

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES OF THE RUSSIAN STATE RUSSIA RELATING TO REGULATION OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY BETWEEN THE MID-18TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURIES

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Introduction

This article deals with the laws created by the Russian government in the sphere of the legal regulation of business activity by the rising merchant class, which was characterised by its social status as well as entrepreneurship. The wide-scale reforms of Peter I included legislative transformations in the sphere of taxation. During the reign of Peter I, all population categories had trade and commercial privileges which depended only on their social status and professional activity.

Legislative formalisation of merchantry occurred during the reign of Catherine II, who sought to increase budget revenues at the expense of non-tax revenues. In accordance with European liberal economic theories, Catherine II granted the entrepreneurs and industrialists greater freedom and encouraged the development of private initiative.

A considerable impact of Catherine II's reforms was that they brought merchants, businessmen and industrialists out of the burgher community and formed them into a special group of taxpayers, liable to pay tributes to the treasury directly depending on the value of their capital. Consequently merchants, as well as commoners and guild members, were relieved of various state duties, especially such serious duties as military service.

Consistent state support of entrepreneurial activity at the legislative level significantly strengthened the merchantry and encouraged its prominent representatives to conduct diverse business activities. As a result, by the middle of the 19th century the merchantry had become not only the most economically active segment of the population involved in commercial activities, but also the most privileged estate (social group) after the nobility and clergy.

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In the second half of the century, the legal status of entrepreneurs underwent significant changes. The abolition of serfdom and the liberal reforms of the second half of the century provided a powerful impetus for the development of capitalist relations, contributed to the formation of the foundations of a law-based bourgeois society, and also resulted in changes to socio-economic life.

The tax reforms of S. Y. Witte abolished the class-based nature of commercial activities. The adoption of new regulation was a result of the need for an income-progressive system for the taxation of entrepreneurial activity. In contrast to the previous system of charges, according to the trade tax as of 1898, the object of taxation was not the entrepreneur, but the enterprise. It was declared that belonging to the merchantry could be confirmed by the possession of both merchantry and trade certificates. Thus, the previous system of double taxation in the form of basic and additional charges was preserved, but only trade and industrial enterprises were subject to the taxation, not the traders.

Due to these changes in the system of taxation there was, inevitably, a change in the socio-legal status of the merchantry. By the 1890s, the class privileges of the merchantry had lost much of their former importance, as evidenced by the fact that during the preparation of the tax reforms, questions were raised as to the appropriateness of retaining merchantry class rights. As a result, despite the fact that existing privileges were preserved unchanged, they were separated from the right to engage in entrepreneurial activity, as was reflected in the division of certificates for trade and those for merchantry. Consequently, the merchantry tax changed from being the main commercial tax into a charge solely for belonging to the merchantry and entrepreneurs who wanted to enjoy the rights and privileges of the merchant estate had to obtain a merchantry certificate along with a trade certificate.

The study of the socio-legal status of the Russian merchantry of the mid-18th-early 20th centuries has led to the conclusion that the merchantry was a special class with the inherent attributes of a closed estate corporation. Due to its fairly high socio-legal status and economic strength, the merchantry played an extremely significant role in the post-reform Russian society.

The evolution of Russian entrepreneurship during the post-reform period was closely related to the fate of the merchant estate, which was experiencing a difficult period of transformation under circumstances of the rapid development of capitalist relations. The government paid constant attention to the business activity of the merchantry, and the care of

development of domestic crafts and trade was treated as one of the most important functions of the state authority. The American historian R. Pipes astutely noted that

“The Russian government for the first time started to take care of the welfare of its business class in the middle of 17th century, and ever since it permanently encouraged private entrepreneurship and supported the local bourgeoisie.”¹

The accuracy of this observation is confirmed by the legislative acts of the 18th and 19th centuries, by means of which the Russian State tried to influence the independently developing trade class.² The Russian researcher L. E. Shepelev emphasised three main sets of legislative acts adopted during that period which regulated the legal status of the industry and all entrepreneurial activity: 1. interaction of entrepreneurs with each other in view of their commercial transactions; 2. conditions of establishment and operation of businesses; 3. determination of the scope of persons who could conduct business activities and the range of their rights.³

