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Review
Of the Doctoral Educational-Scientific Program in Law at the Scientific Research
Institute of State Building and Local Government of the National Academy of
Legal Sciences of Ukraine

This review evaluates the third-cycle educational and scientific program for the Doctor of Philosophy in Law (specialty 081 Law) at the Scientific Research Institute of State Building and Local Government of the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine. The program is designed in accordance with higher education standards, institutional regulations, and labor market requirements, with a duration of four years. The primary objective is to produce highly qualified, competitive legal specialists capable of integration into European and global scientific and educational environments. Graduates are expected to generate new ideas, solve complex legal problems, apply scientific and pedagogical methodologies, and conduct independent research with scientific novelty and practical significance. The program focuses on developing competencies for addressing legal issues, mastering scientific methodologies, and contributing to legal pedagogy, legislative development, law application, and interpretative legal work.

The "Law" program's curriculum for doctoral candidates includes a broad range of theoretical and practical academic disciplines, ensuring a robust level of competence. The competency framework—comprising integral, general, and special (professional) categories—aligns with modern educational benchmarks and establishes a strong foundation for doctoral preparation. Program competencies correlate with learning outcomes and meet employer demands.

The program prepares legal experts for scientific research, practical legal work, and academic roles. It emphasizes the acquisition of integral, general, and

specific competencies to achieve its learning objectives. A key feature is its focus on the contemporary legal system, particularly the conceptual and legal mechanisms for modernizing Ukrainian statehood amidst national and global challenges, including European integration. The program's structure and component selection reflect a strategic approach to ensure systematic mastery of professional competencies and learning outcomes, facilitating graduates' integration into Ukraine's scientific community.

The curriculum's academic disciplines are relevant and designed to cultivate critical thinking, continuous professional development, initiative, and the ability to address contemporary legal issues. The program's content and organization meet current standards for doctoral legal education and consider employer needs in defining competencies. It incorporates essential structural and substantive elements, adhering to quality benchmarks in higher education.

The program's content aims to develop critical analysis, leadership, research skills, and the capacity for independent scientific exploration. Its logical structure is evident in its profile, which outlines general and specialized competencies, and in the integration of mandatory and elective disciplines. The academic plan aligns with the educational program, offering a strong foundation in general and professional competencies for addressing legal complexities and advancing legal science.

The balance between general and professional disciplines is well-maintained, and elective courses cover vital scientific subfields to foster innovative research approaches. The program is structured to produce graduates capable of scientific, pedagogical, and practical roles in various legal settings. It incorporates the Standard of Higher Education for specialty 081 Law and adapts to evolving educational and societal legal dynamics. The progression of study and the educational process align with the established schema for third-cycle legal education. Matrices ensure the correspondence of program competencies with components and learning outcomes.

Implementation of this program ensures the achievement of intended learning outcomes and the development of integral, general, and specialized competencies. These are geared towards producing legal researchers with strong theoretical

knowledge and practical skills for scientific and professional legal work. A notable merit is the compulsory pedagogical practice, enabling skill development in teaching legal disciplines and using innovative teaching methods. The program also includes disciplines that bridge theoretical legal doctrines with practical law-making and enforcement in public law.

In summary, the "Law" educational and scientific program for the third cycle of higher education in specialty 081 Law demonstrates a comprehensive, goal-oriented approach to developing highly skilled legal experts. It aligns with current scientific and educational standards, meets contemporary expectations for doctoral candidates in Law, and satisfies labor market needs. Consequently, it is recommended for implementation in training specialists in this field.



Sincerely,

Prof. dr. A. Novikovas