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## **REGULATORY AND LEGAL SUPPORT FOR THE BASIC MILITARY TRAINING OF STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS OF UKRAINE**

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**Batiuk O.V., Kuruch O.S., Fedorov M.V. Regulatory and legal support for the basic military training of students in higher education institutions of Ukraine.**

In the scientific article, the authors note that basic military training, hereinafter referred to as BMT, must be conducted on a mandatory basis in order for Ukrainian citizens to obtain military specialisation, skills and abilities necessary to fulfil their constitutional duty to defend the homeland, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The basic military training programme for students should be implemented with the aim of training individuals studying at higher education institutions, higher military educational institutions and military training units of higher education institutions in order to provide students with the basic knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for further professional training and, if necessary, for performing the functional duties of the primary position of ‘rifleman,’ which is the basic position for enlisted and senior personnel of the security and defence forces, since the main task of a rifleman is to perform combat tasks in close combat using personal firearms.

The authors of the article conclude that combining collective and differentiated approaches in the BMT programme means adapting the complexity of educational tasks to the individual characteristics of higher education students (military personnel), while relying on interaction within the military community. The combination of the unity of the educational process and military training in the BMT programme ensures the simultaneous formation of professional competencies, moral and combat qualities, and psychological resilience of military personnel. The content of the BMT programme should be developed taking into account the principle of gradual learning, which involves a transition ‘from simple to complex’.

The individual stage of training under the BMT programme should be focused on mastering basic educational components, in particular tactical and fire training, as well as acquiring knowledge and practical skills in related fields – psychological and engineering training, military topography, tactical medicine, communications and protection against radiation, chemical and biological weapons. The programme should also provide in-depth study of military history, the national combat traditions of the Ukrainian people, and be aimed at forming a conscious motivation to defend the state sovereignty

and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The authors determine that special attention during training under the BMT programme should be paid to familiarisation with examples and methods of action of enemy information and psychological operations units, as well as with the main approaches to ensuring information security and countering destructive psychological influence.

**Key words:** security, citizen, state, student, higher education institution, national resilience, basic military training programme.

**Батюк О.В., Куруч О.С., Федоров М.В. нормативно-правове забезпечення базової загальновійськової підготовки здобувачів освіти в закладах вищої освіти України.**

У науковій статті автори зазначають, що базова загальновійськова підготовка, на далі БЗВП, повинна проводитися в обов'язковому порядку з метою здобуття громадянами України військово-облікової спеціальності, навичок і умінь, необхідних для виконання конституційного обов'язку щодо захисту Вітчизни, незалежності та територіальної цілісності України. Програма базової загальновійськової підготовки здобувачів освіти повинна бути реалізована з метою підготовки осіб які навчаються в закладах вищої освіти, вищих військових навчальних закладах та військових навчальних підрозділах закладів вищої освіти задля формування у здобувачів освіти базових знань, умінь і навичок, необхідних для подальшого професійного навчання, а в разі потреби – для виконання функціональних обов'язків за первинною посадою «стрілець» який є базовою посадою для військовослужбовців рядового та старшинського складу сил безпеки та оборони, оскільки основним завданням стрільця є виконання бойових завдань у ближньому бою, використовуючи особисту стрілецьку зброю.

Автори статті приходять до висновків, що поєднання колективного і диференційованого підходів у програмі БЗВП – означає необхідність адаптації складності навчальних завдань до індивідуальних особливостей здобувачів вищої освіти (військовослужбовців), при цьому спираючись на взаємодію в межах військового колективу. Поєднання єдності навчального процесу і військового виховання у програмі БЗВП – забезпечує одночасне формування професійних компетентностей, морально-бойових якостей та психологічної стійкості військовослужбовців. Зміст Програми БЗВП повинний бути розроблений з урахуванням принципу поступовості навчання, що передбачає перехід “від простого до складного”.

Індивідуальний етап підготовки за програмою БЗВП повинний бути орієнтований на опанування базових освітніх компонентів, зокрема тактичної та вогневої підготовки, а також здобуття знань і практичних навичок у суміжних галузях – психологічній та інженерній підготовці, військової топографії, тактичній медицині, зв'язку та захисті від радіаційної, хімічної і біологічної зброї. Програма також повинна передбачати поглиблене вивчення військово-історичної спадщини, національних бойових традицій Українського народу та спрямована на формування усвідомленої мотивації до захисту державного суверенітету й територіальної цілісності України. Автори визначають, що особлива увага під час навчання за програмою БЗВП повинна приділятися ознайомленню з прикладами та методиками дій підрозділів інформаційно-психологічних операцій противника, а також з основними підходами до забезпечення інформаційної безпеки та протидії деструктивному психологічному впливу.

