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Comment

PANEL REPORT: EUROPEAN LEGAL PRACTICES INFORMING UKRAINE'S PATH TO EU MEMBERSHIP

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ABSTRACT

Background: The annual international scientific and practical conference, “Current Issues in Court Law,” serves as a vital forum for legal scholars and practitioners to discuss judicial reform. The 2025 conference, held virtually, focused on the institutional transformation of the judiciary in Ukraine amid martial law and accelerated European integration. A central cross-cutting theme was the dynamic interaction between national legal frameworks and European legal standards, a core element of the accession process for Ukraine and other candidate states like Albania, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. This report summarizes the key insights from Panel I, “European Practices in the Field of Justice: Lessons for Ukraine’s Integration Path.” The panel aimed to provide comparative perspectives and practical recommendations to guide Ukraine’s judicial reforms.

Methods: The panel report synthesizes presentations from nine distinguished speakers from various European jurisdictions, including Ukraine, Poland, Austria, Germany, Albania, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the United Kingdom. Their contributions, which included keynote addresses and comparative analyses, were grounded in both theoretical legal scholarship and practical experience. Topics covered included constitutional alignment, judicial independence, cross-border dispute resolution, consumer protection, and post-accession reform challenges. The analysis draws on diverse case studies, highlighting lessons learned from both established EU members and other candidate countries to inform Ukraine’s reform efforts.

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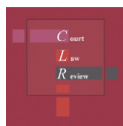
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The author declares that her opinion and views expressed in this manuscript are free of any impact of any organizations.



Results and Conclusions: The panel provided a comprehensive comparative analysis of judicial reform models and highlighted key takeaways for Ukraine. Speakers emphasized the necessity of aligning Ukraine's constitutional jurisprudence with EU norms while safeguarding judicial independence, as highlighted by Prof. Horodovenko. Dr. Scholz-Nartowski's presentation underlined the crucial role of autonomous legal professional bodies in promoting accountability. Case studies from candidate countries revealed that while alignment with the *acquis communautaire* is vital, reforms must be context-sensitive and overcome entrenched structural challenges, as demonstrated by the experiences of Albania, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Presentations on the EU Representative Actions Directive and cross-border disputes underscored the need for legislative and procedural harmonization. The panel concluded that Ukraine's integration requires more than legal harmonization; it demands deep institutional recalibration, strategic vision, and sustained cooperation. Active scholarly engagement and dialogue between EU members and candidate states are essential to building a resilient and trusted justice system aligned with European values.

1 INTRODUCTION

The X Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference “Current Issues in Court Law,” held on April 25, 2025,¹ marked a significant milestone in advancing legal scholarship and fostering dialogue on judicial reform not only in Ukraine but also across Europe. The event brought together leading scholars, practitioners, and institutional representatives to address shared challenges and explore forward-looking solutions in the development of modern court law and legal institutions. Over the past decade, this conference has established itself as a premier academic and professional forum, bringing together scholars, judges, attorneys, civil servants, and international experts to engage in substantive discussions on the evolving landscape of court law, justice administration, and legal standards in Ukraine and beyond.²

Jointly organized by the Department of Criminal Procedure of the Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University,³ the Department of Justice of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv,⁴ the National University “Odesa Law Academy,”⁵ and the German-

1 ‘X International Conference “Current Issues in Court Law” 2025’ (*Court Law Review (CLR)*, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/index.php/courtlawreview-aip/uk/Key>> accessed 15 July 2025.

2 ‘The International Conference “Current Issues in Court Law”’ (*Court Law Review (CLR)*, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/index.php/courtlawreview-aip/uk/conference>> accessed 15 July 2025.

3 ‘Department of Criminal Procedure’ (Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, 2025) <<https://nlu.edu.ua/depart/kafedra-kryminalnogo-proczesu/>> accessed 15 July 2025.

4 ‘Department of Justice of the Educational and Scientific Law Institute’ (Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, 2025) <<https://justice.law.knu.ua>> accessed 15 July 2025.

5 National University “Odesa Law Academy” <<https://onua.edu.ua/ua>> accessed 15 July 2025.

Ukrainian Lawyers' Association,⁶ the conference reflects a strong collaborative ethos among Ukrainian legal institutions and their international partners. The 2025 edition continued this tradition, focusing on comparative perspectives and reform-oriented insights at a time of immense institutional transformation under martial law and in the context of Ukraine's accelerated European integration process.⁷

Due to the ongoing war in Ukraine—escalating dramatically since 2022 after years of invasion beginning in 2014—this year's conference was held entirely online via Zoom. The virtual format ensured the safety of participants while enabling broad international engagement, bringing together voices from across Europe and beyond, and fostering exchange among experts from diverse national legal systems.

