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#### Theft of escheat

**Keywords:** Theft, escheat, another's property, succession

Russian Criminal Code establishes that the act of theft is usually committed against another's property. However it is not clear who owns escheat after commencement of succession and before it is vested in the state. Does misappropriation of escheat in this period amount to theft?

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#### Mandatory requirements to quality of products

**Keywords:** Technical rules, national standards, Customs union, quality of goods, sanitary rules and norms

Russian Federation Civil Code establishes that if law sets out mandatory requirements to quality of certain goods, the seller shall provide the customer with goods which quality complies with the requirements. Unfortunately Russian Civil Code does not say what exactly is understood by "mandatory requirements to quality". Neither there is a unified legal act regulating quality of goods. The author analyzes effective legislation, outlines a number of documents which set forth mandatory requirements to quality of goods, and explains their application.

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#### Usucaption: Russian reform and foreign practice (CIS countries, Western Europe and Latin America)

**Keywords:** Usucaption; acquisitive prescription; good faith

Usucaption (acquisitive prescription) is a traditional method by which ownership of property can be gained. Since Russia has initiated a reform of this institution the author of the article offers to look at special national characteristics of regulating usucaption in countries of CIS, western Europe and Latin America.

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#### Using actions in rem to protect easement rights

**Keywords:** Easement, claim of easement, concurrence of claims, claims in rem, negative easement claim, affirmative easement claim, obtaining of easement claim, claim on establishment of easement

The article observes actions in rem used to protect easement rights from different types of breaches. In particular the author considers questions of interrelation of actions in rem and their concurrence when establishing and protecting easement rights.

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#### Tax secret as element of legal status of taxpayers

**Keywords:** Taxes, tax control, tax secret

Tax secrecy is a concept established to protect essential information on taxpayer's activity from disclosure to third parties. The article raises a question of how exactly certain information is granted a tax secret status? What can taxpayers do in order to protect their right for tax secrecy? Russian Federation Tax Code does not provide answers to these questions.

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#### Amendments to legislation on state registration of lease agreements

**Keywords:** Lease, lessor, lessee, lease agreement, the Single State Register of Rights to Real Estate and Transactions, limitation of rights, encumbrance

The article observes possible consequences of cancellation of compulsory state registration of lease agreements signed for at least one-year term. The author analyzes problems arising when state registration of lease acts as encumbrance (charge) of right to property. Also the author observes questions related to droit de suite (when buyer of property is granted rights and obligations of the previous owner of property) in the context of changes introduced to the RF Civil Code.

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#### Plenum of the Higher Commercial Court of the RF on transparency in commercial litigation

**Keywords:** Transparency, open court proceeding, closed court proceeding, State secret, commercial secret and other legally protected secrets; photographing and filming, recording and video recording

The author observes, analyzes and comments on the most important issues addressed in the decree of plenum of RF Higher Commercial Court as of October, 8 2012 "On guarantee of transparency in commercial litigation".

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#### Consolidation of power grid assets of the United National Power Grid: legal issues

**Keywords:** Legal status of power industry business entities, power grid organization, limitation of ownership rights

The article is dedicated to problems of legal regulation of relations in the process of consolidation of power grid assets belonging to the United National Power Grid. The article observes main problems of the legislative mechanism aimed at establishing control of the Federal Grid Company over these assets. In particular, it is indicated that this mechanism does not comply with certain provisions of the Civil Code of Russian Federation. The author suggests certain ways of its optimization which will help to manage the power grid more effectively.

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#### Development of university legal education in Russia from 1884 to 1917. Article one.

**Keywords:** Higher legal education in Russia; General Charter of the Emperor's Russian Universities as of 1884.

The article describes the process of developing and passing General Charter of Imperial Russian Universities as of 1884, which marked a new period in development of university legal education in Russia.

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#### Establishing scope of exclusive rights of patent holder: Russian and foreign practice

**Keywords:** Scope of exclusive rights, misuse of rights, "patent trolls", compulsory license, restriction of competition

The need in development of innovation economy along with respect and observance of private interests of patent holders requires establishing the scope of exclusive rights of patent holders. The article analyzes main forms of misuse of patent rights and ways of their prevention.