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A Comparative Study of Quality and Efficiency of Education System in Turkey

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ABOUT THIS STUDY

This study will investigate all aspects of Turkey's education system and also the most effective education system around the world. Therefore, this study will compare Turkish education system with Finnish and South Korean education systems, which are known as two of the best education systems according to OECD, by including determinants of education quality. After analyzing the determinants, this study will compare the PISA test results among Turkey, Finland and South Korea.

There are already existing datasets, which this study can benefit from. All these existing datasets will be cleaned and prepared to be used. And also, there are websites like TUIK, OECD, MEB and YOK. These websites will be visited to find education statistics about Turkey more. And also, OECD, World Bank and UNESCO websites will be visited to gather information about Finnish education system and South Korean education system.

I. INTRODUCTION

Education is a way of gaining knowledge and acquiring skills. There are different education systems in the world to manage education. Some countries have a classical system but other countries have exclusive education system to make students successful in their life and career. Moreover, some countries have been caring education system and they have been trying to have an effective education system because it is known that if they have an effective education system, they can also have a strong economy. In other words, an effective education system paves the way for having a sustainable and developed economy [1].

II. QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF EDUCATION SYSTEM IN TURKEY

Qualification is the main term while analyzing education in a country. There are many factors to determine the quality of education system. Teaching hours, teaching methods, studying hours, exams, learning environment, students' happiness and other education-related factors are the key to determine the quality [2], [3]. Turkish education system also has its special methods, factors and rules.

A. Turkey's Education System

Turkey changes its education system frequently. Now, a student in Turkey is supposed to complete 4 years in primary school, 4 years in middle school, 4 years in high school. In Turkey, it is mandatory to complete these 12 years while going to a university is optional. Moreover, students have to enter LGS exam to enter a high school. Besides, students who completed their high school education have to enter TYT & AYT exams to be able to enter a university [4], [5].

B. Comparison with Finnish and South Korean Education Systems

There are some advanced education systems around the world. Two of them belong to Finland and South Korea. Education System in Finland and in South Korean is completely different but both of them have been succeeding in tests [6], [7]. Finland implements a flexible education system which allows students to spend less time in schools and take less exam. On the other hand, South Korea implements a rigid education system which forces students to spend more time in schools, take more course and take more test throughout education life [6], [8]. In Turkey, education system is neither flexible nor rigid. It is between those two systems but it is similar to South Korean system more because students in Turkey are required to spend more time in schools and take more competitive tests throughout a student's education life [6], [9].

When it comes to test scores, South Korea's rigid education system and Finland's flexible education system are more successful than Turkey's education system. In PISA 2018 worldwide ranking (average score of math, science and reading), South Korea got 6th place with a score of 519.7, Finland got 10th place with a score of 516.3 and Turkey got 40th place with a score of 462.7 [10].

III. DATA SOURCES

Some data sources will be used to quality and efficiency of education system between Turkey and other countries like Finland and South Korea. First, accessibility to education in Turkey and important educational statistics about Turkey will be found out and teaching hours, studying hours, teaching methods, students' happiness level, etc. will be compared with other countries. Finally, the test scores such as PISA will be taken into consideration to determine the efficiency of education system in Turkey.

These are the data sources that can be used in this study;

Education Statistics for Turkey

- 1) <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/en/main-category-sub-categories-sub-components2/>
- 2) <https://istatistik.yok.gov.tr/>
- 3) <https://sgb.meb.gov.tr/www/resmi-istatistikler/icerik/64>
- 4) <https://gpseducation.oecd.org/CountryProfile?primaryCountry=TUR>

Education Statistics for Turkey, Finland and South Korea

- 5) <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/education/>
- 6) <http://data.uis.unesco.org/>
- 7) <https://stats.oecd.org/>
- 8) <https://www.oecd.org/pisa/>

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