



FAN, TA'LIM VA AMALIYOT INTEGRATSIYASI

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Ziyoda Boratova¹

¹ Student at Tashkent State University of Law, Tashkent, Uzbekistan (zboratova101@gmail.com)

LEGAL EDUCATION IN UZBEKISTAN: CURRENT STATE AND DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS

Abstract: This article discusses the state policy in the sphere of legal education of recent years and some problematic issues that exist in the field of training and retraining of legal personnel. In article also found a brief overview of a number of specific measures, listed in the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated April 29, 2019 “On additional measures to radically improve legal education and science in the Republic of Uzbekistan”, for improving the system of legal education, involving the introduction in educational process of innovative and advanced international educational standards, improving human potential and motivation of the professors, as well as strengthening material-technical base of educational institutions.

Key words: legal education, training and retraining of legal personnel, legal pedagogy, legal staff, innovative educational technologies, interactive teaching methods, Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On additional measures to radically improve legal education and science in the Republic of Uzbekistan”, artificial intelligence technologies.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, Uzbekistan has paid great attention to the development of a democratic state of law and an open civil society, improving the standard of living of the population, legal awareness and legal culture, effective implementation of radical reforms, and integration into the international community.

In particular, a lot of work is being done to create the necessary conditions for the harmonious development of a person, to develop effective mechanisms for the realization of personal interests, to train personnel in accordance with the ancient values of the Uzbek people and the achievements of modern science and technology.

Educational processes for training, advanced training and retraining of personnel taking into account the achievements of modern legal science, the experience of democratic reforms in the spheres of application of law in the scientific and educational institutions operating in the system of courts and law enforcement, now carried out through programmes aimed at developing legal culture of citizens and legal teaching.

It is worth noting that on January 9, 2019, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On cardinal improvement of the system of raising legal awareness and legal culture in society” approved the “Concept of raising legal culture in society” [1]. As noted in the Decree, in recent years, significant work has been carried out in Uzbekistan to radically reform the national legal system, form a legal culture in society, train qualified legal personnel and improve the field of legal education, taking into account the best international practice.

Thus, there is a great demand to identify ways and opportunities for purposeful use of the integration of pedagogy into law, including as a means of taking into account the features of a modern democratic state, and a meaningful basis for improving the effectiveness of the educational process.

MAIN BODY

A holistic approach to the analysis of the state of legal education in Uzbekistan, as in any country in the world, requires, first of all, consideration of objective processes of interaction and integration of legal and pedagogical spheres of society, which implies the need for a more complete study of legal pedagogy, as an already established term.

Thus, R. O. Buryakovsky, when considering the methods of teaching in the system of higher education, formulated the following generalizing judgment: “Legal pedagogy is a humanitarian science that studies the systems and processes of legal education, training and development. Its main goal is to comprehensively promote the creation of a legal society, strengthening the rule of law, while a special purpose knowledge of the legal and pedagogical phenomena that exist in the legal field, the development of scientific knowledge about them, as well as pedagogically reasonable and effective ways to strengthen law and order, providing assistance to all those involved in this practice” [2]. It is of particular importance in the current difficulties of strengthening the rule of law and order, legal education of the population, fighting crime, working with legal personnel.

It is known that Article 26 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On education” introduces advanced forms of education and new pedagogical technologies, technical and information means of training in the educational process, develops measures aimed at

improving the quality of legal education and training in educational institutions, systematic improvement of educational programs taking into account the main directions of state policy in the field of combating corruption-defined as the main functions of state bodies specially authorized to manage education [3].

Undoubtedly, professional legal activity is characterized by complexity and versatility. In the process of professional training of lawyers, the role of a law school is especially great and responsible, which should develop as a result of training and education in the personality of a lawyer professionally significant qualities, skills and abilities that are adequate to the requirements of legal activity.

Legal professionals in Uzbekistan are mainly trained at the Tashkent State University of Law (TSUL), University of World Economy and Diplomacy (UWED), Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), Lawyers' Training Center under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Academy of the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan, MIA Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other educational, state educational and research institutions.

These institutions use interactive learning methods in their activities, including the use of innovative learning technologies, the expansion of students' knowledge and skills in the field of law, professional ethics, psychology, time management, negotiation and access to global information, legal and educational resources, with an emphasis on the introduction of modern educational technologies, such as clinical education, the widespread use of new forms and methods of teaching. Such innovative teaching methods will certainly have a positive impact on the academic potential of lawyers, as well as their knowledge, legal awareness and culture.

However, practice in the legal education system of Uzbekistan, including legal knowledge, worldview and analytical abilities of students who come to law enforcement agencies for practice and are hired after their studies, students who have served in the field and come to improve their skills, today demonstrates some shortcomings and problems in the training and retraining of lawyers.

In this regard, on April 29, 2020, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures to radically improve legal education and science in the Republic of Uzbekistan" [4] was issued, which aims to raise legal education and science of Uzbekistan at the world level. Of course, at the present time, the Uzbekistan's legal sphere of education needs a sharp increase in its scientific potential, as the main purpose of legal education is that as a result of learning at the university specialist of higher legal education had professional potential, which would provide him not only the possibility of solving routine practical tasks required for the performance of official duties, but also professional improvement, the ability to solve new classes of problems in the field

of professional activity from the beginning of his or her professional career to its completion.