Study Findings

The beginning of the strict regulation of the trade estate's rights, which incurred a change in its status, took place during the reign of Peter I. The large-scale transformations in Russia forced the government to seek new sources of income and change their financial policy. When searching for a more effective system of tax collection management, new reforms were implemented in the country, the main target of which was the “replenishment of the treasury of His Majesty the Emperor with all incomes and duties.”⁴ The newly-created *Razsypannaya Khramina* (Scattered Assembly) of the Russian merchantry was also considered to play an important role, and bodies such as magistrates and town halls were to conduct it.⁵ During the reign of Peter I, the right to engage in trade and craft activity belonged to all categories of the population and depended only on the state and the professional activity.

The legislative establishment of the merchantry guild took place during the reign of Catherine II, by granting entrepreneurs and manufacturers more freedom and encouraging the development of private initiative. With regards to special rules of taxation for merchants and

¹ Pipes 1995, p. 384.

² Shepelev 1981, p. 275.

³ *Zakonov Rossijskoj imperii*, vol. III, 1705, no. 1674, p. 598.

⁴ Shepelev 1981, p. 275.

⁵ *Zakonov Rossijskoj imperii*, vol. VI, 1775, no. 3708, p. 290.

manufacturers, the government implemented several important reforms in the country and adopted several laws. These primarily concerned only the small group of entrepreneurs who belonged to the guild of merchants. For example, the Manifest dated 17 March 1775 divided traders into the privileged guild merchantry and the lower middle class. The latter included people with capital of less than 500 rubles. First guild merchants had to have capital above 10,000 rubles, second guild merchants between 1,000 and 10,000 rubles, and third guild merchants between 500 and 1,000 rubles.⁶

The *Zhalovannaya Gramota Gorodam*, dated 1785, reinforced these innovations and also extended the estate rights of merchants. From that moment, trade was finally acknowledged as the monopoly of merchants. According to *Zhalovannaya Gramota Gorodam*, any person could become a merchant if he declared any capital between 1,000 and 50,000 rubles. Depending on the size of their capital, merchants were divided into three guilds. The census recorded merchants as belonging to the first guild (equal to 10,000 rubles), the second guild (1,000 rubles) or the third guild (500 rubles).⁷

Representatives of the merchantry, being released from head tax and military service, instead had a new direct tax imposed upon them, to the amount of one percent of their capital. Unlike the lower middle class, the tax was imposed on the whole family, not on each man. The size of capital required for being recorded in a guild was gradually increased, thus turning guild merchantry into a monopoly and limiting the access of other estates' representatives to it. For example, the 1785 *Zhalovannaya Gramota Gorodam* set the capital size of 1,000 rubles for entering the third guild, and 5,000 rubles for entering the second one. In 1794, the rates were increased again. For those who wanted to be recorded in the first guild the threshold was increased to 16,000 rubles, for the second guild to 8,000 rubles, and for the third guild to 2,000 rubles. At the same time, the tax rate was also gradually increased from 1% to 1.25% of the declared amount of capital. This tendency was convincingly demonstrated in the early 19th century when the guild fee was increased to 5.225% of the declared capital. In fact, the new tax turned out to be not a tax on capital, but a kind of annual fee for belonging to a certain guild, which the merchants selected themselves.⁸

Unlike other estates, merchantry did not offer lifetime inclusion: a merchant had to confirm his guild certificate annually. In cases where the certificate was not extended, the merchant was excluded from the

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Kashenov 2005, p. 39-43.

⁸ *Zakonov Rossijskoj imperii*, vol. XX, 1810, no. 14275, p. 243.

merchantry along with his family and automatically became one of the lower middle class. All relatives included in the certificate were deemed to be assigned to the merchant estate and thus had all estate rights and privileges, which included release from any corporal punishments, freedom of movement, the right to obtain personal or hereditary citizenship, the right to participate in the self-management of the estate, and some other rights under certain conditions.