**Ключові слова:** безпека, громадянин, держава, здобувач освіти, заклад вищої освіти, національний спротив, програма базової загальновійськової підготовки.

**The relevance** of the research topic is determined by the fact that since 2014 Ukraine has been defending its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, which is due to the beginning of the conflict in Donbas, which was started by Russia and the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which is an administrative unit of Ukraine, in March 2014. That is why we believe that increasing the state's defence capability and making Ukraine's defence comprehensive should help Ukrainian citizens to become ready and able to fulfil their constitutional duty to protect the homeland, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine, based on the combat experience of combatants who defended the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and took direct part in the anti-terrorist operation and ensuring its conduct, being directly in the areas of the anti-terrorist operation during its conduct, in the conduct of measures to ensure national security and defence, repulsion and deterrence of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation in Donetsk and Luhansk

regions, ensuring their conduct, being directly in the areas and during the period of conduct of the said measures, in measures necessary to ensure the defence of Ukraine, protection of the security of the population and interests of the state in connection with the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine

It should be noted that the basic military training, hereinafter referred to as the BGMT, should be conducted on a mandatory basis in order for citizens of Ukraine to acquire a military speciality, skills and abilities necessary to fulfil their constitutional duty to protect the Fatherland, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The programme of basic military training for students should be implemented with the aim of training persons studying in higher education institutions, higher military education institutions and military units of higher education institutions to develop basic knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for further professional training, and, if necessary, to perform functional duties in the primary position of ‘rifleman’, which is the basic position for private serviceman and non-commissioned officers of the security and defence forces, as the main task of a rifleman is to perform combat missions in close combat using personal small arms.

We believe that the key tasks of the basic military training programme in higher education institutions are: unification of approaches to the organisation and conduct of basic military training (BMT); determining the thematic calculation of hours with the appropriate distribution of study time by educational components, topics and forms of classes; establishing the conditions for the implementation of the educational process; outlining the list of shooting exercises (standards, actions) mandatory for training; providing methodological recommendations for conducting key training exercises.

The peculiarities of the content of the BMT programmes of higher education institutions may include: integration of training for actions in the context of threats from unmanned aerial vehicles (hereinafter referred to as UAVs) by strengthening the engineering component of training, in particular through the inclusion of issues of arranging and camouflaging combat positions; expansion of the psychological component of training with the implementation of psychological exercises aimed at developing stress resistance and adaptability; inclusion of training material on the actions of servicemen in case of being captured; consistent training in grenade throwing through the implementation of specially designed training exercises; strengthening the practice-oriented component of tactical medicine to improve the level of applied skills.

**Analysis of recent research and publications.** Scientific research on certain aspects of the introduction of the BMT in higher education institutions has not received sufficient attention in the scientific and educational literature, which has determined the need to prepare the material of this scientific article. Certain theoretical aspects of modelling the system of military training of Ukrainian citizens and modelling and implementation of the basic military training of Ukrainian citizens in the educational process were the subject of scientific research of scientists of the National Defence University of Ukraine A. Zelnytskyi [4; 5], O. Zabolotnyi [4], N. Shabatina [4], S. Vavilov [4].

It is worth noting that starting from 2021, with the adoption of the Law of Ukraine “On the Fundamentals of National Resistance”, it would be advisable to scientifically formulate the basic provisions for the implementation of real mechanisms for training Ukrainian citizens in general and higher education students in particular for the basics of national resistance.

**The purpose of the article** is to study the provisions of legal documents which define the content and ways of implementing the basic military training programmes and, on this basis, to develop the author’s proposals on defining the fundamental principles of the BMT and the ways of their further implementation.

**Presentation of the main material:** When considering the issue of regulatory and legal support for the basic military training of students in higher education institutions of Ukraine, it is first of all worth referring to the norms and provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine. Thus, the provisions of Article 17 determine that the protection of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, ensuring its economic and information security are the most important functions of the state, the matter of the entire Ukrainian people.

The defence of Ukraine, protection of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability are entrusted to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

State security and protection of the state border of Ukraine are entrusted to the relevant military formations and law enforcement agencies of the state, the organisation and procedure of which are determined by law.

The Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations may not be used by anyone to restrict the rights and freedoms of citizens or to overthrow the constitutional order, to eliminate the authorities or to obstruct their activities.

The state ensures social protection of Ukrainian citizens serving in the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations, as well as members of their families.

The creation and functioning of any armed formations not provided for by law is prohibited on the territory of Ukraine.

Foreign military bases are not allowed on the Ukrainian territory [1].

It is worth noting that, in accordance with Article 65 of the Constitution of Ukraine, the defence of the homeland, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and the respect for its state symbols are the duty of Ukrainian citizens [1].

It is worth noting that with the adoption of the Law of Ukraine 'On the Fundamentals of National Resistance' of 16 July 2021 No. 1702-IX, the provisions that form the basis for the introduction of basic military training for students in higher education institutions of Ukraine were defined, namely: national resistance is a set of measures organised and implemented to promote the defence of Ukraine by involving Ukrainian citizens as widely as possible in actions aimed at ensuring military security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, deterring

and repelling aggression and inflicting unacceptable losses on the enemy, which will force him to stop armed aggression against Ukraine. Preparation of Ukrainian citizens for national resistance is a set of measures carried out by state and local authorities to form patriotic consciousness and strong motivation, to acquire knowledge and practical skills necessary for the defence of Ukraine [2].

The basis for preparing Ukrainian citizens for national resistance is their basic military training, which is organised on a territorial-zonal basis, based on the principles of high motivational appeal and is aligned with the process of transforming the conscription system in accordance with the principles and best practices of NATO member states.

The basic military training of Ukrainian citizens consists of mastering basic military knowledge, practical skills and abilities and is divided into initial and basic training.

The initial training is organised by the central executive body that ensures the formation and implementation of the state policy in the field of education and science, together with the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine, and is conducted in general secondary, vocational (vocational and technical), and professional pre-higher education institutions that have a licence to conduct educational activities at the appropriate level of complete general secondary education. In summer, military-patriotic training is conducted in the form of games in summer camps.

The basic training is organised by the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine together with other interested central executive authorities and is conducted with citizens of Ukraine who have reached the age of 18 and are not performing military service in the Armed Forces of Ukraine, in other military formations established in accordance with the laws of Ukraine, or in law enforcement agencies, through periodic training sessions, classes and courses.

The basic military training of citizens of Ukraine is organised and carried out in accordance with the procedure determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The basic military training of Ukrainian citizens for national resistance is organised using the funds of military units of the Territorial Defence Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, military educational institutions, training centres, other military units (institutions) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other components of the security and defence forces, and facilities managed by state and local governments [2].

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 21 June 2024 No. 734 approved the 'Procedure for the Basic Military Training of Citizens of Ukraine Receiving Higher Education and Police Officers', which stipulates that basic training of higher education students is conducted in higher education institutions of all forms of ownership, higher military educational institutions, military educational units of higher education institutions, training facilities (centres) of the Armed Forces, other military formations formed in accordance with the laws, law enforcement agencies of special purpose and the State Specialised Transport Service, educational institutions with specific training conditions that train police officers, and training centres of police bodies [3].

Specialised structural units shall be established in higher education institutions and educational institutions with specific training conditions that provide police training in accordance with the

requirements of the current legislation of Ukraine in the field of education and provisions of the charters of the relevant higher education institutions to implement basic training programmes.

Formation of such units, as well as selection and appointment of academic and teaching staff shall be carried out by these institutions taking into account the number of students involved in basic training, as well as the amount of academic workload required to ensure quality educational process per one academic or teaching staff member.

Staffing for basic training is provided by specialists who have the appropriate level of higher education in accordance with the current legislation and are able to effectively carry out educational activities, taking into account age and health status. Preference for appointment is given to persons discharged from military service, war veterans and veterans of military service.

It is worth noting that basic training is integrated into the educational programmes implemented in higher education institutions and curricula of higher education institutions regardless of ownership, as well as educational institutions with specific conditions of education that train police officers, as an independent discipline. Its structure covers two components: theoretical training in the amount of three credits of the European Credit Transfer System, hereinafter referred to as ECTS, which is implemented directly in these educational institutions, and practical training in the amount of seven ECTS credits, which is conducted in higher military educational institutions, military educational units of higher education institutions, training facilities (centres) of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other military formations established in accordance with the law, special purpose law enforcement agencies, as well as in educational institutions with specific training conditions that train police officers.

