

The Role of the Child Rights Center and the Importance of Interdisciplinary Approaches in Legal Education on the example of teaching Child Rights and Restorative Justice

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One of the main objectives of legal education is to form essential competencies in students, develop appropriate skills, and prepare them for contemporary challenges. One of the most effective means of achieving this goal is integrated learning. Through integrated lectures, students are given the opportunity to gain deep and diverse knowledge by utilizing information from various fields and by rethinking phenomena in an entirely new way. Establishing interconnections between disciplines enables the synthesis of knowledge, helps students develop the ability to transfer knowledge from one field to another, and fosters a comprehensive understanding of complex legal issues. Interdisciplinary learning supports the development of analytical thinking and generalization skills, which, in turn, helps future lawyers grasp the essence of the law.

In 2023, the Child Rights Center was established at the School of Law of Caucasus University. The center, through its team of researchers, carries out educational and research activities. Its mission is to promote the creation and dissemination of knowledge about child rights in schools and higher education institutions. To achieve this goal, one of the center's primary objectives is to introduce interdisciplinary approaches into the field of legal education.

Offering child rights and restorative justice as independent, interdisciplinary study modules at the undergraduate and graduate levels of legal education is one of the best ways for students to acquire theoretical, practical, and empirical knowledge in the field of child rights. Within these subjects, by studying various branches of law and adjacent disciplines, students will be able to form a unified, comprehensive, and broad understanding of the child as an independent actor in legal relationships, society, and the child's place in the world.

Our presentation will address the trends that have emerged and explain why strengthening interdisciplinary education in the field of child rights within university programs is crucial.

Presentation language: English

Short CVs (max 70 words)

Levan Darbaidze, judge with 11 years of experience, affiliated professor of the Law School of the Caucasus University, doctor of law. Since 2001, he worked in various public institutions, including as a prosecutor. Since 2014 he has been a judge in the Criminal Law Board of the Gori District Court. Since 2016, he has been a specialized juvenile judge. In addition, since 2006, he has been teaching at various universities.