

Environmental and Land Law Department of the Faculty of Law, Lomonosov Moscow State University

By Professor Alexander Golichenkov, Doctor of Law, Chairman of the Environmental and Land Law Department, and Elena Yefimova, Candidate of Law, Assistant of the aforesaid Department, Lomonosov Moscow State University

Historical Background

Instead of Preface

Scientific research and teaching of environmental and law disciplines¹ have a rich history and tradition in Russia. It is suffice to say that scientific studies in land, mining, and water law were first published in Russia as far back as 100-200 years ago.

It is known for certain that in a number of colleges in the Russian Empire some disciplines were taught that covered particular aspects of environmental management. For several years running Yu Gautier delivered lectures on the history of landownership in Russia for students of Konstantinovsky Mezhevoy (land surveying) Institute.² Beginning in 1888, political economics³ was taught at the law faculty of the Imperial Moscow University. The content of that subject was described as "economics of down-stream industries including forestry, hunting, fishery and mining; up-stream industries, trade and transport communications".⁴ In the framework of this discipline, a special emphasis was placed on the issues of natural resources management and care.

Despite these early lectures on scientific studies, the formation of a division which could, as a training, methodological and scientific center, support teaching of environmental and law disciplines at the Moscow State University came much later.

History of the Department: facts, personnel, studies

Creation of the Department

The Environment and Land Law Department was established on March 7, 1942.⁵ The Department was originally named the Department of land and

collective farm law, until it was changed in March 1989 to its present name (hereinafter referred to as the Department).

Lecturers of the Department

Well-known scholars periodically taught at the Department, including: Professor V. Balezin, Doctor of Law; Professor G. Bystrov, Doctor of Law; Associate Professor A. Volkov, Candidate of Law; Associate Professor V. Grigoriev, Candidate of Law; Professor E. Kolotinskaya, Doctor of Law; Associate Professor O. Kouprivya (Sapranova), Candidate of Law; Associate Professor G. Mironov, Candidate of Law; Professor N. Osokin, Candidate of Law, Honored Lawyer of the Russian Federation; Associate Professor M. Pashova, Candidate of Law; Associate Professor V. Plakhuta, Candidate of Law; Professor A. Rouskol, Doctor of Law; Professor A. Touroubiner, Doctor of Law, and others.

The following scholars periodically worked part-timer in the Department: Professor K. Bekyashev, Doctor of Law; Professor M. Kozyr, Doctor of Law, Academician of the International Information Academy, Honored Scientist of the Russian Federation; Professor O. Kolbasov, Doctor of Law, Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Honored Scien-

¹ For the purpose of this article the term *environmental and law disciplines* is construed widely as to cover not only legal environmental protection issues, but those of legal regulation of the use and protection of land, subsurface, water, forest, fauna and other natural resources, as well as legal protection of ecological safety of human beings and other objects.

² See Yu.V.Gautier Essay on the history of landowning in Russia. Sergiev Posad, 1915. P.I.Ivanov's printing house, page 1.

³ See: Survey on public teaching of sciences in the Imperial Moscow University for the spring semester of 1888// Survey on public teaching at the Law Faculty of the Imperial Moscow University for the spring semester of 1888. Moscow, 1888, page 4.

⁴ See: Survey on public teaching of sciences in the Imperial Moscow University for the spring semester of 1889// Survey on public teaching at the Law Faculty of the Imperial Moscow University for the spring semester of 1889. Moscow, 1889, page 6.

⁵ See MSU Archives, fund.1, Inv. MSU, File 43, pages 51, 103-105, 199 // MSU Chronicle 1755 – 1979. Moscow, 1979. Page 249.

tist of the Russian Federation; Professor A. Timoshenko, Doctor of Law, and others. A talented lecturer, Associate Professor R. Bogolepov, Candidate of Law, Interior Forces Colonel had cooperated with the Department energetically (preparing textbooks and manuals, organization and holding scientific conferences, etc.).

Key scientific and educational-and-methodical works

The scientists mentioned above are the authors of various works that laid the theoretical foundation for environmental law and land law as compo-

nents of juridical science. They also formed the scientific and educational-and-methodical principles of teaching these disciplines and, on that basis, those of the development of environmental and land law as independent branches of law and legislation.⁴

In the field of land law, the following is a list of several textbooks written beginning in the 1930's, including (in chronological order): "Notes for the course of land and collective farm law" in 1938;⁵ various books written in 1940, 1949, 1958, 1971;⁶ "Land, collective farm law and legal environmental protection" in 1978,⁷ "Land Law of Russia" in 1995,⁸ a practical training course titled "Land Law of Russia" in 1996⁹ and others.