The law described in detail the relatives who could be included in the merchant's family. The merchantry certificate issued to a husband could include his wife, and for fathers or mothers, their sons or unmarried daughters were also included. Grandchildren were included only if their fathers were also included on the family certificate, and could not trade on their own behalf. The members of a merchant family, as recorded in the certificate issued to the named head of the family, were permitted to engage in his/her business affairs. Sons and daughters, as they reached adulthood, could choose to have a certificate issued in their own name, but should they do so, they would be excluded from the certificates of their father or mother and be solely responsible for their own business activity. This detailed regulation of merchants' families was dictated by the fiscal interests of the state in order to limit the range of persons who were entitled to trade under a non-divided capital and, thus, prevent avoidance of payment of the guild fees.

In many aspects, the reforms of Catherine II made merchants, entrepreneurs and manufacturers distinct from the craft community and made them into a new group of taxpayers, obliged to pay taxes directly to the treasury according to the size of their capital. This was also encouraged by the release of merchants from various state duties, especially severe ones such as military service, unlike the lower middle class and craftsmen. As a result, by the middle of the 19th century the merchantry had become not only one of the most powerful segments of the business population in economic terms, but also the most privileged estate after the nobles and the clergy.

At the same time, remaining in a merchant guild was directly dependent upon on many factors: the success of the business, the economic environment and the policies of the government. Though access to the merchantry was open to the representatives of any social group (with some exceptions), only a few families managed to stay in this estate for longer than one generation. Therefore, during the pre-reform period, the most successful and adventurous merchant families came to the fore.

The consistent governmental support for entrepreneurship at a legislative level considerably strengthened the merchantry, encouraging its most prominent representatives towards energetic and versatile business activities. With this purpose in mind, Emperor Pavel I in 1800 introduced the rank of *Kommertsii Sovetnik* (Councilor of Commerce) as a sign of special merit for successful businessmen and manufacturers among the merchantry. Individuals who achieved the best results in commerce, and who had remained in the first guild for 12 consecutive years, were awarded this rank. Such people were equated with the eighth class of government service, which granted them the rights of the noble estate and gave them the general title *Vashe Vysokoblagorodiye* (Your High Nobleness). Besides, those awarded with this merit were invited to governmental meetings dedicated to trade and industry issues. In 1810, the Manifest *About the Methods to Achieve Better Structure of Cloth Mills* introduced the rank of *Manufaktur-Sovetnik* (Manufacture Councilor) for merchants in the industry who had remained in the first guild for 12 years and manufactured more than 100,000 arshins of cloth (approx. 71,000 meters) annually.⁹ Those who were awarded this rank obtained the same privileges as *Kommertsii Sovetnik*. Thus, the government encouraged the growth in both ambitions of entrepreneurs and active business activities.

Starting with the reforms by Catherine II and throughout the whole of the 19th century, the process of extending the rights and the social base of domestic entrepreneurship, as well as the active involvement of businessmen in the solution of problems of local self-management and benevolence, took place. The subsequent legislative unification of the business activity and the social status of merchantry helped to reinforce entrepreneurship and make its role in the social life of a city more important. Lack of prospects in the state or military service forced entrepreneurs to participate in the economic development of the city more actively. From this perspective, the growth of merchants' influence on city management in the second half of the 18th century was to be expected. As noticed by L. M. Sverdlova, during this period "city management was virtually completely controlled by guild merchantry."¹⁰

The most successful entrepreneurs were treated as "renowned citizens" and obtained certain significant privileges and rights. In November 1824, the right to wear a governor's uniform (with a court sword) was granted to first guild merchants. Acknowledgment of the increasingly active role of the business community in the life of society and the state was made

⁹ Sverdlova 2009, p. 159.

