

світових тенденцій і вимог ринку праці; забезпечення безперервності освіти та навчання протягом усього життя, розвитку державно-громадської моделі управління вищою освітою та ін.

Головним базовим джерелом професійної правової свідомості в сучасному цивілізованому суспільстві є вища юридична освіта. Фахова юридична освіта, з одного боку, є частиною правової культури суспільства, що виконує особливі функції. Вона акумулює в собі правову культуру суспільства і передає її від одного покоління професійних юристів до іншого. У цьому аспекті юридична освіта виступає як форма відтворення професійної правової культури і підпорядковується закономірностям розвитку та функціонування правової системи суспільства.

Вища юридична освіта є частиною системи вищої професійної освіти країни. Вона має свої змістовні елементи у вигляді стандартів, освітніх програм та інших документів, реалізується в різних формах спеціалізованими соціальними інститутами – вищими навчальними закладами. У цьому аспекті вища юридична освіта виступає як частина освітньої культури суспільства і підпорядковується закономірностям функціонування і розвитку системи освіти.

Тематика наукових праць, які увійшли в дану секцію, свідчить про актуальність реформ в галузі інтернаціоналізації та інформатизації юридичної освіти, сучасної парадигми розвитку публічно-правових галузей у вищій школі вищої, що відбуваються в нашій країні на даний час. Був зроблений науковий аналіз найбільш проблемних питань які існують сьогодні на шляху вдосконалення та розвитку сучасної української юридичної освіти, а також зроблені висновки для їх розв'язання.

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### **CURRENT TRENS OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND SCIENCE (LAW FACULTY OF BAKU STATE UNIVERSITY AS AN EXAMPLE)**

In globalization and integration environment, one of the main duties and goals is to formulate legal education and science appropriate to current trends. It is useful to highlight the following aspects at the end of discussing comperatively the noted features with higher educations institutions and the law schools practice:

— Paying special attention to the formation and development of new legal fields along with traditional legal areas.

— close cooperation with prominent higher educational institutions and law schools

— Switching from theoretical education to practical education

— Application of new forms of study and education (lecturer and seminars)

— Switching to more modern forms of grading knowledge

— Reformation of bachelor education system

— Reformation and widening specializations in master education system

— Improving the level of scientific research in PhD and doctoral study programs

— Linking science and educations

— Attracting specialized external professionals, as well as foreign scholars to education process

— Improvement and specialization of professor-lecturer staff for developing their knowledge

— Existence of independent large scientific library of the faculty and e-library access, as well as access to world-wide law databases

— improving scientific research

— improving scientific publications (scientific works, articles etc.) and being published in foreign scientific journals and scientific work collections.

— widening student exchange with foreign higher educational institutions

— the development of students' self-regulation knowledge (student scientific associations, students union organizations, student youth organization, student law journals etc.)

The mentioned directions could be widened more enough, but this also may require special approach to certain law schools.

This trend is successfully realized towards Law faculty of Baku State University. Firstly, it should be noted especially the additional subjects to bachelor academic programs in order to integrate to Bologna education process. For example, human rights, European law, Commercial law, Tax law, Maritime and Energy law, Transport law, Legal writing and research, Intellectual property law, Medical law and bioethics, Information law, Tourism law, Modern legal systems, Legal psychology, Legal philosophy, Legal ethics, Corporative law, Law of Foreign Relations, International humanitarian law, Transnational criminal law, International economic law, Advocacy law etc.

We consider that, in global conditions the scope of legal education should be overviewed taking into account widened academic directions. In this respect, serious achievements must be done in changing master specializations. Because, for a long time preparation of professionals in master programs were carried only in traditional law directions. For example, "Constitutional law", "State and Law theory and history", Criminal law, criminal procedure, criminalistics and forensic sciences", "Civil and agrarian law", "International

law”. Now, preparation only in this scientific directions are no appropriate to state interests.

Therefore, inclination is noticed towards practical areas. In this regard, new master program in “Maritime and Energy Law” was established which reflects state interests of Azerbaijan Republic. Remarkable academic relations are formulated in terms of preparation of professionals in maritime and energy sphere between BSU Law Faculty and Tulaine University, USA. Despite of this, Maritime and Energy Law Centre was organized with the support of Tulaine University in 2013. It is planned to manage great scientific potentiality what will serve to realize important activities in Republic at that sphere.

The second imporant area is the establishment of “European law” LL.M program towards European integration. Double-diploma programs is realized in this master specialization according to signed agreement with Wurzburg University of Germany. Growing interest is increasing in this succesful education field that provides education in English and German attracting foreign students from abroad. At the same time, “Transnational Criminal Law” LL.M specialization was created with the signed agreement with Max Plank Institute of International and Comperative Criminal Law. Recently, it is possible to note “Commercial law”, “Information law”, Human rights” LL.M programs in addition to English languare specializations. Significant work has bee done towards the establishment of new LL.M degrees in “Medical Law”, “Sports law, Tourism law”, “Intellectual property law”, “Administrative law, administrative procedure”, “Labor and social security law” which reflects current social demands and requirements.

Currently, 11 departments, 1 Criminalistic laboratory, 1 Maritime and Energy Center, 1 Legal Clinic operate in Law faculty of BSU (including more than 200 external professor-lecturer staff). Education is provided in 3 landuages: Azerbaijani, English and Russian. According to signed agreement between BSU and UNESCO, UNESCO Chair on Human Rights and Information Law was organized at Law Faculty. Legal Clinic has fundamental role in practical study. In addition, Legal Clinic provides free legal assistance to persons with low-income. Also, close cooperation has been built with civil society representatives and state authorities in order to develop practical education.

Primary academic relations are among outstanding law schools of USA and Germany. At the same time, we intensify our relations with law schools of Ukraine, Turkey and Russian Federation. There are trend in academic approaches such as double supervisor system (one from Azerbaijan, the other from Turkey, France, Germany, Russian Federation, Gerogia) for PhD and doctoral studies. Prominent law scholars from Ukraine (Ukraine Academy of Sciences, Lyvov National University, Ukraine National Aviation University etc.), Kazan Federative University of Russian Federation, Georgia State University are included as the members to Scientific Defence Council for Dissertations.

3 scientific journals and 1 scientific works collection are published at the Faculty, “International law and integration problems” (in English), “Azerbaijan law journal”, “Student law journal”, in addition, “Human rights and information law” scientific works collection. Moreover, 2 annual conferences are organized together with foreign and national academic institutions and their materials are published. We are planning to manage 4 new international conferences at our faculty.

As it is seen, Azerbaijan law school leaving locked up Soviet-style educational system in past, has achieved remarkable success in terms of integration and development, as well as formulated new version program and strategy for preparing national professionals. Nowadays, we can say that Baku State University Law Faculty is carrying main part of this workload in the country. It is combined with independent principles laid down in cornerstone of continuing, successful internal and external state policy, also closely linked with formation and development of advanced thinking.

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### **THE ROLE OF WHISTLE-BLOWERS IN ENSURING ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

In many instances journalists and citizens may have very limited access to certain information contained in the state agencies databases. Therefore, the role of whistleblowers in the transfer of information of public importance is undeniable. In order to prevent chilling effect on whistleblowers, there is a need in legislation protecting them from prosecution or any other form of