

**REVIEW**  
**of the educational and scientific training program of the Ph.D.**  
**in «International law» in the graduate school of the**  
**Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University**

In the era of globalization and informatization, one of the determining factors in society's development is the level of its science and education. Therefore, the state's goal is to create a competitive educational system, significantly higher education, which plays a crucial role in making and disseminating fundamental and professional knowledge. Modern higher education in Ukraine is in a state of modernization and reform. One of the determining factors of this process is the integration of Ukraine into the European economic, political and legal space. The need for a common understanding of the acquired qualifications and competencies in Europe requires a certain unification of approaches to the legal regulation of educational activities. In this regard, it is beneficial for the Ukrainian higher education system to consider the experience of European countries. Awareness and critical thinking of this experience at the legislative level and the development and modernization of specific educational programs, including educational and scientific training programs for doctors of philosophy, will allow Ukraine to optimize the reform process.

Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, which is one of the flagships of legal education in Ukraine, is actively integrated into the European university community, as evidenced by the University's membership in the European University Association, European Law Faculties Association, European Public Law Organization, fruitful cooperation with the International Association of Universities, as well as participation in numerous bilateral, multilateral agreements and long-term international projects. In the process of integration of the University into the European university community, an important role is given, in our opinion, to the educational and scientific program "International Law". Analysis of the educational and scientific program itself, curriculum, as well as other materials (results of opinion polls, analytical reports, Curriculum vitae of the program guarantor and members of the project team, etc.) posted on the official website of the Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University and which give a more complete picture both the program itself and the peculiarities of its implementation indicate that the development and updating of the educational and scientific program "International Law" takes into account the best practices of not only Ukrainian but also, above all, European universities.

In our opinion, the educational and scientific program "International Law" provides a person with theoretical knowledge, skills, abilities, and other competencies sufficient to put forward new ideas, solve complex problems in the field of professional and/or research and innovation, mastering the methodology of scientific and pedagogical activities, as well as conducting their research, the results of which have scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance.



Academic staff is the basis of any university. Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University pays special attention to changes in various aspects of the teaching staff's professional activity and changes in different scientific disciplines. Requirements on publication activity, changes in hiring policies, changes in scientific journals' policies and, finally, changing standards of scientific disciplines – all these changes are aimed at university faculty and make them adapt their professional strategies.

Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University provides excellent guidance for its graduate students from among highly qualified teachers and scholars within the educational and scientific program "International Law". The educational and scientific program "International Law" has academic strength across international law and European Union law. Applicants can see the range of expertise available within the educational and scientific program «International Law» by looking at the research profiles of members.

Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University's desire to create a comprehensive system of quality assurance of higher education of European standard should be considered positive: the University systematically uses such components as quality assurance of educational and scientific programs, quality assurance of teaching and evaluation, quality assurance of dissertations. Among the tools used to assess an educational and research program's quality, the most popular are anonymous online surveys of graduate students, graduate students, and employers about the educational Program's quality. The involvement of postgraduate graduates in the quality assessment of the educational program's content allows the project team to make an objective assessment of the program's relevance to the requirements of the labor market. In general, the desire to get feedback from key stakeholders can be considered a good practice of the project group the educational and scientific program "International Law".

The analysis of the educational and scientific program "International Law" and the corresponding curricula of 2016, 2018, and 2020 gives grounds to recognize that the project team is updating the nomenclature of disciplines – the introduction of new (compulsory and free choice of students) and the removal of those that were unnecessary in within the framework of this educational and scientific program.

An important aspect of the implementation of European educational standards is an effective mechanism of academic mobility within the educational and scientific program "International Law", which provides an open educational space, which in turn will promote the mobility of faculty and graduate students, enriching those involved in the program with better European experience. High and growing indicators of mobility of the teaching staff of profile departments, the involvement of graduate students in this process are signs of high-quality education at the educational and scientific program "International Law". As a recommendation, Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University could be invited to consider developing a series of training programs for doctors of philosophy in

international law, including a mandatory period of study abroad at partner universities, usually for one semester.

A positive trend in the implementation of the educational and scientific program "International Law" can be considered the use of a tool to compare the content of the Program with similar programs not only of leading domestic free economic zones, but also European universities, which indicates the gradual adaptation of interesting foreign practices.

The general conclusion: the submitted for review educational and scientific program of preparation of applicants for the higher education of the degree of Doctors of Philosophy in International Law (PhD) has a clear structure, the introduction of a systematic approach to its construction. The educational components included in it are a logically interconnected system and together allow to achieve the goal and program results, which gives grounds to recommend a peer-reviewed educational and scientific program for use in the educational process.

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Yevhenii Pankov LLM  
PhD candidate, Tilburg University  
Tax adviser, AKD Benelux  
The International Fiscal Association (IFA)