¹⁰ Mackenzie 1891, p. 153-155.

by the introduction of hereditary honorary citizenship, in a Manifest of Emperor Nikolay I. After the practice of granting merchants the title of renowned citizens was abolished in 1807, this measure became a kind of compensation for the growing body of domestic entrepreneurs who demanded broader rights and privileges. Hereditary honorary citizenship was granted to merchants who held the *Kommertsii Sovetnik* title, were awarded government orders and were members of the first guild for 10 subsequent years or the second guild for 20 subsequent years, and had never been acknowledged bankrupt or indicted in a court during that time. Those who were included in this estate group were released from military service, corporal punishment and the head tax. They obtained the opportunity to take part in elections without property qualification. The Hereditary Honorary Citizenship was inherited, a circumstance which was also very attractive for the heads of powerful and rich merchant families.

In the second half of 19th century, considerable changes took place in the legal status of entrepreneurs. Cancellation of the law of serfdom and the liberal reforms of the second half of 19th century gave rise to capitalist relations, encouraged the establishment of the basic principles of bourgeois society, and caused changes in social and economic life.¹¹ Understanding the defects of the then existing business legislation, which became obvious during the industrial crisis in the late 1850s, the Russian government made certain efforts to improve it.¹² As early as in 1861, a bill was prepared, which provided for cutting the business activity tax. Though the bill was not adopted in full, the ministry of finance slightly reduced the cost of the first guild certificates and increased the duty for the second and third guild certificates.

The key event in the history of merchantry in Russia was the adoption of the *Polozheniye o poshlinakh na pravo trgovli i drugikh promyslov* (Provision on duties for the right for trade and other crafts) in January 1863. Subsequently, a law dated 9 February 1865 introduced certain corrections to it.¹³ The biggest changes concerned the legal sphere of entrepreneurial activity. According to these legislative acts, the rights of merchants were granted to those citizens who paid patent and ticket business duties. Thus, the right to conduct business activity was granted to people belonging to any category of the population who could pay the required duty for conducting commercial or craft business activity. The trade certificates were issued to Russian nationals of any estate, to persons of any gender and any

¹¹ Sweezy 1970, p. 99.

¹² *Zakonov Rossiiskoi imperii*, vol. XXXVII, 1865, no. 39118, p. 145.

¹³ Pipes 1999, p. 420.

age (through a custodian, if required), who could choose to keep their previous rank or be assigned the rank of merchant. According to the new provision, entrepreneurs had to obtain special certificates annually, which were broken down into merchant or guild certificates and simple craft certificates. A person who took a merchant or guild certificate obtained, along with the right to conduct trade or craft in within a set scope, the personal rights and advantages of the merchantry.

The number of merchant guilds was reduced to two and the trade patents or guild merchantry certificates were divided into two guild classes. Establishing and maintaining trade and industrial facilities was permitted only after obtaining a guild certificate. Obtaining a certificate of the first guild granted permission to conduct wholesale trade with respect to Russian and foreign goods throughout the country, possess factories and plants, and enter into contractual relations without any limitation to the amount. Accordingly, a merchant of second guild could conduct a retail business within a city or a district, possess a factory or a plant, and enter into labour contracts to the amount of up to 15,000 rubles. The price of the certificate depended on the set class of the city location in which the merchant was registered in the estate. Only a person who had purchased an estate guild certificate was entitled to be called a merchant. Persons who had not previously belonged to the merchantry and then purchased a certificate could be either registered as merchants or keep their previous rank. However, as the estate rights of merchants were very extensive, few people other than nobles used their right to keep their former rank. On the other hand, people with small capital were entering guilds with the aim of obtaining full merchant privileges. This caused the occurrence of the “temporary merchants” phenomenon.¹⁴ The temporary merchants, having selected a merchant certificate and obtained rights under it, kept their previous estate. As a rule, entrepreneurs from other estates (peasants, lower middle class, and nobles) were assigned to this category.

