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**FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AS AN OBJECT OF LEGAL
REGULATION IN MODERN UKRAINE**

The article substantiates the ideas that despite the functioning in Ukraine of the constitutional principle of separation of the Church from the state, and the school from the Church, and other legal mechanisms remain the determining lever, provides further development of the religious milieu, assertion of freedom of conscience and productive state-church relations.

Ukrainian lawyers, who together with church lawyers are looking for ways to improve the domestic legislation on freedom of conscience, are most concerned about the legislative support of the return of the Church as a public institution in the state of a systemic element of the modern social structure of Ukrainian society. This means, on the one hand, that all attitudes to the marginalization of the Church must be overcome at the legislative level and developed under the communist regime. On the other hand, this will make it possible to turn the Church into a subject of legal relations and to protect society from possible manifestations of clericalism.

In the near future, it would also be advisable to adopt the law "On Chaplain" in order to strengthen this extremely important public institution, which is designed not only to contribute to the work of patriotic education and psychological support of military personnel, but also to carry out the mission of spiritual and religious registration of soldiers and officers and to help combat the consequences of the war and, above all, the post-traumatic syndrome of soldiers who have gone through military operations.

It is also necessary to expand the legal possibilities for deepening the social work of the Church and to allow religious organizations to participate in public

tenders in the field of social services; to ensure closer collaboration of the Church with the secular school, while preserving the secular character of the latter unconditionally, especially with regard to the possible partial performance by the Church of the functions of care and education of preschoolers and the participation of the Church in the revival of out-of-school education.

Finally, a radical interpretation of the constitutional norm on the separation of the Church from the state should be reconsidered at the legislative level in order to prohibit financial support of the Church by the state. In many countries where this constitutional principle is also present in the basic law, the state provides tangible support to the Church in its core activities, as long as it is recognized as beneficial to society and the individual.

So, granting this information, it is possible to state that the legal mechanisms are the most effective means of strengthening the religious environment and ensuring freedom of conscience in modern Ukraine.

Key words: the principle of freedom of conscience, Ukrainian legislation on freedom of conscience, ensuring natural human rights, Ukraine as a secular state, legislative support of the unity of the Orthodox in Ukraine, the subjectivity of the Ukrainian churches, autocephaly of the Orthodox as an attribute of the Orthodox states.

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