Several monographs were also written on the subject by A. Touroubiner, E. Kolotinskaya, V. Balezin, A. Rouskol¹⁰ among others.

In the field of environmental protection law the following methodical works deserve recognition: the first program for the academic course "Legal Environmental protection", the first textbooks and manuals for this discipline,¹¹ and various textbooks written during the period of 1976 – 1995.¹²

A number of monographs on the above mentioned issues were prepared as well the following authors: V. Petrov, A. Golichenkov, I. Ignatieva, O. Kozyr, O. Krassov, T. Petrova, M. Vassilieva, G. Volkov.¹³

2. The Department today

Professors and lecturers

At present the Department currently has 14 professors and lecturers, including the following: Doctors of Law, A. Golichenkov (Chairman of Department since 1995), M. Vassilieva, O. Krassov, T. Petrova, A. Shesteryuk (as part-timer); five Associate Professors, Candidates of Law: G. Volkov, I. Ignatieva, O. Kozyr, A. Korneev, N. Narysheva; four assistants, Candidates of Law: A. Vorontsova (Tretiakova); E. Yefimova, D. Hausstov; one assistant A. Minaeva. There are 17 graduate students and 5 aspirants at the Department.

12 out of the 14 professors and lecturers are graduates from the Law Faculty of MSU, 10 out of the 14 finished the Graduate School of the Law Faculty on this Department; 5 out of the 15 were trained and/or educated abroad, including: G. Volkov – trained at the Law faculty of the University named after Lorand Etvash (city of Budapest, Hungary); A. Golichenkov – in the Environmental Law Institute (Washington, DC) and at the Law

⁴ Textbooks, manuals and monographs on collective farm, agricultural and agrarian law are not discussed herein.

⁵ See: A.P.Pavlov. Notes for the course of land and collective farm law. Ё., 1938.

⁶ See: Land Law / Under the editorship of A.N.Nikitin, A.P.Pavlov, A.A.Rouskol. M.: Yurizdat. 1940. – 256 pages.; Land law: Textbook. M.: State Publishing House of Juridical Literature. 1949. – 415 pages.; Land Law: Textbook. M.: State Publishing House of Juridical Literature. 1958. – 311 pages.; Land Law: Textbook / Under the editorship of N.D.Kazantsev, I.V.Pavlov. M.: Yuridicheskaya Literatura. 1971. – 464 pages.

⁷ See: Land, collective farm law and legal environmental protection: Textbook. M., 1978. – 79 pages.

⁸ See: Land Law of Russia: Textbook for jurisprudence specialty / Under the editorship of V.V.Petrov. M.: Stoglav. 1995. – 300 pages.

⁹ See: Land Law of Russia: Practical training course. Legislation. For juridical higher educational institutions/ Under the editorship of N.N.Osokin. – 2nd edition, revised, amended and altered. – M.: DE JURE, 1996. – 104 pages.

¹⁰ See, for instance: A.M. Touroubiner The substance of the state ownership right to land in the USSR. M., 1956. – 92 pages.; The state ownership right to land in the Soviet Union. M., 1958. – 331 pages.; E.N.Kolotinskaya. Legal issues of the theory of state land cadastre in the USSR. M., 1982. – 127 pages.; Legal basis of natural resources cadastres in the USSR. M., The publishing house of the Moscow University, 1986. – 136 pages.; V.P.Balezin. Legal regulations for lands of urban building-up. M., Gosyurizdat, 1963. – 194 pages. The land tenure right of town-dwellers. M., The Publishing House of the Moscow University, 1970. – 107 pages.; Legal regulations for land of settlements/ Executive editor N.I.Krasnov. M., Yuridicheskaya Literatura 1980. – 93 pages.; A.A.Rouskol. Legal proceedings of ownership disputes between collective farms. M., The State Publishing House of juridical literature, 1949. – 45 pages; Collective farm legal relationship. M, 1954; Legislation on planning and funding of collective farms' activities. M., The Publishing House of the USSR Academy of Sciences, 1951; Scientific comments on court practice for civil and criminal cases. M., 1962.

