## P. Kablak

Head of the Court of Appeal of Lviv Oblast

## THE MEDIA IN THE INTERACTION OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE PUBLIC

The article deals with the development of the communication between the judicial power (the courts), the public and the media as one of the key aspects of the principles of publicity and independence of the modern Ukrainian judiciary. The prospect of studying this subject is determined by the established perception of the courts and the media and the public as opposites. The separation of civil society and the state does not mean their antagonistic confrontation. On the contrary, they are more than that and should be interdependent and interrelated.

The right to information is one the most important human rights. Many documents of the Council of Europe focus in such context on the fact that the government cannot consider itself the exclusive owner of information. The judicial power must act to ensure media pluralism and

the freedom of expression particularly as this is provided in the international documents. However, it is not enough to proclaim media pluralism and the freedom of expression. Both must be guaranteed and protected from internal stresses, on the one hand. On the other hand, media can criticize the drawbacks in work of the courts or the individual judges, but it needs to know the line between the permitted and the prohibited. The author singles out a list of reasons why the public and the media may be excluded by the court. Balancing the rights of the media and the public to criticize the judiciary, judges or specific court cases is underlined by the European Court of Human Rights in its decisions. From this perspective, it is essential to provide the legal protection of the judges and the courts in case of disseminating false information by the media.