The next important reform was carried out by the Minister of Finance, S. Y. Witte, in 1898, when the *Polozhenia o Gosudarstvennom promyslovom naloge* (Provision on the State Trade Tax) was adopted. This reform finally put an end to the estate-based nature of business activities. Adoption of the new provision was caused by the need to shift to a progressive income-based system of taxation of entrepreneurs. Unlike previous duties, the trade tax of 1898 made the enterprise, not the entrepreneur, the object of taxation. The provision reinforced that belonging to a merchant estate was determined by the availability of both a

¹⁴ *Zakonov Rossijskoj imperii*, vol. XL, 1898, no. 41779, p. 378.

merchant and a trade certificate. A trade certificate could be purchased by people of any estate. The trade tax consisted of the fee for purchasing the trade certificate. The patent price varied according to the geographical location: the territory of the Russian Empire was broken up into four classes depending on the rate of trade and industry development, with the exception of the capital regions. Businesses and private trades were also broken up into classes depending on their activities. Besides this, an additional trade tax in the form of a certain percentage from the capital stock was paid. Another fee, a percentage of the net profit, was set for enterprises which were liable to public reporting, according to a progressive system; for enterprises that were not liable to public reporting, it was calculated based on percentage of the average profitability, which was calculated and fixed for this group of enterprises.¹⁵ Thus, the former system of double taxation in the form of main and additional duties remained; however, individuals engaged in trade were not the subject of taxation, only their business enterprises.

As the order of taxation changed, the social and legal status of the merchantry inevitably changed. By 1890s, the estate privileges of the merchantry had for the most part lost their initial meaning, which is evidenced by the fact that during development of the taxation reform, an issue was raised about practicability of keeping merchantry rights unchanged. As a result, despite the fact that the existing privileges had not been changed, they were separated from the right to engage in entrepreneurial activity, which manifested itself in dividing the certificates into trade and guild ones. Thus, guild duty transformed from being the main trade tax into a fee for belonging to the merchantry. As a result, entrepreneurs who wished to make use of the estate rights and privileges had to obtain an estate merchant certificate along with their trade certificate.

Conclusions

The 1898 reform had several consequences for the development of Russian entrepreneurship. Firstly, a merchant was given the opportunity to be registered as a merchant without conducting any business, and this did not lead to depriving him of his rank. Also, as the merchant rank still provided certain advantages and the merchant's social status was higher than that of peasants or lower middle class, persons who wanted to obtain merchant rights but were not engaged in entrepreneurship started to buy up guild certificates on a massive scale. This was particularly important for Jews, whose civil rights were limited in the Russian Empire. The increase in

¹⁵ Mironov 2000, p. 183.

individuals not engaged in entrepreneurship in the guilds in the late 19th century was a factor that led to the creation of a special category of “non-trading merchants” who had just the same legal position as trading merchants.

Secondly, due to it being unnecessary to enter a merchant guild in order to conduct entrepreneurial activity, the number of merchant certificates obtained started to decrease and the share of registered merchants among entrepreneurs started to reduce rapidly from the early 20th century. The taxation reform led to a notable reduction of the merchant estate population in the early 20th century. The reduction in the number of guild certificates purchased can be explained both by their high cost and the depreciation in the meaning of the privileges received on becoming a merchant. According to B. N. Mironov, the reduction in the merchantry population during this period was, “according to the opinion of urban and rural dwellers, caused by the reduced attractiveness of the merchant rank.”¹⁶ Besides, many industrialists who were not interested in the additional estate-related rights did not obtain merchant certificates and remained in the lower middle class and peasant estates.

The change in the qualitative and quantitative structure of guilds confirms the conclusion of those researchers who believe that in the late 19th-early 20th centuries, an active process of dilution of the Russian merchantry took place.¹⁷ During this period, not only did the number of merchants decrease rapidly, but the estate itself lost its former business-related meaning.

Legislative Measures of the Russian State Relating to Regulation of Entrepreneurial Activity between the Mid-18th and Early 20th Centuries

(Abstract)

This article deals with the laws created by the Russian government in the sphere of the legal regulation of business activity by the rising merchant class, which was characterised by its social status as much as entrepreneurship.

