

assisted by European and American prominent educational institutions. Several information law subjects such as “Freedom of information and human rights”, “Information law”, “Contemporary issues of information law”, “E-governance” etc. are taught in English, Azerbaijani and Russian at Law Faculty,

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## **A GENERAL REVIEW ON LEGAL EDUCATION IN TURKEY**

A system created by humans can never be flawless, because due to their nature, every human has flaws on their own. However, even a flawed system can work correctly with the right implementation, likewise, a flawless system cannot work if the implementers are inefficient and uneducated. The interpretation and implementation of the legal system of a country is made by the lawmen of that country, thus, a steady and orderly implementation depends on the efficiency of them. Which is why, all around the world, people always talk about the necessity of a proper legal education and consider honest, hardworking, well-educated lawyers as a requirement for a just country. But is the importance of an effective education recognized by governments, does our education system provide a sufficient and quality education to raise the lawyers, judges, academicians that everybody needs? In this article, I wish to touch on some of the main problems in Turkish legal education system and state some opinions about the subject as a newly graduate.

Legal education can be given by different institutions such as faculties, law schools, or institutes; depending on the main educational system in each country. In Turkey, legal education is given in the law faculties of universities, and lasts for four academic years. Aside from public universities, private and

foundation universities provide law education as well. Whoever wishes to enter a law faculty has to take the common University Entrance Exam of that year. Every year, more than two million nominees take the common exam and approximately six thousand of them compete in the equally-weighted program which also includes legal studies. But the competition does not end with getting a high ranking and entering a university. Anyone who passes the minimum passing score may get into a law faculty with paying fee to a private or foundation university which accepts them, which causes problems between students with high and low rankings [1]. Therefore, “getting into a law faculty” may be counted as one of the main problems in the system.

Another problem is “getting directly into a law faculty.” In Turkey, unlike most countries, it is not obligatory to go to college or another high-education course before studying law. Almost every student at the age of eighteen do not know what they want to follow as a career, even so, they are expected to make the most important decision of their lives when they are only a high schooler. A two-year-college shall give enough time and experience to settle, and without a doubt help to mature one’s thoughts and prepare the person to the faculty they are going to study.

Nevertheless, as big as a problem is getting into a law faculty, it is not the root of the biggest problems. There are nearly a hundred law faculties across Turkey and the number increases continuously. While there are thousands of graduates and thousands of new entries each year, this raises the question “Are there sufficient number of academicians and efficient school buildings to give this education?” Unfortunately, even though there are hundreds of academicians desperately waiting to be assigned, most of the staff positions are vacant. In this kind of environment; insufficient number of academicians, thousands of competitive students, classrooms that contains hundreds of students at once, how would it be possible to train people to become efficient lawyers?

A legal education does not only teach “law” but also teaches being a good ‘lawyer’. It teaches to interpret, to question, to act amicably, to be equitable, to be independent and be oblivious to any impression around them. It teaches that if you want to be respected, first you must respect and cherish your profession [2].

On this point, one more topic comes to mind: the content of the education and the scope of the training. The lessons taught in the faculties and the context of those lessons may be considered as the most important issue in education. University is a place to prepare a student to real life, to their future profession. Therefore, in education, the theory cannot be separated from the practice. This rule also applies to legal education, even with more meaning.

Law is a concept which changes, updates and renews itself every day. Therefore, a legal education must also be about teaching to research, follow and interpret the changes which happen all the time. Nonetheless, legal training cannot be limited only to the theoretical information and there should be

compulsory practical lessons in law faculties, just like theoretical lessons. The biggest problem that a graduate faces is the gap between the theory taught in school and the completely different world of practice. This is one of the biggest faults in the legal education system in Turkey [3].

To sum up, even though a law faculty is hard to achieve and hard to graduate, it does not get the attention, respect and care it deserves. A working legal system needs efficient, honest, equitable, idealistic lawyers, judges, academicians and they can only raise in a suitable environment, with the right training. With the current system in Turkey, thousands of people graduate from a law faculty every year, without getting enough education and without knowing what future holds for them. Therefore, a reform in legal education is needed in order to have an efficient, working legal system.

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## **LEGAL EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

Law is an expression of the will of any government. It is an embodiment of the will of the people and is a manifestation of social and political needs of any country. Consequently, the study of law is very essential for any governmental setup, we need good lawyers and good judges to interpret the law and provide legal assistance to the citizens. Legal education refers to the education of lawyers before they start practicing in the court of law [1].

Legal education has steadily grown in India after Independence, but the