Development of Legal Education and Legal Science in the Digital Age

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Abstract. The 21st century is the century of technological breakthrough. The development of technology has gradually developed into the digitalization of all spheres of human life. The emergence of new and improvement of existing ways of human interaction leads to the need for legal regulation of the changes that have occurred. In addition, digitalization today has also become a part of the legal component of our lives, gradually crowding out the human resource. The mechanism of law-making has also become at the center of the scientific research of many scientists-researchers, which is explained by the fact that the legal regulation of social relations originates from the source material, which is a normative legal act, a legal custom or an applicant. This scientific study examines the problems and gaps in legal science in terms of the development of information technologies, and also analyzes the risk of gradual replacement of human resources in the field of jurisprudence by information technologies, including artificial intelligence.

1 Introduction

The rapid development of information technology, which has embraced the 21st century, has a significant impact on all spheres of human life. Currently, there is an opinion that the development of information technology affects the life of society only in the part in which digitalization simplifies our life, makes it most convenient (the appearance of various gadgets, computer equipment). However, this is not entirely true, and the development of technology concerns not only a certain part (the emergence of various means of communication, leisure), but the whole of life as a whole (education, science, culture, art).

Particular attention should be paid to the development and improvement of science and education in the information technology age. And if the development of the technical sciences is beyond doubt, then the development of the humanities and sciences should be treated with greater responsibility.

So digitalization has also affected the humanities, including legal education. In this regard, the development of legal education in particular and legal science in general in the aspect of developing information technologies is of great importance. Today, the development of the humanities lags far behind the development of numbers and technology, and if a couple of centuries ago the study of the humanities was considered the study,

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knowledge of oneself by a person, then in modern realities, a technical breakthrough has
gone decades ahead [1].

The relevance of the research topic is due to the need to improve legal education and
legal science in the field of digital technologies and technological progress.

The lack of meaning in words and actions inherent in modern man, according to the
author, is inseparably connected with the lag of the humanities, in particular jurisprudence,
from technical progress, since jurisprudence, being a science of law, must outstrip
inevitable technical progress in order to achieve social stability.

The object of this scientific study was the social relations associated with the
development of legal science from the point of view of world technological and technical
progress.

The objectives of the study are:
1) identification of topical problems of legal education and legal science in the era of
digital technology development;
2) study of the impact of technological progress on legal science;
3) consideration of the development of legal science and legal education in conjunction
with digital technologies.

2 Research Methodology

In the course of the study, within the framework of this scientific work, the scientific works
of such prominent research scientists, figures in legal science and education as Ivleeva P.V.,
Pogodina I.V., Krupnova T.B., Apostolova N.N., Serebryakova A.A., Filipova I.A.,
Goncharov I.V. and others.

In the process of conducting research within the framework of this scientific work,
general and general scientific research methods were used. These include system-structural,
historical, formal-legal methods of research, the dialectical method of cognition, and others.
In addition, the methodological basis of this study included such methods as deduction,
induction, analysis and synthesis.

3 Results and Discussions

Digital transformation in one way or another affects the forms of interaction between
people, government organizations and states. All over the world, there is a gradual
introduction of digital technologies not only into the private lives of people, but also into
their relationships with states and government organizations. The emergence and
improvement of various digital technologies today affects not only the comfort of a
person’s life, but also significantly changes the way he interacts with the state (for example,
receiving a state or municipal service by leaving an appropriate electronic application in the
information system of state and municipal services), with an employer (use of electronic
work book) [2]. However, the forced introduction of digital technologies into the life of
society causes the emergence of new risks and threats to society. The main and most
common threats to society associated with the introduction of digital technologies in society
include violation of confidentiality and privacy, leakage of personal data of individuals, and
many others. So, for example, every 20 resident faced the problem of telephone scammers
posing as employees of various departments, structures, banking organizations, and who
obtained personal data of potential victims from official information systems of a state or
commercial nature.

Legal science has not yet found a proper effective way to improve the protection of
confidential data of individuals and legal entities on the Internet. However, in recent years,
the world has been facing a number of global challenges that predetermine the development
and use of digital technologies in the life of society, regardless of whether the society is
sufficiently protected from the threats of intruders. So, if earlier in the Russian Federation
remote work and training, as well as holding remote meetings and other events, were not in
proper demand, then in 2020 the pandemic forced the use of digital technologies both in the
process of labor relations and in the educational process.