First of all, the Decree, taking into account the requirements of the current time, of the age of information technologies, set the task of transition to electronic document management at the universities, digitalization of scientific research and the educational process. Especially in the context of the pandemic, the need for computerization of the educational process and the introduction of appropriate technologies has increased dramatically. To this end, it is planned to introduce the E-University system, which may allow to fully automate not only the field of scientific research, but also the entire educational process [4]. For example, they can include the possibility of an electronic schedule of classes, conducting exams, evaluating knowledge, forming a rating of students, establishing distance learning, planning research work and discussing a dissertation online.

Secondly, in order to conduct scientific and innovative research in the field of state and law, the development of information legal technologies and systems, the task of creating the LegalTech laboratory is set. This system, which is completely new for Uzbekistan, is specialized in information technology services for professional legal activities and is focused on a radical change in the way services are provided. Thanks to modern technologies in the field of LegalTech, automation became possible for most legal processes. The most important functions of a lawyer include analysis, forecasting the situation and finding optimal solutions. And they can also be automated with the help of artificial intelligence technologies, which will allow to predict the scenarios and outcome of each specific case, prepare a legal opinion or quickly find the necessary information [5].

Thus, it is worth noting that in developed foreign countries, the above-mentioned information technology is effectively used in legal science and practice. For example, thanks to the innovative and breakthrough LegalTech technology, the EasyLaw service for legal verification of contract texts is successfully promoted in Russia, AutoLawyerBot projects for web and Telegram messenger, bot Pravo.ru for the Telegram messenger, Notarize, which provides consumers with a digital notary service, have been implemented [6].

Another interesting example – one of the products, Ravel Law [7] (USA) is the result of digitization more than 40 million pages of works from the library of Harvard law school and aims to make the introduction of lawyers to legal research easier, faster and more intuitive. Ravel Law also offers a number of products for quickly identifying significant and important court cases, understanding how they should be interpreted, etc., which is extremely valuable for common law lawyers.

Thus, the use of artificial intelligence will significantly simplify the search for necessary documents, free lawyers from routine time-consuming operations, will lead to the development of new communication platforms for communication between clients and lawyers, and the automation of law with the help of artificial intelligence. Nevertheless, the

creative work of lawyers will be in demand as long as human civilization exists. The adoption of legislation remains their prerogative, and the legal work enriched with artificial intelligence technologies will constantly develop.

Third, in order to train highly qualified legal personnel on the basis of an in-depth study of private international law, including the law of international arbitration, as well as a comparative study of domestic and Japanese, German law and the legal systems of developed foreign countries, the Faculty of International law and comparative law was established at the Tashkent State Law University in 2020 [8], whose main task is the implementation of proposals for the implementation of international law and national legislation based on the results of comparative study of legislation and legal systems of Japan, Germany and other developed countries, judicial training, fully meet the modern world standards [4].

It should be noted that today Tashkent State University of Law develops partnerships with more than 40 foreign representatives, 31 of which are prestigious universities that occupy high places in international rankings. These include universities such as Mie University in Japan, Toulouse I Capitole University in France, Boston College Law School in the USA, German University of Administrative Sciences Speyer in Germany, University of Law in the UK and many others [9].

Moreover, an agreement was reached with the University of Regensburg (Germany) on the opening of the center for German law and Comparative legal studies at TSUL in 2020, which aims to train highly qualified personnel with knowledge of the German language and law [10].

Fourth, in accordance with this decree, a number of tasks have been set for further organizing internships on a systematic basis, exchanging teaching staff and students with leading higher educational institutions of foreign countries, which undoubtedly will contribute to expanding horizons and gaining new experience and knowledge in the legal field [4].

Moreover, in Uzbekistan, legal clinics have been operating under the UWED and TSUL since 2000 [11] and since 2017 respectively [12]. In legal clinics, students, by providing free legal assistance to low-income segments of the population, get certain practical skills of legal activity, as well as ideas about the needs of ordinary citizens; learn how to protect and restore their rights, freedoms and legitimate interests, relying on the law and the law.

Similarly, due to the lack of opportunities for citizens in remote places of the country to seek legal assistance and in the age of development of the information technologies, where social networks have an important role, a telegram group of the legal advisory service of the public association “Yosh Yuristlar” (“Young Lawyers”) was created, where participants can ask questions online and get answers in the shortest possible time, bypassing queues and paperwork. Most of the questions are very similar to

the theoretical and practical questions of academic disciplines, which is very important and useful for students.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be noted that improving the quality of training and retraining of legal personnel, the widespread use of innovative pedagogical and information and communication technologies, paying special attention to the development of analytical thinking skills and professional skills of lawyers, further strengthening relations with the international community in this area remain today one of the important tasks of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of legal education.

Thus, modern trends in the development of legal education in Uzbekistan include: specialization of the content of legal education, strengthening of practical orientation; expansion of interactive teaching methods; strengthening of the international aspect; expansion of the use of new information technologies with the use of computer technology; individualization of training and increase in the volume of independent work of students and a significant increase in the role of teachers in the implementation of productive professional communication in the field of legal education.

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