The outcomes of the conference are being disseminated through the peer-reviewed journal *Court Law Review*,⁸ which annually features scholarly contributions on judicial development, legal practice, and the consolidation of the rule of law in transitional and post-conflict societies. Most keynote presentations are already available on the journal's website, and a selection of papers presented during the conference will soon be published in upcoming issues, ensuring broader access to the insights and discussions shared.

The 2025 conference program⁹ was structured around a series of interrelated thematic areas that reflect the current priorities and challenges facing the legal and judicial community. Key topics of discussion included the evolving nature of court law and legal doctrine in response to modern societal demands, and the institutional transformation of the judiciary under conditions of martial law. Special attention was devoted to the ongoing digitalization of justice, including innovations in court administration and access to judicial services. Participants also explored the protection and independence of judges and legal professionals, considering both internal reforms and external pressures. Additional sessions addressed the reform of prosecutorial institutions and the modernization of legal education systems to better align with contemporary legal practice.

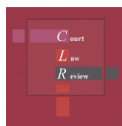
A cross-cutting theme throughout the event was the dynamic interaction between national legal frameworks and European legal standards, particularly in the context of Ukraine's European integration efforts as well as other candidates states (Albania, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina). Ukraine, as well as the Western Balkan states mentioned above, are all current EU candidate countries. Their integration efforts are largely defined

6 *Deutsch-Ukrainischen Juristenvereinigung e.V.* <<https://www.dujv.de>> accessed 15 July 2025.

7 'About participation in the Xth International Scientific and Practical Conference "Current Problems of Judicial Law" 2025' (*Court Law Review (CLR)*, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/index.php/courtlawreview-aip/uk/World>> accessed 15 July 2025.

8 *Court Law Review (CLR)* <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/index.php/courtlawreview-aip/uk/about>> accessed 15 July 2025.

9 'X Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference "Current Issues of Court Law", Ukraine, April 25, 2025: Program' (*Court Law Review (CLR)*, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/index.php/courtlawreview-aip/uk/Program>> accessed 15 July 2025.



by this ongoing effort to align their national laws with EU standards across a wide range of policy areas, from justice and fundamental rights to trade, environmental protection, and a host of other sectors. As a core element of the accession process for all of these nations, this theme was a central focus of the panel discussion, which contributed valuable insights to the ongoing dialogue.

This report highlights the outcomes of Panel I, titled "European Practices in the Field of Justice: Lessons for Ukraine's Integration Path," which opened the substantive portion of the conference. Panel I focused on comparative approaches and institutional models within European legal systems that may guide and support Ukraine's judicial reform efforts in the context of its EU integration process. The panel brought together prominent legal scholars and practitioners from different jurisdictions (Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland, Serbia/the UK, Ukraine and), who delivered targeted presentations on critical aspects of European court systems, judicial independence, rule of law safeguards, and best practices in institutional development. Their insights offered both theoretical grounding and practical recommendations relevant to Ukraine's ongoing legal transformation in wartime and post-war recovery settings.

2 KEY PANEL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DISCUSSION

Panel I brought together nine distinguished speakers from a diverse range of European jurisdictions, including Ukraine, Poland, Austria, Germany, Albania, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the United Kingdom. The session featured representatives from both academia and judicial institutions, reflecting a balanced perspective between theoretical analysis and practical experience.

The presentations addressed a wide range of interrelated issues, all united by the central theme of Ukraine's European integration and the ongoing transformation of its judiciary. Speakers explored the alignment of Ukraine's constitutional and judicial systems with EU legal standards and examined the critical role of professional legal associations in safeguarding judicial independence. The panel also highlighted mechanisms for resolving cross-border disputes and enhancing judicial cooperation, drawing on experiences from both EU member states and candidate countries in managing judicial reforms. Particular attention was given to the evolving role of judges and the need for institutional accountability in transitional democracies. Other topics included consumer protection and collective redress within the framework of EU legal harmonization, the challenges of post-accession reforms and maintaining institutional resilience, as well as the protection of the legal profession in contexts marked by political and military instability.

