

CONFERENCE REVIEWS

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KAZAN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FORUM: A NEW CHAPTER IN KAZAN'S LEGAL HISTORY

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Abstract. *The main idea of the article is the importance of the Kazan International Legal Forum as a platform for promoting the ideas of legal modernization and raising the level of legal literacy in business. The forum aims at objectives such as positioning lawyers as intermediaries between business and government, developing skills for effective business support, predicting the future of the legal profession, and promoting international cooperation. These objectives emphasize a modern approach to law, which is not limited to legal norms, but also includes a wide range of social and economic factors. The Forum emphasizes the importance of interaction between the state and society, the creation of a proactive legal community and the development of tools necessary for successful law enforcement practice in the light of new challenges.*

Keywords: *Kazan International Legal Forum (KILF), law, jurisprudence, session, plenary session, international forum.*

The Kazan International Legal Forum is organized with the support of the Government of the Republic of Tatarstan and the City Mayor's Office of Kazan for the third consecutive year. The initiative to organize the Forum belongs to the

Foundation Board of Trustees and the Association of Law Faculty Alumni of Kazan Federal University.

The purpose of the Forum is to create a unique platform for the legal, business, political and law enforcement communities to exchange experience, network, discuss problems and find solutions with leading industry experts and representatives of the public sector.

The Forum's mission includes promoting the ideas of modernizing law in the context of the global changes taking place today, improving professional and personal skills, developing a deep awareness of the value of human communication and the principles of interdependence in solving complex legal and social issues and challenges facing the Russian economy.

The objectives of the forum are:

- positioning the legal profession as a qualitative way of mediation in the relationship between business and the state;
- legal support of the process of attracting investments into the economy;
- training in effective skills and competencies through best practices necessary for the legal conduct and support of business in modern realities (hard skills / soft skills);
- productive networking and acquisition of useful connections;
- promoting the development of legal literacy in the business community;
- forecasting the future of the legal profession;
- creation of a unified legal community;
- international cooperation in the legal sphere.

In 2022, the Forum was organized at Kazan Federal University and Innopolis University. Forum 2022 in figures: more than 110 speakers — leading experts in law and economics — more than 400 participants from 30 cities in Russia and 6 foreign countries.

In 2023, the Kazan International Legal Forum gathered more than 650 participants from 14 countries and 35 cities in Russia. The main slogan under which the II Kazan International Legal Forum was held — #WEHAVETHERIGHT. The forum featured over 55 discussion platforms with over 300 speakers, including representatives of the Russian and foreign legal community, famous public and government officials, and representatives of business and government authorities. In addition, the Kazan International Legal Forum-2023 was supported by 64 partners, which indicates its high status in the world of legal events. The forum also received a wide media coverage: 195 mentions of the forum in major Russian and regional media and Internet resources, and more than 1,900 views of the plenary session.

The plenary session included keynote speeches by Konstantin Chuichenko, Minister of Justice of the Russian Federation; Farid Mukhametshin, Chairman of

the State Council of the Republic of Tatarstan; Pavel Krashenninnikov, Chairman of the State Duma Committee on State Construction and Legislation; Talia Khabrieva, Director of the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences; Konstantin Korsik, President of the Federal Chamber of Notaries; Mayor of the Kazan City Il'sur Metshin and Rector of Kazan Federal University Lenar Safin. The plenary session was moderated by Ildar Khalikov, Chairman of the Tatarstan Regional Branch of the All-Russian Public Organization "Association of Lawyers of Russia".

The results of the plenary session reflect the key topics, proposals, and plans related to the legal sphere and international initiatives.

The main points are as follows:

1. *Tradition of international events in Kazan.* Kazan continues to approve its role as a location for major international events. The II International Legal Forum was organized in the year of the 280th anniversary of the birth of Gavriil Derzhavin, a famous Russian state figure, and was an important event for the legal community.

2. *Preparation for the BRICS Summit.* In anticipation of the upcoming BRICS summit in Kazan, the forum became a platform for the exchange of experience and opinions on topical issues of modern law. The Mayor of Kazan proposed the creation of an association of cities of BRICS member countries to cope with international pressure from unfriendly countries and to create alternative structures.

