**Myronets O.M.**

**Functions of administrative law: historical and legal aspect**

The article is devoted to a problem of historical and legal aspects of administrative law functions. The point of view that their understanding dependes on the scientific vision of a subject of administrative law as a branch of law in its historical retrospective has been proved.

The author identifies three historical stages of the formation in administrative law functions understanding in accordance with the history of the administrative law subject understanding: pre-revolutionary or imperial, post-revolutionary or Soviet, and Ukrainian (after Ukraine got its independence).

The attention has been paid to the fact that at the first state the regulatory and protective directions of administrative law influence had the aim to order public relations and protect not only a ruling elite’s rights, but also ordinary subjects.

It has been stressed that at the second stage the functional influence of this field of law has been focused on the regulation of the state governmental activity and protection of its power interests, had the state-directed, but rather, power-directed character.

It has been concluded that the third stage is characterized by the change in understanding of the administrative law subject from a state-centered to a human-centered. This reform gave not only the novelty of semantic understanding of the mentioned legal branch subject, but also made the changes in scientific vision of its functions. An ideological turn of the functional purpose of the mentioned field of law has been done. The author focuses on the fact that the regulatory and the protective administrative law influence has changed the emphasis from the state authority to a citizen.

It has been noted that nowadays the priority of administrative law functioning is to regulate relations of public administration with the primary protection of rights, freedoms and interests of citizens. Therefore, it has been summarized that the regulatory and protective functions are aimed to the primary protection of citizens in public relations ordered by this branch of law.

Also, the author insists that in conditions to form Ukraine as a legal state that recognizes a person as the highest social value, person’s rights, freedoms, interests, the administrative law functioning should be carried out in the key to the person’s interests satisfaction, creation of conditions for the implemenentation of those rights, freedoms, as well as their protection against unlawful encroachments.

At the same time, attention has been paid to the fact that the study of the functional purpose of administrative law has not become traditional for the latest administrative-legal science that has its negative affect on the positive formation of the administrative-legal doctrine. Therefore, the author insists that the complex development of the modern theory of administrative law functions is the mandatory requirement for the further development of the scientific foundation of administrative law.

**Key words:** functions of law, functions of administrative law, regulatory function of law, regulatory function of administrative law, protective function of law, protective function of administrative law, history of functions of administrative law.