In addition, the practical component of basic training can be implemented on the basis of regional (training) centres for preparing the population for national resistance and training centres of police bodies.

The theoretical and practical parts of basic training for cadets and police officers studying at higher education institutions are organised in accordance with curricula, within the timeframe determined by the schedules of the educational process, and in accordance with the legal acts regulating the service of the respective categories of persons.

The requirements to the content and outcomes of educational activities of higher education institutions and educational institutions with specific learning environment that provide basic police training, including the logical sequence of studying the educational material, forms of organisation of the educational process, types of classes, hours of study, as well as forms and means of current and final control, shall be determined by the model curriculum of the discipline 'Basic military training'. The aforementioned model curriculum is developed and approved by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in agreement with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

On the basis of this model curriculum, higher education institutions and educational institutions with specific training conditions that train police officers develop their own curricula for the Basic Military Training discipline, which are subject to approval by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

It is worth noting that the organisation and proper provision of the theoretical component of basic training is entrusted to the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, other central executive authorities and local self-government bodies under whose jurisdiction higher education institutions and educational institutions with specific conditions of education that train police officers are subordinated, as well as to private higher education institutions.

The theoretical component of the basic training is integrated into the curricula of higher education institutions and is implemented within the following timeframe:

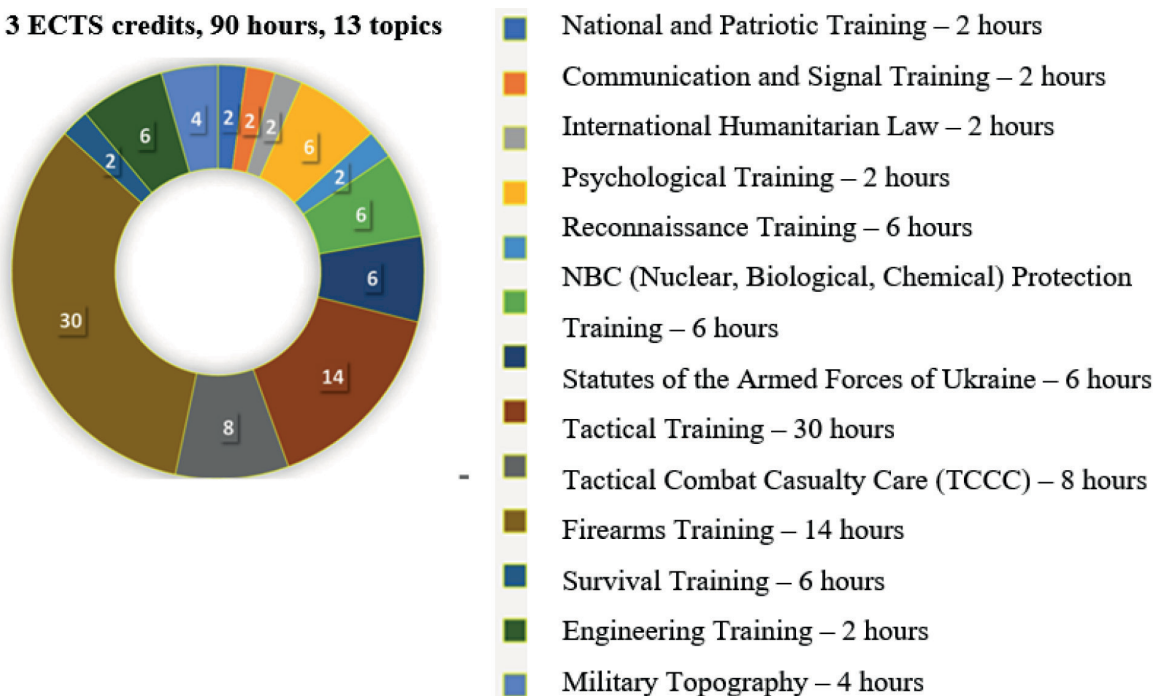
- for higher education students studying on the basis of complete general secondary education - during the second year of study;
- for higher education students studying on the basis of junior specialist's degree, professional junior bachelor's degree or junior bachelor's degree - during the first year of study.

