

**Research program:**  
***“The legal clinic in the health and social field between the third university mission, horizontal subsidiarity, social justice and common goods”***

**Annex C Code 2**

**Department of Law**

**Tutor:** Prof. Angelo Maestroni

**PROGRAM**

The research project aims to verify positive effects on the University of the experimental legal clinic with the scope of sustainable development and generational solidarity approved this academic year by Law Department.

Generally, legal clinics are a teaching method, nowadays increasingly used in the most prestigious Italian and overseas universities, aimed at involving students into real cases of outstanding social significance. Clinical work, on pro bono basis, has two objectives: to provide practical knowledge and to guarantee access to justice to extremely disadvantaged people.

Team work is supervised by one or more university professors assisted by a tutor who is also a professional person.

In particular, legal clinic launched in test mode by the Department of Law in collaboration with Don Gnocchi foundation and Aiutiamoli Foundation - Fatebenefratelli di Milano wants to provide legal aid to elderly citizens affected with cognitive deficiency.

This research proposes to verify if the legal clinic adopted as a part of curricula could give benefits to the general public by sharing knowledge of the University of Bergamo with the external world thus implementing the third mission and returning the resources to the society beyond the students and scientific community.

Positive momentum for the approach is given by bibliography which deems legal clinics as general welfare. Pretexts are based on the notion that university knowledge tends to be expansive which means that it cannot be confined to the community it is produced by.

In other words, we intend to verify the correctness of the idea that the clinic should be able to provide indirect income to the university and become part of welfare generation from the roots, also in terms of horizontal subsidiarity.

More insights are provided by the bibliography which deems legal clinics as social justice instruments. Cases dealt with by legal clinics are mainly considered to be of public or collective interest. Therefore, the services offered target disadvantaged people or people in need who will be provided with high quality defense/consulting services which otherwise would not be accessible by them due to particularly impairing physical and mental conditions and unpreparedness of conventional service providers