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REGULATION OF FUNCTIONING OF LEGAL CLINICS IN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA: COMPARATIVE LEGAL ANALYSIS

Over the last decade legal clinic at the Ukrainian universities preparing specialists in legal sphere are fairly recognized as «subjects of legal aid» in the context of Law of Ukraine «On legal aid». However legal clinics that have essence of unique university unit are not mentioned in legal provisions defining the list of subjects of primary and secondary legal aid.

Nowadays in Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine there is considered the draft of Law of Ukraine «On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine» (concerning the status of legal clinics as providers of primary and secondary legal help for free) under registration number 0926, dated December, 12, 2012. The draft was prepared by Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by deputies Sergiy Kivalov, Yuriy Miroshnichenko and Pavlo Melnyk.

Thereby the research is relevant due to the experience of Russian Federation, where in November 21, 2011 Federal Law «On free legal help in Russian Federation», that regulates legal clinics status, was adopted and has already become an integral part of non-governmental assistance. Therefore legal clinics in Russia have the opportunities for development not only as an actor in the educational process, but also act as a participant in non-governmental legal help system and to be an adequate subject of legal education of society.

At the same time legal clinics in Ukraine (and the legal clinics community in general) are at the difficult path of their legal recognition as subjects of providing primary and secondary legal help pro bono. Thus the experience of Russian colleagues stimulates hope for effective issue resolution in Ukrainian parliament.