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EUROPEAN STANDARDS OF THE RIGHT TO MENTAL HEALTH: PROBLEM STATEMENT

The article represents the analysis of legal regulation of ensuring and protecting the right to mental health in terms of European Union law. Topicality of the development of the related legal framework is called forth by the growing need to observe right to mental health (especially, due to the increase of mental disorders' part in the global burden of health problems and significance of relevant economic load), and evolution of legislation on ensuring rights of vulnerable groups, and anti-discrimination law.

Right to mental health is considered with respect to its being an integral element of the right to health, protection of vulnerable categories' rights and anti-discrimination law.

Results of the research showed that in EU legislation the right to mental health is most often concerned with the right to health, despite topicality of ensuring particularly the right to mental health. However, strategic framework documents on basic directions of policies in the sphere of securing mental health are elaborated.

Researched European legislation tends to contain only an emphasis on vulnerability of migrants with regard to health issues. Nonetheless, these acts do not establish the direct link between «migration» and «mental health», whereas such a link is reflect-

ed in multitude of sociological and culture research. Lack of stress on the need to ensure mental health in European legislation is lack of European-wide migrant-friendly policies.

The level of development of EU indiscrimination legislation testifies to the fact that modern European standards focus more on the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (including those, suffering from mental disorders), rather than on prevention work and ensuring access of vulnerable groups to relevant services. Modern issues in terms of anti-discrimination law concern lack of uniform understanding of the concept of disability and persons' getting the chance to protect their rights only after obtaining official proof of disability.

So, most topical tendencies of the development of policies in the sphere of mental health protection at the EU level are activization of prevention measures, promoting more accessible services, increased attention to vulnerable groups, and the development of research and information directions. Most important tasks of anti-discrimination law are elaborating on the uniform approach towards the concept of disability, and going away from medical model of disability towards social model.