

LEGISLATIVE SURVEY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION: SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1993*

Introduction

The Legislative Survey of the Russian Federation hopes to assist our readers in keeping abreast of the most important legislative output of the Russian Federation. The materials contained in this issue of the Legislative Survey have been selected from legislation adopted in the period 1 September to 31 December 1993. We have brought the different laws, decrees and others normative enactments issued in this period under a detailed system of headings, so that the various legal documents relate to each other in a meaningful way. Starting from the previous issue, our readers will also find in the Survey most important documents of the Supreme Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation. Unlike arbitration courts in western countries, Russian arbitration courts, which should rather be called commercial courts, exercise compulsory jurisdiction over all disputes between economic actors, including individual entrepreneurs and state agencies. Although traditional legal doctrine does not treat judicial decisions and findings as a source of law, their practical regulatory impact is most important. In certain instances, the opinion of the Supreme Arbitration Court may even prevail over formal sources of law which are often vague or contradictory.

The reported period was marked by dramatic events which are likely to have far-reaching influence on the future Russian history. In this short time the country has seen the final dismantling of the Soviet system, a street war in Moscow, and the adoption of the first ideology-free Constitution of Russia. But even in most critical days, the legislative activity in all legal fields did not stop, and the amount of legislative materials substantially increased in comparison with the preceding period. The main legislative source for this issue of the Survey was the official weekly which publishes all acts of the President and the Government (*Sobranie Aktov Prezidenta i Pravitel'stva Rossiiskoi Federatsii*, "SA"). The traditional parliamentary bulletin (*Vedomosti*, "Ved.") collapsed as a result of the Supreme Soviet dissolution. Enactments issued by Russian ministries and agencies were taken from an official bulletin of ministerial regulations (*Biulleten' Normativnykh Aktov Ministerstv i Vedomstv Rossiiskoi Federatsii*, "BNA"). The "Supreme Arbitration Court Herald" (*Vestnik Vysshego Arbitrazhnogo Suda Rossiiskoi Federatsii*, "VVAS") and the daily "Russian Gazette" (*Rossiiskaia Gazeta*, "RG") were also used as sources of materials for this Legislative Survey.

* Edited and compiled by Gainan Avilov,
Institute for Legislation and Comparative Law, Moscow

Abbreviations:

BNA	Biulleten' Normativnykh Aktov Ministerstv i Vedomstv Rossiiskoi Federatsii (Bulletin of Normative Acts of Russian Federation Ministries and Departments)
CB	Central Bank of the Russian Federation (Bank of Russia)
CC	Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation
CCI	Chamber of Commerce and Industry
CN	Council of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation
CPD	Congress of People's Deputies
FMO	Russian Federal Migration Office
GKAP	State Committee for Anti-monopoly Policy and Promotion of the New Economic Structures (Anti-monopoly Committee)
GKI	Goskomimushchestvo (State Committee for the Administration of State Property)
GOST	Gosudarstvennyi Obshchesoiuznyi Standart (All-Union State Standard)
GPU	Gosudarstvenno-pravovoe Upravlenie (State Legal Department of the President of the Russian Federation)
Gov.	Governmental
MEER	Ministry of External Economic Relations
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MI	Ministry of the Interior
MinFin	Ministry of Finance
RG	Rossiiskaia Gazeta
RSFSR	Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic
PSS	Presidium of the Supreme Soviet
SA	Sobranie Aktov Prezidenta i Pravitel'stva Rossiiskoi Federatsii (Collection of Acts of the President and the Government of the Russian Federation)
SAC	Supreme Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation
SC	Supreme Court of the Russian Federation
SCC	State Customs Committee
SCSEI	Russian Federation State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Inspection
SP RSFSR	Sobranie Postanovlenii Pravitel'stva RSFSR (Collection of Decrees of the RSFSR Government)
SS	Supreme Soviet
STO	State Tax Office
Ved.	Vedomosti S'ezda Narodnykh Deputatov i Verkhovnogo Soveta Rossiiskoi Federatsii (Reports of the Congress of People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation)
VVAS	Vestnik Vysshego Arbitrazhnogo Suda Rossiiskoi Federatsii (Herald of the Supreme Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation)
Zak.Ek.	Zakonodatel'stvo i Ekonomika (Legislation and Economics)