Usage of the internet by Russian students: new learning culture prospect[*].

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Now it is hard to imagine the world without the global network – the Internet. It is used in all spheres of our life and most citizens of developed countries are the Internet users.

Experts and scientists speak about the increasing role of knowledge and formation of the new society. People usually do not discriminate information and knowledge that is connected to the sources of its distribution Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and the Internet. Therefore, many scientists and politics believe that storing the information and educational courses in the Internet can increase efficiency of the learning process and provide possibilities for lifelong learning, knowledge distribution and establishment of the learning society.

Nevertheless, others propose that ICT and Internet lead to changes in culture but not to life long learning or new learning culture. However Amanda Lenhart and others report, that 28% of those who have been online for more than three years, know people who have used Internet to cheat (The Internet and Education: Findings of the Pew Internet & American Life Project, 2001). The most often visited education related resources on the Internet according to A.Aushra are complete essays or reports sites. In his research A.Aushra found out that 38% of students admitted that they copied others' essays and about 80% cheated at least once.

Astleitner H., A.Poddiakov, K.Young, and J.Grohol draws attention to different problems exist in Internet usage (decreasing motivation, saboteur education, Internet Addiction Disorder). Therefore, the development of ICT, with all its positive impact, can lead to negative changes.

In our research, we are trying to study the ways of Russian students use the Internet for educational purposes and to answer the main question: does the expansion of Internet lead to changes in learning culture?

However, culture is a very complex object and the research of it is a serious challenge. In order to solve it we use the approach of cultural-historical psychology (L.S.Vygotsky), activity theory (S.L.Rubinstein, A.N.Leontiev, P.Ya.Galperin). We consider culture as a way of interaction with the world characterized by the activity of using objects. Going from the culture of using the Internet to the investigation of activity of using the Internet we, following Leontiev, Galperin and others can consider three aspects of it: instrumental – connected to methods, algorithms and strategies, motivational – related to motives, values and attitudes, and orientational – separation of important conditions and parameters that define the activity process.