Due to the reforms of Peter I and Catherine II, merchants, businessmen and industrialists were brought out of the burgher community and formed into a special group of taxpayers, liable to pay tributes to the treasury directly depending on the value of their capital. Consequently merchants, as well as commoners and guild members, were relieved of various state duties, especially such serious duties as military service.

Consistent state support of entrepreneurial activity at the legislative level significantly strengthened the merchantry and encouraged its prominent representatives to

¹⁶ Mironov 2000, p. 183.

¹⁷ Oakeshott 1983, p. 89.

conduct diverse business activities. As a result, by the middle of the 19th century the merchantry had become not only the most economically active segment of the population involved in commercial activities, but also the most privileged estate (social group) after the nobility and clergy.

This study of the socio-legal status of the Russian merchantry of the mid-18th-early 20th centuries concludes that the merchantry was a special class with the inherent attributes of a closed estate corporation. Due to its relatively high socio-legal status and economic strength, the merchantry played an extremely significant role in the post-reform Russian society.

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Keywords: Russia, legislation, entrepreneurial activity, merchants, trading activity, charity, commercial grade.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AA	- Acta Archaeologica. Copenhagen.
AAL	- Asien Africa Lateinamerika. Zeitschrift des Zentralen Rates für Asien-, Afrika- und Lateinamerikawissenschaften in der DDR. Berlin.
AAMT	- Advances in Archaeological Method and Theory. Orlando.
AAnt	- American Antiquity. Society for American Archaeology. Washington.
ABM	- Alaska Business Monthly. Anchorage.
Acta Asiatica	- Acta Asiatica. Bulletin of the Institute of Eastern Culture. Tokyo.
AO	- Arkheologicheskiiye otkrytiya (1965-2013). Moscow.
AOASH	- Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae. Institute of Oriental Studies. Budapest.
AP	- Arkheologiya Podmoskov'ya. Materialy nauchnogo seminara. Institute of Archaeology Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
ArchOttoman	- Archivum Ottomanicum. Wiesbaden Ottoman Archives. Wiesbaden.
Ars Judaica	- Ars Judaica. Bar-Ilan University. Ramat Gan.
Art-menedzher	- Art-menedzher. Business magazine considering culture and art as a resource for the social and economic development of society and offering various technologies and methodologies of management of this process. Moscow.
Bibliosfera	- Bibliosfera. The Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Novosibirsk.
BKF	- Baltiiskii filologicheskii kurer. Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University. Kaliningrad.
BM	- Byulleten' Moskovskogo obshchestva ispytateley prirody. Otdel biologicheskyy. Moscow Society of Naturalists. Moscow.
BMMS	- Byulleten Muzeya Marka Shagala. Marc Chagall Museum, Vitebsk.
Byilyie godyi	- Byilyie godyi. Sochi State University. Sochi.
CAn	- Current Anthropology. Chicago.
CHR	- The Canadian Historical Review. University of Toronto Press. Toronto.