Each contribution provided comparative insights and practical guidance relevant to Ukraine's judicial reform efforts, especially within the context of wartime legal resilience and long-term EU integration goals.

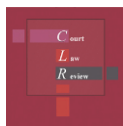
In particular, Prof. Viktor Horodovenko, Judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, opened the panel with a keynote presentation titled *“European Integration and Constitutional Justice in Ukraine: A Look into the Future.”* His address offered critical insights into the strategic alignment of Ukraine’s constitutional jurisprudence with the legal norms and values of the European Union. Prof. Horodovenko emphasized the importance of ensuring the supremacy of the Constitution while progressively integrating EU principles, particularly in areas concerning the separation of powers, protection of fundamental rights, and guarantees of judicial independence. He also highlighted the role of constitutional justice in safeguarding democratic institutions during the war and throughout the post-conflict recovery process, underscoring that constitutional courts must not only interpret the law but also foster public trust and long-term institutional resilience.

The next speaker, Dr. Bartosz Scholz-Nartowski (University of Gdańsk), presented *“The Role of Bars and Law Societies in Justice Administration in the EU: Lessons for Ukraine”*, offering a detailed account of how legal professional bodies contribute to the integrity and functionality of judicial systems across the EU. He emphasized the essential principles of institutional autonomy and self-regulation as foundations for ensuring legal professionals’ independence and public accountability. Drawing on comparative examples from Poland, Dr. Scholz-Nartowski illustrated how bar associations and law societies act as both guardians of professional ethics and active participants in judicial reform processes. He encouraged Ukrainian counterparts to further develop their institutional capacity and normative frameworks in line with EU standards, stressing that strong, independent legal professions are critical not only for upholding the rule of law but also for building public confidence in justice institutions during periods of political transition and European integration.

The next speaker, Prof. Thomas Ratka (University for Continuing Education Krems), discussed *“Resolving Cross-Border Corporate Disputes: What Ukrainian Courts Can Learn from Austrian and German Practices.”* Drawing on a complex real-world case involving an Austrian limited liability company (LLC) managing luxury hotels and its cross-border corporate structure, he explored the challenges of procedural harmonization and judicial cooperation in transnational commercial litigation.

The case centered on an Austrian LLC, whose general partner was an Austrian GmbH, with limited partners from Austria, Germany, Italy, and other countries. The LLC commissioned a German managing director who performed his duties primarily from Germany, organizing renovations and financing. Taxes, however, were paid in Austria. A dispute arose when one limited partner, an Italian company, was excluded “for cause” by a shareholder resolution and challenged this exclusion in an Austrian court.

Prof. Ratka highlighted the jurisdictional complexities that emerged when the Austrian LLC contested the court’s authority, arguing that German courts had jurisdiction due to the managing director’s residency and the cross-border nature of the activities. This raised



fundamental questions regarding the application of Austrian international private law, particularly the “real seat” theory prevalent in continental Europe, which contrasts with the “incorporation theory” used in common law countries such as the UK and the US.

He explained that Austrian law typically invalidates “letterbox” or “pseudo-foreign” companies, emphasizing the physical “real seat” of management as decisive for jurisdiction. However, this approach created procedural complications, as Austrian courts did not fully account for the civil procedural consequences of cross-border management. The case exemplified the need for clearer rules and closer judicial cooperation to resolve conflicts of jurisdiction in international commercial disputes effectively.

Prof. Ratka concluded by advocating for reforms in Ukrainian courts inspired by Austrian and German practices, emphasizing the importance of harmonizing procedural law with substantive jurisdictional principles to facilitate efficient and fair resolution of cross-border corporate conflicts. His presentation is available online,¹⁰ and the full paper will be published soon in *Court Law Review*.

Representing the group of speakers from EU candidate states—of particular interest to the Ukrainian audience—Dr. Monika Canco (University of Tirana) delivered a detailed experience-based analysis titled “The Impact of Judicial Reform in Albania on the Status of Judges and the Influence of EU Acquis.”

Dr. Canco began by outlining the historical context of Albania’s EU integration journey: from the fall of communism in 1991, through the signing of the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) in 2003, Albania’s official EU membership application in 2009, the granting of candidate status in 2014, to the 2020 decision by the Council of the European Union to open accession negotiations.

