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**An integration of gender perspectives into mainstream disciplines: Ukrainian experience**

In Ukraine in spite of widespread women movement Women Studies did not become popular. But during the last 20 years a big number of Gender Studies Centers has appeared. At first this process was influenced by Western culture. Last years it has been recognized and interpreted as an inherent national challenge. For instance, Gender courses, which emphasize the value of diversity, relationships, and coalition building, prepare graduates to listen, to communicate across differences in background and viewpoint, to analyze reports, and to respond openly to change.  These are all characteristics required to pursue successful careers in healthcare fields such as nursing, medicine, pharmacy, and administration. An essential prerequisite for Gender Studies is the Bologna Process which has been used to strengthen inter- and transdisciplinarity. An annual International Interdisciplinary Conference “Gender. Ecology. Health” (Kharkiv, 2007-2011) demonstrates this tendency. Five years ago most of faculties difficulty accepted gender approach to medical knowledge and practice. Today most of them became accepting that it can increase the pace at which knowledge is created. That's certainly so. Designing humane rules for health care requires input not only from physicians but also from ethicists, politicians, theologists, etc. It explains why Gender Medicine as an interdisciplinary subject is popular today. It also helps to overcome the escalation of standardized testing as a weak side of Bologna process. So, the Bologna Process promotes a sustainable institutionalization of gender and thus a modernization of higher education teaching through Gender Studies Centers.

In Ukraine the Equal Rights and Opportunities Act had entered into force in January 2006 . The Act provided for equal rights in a wide range of areas and established a mechanism for the promotion of gender equality.

Ukraine’s legislative framework was being amended and strengthened to bring it into conformity with the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The empowerment of women and the elimination of gender discrimination had acquired great importance for Government as well as the general public and had become integral aspects of State policy.

Ongoing seminars on gender issues and the prevention of violence were offered to prison staff, and social services helped women prisoners to remain in regular contact with their families. All staff were required to receive training in gender and violence-prevention issues. Training institutions and technical colleges also taught courses on gender issues and violence prevention that were mandatory for all students. addressing the issue of stereotyping, said that Ukraine was developing a special gender education programme that provided for the preparation of separate gender equality manuals for teachers and schoolchildren. A mandatory course had been introduced in all teacher training colleges as a means of preventing the transmission of stereotypical attitudes to children by teachers. The “Stop Violence!” campaign also provided for a number of special measures aimed at improving the image of women. Men were also participating actively in efforts to change stereotyped roles, and the issue of granting paternity leave was under consideration by the Government.