¹¹ See: N.D.Kazantsev. On teaching of the course of legal environmental protection in higher juridical educational institutions // Herald of Moscow University. Series 11. Law. 1961. № 1. P.53-60; N.D.Kazantsev, E.N.Kolotinskaya. Legal environmental protection in the USSR. M., 1962; N.D.Kazantsev. Legal environmental protection in the USSR. M., 1963.

¹² See: Legal environmental protection in the USSR: Textbook / Under the editorship of V.V.Petrov. M., 1976. – 352 pages.; Legal environmental protection in the USSR: Textbook for higher educational institutions. M., 1979. – 176 pages; R.D.Bogolepov, V.V.Petrov, G.I.Azarov. Land, collective farm law and legal environmental protection: Textbook. M., 1978. – 80 pages; R.D.Bogolepov, V.V.Petrov, G.V.Mironov, A.K.Golichenkov. Natural resources law, agricultural law and legal environmental protection: Textbook. M., 1984. – 176 pages; Legal environmental protection / Under the editorship of V.V.Petrov. M., 1980. – 312 pages; Legal environmental protection in the USSR: Textbook. M., 1984. – 384 pages; Natural resources law and legal environmental protection: Textbook/ Under the editorship of V.V.Petrov. M., 1988. – 512 pages; V.V.Petrov Environmental Law of Russia: Textbook for higher educational institutions. M., 1995. – 557 pages. For their characteristics refer to: A.K.Golichenkov. Textbooks and manuals on environmental law: historical review and prospects // Herald of the Moscow University. Series 11. Law. 1999. № 4. P.55.

¹³ See: V.V.Petrov Ecology and law. M.: Yuridicheskaya Literatura. 1981. 224 pages; A.K.Golichenkov Organizational and legal forms of the sanitation and ecological monitoring in the USSR. M.: MSU. 1984. –101 pages; Ecological monitoring: theory, practice of legal regulation. M.: MSU. 1992. –160 pages; O.M.Kozyr. Legal issues of the protection of nature pollution caused by agricultural chemical reagents. M.: MGU. 1989; O.I.Krassov. Forest utilization right in the USSR. M.: Nauka. 1990. – 235 pages; Right of private land ownership: Belye alvy. 1995. – 144 pages.

faculty of the Catholic University of Löven (Belgium); I. Ignatieva – in the Pacific Center for Environment and Natural Resources Protection (San Francisco, California, USA); O. Kozyr – in the Institute of Comparative Law (Losanne, Swiss) and at the Law faculty of Harvard University (USA); O. Krassov – in the Law School of the Illinois University (USA); O. Kozyr and O. Krassov have LL.M degrees from Harvard and Illinois, respectively.

Educational work of the Department

At present two general law disciplines are taught: Environmental Law and Land Law. The Environmental Law course provides for a general set of lectures for full-time students (taught by Professor A. Golichenkov and Professor M. Vassilieva). For special division students (taught by Associate Professor N. Narysheva), practical training workshops (36 hours) and weekly consultations (36 hours) are organized, and guidance for term papers and students' graduation thesis is ensured.

In a similar way the Land Law course is organized for full-time, part-time and for the special division students, taught by Professor A. Golichenkov, Professor O. Krassov and Associate Professor G. Volkov respectively.

In addition, the Department teaches special disciplines for the students of specialized groups. At present there are 6 specialized courses available for both full- and part-time students. For the full-time students the following courses are provided: "Legal regulation of the use of lands of settlements: land and town-planning laws" (O.Kozyr), "Legal problems in connection with the economic mechanism for environmental protection" (T.Petrova), "Deals involving land and other natural resources" (A.Korneyev), "Topical issues of the natural resources law" (G.Volkov, A.Golichenkov, O.Krassov), "Environmental rights of citizens under the laws of the European Union member states" (Å.Vorontsova), "Environmental law researches in the making and development" (E.Yefimova).

The professors and lecturers of the Department work intensely with the students. On average, approximately 10-15 students major at the Department each year. The majoring students are invited to participate in the All-Russia Schools of Young Ecology Scholars (for more details see the chapter "Sofrinskiye" Conferences and Schools of Young Law Scientists). Starting in 1995, 172 term papers and 130 diploma theses have been prepared at the Department. The students' scientific club, headed by A.Korneyev, also works out of the Department.

Educational and methodical work of the Department

At present the Department is fully supplied with new curricula for all general and special disciplines. In 1999 the academic curriculum "Land Law in Russia"¹⁴ was prepared, approved by the Department, endorsed by the Law Faculty Council and recommended by the Council on Jurisprudence of Educational and Methodical Association of the Universities of the Russian Federation. In 2000, the academic curriculum "Environmental Law of Russia"¹⁵ was prepared. These courses are updated annually, and the curricula for special disciplines refreshed and re-approved annually.

