kazakhstan

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ABSTRACT In current conditions, in Kazakhstan and other countries of the post-Soviet region, problems of university graduates' employment, as well as the complete realization of their professional and personal potentials, are becoming increasingly relevant. The transition from a planned and centralized economy to a market-based one has also led to significant changes in the business. In this paper, the modern economy of Kazakhstan is characterized indicating that uneven distribution of inhabitants in rural districts, low level of development of rural areas, and specialization of production has created an uneven distribution of labor resources, giving rise to unfavorable features of labor markets. The paper further presents the results of an empirical study via interviewing 1.5 thousand respondents, showing the problems of young professionals and imbalances in the modern labor market in Kazakhstan. Recommendations are also given for improving youth employment system.