3. *Crisis in the legal sphere.* Forum participants discussed the current crisis in the legal sphere and recognized it as part of modern legal life. Talia Khabrieva, Director of the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation, emphasized that lawyers are not always ready for the new technological mode.

Already in 2024, the Kazan International Legal Forum gathered more than 1,200 participants from 27 countries and 50 cities in Russia. The forum featured more than 60 discussion platforms and 370 speakers, including representatives of the Russian and foreign legal communities. The forum was supported by about 70 partners.

In 2024, the media coverage of the Forum amounted to more than 10,000 views of the plenary session and 1,300 views of the online bankruptcy sessions.

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The thematic topic of the plenary session was “The power of law as a guarantee of sustainable economic growth and social stability”. The session was attended by Pavel Krashennnikov, Chairman of the State Duma Committee of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on State Construction and Legislation; Akmal Saidov, First Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Alexander Fedorov, Deputy Chairman of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation; Rustam Nigmatullin, First Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tatarstan; Lyudmila Novoselova, Chairman of the Intellectual Property Court; Mayor of Kazan City Ilmur Metshin; Rector of Kazan Federal University Lenar Safin; General Director of SIBUR-RT Stock Company, Kazan City Duma Deputy Airat Safin; Head of Legal Department of V.D. Shashin PJSC Tatneft Dmitry Medvedev.

The plenary session was moderated by Alexander Moskovkin, Head of the “Law” block of the Russian Newspaper online portal.

The speakers in their discussions emphasized:

- global work in the field of inheritance law, which has been carried out for more than 20 years, has been completed;

- activities are underway to improve notarial legislation, where the question of adopting a completely new law or amending the existing federal law is at hand;

- regardless of how exactly the legislation on notarial system will be amended, it should enshrine the fundamental principles of notarial system and its activities;

- Pavel Krashennnikov spoke about the absence of the need to introduce a lawyer’s monopoly;

- Alexander Fedorov drew attention to the problem of liberalization of criminal liability of legal entities in the Russian Federation;

- Lyudmila Novoselova connected the trend of growth of copyright litigation in business with the development of intellectual property and economic development;

- Ayrat Safin mentioned the readiness of the law to introduce digital tools that are actively used by major businesses;

- Akmal Saidov spoke about the interaction between the state and the people in the Republic of Uzbekistan on the example of people’s control;

- Dmitry Medvedev summed up his discussion by saying that civil legislation leaves potential for further development and modernization to meet the modern realities of the economy.

At the end of the plenary session, an award ceremony was held for the D. I. Meyer Prize “For outstanding achievements and breakthrough works in the field of civil

law and process” — an award given once every two years to encourage scientists for their research works, academic discoveries and inventions of importance for science and practice in the field of civil law and process.

This year’s award winners were: Professor, Head of the Department of Civil Law of the M. V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, Doctor of Legal Sciences Evgeny Sukhanov and Chairman of the Council (Head) of the Federal State Budgetary Scientific Institution “S. S. Alekseev Private Law Research Center under the President of the Russian Federation” — Lidia Mikheeva.

Within the framework of KILF-2024 a cooperation agreement was signed between two leading Russian universities: Kazan Federal University and the Russian State Academy of Justice.

At KILF-2024, the forum’s mascot — a cat as a symbol — was presented. This cat is the image of a Kazan University Law Faculty graduate, he is a young lawyer of a new formation: proactive, motivated, and success-oriented, in the trend of the modern business world. His main aim is to become a high-class legal expert, for which he is constantly developing, reading a lot, attending forums, and studying new formats of work.

KILF-2024 has changed the legal map of the country, and Kazan has gained an annual legal event of international scale, which our city and its law school have long deserved.

Kazan has shone in a new way on the legal map, KILF is embedded in the cultural code of Kazan and is firmly established in the schedules of all leading lawyers.

See you at Kazan International Legal Forum, 2025!

Information about the author

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