It is important to note that the technological progress that began at the end of the last
century and is rapidly developing today has brought many legal processes out of a static
state (in particular, many structural and procedural institutions of the modern system of law
and the system of legislation) [3]. Thus, we have reached a new level of protection of the
constitutional rights of citizens to education, to interaction with state authorities and local
governments, to privacy.

At the same time, it is important to note that legal science should develop in parallel
with the development of information technologies in all branches of the Russian legal
system.

Despite the fact that the science of law lags far behind the development of technological
processes, digitalization has now opened up new areas in legal science, current legislation
and law enforcement practice.

The main change in civil legislation towards digital technologies, in our opinion, is the
addition of part one of the Civil Code of the Russian Federation with Article 141 “Digital
Rights”, according to which the obligations and other rights named as such in the law and
other rights contained in an information system that meets the requirements are recognized
as digital. content and conditions stipulated by the legislator [4].

However, speaking about the impact of the development of digital technologies on civil
law relations, it is more expedient to consider its impact directly on the notarial system,
since one of the main tasks of notaries is to protect the rights and legitimate interests of
citizens of the Russian Federation.

So, today the notaries in Russia can rightfully be called the leader in introducing
information technologies into their activities [5]. So notaries today use innovative systems
that increase the level of security of legally significant information, the speed, and the
quality of notarial transactions. In addition, effective electronic interaction has also been
established between notaries, which allows you to quickly receive and verify important
legally significant information to obtain as part of a notarial act.

Due to the interaction systems used by notaries, the problem of protecting citizens of the
Russian Federation is of particular importance, which lies in the plane of information law
and the development of computer technology. However, today the issues of protecting
personal data, as well as preventing their leakage, remain unresolved and relevant [5].

Thus, the development of information technology has had a positive impact on the main
and most demanded institution of civil law - the notary. At the same time, the systems used
to speed up and simplify the activities of notaries adversely affect the security of personal
data of persons. But in this case, the issue of security is directly in the plane of technical
development, and not a legal flaw.

Another institution of civil law that has undergone changes in connection with the
development of information technology is inheritance law.

Inheritance law always causes a number of doubts, disputes and discussions among
theorists, scientists, lawmakers and law enforcers. With the development of digital
technologies, disputes only become more frequent.

So, the high speed of development of information technologies leads to the emergence
of new objects of civil rights, and traditional legal regimes are not designed either for their
appearance or for the technical features of their circulation. First of all, we are talking about
the inheritance of digital assets (here we are talking not only about digital money-
The problem of the inheritance of cryptocurrencies is due to the specifics of the protection of programs for their creation and circulation, which virtually excludes the possibility of both receiving by heirs as a hereditary mass, and forced access to them. However, huge amounts of money are circulating in the digital environment, and depriving heirs of the opportunity to receive funds owned by the testator is a gross violation of the rights of heirs and an omission of the legislator. In this connection, we consider it necessary to develop a set of measures to improve digital money circulation systems, as well as the regulatory framework for it.

The issue of gaining access to accounts on the Internet is also a complex and unresolved issue. In the judicial practice of the Russian Federation, proceedings regarding the access of heirs to the testator’s social networks are practically unknown, however, in foreign practice, such cases are not isolated and in each of them a different decision was made. The legislative framework in this matter in all countries equally lags behind technological progress.

In addition to the impact of digitalization on civil public relations, it has a significant impact on the protection of constitutional rights and freedoms of man and citizen, as well as on criminal law relations between the state and citizens. As we know, the conduct of various investigative actions is inextricably linked with the seizure of communications equipment, tablets and other computer equipment in order to extract from them the information necessary to attach to the case.

Such operational-search and investigative measures are initially restrictive and affect the violation of human rights enshrined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation (privacy, confidentiality of personal correspondence, etc.). However, due to the development of information technologies, modern gadgets can contain not only personal information, but also information containing state, commercial, medical, professional or other secrets [6]. The information obtained from these gadgets is used as evidence, while, according to the current norms of the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian Federation, the above communication means and computer equipment can only be used as material evidence, without withdrawing their internal content. Thus, the presence of this gap in the legislation of the Russian Federation adversely affects the observance of the norms of the law by both ordinary citizens and law enforcement agencies. In this regard, the authors recommend supplementing the list of admissible evidence with information and (or) information in electronic format or on electronic media.

Education, according to the author, is that part of our life on which technological progress has had an extremely positive impact. Information technologies are used today in all spheres and levels of education. So, in the process of forming practical tasks, performing laboratory and verification tasks, material that is on electronic media is often used. Students exchange the necessary material in information transfer systems specially created by the educational organization [7].