In the last five years 5 textbooks, 9 manuals, and 9 scientific and practical commentaries have been prepared and published by the Department (or with the participation of its professors and lecturers). The Department contributed significantly to the development of the new subject, Classifier of Legal Acts.¹⁶ Subsequently its concept laid the foundation for the Legal Acts Classifier that was approved by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation¹⁷. In December 2000, a collection of scientific articles written by the Department's lecturers and graduate students was issued in dedication to the memory of Professor V.V.Petrov, former Chairman of the Department.¹⁸ In early 2004, "Practical course on environmental law"¹⁹ (the 3rd edition), the "Collection of normative legal acts on environmental law" (the 2nd edition),²⁰ "Practical course on land law" (the 2nd edition),²¹ "Collection of materials of scientific and practical conferences" (jubilee publication)²² and others were also published.

¹⁴ See: Academic curriculum "Land Law of Russia" // In: Academic curricula for the disciplines and courses for Jurisprudence specialty Moscow. "Zertsalo" publishing house. 1999. Pages 290-331.

¹⁵ See: Academic curriculum "Environmental Law of Russia". Approved at the Departmental meeting on the 18th of May, 2000.

¹⁶ See: The concept of classification of legal acts of the Russian Federation. Moscow. Consultant-Plus. 1999.

¹⁷ See: Decree of the President of the Russian Federation N 511 of the 15th of March, 2000 "On Classifier of Legal Acts" // Collection of Laws of RF. 2000. N 12. Clause 1260.

¹⁸ Environmental law in Russia on the eve of XXI century. Collection of scientific articles by the lecturers and graduate students of the Environmental and Land Law Department of the Law Faculty of MSU named after M.V.Lomonosov, dedicated to the memory of Professor V.V.Petrov / Compiled by: A.K.Golichenkov, T.V.Petrova. Under the editorship of Professor A.K.Golichenkov. Moscow. "Zertsalo" publishing house. 2000. – 432 pages.

¹⁹ Practical course on environmental law of Russia / Under the editorship of Professor A.K.Golichenkov. 3rd edition, revised and amended. M., BEK. 2004 – 432 p.

²⁰ Environmental law of Russia: Collection of normative legal acts and documents / Under the editorship of A.K.Golichenkov. Compiled by: A.K.Golichenkov, M.A.Mindzyaev, A.O.Minyaev. 2nd edition, improved and amended. M.: OAO "Publishing House "Gorodets". 2004. – 1040 p.

²¹ Land Law of Russia: Practical course: Textbook for higher educational institutions / Under the editorship of A.K.Golichenkov. Compiled by: A.K.Golichenkov, A.A.Vorontsova, A.A.Minaeva. – 2nd edition, revised and amended. M.: OAO "Publishing House "Gorodets". 2005 – 228 p.

²² Environmental law of Russia: Collection of materials of scientific and practical conferences. Jubilee publication. 1995-2004. Compiled by: A.K.Golichenkov, I.A.Ignatova, A.O.Minyaev / Under the editorship of A.K.Golichenkov. – M.: TISSO, 2004. In 3 volumes.

The Department staff is preparing the following to be published in 2005-2006: textbooks "Land Law of Russia" (the 2nd edition) and "Environmental Law of Russia"; manuals "Collection of methodical materials on environmental law", "Environmental law of Russia: bibliographic reference book", "Environmental law of Russia: environmental law dictionary", among others.

Scientific Work at the Department

Scientific research at the Department is traditionally carried out in two main areas: legal environmental protection, and legal regulation of the use and protection of land and other natural resources.

