

## **History of the Medical Law Department**

First Medical Law department in Ukraine was created by the order of Danylo Halytsky National Medical University of Lviv Rector “On the organization of Medical Law Department” No. 1208 as of April 24, 2013. The next important step was the definition of the Medical Law department as support department for postgraduate education on the basis of the order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine as of May 29, 2013, No. 443 “On Amendments to the Order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine of February 26, 2013, No. 86 ‘On Approval of the Model Regulations on the Support Department and the list of reference departments of the higher medical (pharmaceutical) educational institutions of 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> accreditation levels and institutions of postgraduate education of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine’”. As of October 22, according to the letter of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine No. 08.01-47 / 30715, the department carries out the duties of support department on the discipline “Medical Law” for the undergraduate education.

From January 1, 2016, the department began the improvement of the professionals specialists in non-medical specialties working in the health care system of Ukraine qualification, in the cycles of thematic improvement “Medical Law of Ukraine”, according to letters of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine as of September 25, 2015 No. 6 / 1-249-5 and as of November 19, 2015 № 6 / 1-789 and the Ministry of Health of Ukraine as of November 10, 2015 № 08.01-47 / 11-СП / 3098/35507.

The department actively promotes the visiting lecturer's institute in two aspects: on the one hand, actively attracts both foreign and national professionals as lecturers to the activities of the department; on the other hand, the head and professors of the department are involved in numerous activities, in particular conducting lectures as visiting lecturers for various institutions of higher education.

The department provides educational process at the undergraduate and postgraduate level of education, creating conditions for mastering the course “Medical Law of Ukraine” for organizers of health care, doctors of all specialties, lawyers working in the system of health care, professors of higher education institutions, who teach educational discipline “Medical Law of Ukraine”, as well as for interns and medical students.

On October 5, 2016, in cooperation with the Lviv University of Trade and Economics, the first medico-legal clinic in Ukraine was established to provide in-depth study of medical law by medical students and law students, as well as

provision of free primary legal aid on human rights issues in the field of health care.

The staff members of the department are members of international and domestic professional associations, in particular the World Association of Medical Law (WAML) and the European Association of Health Law (EAHL). Head of the department Iryna Senyuta is the national representative of the European Association of Health Law (EAHL) in Ukraine since 2018. The Department of Medical Law is an associate member of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER).

The Department organizes and conducts numerous international and domestic scientific and practical events, in particular, together with ASPHER, NGO “Foundation for Medical Law and Bioethics of Ukraine” and LRCF “Medicine and Law” it organized and conducted the International Summer School “Human Rights in Healthcare: Education and Teaching” (July 18-22, 2016, Lviv), together with the LRCF “Medicine and Law”, Ukrainian Foundation for Legal Aid, with the assistance of the National Bar Association of Ukraine, the Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Human Rights, it organized and conducted two specialized Medical Law Trainings for Attorneys (2017-2018), International Roundtable with Panel Discussions “Fundamentals of Ukrainian Legislation on Health as ‘National Medical Constitution’: History of Creation, Problems and Prospects of the Law”, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Law of Ukraine “Fundamentals of the Ukrainian legislation on health” (November 17, 2017, Lviv), annual seminars for the heads of the one-branch departments and professors of the discipline “Medical Law of Ukraine” (“Medical Jurisprudence”).

The staff members of the Department take an active part in various scientific and practical events, internships both within Ukraine and abroad, in particular, in the activities of the international seminar on “New issues of education in the field of public health” (November 21-25, 2016; Salzburg, Austria), at the 1st International Symposium on Human Rights in Patient Care, based on the Indiana University Europe Gateway European Branch, organized jointly with ASPHER (November 9-11, 2017, Berlin, Germany), 23rd annual Congress of WAML, 50th anniversary meeting (WAML was established in 1967) on the topic “Medical Law, Bioethics and Multidisciplinarity” (July 10-13, 2017; Baku, Azerbaijan), in the project “Piloting of the electronic accounting of Custody Records system and continuous monitoring in ITT conditions” of the Ukrainian Foundation for Legal Aid in cooperation with the project partners: National Police Human Rights Office, Human Rights Expert Center, Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner

for Human Rights and Program Initiative “Human Rights and Justice” of International Fund “Renaissance” (2017-2018.)

Each year the Department holds the All-Ukrainian Human Rights Week in the field of Health Care, dedicated to the International Human Rights Day (December 10.)

Staff members of the department prepare scientific and practical conclusions for the authorities, in particular, Constitutional Court of Ukraine, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Health Care, Ministry of Health of Ukraine, and participate in various working groups aimed at legislative activities.

The department researches the topic of “Human rights in the field of health care: problems of law enforcement and realization” (2014-2019), and provides the editorial work on scientific and practical journal “Medical law”.

The department has established international cooperation in the field of medical and pharmaceutical law, as well as public health law with the University of Erasmus of Rotterdam (the Netherlands), Maastricht University (the Netherlands), Georgetown University (USA), Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (Lithuania).