Improvement and modernization of educational programs at all levels plays an important role in the spiritual development of an individual and all of humanity as a whole [8].

So information technology has also affected higher education, including higher legal education. And if it can be assumed that the development of technology plays only a positive role in the field of general and secondary education, then technical progress also has a negative impact on higher education. This is due to the fact that in order to find the necessary information for writing final papers (term papers, theses), it is enough to have access to the Internet. Yes, of course, an attempt has been made to avoid the so-called plagiarism by checking the materials for the level of their originality (also through...
electronic information systems). However, such systems are not sufficiently developed, in connection with which students often resort to the use in their work of speech turns that are unacceptable for use in official documents, which affects the literacy of the younger generation.

In addition, in the conditions of student exchange with other countries, the quality of education and its technical equipment, the development of education systems in the context of digitalization and technological progress is fundamental to the image and status of both a higher educational institution separately and the quality of education throughout the country as a whole.

The digitalization of higher education also affects the competitiveness of higher education institutions, in connection with which each educational institution pays great attention to improving educational programs, developing digital analogues of various classical disciplines and introducing new areas of training specialists into the education process [1].

Great attention should also be paid to the training of personnel for preschool, school and university education, as well as their professional retraining, since in the context of digitalization, the level of their technical training “ages” every year and becomes irrelevant [10].

As for legal education itself in terms of the development of information technologies, legal education is not only the study of some fundamental principles and disciplines and sciences of a general legal nature, but also a thorough study and analysis of the legislative framework of the state.

As we noted earlier, the regulatory framework of the Russian Federation lags far behind technical progress. The legislator does not have time to develop and take measures to introduce new technologies into the life of society in time, as a result, graduates of law schools do not fully possess the knowledge that employers require from them.

In addition, the question of the imminent replacement of the human resource with artificial intelligence is relevant. One of the main requirements of the digital economy is not only the development of conditions for the free disposal of a person with his labor abilities, but also the adequate replacement of the human workforce with information technologies.

In this regard, it is no coincidence that in the next couple of decades, more than half of the professions will cease to exist, since the human resource will be positively replaced by artificial intelligence (robots) [11].

At the same time, in our opinion, it is advisable to replace only “working” professions (waiters, taxi drivers, cleaners). Replacing the humanitarian professions with robots in modern realities is not possible, since one way or another, human resources (psychologists, lawyers, teachers) are important in such professions. However, for entrepreneurs, both robots and people are only carriers of certain information, basic economic properties, and in the context of the rapid development of robotics, this may lead to the fact that robotics, with its “usefulness” for the employer, will surpass human labor [12].

Returning to the issue of replacing roboticists in legal services, it is necessary to pay attention to the human aspect in matters of litigation, because for every miserable offense that a human judge can be perceived as insignificant, a robot judge will issue a guilty verdict.

In addition, it is noteworthy that for the interpretation of the norms of law, robotics will always lag behind the human resource, which is confirmed by the presence of reference legal systems for searching for legal information such as ConsultantPlus, Guarantor and many others that do not meet all the requirements and challenges of legal science (since still in all organizations have entire legal departments, with salaries on the threshold higher than those of the rest of the workers at the corresponding levels, despite the presence of all
necessary electronic legal systems). Such systems today serve as a “handy application” for lawyers, but in no case do they replace the human resource of lawyers.

4 Conclusions

At the end of the study in the framework of this scientific work, the following should be said.

The development of information technologies undoubtedly has a positive impact on the life of society, the service sector, access to information is improving, new directions of economic development of both society and the state are emerging. However, at the same time, important components of the life of society also suffer, which has a negative impact on the statehood as a whole: the constitutional rights of citizens to protect private life, the secret of personal correspondence, commercial, state, medical secrets, freedom of information and access to it.

All this is the result of the legal norms lagging behind the rapid development of information technology. The lack of proper legal regulation of newly formed objects of rights creates conflicts and gaps both in the law itself and in the practice of law enforcement.

As the present study has shown, inheritance relations and personal data suffer to a greater extent in the current conditions.

To solve the issues facing legislators and legal scientists to improve the system of protecting the rights of citizens, as well as the legal recognition and protection of the systems themselves, complex interaction between lawyers and representatives of technical sciences is necessary.

The development of technology has introduced many new mechanisms for the legal regulation of the state and society, which will continue to develop with the improvement of information technology. However, the importance of legal education and legal science in terms of the development of digitalization is only growing. In this connection, we consider the opinion about the imminent extinction of the legal profession through its replacement by artificial intelligence to be inconsistent with the current realities.

References