CIS	- Culturologicheskie issledovania Sibiri. Omsk State University. Omsk.
Comparativ	- Comparativ. Leipziger Beiträge zur Universalgeschichte und vergleichenden Gesellschaftsforschung. Universität Leipzig, Global and European Studies Institute. Leipzig.
CRJ	- Classical Reception Journal. The Open University, UK. Oxford.
Den'gi	- Den'gi. Publishing House "Kommersant". Moscow.
EDV	- Ekonomicheskaya zhizn Dalnego Vostoka. Geographic Society. Khabarovsk, Amur.
EHQ	- European History Quarterly. University of London. London.
EJNH	- European Journal of Natural History. The Russian Academy of Natural History. Moscow.
Ethnos	- Ethnos. Journal of Anthropology. London.
Études/Inuit/Studies	- Études/Inuit/Studies. Association Inuksiutiit Katimajit Inc. Québec.
EZ	- Evolucijazni na Zemle. Tomsk State University. Tomsk.
Femida	- Femida. Media Corporation "ZAN". Almaty.
Florilegium	- Florilegium. The journal of the Canadian Society of Medievalists. Ottawa.
Forsait	- Forsait. Higher School of Economy. Moscow.
Francia	- Francia. Forschungen zur westeuropäischen Geschichte, hg. vom Deutschen Historischen Institut Paris (Institut Historique Allemand). Paris.
Fundamental Research	- Fundamental Research. Russian Academy of Natural History. Moscow.
Genetics	- Genetics. Genetics Society of America. Bethesda (USA).
Genetika	- Genetika. Russian Journal of Genetics. Moscow State University. Moscow.
Geologiya i geofizika	- Geologiya i geofizika. Institute of Geology and Geophysics of the Siberian Department of the Science Academy in the USSR, Novosibirsk. Published by the Siberian department of the Science Academy in the USSR. Novosibirsk.
Gyanovashchya	- Gyanovashchya. Dnepropetrovsk State University. Dnepropetrovsk.
HN	- Hraniteli naslediya. Altay State Pedagogical Academy. Barnaul.
HZ	- Historische Zeitschrift. Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main.
Karavan	- Karavan (newspaper). Almaty.
KAS	- Der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung - Auslandsinformationen. Berlin.

KPZ	- Kazanskij pedagogicheskij zhurnal. Institute of Pedagogy and Psychology. Kazan.
IAIAND	- Istoriko-arkheologicheskie issledovaniya v g. Azove i na Nizhnem Donu v 2006 g., Don.
Istoriografiya	- Istoriografiya i istochnikovedenie istorii stran Azii i Afriki. Leningrad State University. Leningrad.
Istoriya i sovremennost'	- Istoriya i sovremennost'. Moscow.
Izvestia Ugo	- Izvestija Ugo-Zapadnogo Gosudarstvennogo Universiteta. Kursk.
IzvSamarsk	- Izvestiya Samarskogo nauchnogo tsentra RAN. Samara.
JBAA	- Journal of the British Archaeological Association, British Archaeological Association. London.
Kulturnoe nasledie	- Kulturnoe nasledie. Altai State University, Altai Territory, Barnaul.
Lesnoi Zhurnal	- Lesnoi Zhurnal. Izvestiia Vysshikh Uchebnykh Zavedenii. Bulletin of Higher Educational Institution. Arkhangelsk.
LKK	- Literatura i kultura v Kitae. Moscow.
LSJ	- Life Science Journal. Acta Zhengzhou University Overseas. Zhengzhou University. New York.
JAMT	- Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory. New York.
JAR	- Journal of Archaeological Research. Journal of Archaeological Research. New York.
JISV	- Jekonomicheskie i istoricheskie issledovaniya na Severo-Vostoke SSSR. Economic and historical research in the North-East of the USSR. Magadan.
KT	- Kazakhskaya tsivilizatsiya. University Kaimar Almaty. Almaty.
Marketing	- Marketing. Centre for Marketing Research and Management. Moscow.
MBD	- Molodyye v biblioteknom dele. Youth in Library Science. Moscow.
MEJSR	- Middle-East Journal of Scientific Research. International scientific journal published by the international digital organization for scientific information (IDOSI).
Memoirs SAA	- Memoirs of the Society for American Archaeology. Society for American Archaeology. Washington DC.
MENP	- Materialy po evolyucii nazemnykh pozvochnykh. Moscow.
MIA	- Materialy po istorii i archeologii SSSR. Moscow, Saint Petersburg.
MIFFK	- Materialy po istorii fauny i flory Kazahstana. Kazakhstan.