She then provided a comprehensive overview of Albania’s landmark justice reform initiated in 2016, which involved significant constitutional amendments affecting approximately one-third of the constitution and the enactment or revision of 40 laws. The reform’s primary objectives were to combat corruption within the judiciary, enhance judicial independence—particularly from executive interference—increase accountability and transparency, and rebuild public trust in the legal system.

Dr. Canco highlighted several major changes introduced by the reform, including the establishment of the High Judicial Council (HJC), whose members are appointed by Parliament but require a qualified majority vote, thereby ensuring broader consensus. She also discussed the creation of a Special Court and Prosecution Office tasked with handling

10 Thomas Ratka, ‘Cross-Border Corporate Disputes: How the Brussels I Regulation Sometimes Leads to Absurd Results in Interaction with Private International Law : Presentation’ (X Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference “Current Issues on Court Law”, Ukraine, April 25, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/pdf/Thomas%20Ratka.pdf>> accessed 15 July 2025.

major corruption cases, and the implementation of a rigorous vetting process for judges and prosecutors across all levels—arguably the most critical instrument in the reform's success.

Regarding the impact on the status of judges, Dr. Canco noted improvements in appointment procedures, marked by greater transparency, alongside new evaluation and disciplinary frameworks designed to align with the EU *acquis*. Judges' integrity is better protected, with stronger conflict-of-interest regulations in place. Moreover, training and education programs for judges have been expanded, although some critiques remain. Increased collaboration between Albanian judicial bodies and EU institutions was also emphasized as a positive outcome.

Her presentation¹¹ is accessible on the *Court Law Review* website, providing valuable insights into Albania's reform experience that may serve as instructive lessons for Ukraine's ongoing judicial transformation.

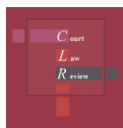
Following Dr. Canco, Prof. Tadeusz Zembruski from the University of Warsaw presented a compelling analysis titled "An Attempt to Overcome the Rule of Law Crisis in Poland." His presentation offered a candid and critical examination of the recent challenges Poland has faced in upholding the rule of law amid political tensions and institutional conflicts. Prof. Zembruski traced the causes and consequences of these developments, highlighting the erosion of judicial independence and the politicization of legal institutions as central concerns.

Importantly, he drew thoughtful parallels with Ukraine's own legal resilience, emphasizing how both countries are navigating complex pressures while striving to maintain democratic governance and the integrity of their judicial systems. His insights underscored the necessity of safeguarding judicial autonomy and the vital role of international legal standards—such as those established by the European Court of Human Rights—in countering backsliding tendencies. The presentation resonated strongly with the audience, as it offered both a cautionary tale and a source of strategic reflection for Ukraine's ongoing reform efforts.

The second speaker from Austria, **Mag. Antonia Berger** of the University of Salzburg, delivered an insightful presentation titled "**The EU Representative Actions Directive and Its Impact on Ukraine's European Integration Path.**" Her talk focused on the **Directive (EU) 2020/1828**, a core element of the "**New Deal for Consumers**", and explored its broader implications for consumer protection and collective redress within the EU legal framework.

Mag. Berger provided a clear overview of the **Directive's objectives**, which include strengthening consumer rights through enhanced legal remedies for mass and scattered

11 Monika Canco, 'The Impact of Judicial Reform in Albania on the Status of Judges and the Influence of EU *Acquis*: Presentation' (X Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference "Current Issues on Court Law", Ukraine, April 25, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/pdf/Monika%20Canco.pdf>> accessed 15 July 2025.



damages, establishing **minimum standards for representative actions**, and creating **legal certainty for companies** across the internal market. Emphasizing the economic rationale, she addressed the concept of “**rational disinterest**”, whereby individual claims may be too small to pursue separately but merit redress when viewed collectively—particularly in cross-border consumer disputes.

Importantly, Mag. Berger connected these developments to Ukraine’s ongoing **EU integration process**, highlighting both opportunities and challenges in adapting national legislation to meet new **European standards of consumer protection**. She emphasized the strategic importance of aligning Ukraine’s legal system with EU norms not only to safeguard consumers but also to promote a stable and competitive economic environment.

Her presentation, rich in practical and legal insights, is available on the conference website for further reference.¹²

Continuing the session’s focus on EU candidate states, **Dr. Ana Harvey** (University of Bedfordshire) delivered a comparative analysis titled “*Judicial Reform in Serbia: Expectations and Reality*”. In her presentation, Dr. Harvey examined the gap between reform goals and on-the-ground realities in Serbia, particularly highlighting the **structural, financial, and normative challenges** that persist despite formal alignment with EU standards. She underscored the importance of sustained support mechanisms and domestic ownership of reforms in the post-accession phase, noting that **expectations raised by EU conditionality often exceed the available institutional capacity and political stability** required for effective implementation.