The following issues are of high priority: notion, subject and system of environmental law, problems of environmental laws application, problems of formation of new environmental legislation, the theory and juridical techniques of law making activities, problems of environmental law teaching (A.Golichenkov);

public environmental interests and rights of individuals, legal priorities of the state environmental policy, regional environmental law (M.Vassilieva); the theory of land, mining, water and forest law, the right of ownership for land and other natural resources (O.Krassov); legal problems of efficiency of the environmental protection economic mechanism (T.Petrova); legal aspects of the development of the real estate market, urban and rural settlement land use planning, legal problems of the economic mechanism of environmental protection (G.Volkov); notion and system, problems of development of environmental laws of the Russian Federation, improvement of the efficiency of the enforcement mechanism of environmental law of the Russian Federation, legal regulations for the buffer areas of industrial entities (I.Ignatieva); land re-

form legislation, legal aspects of territorial zoning, ecological requirements in the course of privatization procedure (O.Kozyr); legal regulation of deals involving land and other natural resources (A.Korneev); compensation for damage caused by ecological offences (N.Narysheva); research in environmental law in the making and development, the state of the art and development trends in environmental law researches (E.Yefimova); international environmental law, environmental law of the European Union member states (A.Vorontsova); objects of land and other natural resources relations (A.Minaeva); and legal basis for participation of the state in environmental relationship, instruments of environmental law influence (D.Hausstov).

The Department staff members carry out fruitful scientific research. Thus, between the years 1995-2003 over 280 publications were prepared at the Department, with more than 50 of them prepared by graduate students and students.

The Department staff members draw much attention to preparing works of scientific and a practical nature, namely commentaries and collections of normative legal acts. Among them are the following: The commentary to the Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation guaranteeing the rights of citizens and legal entities for land (G.Volkov, A.Golichenkov);²³ the Commentary to the RF Water Code (O.Krassov);²⁴ the Commentary to the RF Forest Code (O.Krassov),²⁵ the Commentary to the Federal Law "On Environmental Impact Assessment" (A.Golichenkov and O.Kouprieva),²⁶ the Commentary to the RF Land Code (G.Volkov, A.Golichenkov, O.Kozyr),²⁷ the Commentary to the Federal Law "On agricultural land turnovers" (G.Volkov),²⁸ collections of normative legal acts on environmental²⁹ and land³⁰ law, etc.

An important component of the scientific research of the Department is preparing post-graduate students, graduate students and aspirants. Within the past eight years 2 people have finished the post graduate course at the Department (O. Kozyr³¹ and M. Vassilieva). The Doctor's thesis of M.Vassilieva "Public interests in the environmental law: theory and practice of legal regulation" was defended on June 16, 2003. T.Petrova defended her Doctor's thesis, titled "Problems of legal support of the economic mechanism of environmental protection" on the 13th of October 2000. On the 8th of June 2005, G.Volkov defended his thesis "Principles of land law".

Within the same period 17 people finished the Graduate School at the Department and defended their theses, including:

! O.Sapranova (Kouprieva) "Legal regulation of the environmental impact assessment procedure";

²³ See: Commentary to the Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation guaranteeing the rights of citizens and legal entities for land (1991-1996 гг.) // Legislation. 1996. № 2. Pages 8-25. (Volkov G.A., Golichenkov A.K.).

²⁴ See: Commentary to the Water Code of the Russian Federation // M.: Yustitsinform. 1997. (Krassov O.I., co-authors: Bogolyubov S.A., Kolbasov O.S.); Law and Economy. 1996. № 17-18.

²⁵ See: Commentary to the Forest Code of the Russian Federation. M.: Infra-M-Norma Publishing House. 1997. (Krassov O.I.).

²⁶ See: Commentary to the Federal Law on Environmental Impact Assessment / Executive editor Professor M.M.Brinchouk. M.: BEK Publishing House. 1999. (Golichenkov A.K., Kouprieva O.N.).

²⁷ Volkov G.A., A.K. Golichenkov, O.M. Kozyr. The Land Law of the Russian Federation. Clause-by-clause commentary. – M.: Agency "Bibliotekha Rossiiskoy gazety (Library of Russian Newspaper), 2002. – 352 p.; Volkov G.A., A.K. Golichenkov, O.M. Kozyr. Commentary to the Land Law of the Russian Federation / Under the editorship of Professor A.K. Golichenkov. – M.: BEK, 2002. – 448 p.; Volkov G.A., A.K. Golichenkov, O.M. Kozyr. Commentary to the Land Law of the Russian Federation. Supplement to Hozyaistvo y pravo (Economic and law), a monthly magazine for businessmen, 2002, Supplements to Issues №№ 1 и 2. – 172 p.

²⁸ Volkov G.A. Clause-by-clause commentary to the Federal Law On agricultural land turnover // M.: Wolters Kluwer, 2004 – 112 p.

²⁹ See: Environmental Law of Russia. Collection of normative legal acts and documents // Under the editorship of Professor Golichenkov. M.: BEK. 1997. – 816 pages.