In the process of organising basic training, with the assistance and use of resources of local state (military) administrations, local self-government bodies, as well as public organisations and associations, including veterans' associations, it is possible to conduct additional training aimed at developing skills in the use of small arms. Such classes may be held at certified shooting ranges, in shooting ranges or using interactive simulators with mandatory compliance with safety requirements for handling weapons and ammunition. Additional activities are funded by the relevant authorities, institutions and organisations. At the same time, these classes are not included in the total number of hours of basic training.



### TYPICAL BASIC MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM: TIME DISTRIBUTION

**3 ECTS credits, 90 hours, 13 topics**



It is worth noting that the practical stage of basic training is conducted after completion of the relevant theoretical course during the current academic year. Its duration is up to one month and is implemented in the period from May to October at the expense of the time allocated for the vacation leave of higher education students.

In case of impossibility to complete the practical stage of the BMT for valid reasons, its transfer to the next calendar year is allowed with the appropriate permission of the head of the higher education institution on the basis of which the training is carried out.

Completion of the practical part of the BMT is a prerequisite for the implementation of the educational programme for male students, in particular for persons enrolled in bachelor's and master's degree programmes in medicine, pharmacy or veterinary medicine.

The refusal of a male student who is recognized as fit for military service to participate in the practical stage of the BMT is the basis for his/her expulsion from a higher education institution in accordance with the current legislation in the field of education.

Academic and pedagogical staff of the educational institutions that provide basic training, as well as instructors and teaching staff of the educational units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and training centers of the National Police are involved in the practical stage of the BMT.

The final stage of the practical training of the BMT is the final control, which establishes the level of readiness of the applicant for military service in the chosen military specialty.

It is worth noting that higher education students who successfully complete the BMT program take the Military Oath and receive a certificate of completion of the BMT and acquisition of a military specialty. Such a certificate is issued by the military training unit or educational institution on the basis of which the practical training was carried out, except for persons who: are recognized as medically unfit for military service; before acquiring Ukrainian citizenship, have performed military service in other states; have performed military service; have a certificate of completion of basic training and acquisition of a military specialty [3].

After analyzing the aforementioned provisions, we can draw a generalized **conclusion and provide the following recommendations:**

In order to ensure the effective organization and conduct of training, commanders of all levels should be guided by a number of key didactic principles:

systematic and sequential training is one of the fundamental principles of BMT, which should be implemented in the following areas;

structural, which involves building the educational process according to the scheme: from individual training to training as part of a unit (squad, platoon);

methodological, which consists in the gradual complication of methods and forms of training aimed at forming and improving the knowledge, skills and abilities of servicemen (for example: brief explanation - demonstration of a sample - training to achieve a result - fulfillment of standards, practical tasks).

The orientation of the BMT program's educational process to combat needs involves organizing training in conditions as close as possible to the realities of modern combat, which allows for the development of practical skills necessary in a combat situation.

The density of the BMT program means the organization of classes in which each serviceman is constantly involved in active learning activities through practical actions, exercises and standards.

Formation of consciousness, activity and independence in students requires the creation of a learning environment in military teams that stimulates internal motivation to learn, the development of initiative and independent work to improve the level of training.

The visualization of training under the BMT program involves modeling physical and psychological stresses typical of the conditions of a general combat in order to increase the efficiency of learning.

Combination of collective and differentiated approaches in the BMT program means the need to adapt the complexity of learning tasks to the individual characteristics of higher education students (military personnel), while relying on interaction within the military team.

Combination of the unity of the educational process and military education in the BMT program ensures the simultaneous formation of professional competencies, moral and combat qualities and psychological stability of servicemen.

In our opinion, the content of the BMT program should be developed taking into account the principle of gradual learning, which implies the transition "from simple to complex".

As part of the introductory course, higher education students should be provided with information on security requirements during classes, in the course of daily activities and in other types of service activities. In addition, the regulatory and legal framework for military service, as well as the main duties of a serviceman are studied.

We believe that the individual stage of training under the BMT program should be focused on mastering the basic educational components, in particular tactical and firearms training, as well as acquiring knowledge and practical skills in related fields, such as psychological and engineering training, military topography, tactical medicine, communications and protection against radiation, chemical and biological weapons. The program should also include an in-depth study of the military and historical heritage and national military traditions of the Ukrainian people and aim to create a conscious motivation to protect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We also believe that special attention in the course of the BMT program should be paid to familiarizing with examples and methods of actions of enemy information and psychological operations units, as well as with the main approaches to ensuring information security and countering destructive psychological influence.

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