Dr. Harun Halilović (International University of Sarajevo) followed with a presentation titled “*The Importance of Effective Institutional Frameworks in the EU Integration Process*”, drawing on the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He emphasized how **entrenched constitutional complexities and ethnopolitical divisions** pose significant barriers to reform, even when there is declared political will to move closer to EU standards. Dr. Halilović stressed the need for **tailored, context-sensitive institutional solutions** rather than a one-size-fits-all approach, especially in fragile or deeply divided societies. His presentation offered valuable insights into the **delicate balance between institutional reform and constitutional legitimacy**, a challenge also relevant for Ukraine. Dr. Halilović’s full presentation is available on the conference website.¹³

12 Antonia Berger, ‘The EU Representative Actions Directive and its Impact on Ukraine’s European Integration Path: Presentation’ (X Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference “Current Issues on Court Law”, Ukraine, April 25, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/pdf/Antonia%20Berger.pdf>> accessed 15 July 2025.

13 Harun Halilović, ‘The Importance of Effective Institutional Frameworks in the EU Integration Process: Lessons from Bosnia and Herzegovina: Presentation’ (X Annual International Scientific and Practical Conference “Current Issues on Court Law”, Ukraine, April 25, 2025) <<https://courtlawreview-aip.com/pdf/Harun-Halilovic%CC%81.pdf>> accessed 15 July 2025.

The final presentation addressed a particularly relevant and timely issue. Prof. Nana Bakayanova, from the National University "Odesa Law Academy", concluded the panel with her talk titled "Protection of the Legal Profession: The Modern Dimension." She emphasized the crucial role of professional autonomy, the need for strong institutional safeguards, and the resilience of legal ethics under conditions of war and ongoing reform. Her insightful reflections resonated with broader discussions on the rule of law and justice sector integrity. Prof. Bakayanova's paper will soon be published in the *Court Law Review* and will be available to a wider audience—highly recommended for all those interested in legal profession reform and justice resilience in transitional contexts.

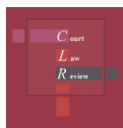
3 SIGNIFICANCE AND OUTCOMES OF THE PANEL CONTRIBUTIONS

Panel I of the conference provided a comprehensive comparative analysis of judicial reform models from across Europe, emphasizing their critical relevance for Ukraine's ongoing legal and institutional transformation. The diversity of case studies—from long-standing EU members such as Austria (since 1995) and Poland, with their shared historical and cultural ties to Ukraine, to newer EU members and candidate countries like Serbia, Albania, and Bosnia and Herzegovina—highlighted the complex institutional and political challenges involved in harmonizing national justice systems with European standards.

Several useful observations emerged from the presentations. Prof. Viktor Horodovenko emphasized the importance of aligning Ukraine's constitutional jurisprudence with EU legal norms to secure long-term judicial guarantees. Dr. Bartosz Scholz-Nartowski highlighted the evolving responsibilities of bars and law societies in promoting judicial independence through institutional autonomy and self-regulation. Prof. Thomas Ratka's case study on cross-border corporate disputes underscored the need for procedural harmonization and judicial cooperation to handle transnational litigation effectively.

The experiences shared by candidate countries illuminated common reform challenges: Dr. Monika Canco's analysis of Albania's justice reform stressed the vital balance between judicial independence and accountability, achieved through comprehensive vetting processes and institutional restructuring. Dr. Ana Harvey and Dr. Harun Halilović provided insights into the structural and constitutional obstacles faced by Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, respectively, demonstrating how entrenched legal frameworks can slow reform despite political will.

From the perspective of EU regulatory developments, Mag. Antonia Berger's presentation on the EU Representative Actions Directive highlighted the significance of adopting new consumer protection mechanisms in Ukraine's legal framework. Prof. Tadeusz Zembrzusi's candid critique of the rule of law crisis in Poland offered important lessons on resilience and the risks of politicization in judicial reform.



Prof. Nana Bakayanova's closing remarks reinforced the critical role of protecting legal professionals' autonomy and ethical standards, particularly in times of war and systemic change.

