#### ALSU KHURMATULLINA

Associate Professor of the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law of Kazan Federal University

### Larisa Kirillova

Candidate of Legal Sciences, Associate Professor of the Department of Environmental, Labor Law and Civil Procedure of Kazan Federal University

# THE HISTORY OF THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MAGISTRACY AT THE FACULTY OF LAW OF KAZAN UNIVERSITY

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**Abstract.** The article discusses the features of the second stage of Russian education — magistracy, which appeared in the course of the development of the Bologna Declaration in the Russian education system. The structure of the Bologna system is also analyzed. The features of master's programs implemented at the Faculty of Law of the Kazan Federal University are revealed. The statistics of the demand for master's programs among students is presented. An analysis of the norms of the current legislation on education showed that the development of legal education does not stand still, and along with the changing requirements for graduates, master's programs are also changing. In 2018, the Faculty of Law revised the structure of the master's program and provided applicants with an updated list of master's programs, each of which had its own characteristics, discussed in the study.

**Keywords:** *jurisprudence, magistracy, educational program, faculty of law, KFU.* 

With the adoption of the Bologna Declaration in 1999, the process of unification of national higher education systems and the creation of a single European higher

education area was launched<sup>1</sup>. The Russian Federation signed this Declaration on September 19, 2003 and officially joined the process of forming a unified pan-European educational process<sup>2</sup>, which became the basis for the transformation of a two-level education system (specialist, postgraduate) into a three-level one (bachelor's, master's and postgraduate studies). From that moment to the present, there has been an endless series of changes in educational standards (SES, SES-2, FSES3, FSES3+ and FSES3++), which have made master's programs the only format at the second level of education in most areas. Jurisprudence is no exception here.

It should be noted that among the teachers of Russian universities there is no consensus on the advisability of changes in the education system<sup>3</sup>. Accession to the "Bologna Convention" was seen as a measure aimed at simplifying the emigration of wealthy families from Russia abroad<sup>4</sup>. The innovation was also evaluated as a means of reducing the cost of education<sup>5</sup>.

Thus, the magistracy today is the second stage of the two-level system of higher education, following the bachelor's or specialist's degree. According to Part 3 of Article 69 of the Federal Law "On Education", the direction of a master's degree may or may not coincide with the specialization of a bachelor or specialist. In the first case, we are talking about obtaining by the undergraduate more complete and in-depth knowledge, practical skills in the field in which education was received earlier, in the second case, about obtaining new knowledge, skills and abilities in another professional field. At the same time, we can talk about a master's program as a second higher education only if the existing graduate diploma issued after 2012 contains the entry "specialist" in the appropriate column or there is already a document on the completion of a master's program in another direction.

The development of the magistracy at the Faculty of Law of Kazan University began in the early 2000s. The first master's program of the Faculty of Law was devoted to international law and politics and was one of the significant results of the grant implemented by the Department of Constitutional and International Law

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> European Higher Education Zone. Joint Statement of the European Ministers of Education ("Declaration of Bologna"), Bologna, 19.06.1999. The text of the Statement is posted on the Bologna Process in Russia server http://www.bologna.mgimo.ru

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.garant.ru

<sup>3</sup> Most Russian universities oppose the reform of higher education [Electronic resource]. URL //http:// NEWSru.com (accessed 07/29/2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The difference between a master and a bachelor [Electronic resource]. URL //http://answer-plus.ru/omagistr.htm (Accessed 20.08.2021).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Adibekyan O. A. Magistracy: Past and Present // World of Science and Education. 2017. No. 2 (10).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Federal Law of December 29, 2012 No 273-FZ "On Education in the Russian Federation" // Rossiyskaya Gazeta, December 31, 2012 No. 303.

of Kazan University together with the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium), the Free University of Brussels (Belgium), the Institute of International Law. Tobias Michel Karel Asser (Netherlands), University of South Paris-XI (France) and the Institute of Foreign and International Law of the University. Goethe (Frankfurt am Main, Germany) as part of the Tempus program. The project was funded by the European Training Foundation of the European Union.

This master's program was prepared by the faculty of the Faculty of Law under the guidance of the Deputy Dean for Academic Affairs Tyurina Natalia Evgenievna and included 4 profiles: constitutional, international, civil, criminal. The first set of undergraduates for the full-time department was in 2005, consisting of 7 people.

The impetus for the development of the magistracy at the faculty was the final transition to a two-level education system and the graduation of the first bachelors. In 2014, master's programs appear in several key areas at once: "Civil Law, Family Law, Private International Law", "International Protection of Human Rights", "Criminal Law, Criminology, Penitentiary Law", "European Civil Procedure and Enforcement Proceedings". The teachers of the opened master's programs were not only leading professors of the Faculty of Law, but also specially invited foreign scientists. And the program "International Protection of Human Rights" was developed within the framework of the Consortium of Universities under the auspices of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

In 2015, the master's programs "Constitutional Law, Municipal Law", "Modern Forensic and Expert Activities" appeared.

