

Dear readers,

I would like to present for your attention the fourth regular issue of the journal "Kazan University Law Review" in 2020.

The issue you are holding now has articles on vital questions of theory and practice of Russian and foreign law.

The issue starts with the article by Doctor of Legal Science, Professor of the Kazan (Volga region) Federal University Aleksandr Maly «On political and legal causations of constitutional changes of Russian Federation». The article reflects the legal content of the main amendments and attempts to show the political prerequisites for the decisions taken. Firstly, it notes the readiness of the political leadership to heed the opinion of constitutional scholars on the need to make adjustments in the system of relations between the branches of power, to enhance the role of parliament in the formation of government and control over its activity. Secondly, it is necessary to take steps towards eliminating political uncertainty caused by the forthcoming change of the state leader in 2024 due to the expiry of his constitutional term in office.

The issue is continued by the article by skilled researcher from St. Petersburg, Doctor of Legal Sciences, Professor of the University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation Pavel Astafichev, titled «Faith in god as constitutional principle: legal system novations in modern Russia». The author proves that while there is unquestionable respect for religious systems and unconditional recognition of the important role of religion in human history, including Russian history, every religious system has a mystical element at its core, while mysticism itself is alien to positive jurisprudence. Princes and tsars used religion in Russian state history to ensure obedience of subjects, but these times are in the distant past. Modern Russia, which raised several generations in an atheistic environment, has generally lost its organic connection with religion, and a large-scale revival of this trend could hardly be considered appropriate from a state-legal perspective.

I am very pleased to introduce the research of Anna Kachalova Candidate of Legal Sciences, Assistant Professor of the Kutafin Moscow State Law University: «On the question of legal nature of pre-emptive right». The subject of this report is the legal nature of the pre-emptive right, which, in the author's opinion, should

be seen as an independent subjective right that is, in some cases, an element of a civil legal relationship.

The "Commentaries" section has interesting article: Natalia Frolova Candidate of Legal Sciences, Assistant Professor of the Kutafin Moscow State Law University, titled "Protection of civil rights through mechanism for suppression of unfair competition and avoidance of abuse of exclusive right to a trademark". The author has analyzed the possibility to define some special corpus delicti constituting the abuse of the exclusive right to a trademark and unfair competition and made a conclusion about the inexpediency of the legislative definition of such corpus delicti.

With best regards, Editor-in-Chief **Damir Valeev**