

REVIEW

of the educational and research training programme of the "PhD in law" in the postgraduate school of the Scientific Research Institute of State Building and Local Government of National Academy of Law Sciences of Ukraine (Kharkiv division)

The peer-reviewed educational and scientific program for the Doctor of Philosophy degree at the Scientific Research Institute of State Building and Local Government of the National Academy of Law Sciences of Ukraine in the specialty "Law" (Kharkiv division) is a set of documents required by the legislation of Ukraine in the field of education.

The purpose of the Doctor of Philosophy in Law program is to develop general and professional competencies to ensure the training of highly qualified personnel for research and analytical work, scientific consulting, and scientific and pedagogical activities.

Achieving this goal involves obtaining the following program results for a graduate student:

- possession of advanced conceptual and methodological knowledge in the field of research and/or professional activities of an interdisciplinary nature;
- development and implementation of projects, including their own research, which make it possible to rethink the established vision of solving a particular problem and propose new approaches;
- demonstration of the ability to critically analyze, evaluate and synthesize new and complex ideas;
- communication in a dialogic mode with the broader scientific community and the public, including foreigners, in a particular field of scientific and/or professional activity;
- leadership and ability to work effectively as part of a team in the implementation of collective research projects;
- social responsibility for the results of strategic decision-making;
- ability to self-development and self-improvement throughout life, responsibility for teaching others, etc.

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As far as I could state from reading the program and talking with my Ukrainian colleagues involved in it, the program corresponds to the dynamic changes in the modern world, which is characterized by the processes of globalization and regional integration, and since 2022 - by Russian aggression against Ukraine.

This affects the prospects for the development of legal science, in particular constitutional law and national security law. There is currently a strong need of active development of academic research, publishing, training experts and consultants that are

needed by higher education institutions, research institutes, state and local governments, foundations, public organizations.

One of the aim of educational and research program should be developing the ability of graduate students to initiate innovative interdisciplinary projects and participate in their implementation; at the same time, the program should be corresponding to the subject area of the specialty defined for it and to the requirements of the legislation, have a clear structure and a systematic and coherent approach.

From this perspective, I can state that the content of the Doctor of Philosophy program in Law corresponds to the subject area of the specialty defined for it and the requirements of the legislation on the teaching load for the appropriate level of higher education. The program is characterized by a clear structure and the introduction of a systematic approach to its construction. The educational components included in the Law program constitute a logical, interconnected system, the amount of which in ECTS credits corresponds to the actual workload of applicants. This would make it possible to achieve the stated goals and program learning outcomes.

The program consists of 53 ECTS credits, which include both compulsory and elective courses. The compulsory courses account for 22 ECTS credits, the courses for professional scientific training - 12 ECTS credits, and the elective courses - 16 ECTS credits (30%), which meets the established requirements. The balance between classroom hours and independent-work hours is also optimal. Assessment is clear and transparent.

From the analysis of the content of the EPD "Law", I can argue that its structure creates an opportunity for postgraduate students to choose an individual educational trajectory, and also provides the necessary practical training necessary to acquire the necessary competencies and social skills necessary for further professional activity.

One of the features of the program that I mostly appreciated, is that a postgraduate student would conduct research in accordance with an individual work plan, which defines the content, timing, type and scope of research work. The individual research plan is agreed upon by the applicant with the supervisor, head of the research unit to which he or she is assigned. The Academic Council of the Institute approves the topic of the dissertation research within two months from the date of enrollment in the postgraduate program. In addition, a postgraduate student undergoes a teaching practice during the second year of study.

In general, I believe that the educational and scientific program for the preparation of Doctors of Philosophy in the specialty "Law" at the Scientific Research Institute of State Building and Local Government of the National Academy of Law Sciences of Ukraine (Kharkiv division) meets the requirements for this type of programs, offers a comprehensive approach to the formation of the qualifications of a future scientist and can be recommended for implementation.

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