The next milestone in the development of the magistracy was 2016, which was marked by the improvement of existing master's programs and the development of new directions. The profiles "Alternative methods of resolving legal conflicts", "Right of natural resources and energy", "European and international law" appeared (within the framework of the Tempus project of the European Commission for the development of a master's program in European and international law "European and International Law in Eastern Europe" at 2014-2016), "Legal Support for Business", "Criminal Proceedings in Russia and Foreign States", "Legal Support for Administrative and Educational Activities". The profile "Constitutional law, municipal law" was renamed into "Lawyer in public authorities", the profile "Civil law, family law, international private law" — into "Modern Russian private law".

In 2017, the profiles "Legal Regulation and Law Enforcement", "Litigation Lawyer in Civil, Arbitration and Administrative Procedure" were opened (as a result of the combination of the profiles "European Civil Procedure and Enforcement Proceedings" and "Alternative Methods for Resolving Legal Conflicts"). Also, the first enrollment for the English-language profile "Legal support of international business" was carried out.

The development of legal education does not stand still, and along with the changing requirements for graduates, master's programs also change. In 2018, the Faculty of Law revised the structure of the master's program and presented applicants with an updated list of master's programs, each of which had its own characteristics:

— "Master of Laws" is an interdepartmental master's program that combines several independent profiles at once. It is distinguished by a modular principle of construction, which allows undergraduates to study along an individual educational trajectory and combine disciplines from different branches of law within one profile.

In 2019, the Master of Laws combined such areas as: "Litigation lawyer in civil, arbitration and administrative proceedings", "Criminal law of Russia and foreign countries", "Criminal proceedings of Russia and foreign countries", "Private law and business", "Theory and practice of legal regulation", "Lawyer in public authorities", "Medical law".

- "Legal support of business" a program prepared by the Department of Entrepreneurial and Energy Law. In 2017, Kazan Federal University and the Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University signed an agreement on networking, thanks to which the Business Legal Support program acquired the status of a network.
- "International protection of human rights" one of the first master's programs of the Faculty of Law and the first in Russia master's program in the field of human rights protection, was prepared by the Department of International and European Law. Graduate students of the profile traditionally gain experience in scientific and practical activities, the best students have the opportunity to take part in the Summer School on Human Rights of the European Inter-University Center for Human Rights and Democratization (EIUC) in Venice (Italy) and undergo a two-week internship at one of the European universities EIUC.
- "European and International Business Law", also prepared by the Department of International and European Law. The profile is in English, developed by combining the profiles "European and international law" and "Legal support of international business".

In 2019, in response to the challenges of our time, the Faculty of Law introduced a new master's program "Lawyer in the Digital Economy", focused on developing the skills and competencies required in the development of the digital economy in undergraduates.

As the magistracy developed, the number of directions increased, and the number of applicants also increased. So, if in 2010 13 people were enrolled in the master's program in the specialty 030900.68 "Jurisprudence", then in 2020–275.

The forms of education also became diverse. The first enrollment of undergraduates in jurisprudence for a part-time course (duration of study is 2 years 5 months) was in 2014, and for a part-time study (duration of study: 2 years 5 months) in 2018. The composition of undergraduates studying at the Faculty of Law is also expanding, the number of representatives of countries near and far abroad is growing.

Today, the master's program at the Faculty of Law of Kazan Federal University is:

- more than 10 different master's programs (with international and professional public accreditation) aimed at training lawyers in the most sought-after areas of professional activity (Lawyer in the field of digital economy, European and international business law, Anti-corruption activities, International protection of human rights, Legal analytics, Legal support of business, Preliminary investigation and justice in criminal cases, Trial lawyer in civil, arbitration and administrative proceedings, Private law and business, Legal protection of citizens' rights in criminal cases, Lawyer in public authorities);
- various forms of education on a budgetary and contractual basis in full-time, part-time and part-time (for the profile "Legal Support for Business") forms;
- more than 700 undergraduates, including foreign citizens representatives of the near (Turkmenistan, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Tajikistan) and far (Iraq, China, Mozambique, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Palestine) abroad;
- highly qualified teaching staff, educational activities are carried out by leading professors and scientists of the Kazan Federal University, practicing lawyers, including representatives of the legislative, executive and judicial authorities;
- a continuous educational process for all undergraduates during the COVID-19 pandemic, involving the use of distance learning technologies for organizing current forms (conducting virtual lectures, seminars, organizing various forms of interactive contact work between a student and a teacher, including organizing teamwork) and intermediate control (test, exam);
- preparation for research and teaching work;
- the possibility of employment in leading international and Russian law firms and other organizations, in public authorities, including courts and prosecutors.

Admission to graduate programs is based on the results of entrance examinations. Form of conducting entrance examinations to the magistracy: written. Tasks include theoretical questions on various branches of law. According to the results of the admission campaign in 2021, the average score for admission to the budget was 84 points.

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## Information about the authors

Alsu Khurmatullina (Kazan, Russia) — Associate Professor of the Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law of Kazan Federal University (18 Kremlin St., Kazan, 420008, Russia; e-mail: akm551@mail.ru).

Larisa Kirillova (Kazan, Russia) — Candidate of Legal Sciences, Associate Professor of the Department of Environmental, Labor Law and Civil Procedure of Kazan Federal University (18 Kremlin St., Kazan, 420008, Russia; e-mail: larisakira@bk.ru).

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