Key discussions underscored the role of the EU acquis, the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, and the European Commission's criteria as essential frameworks for guiding judicial reforms. Presenters stressed the necessity of grounding reforms in local contexts, safeguarding judicial independence, and fostering public trust throughout transitional periods.

Crucially, the panel demonstrated the importance of ongoing dialogue and exchange of experiences between long-established EU members and newer accession countries, particularly those sharing historical and cultural backgrounds with Ukraine. This interaction fosters better-informed, context-sensitive reforms capable of overcoming political and institutional challenges.

Ultimately, the panel reaffirmed that Ukraine's path to EU integration requires more than legislative harmonization; it demands deep institutional recalibration, strategic vision, and sustained multi-sectoral cooperation supported by active scholarly engagement. Such comprehensive efforts are essential to build a resilient, independent, and trusted justice system aligned with European values and standards.

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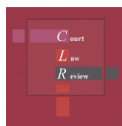
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АНОТАЦІЯ УКРАЇНСЬКОЮ МОВОЮ

Коментар

ЗВІТ ПАНЕЛІ: ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКА ПРАВОВА ПРАКТИКА, ЩО ВПЛИВАЄ НА ШЛЯХ УКРАЇНИ ДО ЧЛЕНСТВА В ЄС

Ірина Ізарова

АНОТАЦІЯ

Вступ. Щорічна міжнародна науково-практична конференція «Актуальні питання судового права» слугує важливим форумом для юристів-науковців та практиків для обговорення судової реформи. Конференція 2025 року, що проводилася віртуально, була зосереджена на інституційній трансформації судової системи в Україні в умовах воєнного стану та прискореної європейської інтеграції. Центральною наскрізною темою була

динамічна взаємодія між національними правовими системами та європейськими правовими стандартами, що є ключовим елементом процесу вступу України та інших держав-кандидатів, таких як Албанія, Сербія та Боснія і Герцеговина. Цей звіт підсумовує ключові висновки панелі I «Європейська практика у сфері правосуддя: уроки для шляху інтеграції України». Панель мала на меті надати порівняльні перспективи та практичні рекомендації для керівництва судовими реформами в Україні.

Методи. В своєму звіті авторка синтезує презентації дев'яти видатних доповідачів з різних європейських юрисдикцій, включаючи Україну, Польщу, Австрію, Німеччину, Албанію, Сербію, Боснію і Герцеговину та Велику Британію. Їхні внески, що включали основні доповіді та порівняльний аналіз, ґрунтувалися як на теоретичних юридичних науках, так і на практичному досвіді. Серед тем, що розглядалися, були конституційне узгодження, незалежність судової влади, вирішення транскордонних спорів, захист прав споживачів та проблеми реформ після вступу до ЄС. Аналіз узагальнює тематичні дослідження, підкреслюючи уроки, отримані як від країн-членів ЄС, так і від інших країн-кандидатів, для інформування про зусилля України щодо реформ.

Результати та висновки. Спікери панелі надали комплексний порівняльний аналіз моделей судової реформи та виділила ключові висновки для України. Доповідачі наголосили на необхідності узгодження конституційної юриспруденції України з нормами ЄС, одночасно захищаючи незалежність судової влади, як зазначив професор Городовенко. Презентація доктора Шольц-Нартовського підкреслила вирішальну роль автономних професійних юридичних організацій у сприянні підзвітності. Тематичні дослідження з країн-кандидатів показали, що хоча узгодження з *acquis communautaire* є життєво важливим, реформи повинні бути контекстуально залежними та долати вкорінені структурні проблеми, як це демонструє досвід Албанії, Сербії та Боснії та Герцеговини. Презентації щодо Директиви ЄС про представницькі позови та транскордонних спорів підкреслили необхідність законодавчої та процедурної гармонізації. У результаті обговорення дійшли висновку, що інтеграція України вимагає більше, ніж просто гармонізації права; вона вимагає глибокої інституційної перекалібрування, стратегічного бачення та сталої співпраці. Активна наукова участь та діалог між членами ЄС та державами-кандидатами є важливими для побудови стійкої та надійної системи правосуддя, що відповідає європейським цінностям.

Ключові слова: Україна, Європейський Союз, інтеграція з ЄС, судова реформа, гармонізація права, конституційне право, процесуальне право, верховенство права, правосуддя, порівняльне правознавство, Албанія, Сербія, Боснія і Герцеговина.