³⁰ See: Land Law of the Russian Federation. Legislation. Departmental normative acts. Court practice//Under the editorship of N.N.Osokin. M.: De-Jure. 1995. – 816 pages.

³¹ The doctoral thesis is to be presented for defense in May, 2003.

- ! **I. Ignatieva** "Problems of environmental law development in the Russian Federation";
- ! **G. Larionov** "Legal regulation of land control in the Russian Federation";
- ! **N. Narysheva** "Compensation for damage caused by violation of the laws on natural resources conservation and environmental protection";
- ! **S. Roussin** "Organizational and legal fundamentals of ecological activities of the Federal Frontier Service of Russia";
- ! **V. Kharkov** "Organizational and legal support of the rational utilization and conservation of land on the level of subject of the Russian Federation" (based on the materials of the Tver region);
- ! **E. Pougatch** "Legal support of forest conservation (with the Vologda region taken as example)";
- ! **B. Fyodorov** (an aspirant at the Department) "Development of laws on atmospheric air preservation";
- ! **A. Vorontsova (Tretyakova)** "Environmental rights of citizens under the laws of the European Union member states";
- ! **E. Yefimova** "Environmental law researches in the making and development";
- ! **A. Bazhaikin** "Legal regulation of environmental insurance";
- ! **V. Sidorenko** "Legal regulation of keeping the State Cadastre";
- ! **N. Lisina** "Legal regime of lands of settlements";
- ! **A. Minyaev** "Constitutional fundamentals of environmental law";
- ! **A. Krotik** "Legal problems of organization and functioning of specially guarded wild nature territories intended for federal use";
- ! **D. Hausstov** "Public agreements as a special component of the state regulation of natural resources management";
- ! **N. Karlova** "Origination, alteration and cessation of the right to land in the Russian Federation".

"Sofrinskiye" conferences and Young Law Scientists Schools

The Department is apparently the only structural division of a juridical higher educational institution in Russia, which, starting from March, 1995 has organized and held two scientific forums each year of all-Russia level: scientific and practical conferences, called "Sofrinskiye" because the first event took place in Sofrino, a village in the Mos-

cow region, are held in the Spring, and in autumn-winter conferences are held for the Schools for Young Law Scientists majoring in environmental and land law legal problems. Both conferences and schools are held under the auspices of the Law Faculty of MSU. Eleven conferences and nine school sessions took place in total. The 10th Jubilee Sofrinskaya scientific and practical conference is scheduled for May 24-26, 2004. The work done during all those conferences was summarized in the Jubilee publication of the collection of scientific and practical conferences to include all the respective papers.

Traditionally, leading scientists and practicing lawyers (about 70-80 persons) working in the field of land, forest, water, mining, environmental law and legislation participate in the conferences, where reports are delivered, and spirited discussions are held on the most burning environmental and legal problems. As a rule, all the major scientific and educational centers of environmental law are represented at the conferences. This includes; the Law Faculty of MSU, the Institute of State and Law of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation, the Moscow State Juridical Academy, Private Law Research Center under the President of the Russian Federation, the Law Faculty of the St. Petersburg State University and others.

Starting in 1996, with the financial support of a number of sponsors, first and foremost – the Russian Foundation for Legal Reforms, the Department has annually held sessions for the Young Law Scientists School (hereinafter referred to as the School). The conference venues are chosen among places of unique natural identity, as well as of rich historical background and cultural traditions. Thus, in the past, the Schools were held in Suzdal, St. Petersburg, Tver, Tula, Petrodvorets, Sochi, Veliky Novgorod, Yaroslavl, and Serpoukhov. The Tenth session of the Young Law Scientists School was held in Kemer (Turkey) between the 18th and 25th of October, 2005.

The Eighth All-Russia School session took place in Yaroslavl between December 1st and 3rd, 2000. In the framework of the cultural program the participants were offered excursion trips around Yaroslavl, including visits to the Tolksky monastery, the Music and Time Museum, etc. The Ninth All-Russia Young Law Scientists School session is scheduled for Autumn-Winter of 2004.

The students of the School are young scientists (teachers and researchers, graduate students, senior students of all leading juridical institutes

and scientific entities of Russia) below the age of 35, majoring in problems relating to the legal regulation of relations in the sphere of environmental protection, rational utilization of land and other natural resources, ensuring ecological safety for human beings and other objects, and working by Specialization Code No. 12.00.06.

The key tasks of the School are to identify the above mentioned specialists and include them into the data base, to teach them under the School's program, to enhance the level of their legal and general knowledge; to ensure their subsequent informational support, and to facilitate establishing and maintaining professional contacts between them. In the framework of the School performance a broad cultural program is offered.

Participation of the Department staff members in the law drafting work

³² For more details see: Golichenkov A.K. The notion of a law branch development concept: scientific research and practical work experience // Collection of the materials of scientific and practical conferences, 1995-1998. Moscow. Zertsalo Publishing House, 1999. Pages 201-213.

³³ The first publication dealing with this subject: Golichenkov A.K. Concept of sanitary legislation // Herald of the Moscow University. Series 11. Law. 1990. № 6. Pages 40-52.

³⁴ See: National Report on the State of Environment in the Russian Federation in 1994. Moscow. Ministry of Nature of Russia. 1995. Page. 232.

³⁵ National Report on the State of Environment in the Russian Federation in 1995 // Zelyony Mir. 1996. № 26. Page 13.

³⁶ See: The concept of land reform development in the Russian Federation (1997-2002). Chapter 5. Legislative and normative and methodical platform of the land reform. Supplement to letter № 1-5/1697 of September 17, 1997, issued by Goskomzem of Russia "On proposed amendments to the Draft Concept of land reform development in the Russian Federation (1997-2002)" // Consultant-Plus Data Base: Version Expert-Supplement.

³⁷ See, for instance: Golichenkov A.K. Concept of sanitary legislation of the Russian Federation. Approved by Goskomsanepidnadzor (the State Committee on Sanitary and Epidemiological Control) of Russia (the resolution of the enlarged Collegial Meeting, Minutes № 4 of May 12, 1993), the Ministry of Justice of Russia (letter of June 8, 1993, № 1-4/195). M.: Goskomsanepidnadzor of Russia. 1993. Page 56; Golichenkov A.K., Kozyr O.M. Development concept of the land laws of Russia // Herald of Moscow University. Series 11. Law. 1995. № 4. Pages 48-54; Volkov G.A., Golichenkov A.K., Kozyr O.M. Development concept of the land laws of the Russian Federation. Draft. Moscow. 1997.

³⁸ See: Brinchouk M.M., Golichenkov A.K., Ignatieva I.A., Novikova E.V. Concept of formation of new environmental legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Draft. Version 1 (December 26, 1995. Moscow – Alma-Ata. 1995.

³⁹ See: Federal Law on Land (Draft) // Herald of Moscow University. Series 11. Law. 1994. 1994. Special Issue.

In recent years there was a sharp increase in the volume of work related to the drafting of laws involving professors and lecturers from the Department. Within the last five years alone, they have participated in the elaboration of over 80 draft laws, prepared legal opinions on more than 60 draft laws, as well as on draft resolutions of the Plenary Meetings of the Supreme Court and the Higher Arbitration Tribunal of the Russian Federation.

Of special note is the law drafting on scientific support provided by the Department. First of all, it is an elaboration of a development concept for the branches of law comprising the so-called ecology block.³² It was the Department staff that was the first to identify and carry out a research study of the problems associated with the elaboration of such concepts.³³

The official recognition of the necessity of such development only came a few years later. It was not until 1994 that a conclusion was made in the National Report on the State of the Environment in the Russian Federation saying that: "it is necessary to incorporate the law drafting activities into a uniform system of legal acts, to develop a concept of legal regulation of the environmental protection and natural resources utilization".³⁴ In same report for the following year the development of this concept was already defined as a primary task.³⁵ In 1997 the necessity of conceptual justification of the land law development was identified in the Draft Concept of Land Reform Development in the Russian Federation (1997-2002) prepared by Goskomzem (the State Committee on Land) of Russia. The Draft Law provided that "the main lines of development of the normative legal base for the real estate market (as regards legal fundamentals of the land market development and operation) envisage separation of the conceptual development of general and specific (the land market) nature and that of the development of a set of legislative and other normative legal acts".³⁶

The Department staff members have elaborated or contributed heavily to the elaboration of scientific concepts of sanitary (A.Golichenkov, 1989-1990), land (G.Volkov, A.Golichenkov, O.Kozyr, 1995-1997), and environmental (A.Golichenkov, 1995-1996) branches of legislation.³⁷ The Department staff members took part in the formation of the Concept of new environmental legislation for the Republic of Kazakhstan (A.Golichenkov, I.Ignatieva, 1994).³⁸ At present, work is being prepared on the concept of the Federal Law "On Youth" (A.Golichenkov), and the concept of a model law for the Russian Federation "On environmental protection" (M.Vassilieva).

Among the draft laws developed with the participation of the Department staff members the author's draft of the Federal Law on Land (A.K.Golichenkov, O.M.Kozyr) should be noted first and foremost.³⁹ In June 1994 the draft was introduced to the State Duma as an alternative to the Government's draft of the Land Code of the Russian Federation (hereinafter RF LC). It was this particular draft that was used by the State Duma working team as the basis of the law before it was finalized in November 1994 by specialists from all the state bodies involved including the following: the Administration of the President, Agrarian Committee of the State Duma, the Government, the Land Committee of RF, Ministry of agriculture and others (the so-called "agreed version" of the Land Code of RF).

It is also of special note that the Department staff members are the authors of the basic draft of the Land Code of the Russian Federation adopted on the 25th of October 2001.⁴⁰ The working team responsible for preparing the draft of the federal law was lead by Professor A.Golichenkov, the Chairman of the Environmental and Land Law Department.

Associate Professor of the Department, G.A. Volkov, participated on the elaboration of the draft Federal Law "On turnover of agricultural lands", which was adopted on the 24th of July 2002.

In addition, the Department staff members were deeply involved in preparing draft laws on the following topics: land (N.Osokin – versions of 1994-1998), currently effective water law (G.Volkov, N.Osokin), forests (N.Osokin), city-planning (G.Volkov, O. Kozyr) codes; federal laws "On environmental impact assessment" (A.K. Golihcenkov, O.I.Krassov, O.Kouprieva), "On lease of land" (G. Volkov, A. Golihcenkov, O. Kozyr), "On environmental safety" (O.Krassov), "On industrial safety of perilous production units" (A.Golichenkov), "On use of land" (O.M.Kozyr), "On melioration" (O.I.Krassov), "On conservation of Baikal Lake" (N.Osokin), "On hunting" (N.Osokin), "On environmental disaster zones" (O.Krassov) and others.

Among the draft laws on subjects of the Russian Federation prepared in collaboration with the Department staff members the following should be mentioned: drafts laws of the city of Moscow "On charges imposed on moving objects' pollutant emissions on the territory of Moscow", "On the application of waste gas neutralizers and other technical devices used in motor vehicles" and "On the responsibility for selling motor fuel mismatching ecological safety requirements" (G.Volkov, A.Golichenkov, T.Petrova); draft laws of the city of St. Petersburg "On participation of the population of the city of St. Petersburg in discussions and making decisions related to the city territory development planning and territory zoning plan" and "On zoning the territory of the city of St. Petersburg" (G.Volkov, A.Golichenkov, O.Kozyr).

The Department was also represented in the task forces that prepared the draft laws, "On environmental protection" and "On environmental impact assessment" (A.Golichenkov), for the Republic of Kazakhstan.

A great deal of work was done on preparing the Resolution of the Plenary Meeting of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation № 14 of November 5, 1998 "On practices of application by the courts of law providing for legal liability for environmental offences" (N.Osokin).

At present the staff members of the Department participate energetically in the development of the water code (G.Volkov); forest code (O.Krassov, T.Petrova); federal laws "On allotment of water" (T.Petrova), "On water supply" (T.Petrova), "On subsoil resources" (G.Volkov), "On drinking water" (T.Petrova); the model law on the subject of the Russian Federation "On environmental protection" (M.Vassilieva); "On integrated natural resources management" (A.Shesteryuk), and the law of Moscow "On industrial wastes and consumption residues" (A.Shesteryuk).

Cooperation of the Department staff with the state bodies

The professors and lecturers of the Department have been participating actively in the work of various scientific and technological and consulting councils established under the public authorities, such as the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation (N.Osokin – up to 2002), the Expert Committee on natural resources and environmental protection of the Federal Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (G.Volkov), the State Duma Agrarian Committee (A.Korneev), the State Duma Committee on Ecology and Natural Resources Management (A.Golichenkov, A.Korneev), the State Duma Ecology Committee (A.Golichenkov, A.Korneev), the RF Interior Ministry (A.Golichenkov), the RF Ministry of natural resources until March 2004 (A.Golichenkov, T.Petrova), the RF State Committee on fishery (A.Korneyev),

⁴⁰ See: Collection of Laws of the Russian Federation, 2001, № 44, clause 4147.