Mir bibliografii	- Mir bibliografii. Moscow.
Mir obrazovaniya	- Mir obrazovaniya - obrazovanie v mire. Scientific-Methodological Journal. Moscow Psychology and Sociology Institute. Moscow.
MNKO	- Mir Nauki, Kul'tury, Obrazovaniya. Gorno-Altaisk.
Molodezh' Tatarstana	- Molodezh' Tatarstana. Newspaper. Kazan.
MUSEUM	- MUSEUM. UNESCO.
Narodnaya shkola	- Narodnaya shkola. Saint Petersburg.
Nauchnoye obozreniye	- Nauchnoye obozreniye, series 2, Gumanitarniye nauki. Lomonosov Moscow State University. Moscow.
Nauch.-tekhn. Inform	- Nauchnaya i tekhnicheskaya informatsiya. Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Naukovedeniye	- Naukovedeniye. Institute of History of Natural Sciences and Technics named after S. I. Vavilov of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Neues Leben	- Neues Leben [newspaper]. Berlin.
NIV	- Novyy istoricheskiy vestnik. Obshchestvo s ogranichennoj otvetstvennost'yu "Izdatel'stvo Ippolitova". Moscow.
NKOGK	- Obshchestvo i gosudarstvo v Kitae: XXXIX nauchnaia konferentsiia. Moscow.
NNZ	- Novgorod i Novgorodskaya zemlya. Istoriya i arkhologiya. Veliki Novgorod.
Novosti	- Russian News Agency "Novosti". Moscow.
NT	- Nauchnyi Tatarstan. Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tatarstan. Kazan.
NTB	- Nauchnyye i tekhnicheskkiye biblioteki. The State Public Scientific and Technical Library Russia. Moscow.
Odyssey	- Odyssey. Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Universal History. Moscow.
ONS	- Obshchestvennuyye nauki i sovremennost. Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
OT	- Otechestvennyye zapiski. Saint Petersburg.
Panorama iskusstv	- Panorama iskusstv. Sovetskii khudozhnik. Moscow.
Pervye amerikancy	- Pervye amerikancy. First Americans (Almanac). Russian Society of Indianists. Saint Petersburg.
PGI	- Problemi Gumanitarnih Issledovaniy. Russian State Institute for Regional Issues in Northern Caucasus. Pyatigorsk.
Polar Record	- Polar Record. A Journal of Arctic and Antarctic Research. Scott Polar Research Institute. Cambridge, UK.
Politische Wissenschaft	- Politische Wissenschaft. Deutsche Hochschule für Politik Berlin.

Polzunovskiy vestnik	- Polzunovskiy vestnik. Altay State Technical University. Barnaul.
Pozdneplejstocenovye	- Pozdneplejstocenovye i rannegolocenovye kul'turnye svyazi Azii i Ameriki. Institute of History, Philology and Philosophy. Novosibirsk.
Prizrenie	- Prizrenie i blagotvoritel'nost' v Rossii. Izdanie Vserossijskogo sojuza uchrezhdenij, obshhestv i dejatelej po obshhestvennomu i chastnomu prizreniju. Saint Petersburg.
Problemi filosofii	- Problemi filosofii. Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Proceedings Volgograd	- Proceedings of the Volgograd State Pedagogical University. Volgograd.
PsZ	- Psikhologicheskij zhurnal. Institute of Psychology of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
PT	- Perspectives on Terrorism. The Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) headquartered in Vienna, and the Center for Terrorism and Security Studies (CTSS) headquartered at the University of Massachusetts' Lowell campus. Massachusetts.
RA	- Rossiiskaia Arkheologiya. Moscow.
Reka vremen	- Reka vremen. Moscow.
Rivista di Bizantinistica	- Rivista di Bizantinistica. Bologna.
RossEconom	- Rossiski ekonomicheskij jurnal. International Academy of Business and Management. Moscow.
Rossiyskaya Gazeta	- Rossiyskaya Gazeta. Russian government daily newspaper. Moscow.
SA	- Sovetskaja Arkheologija. Institute of Archaeology, Russia, Moscow. Moscow.
SC	- Sviyazhskie chteniya. Sviyazhsk.
Scientometrics	- Scientometrics. Akadémiai Kiadó. Budapest.
Serdalo	- Obschenacionalnaya gaseta Respubliki Ingushetiya "Serdalo". Nazran.
SGV	- Saratovskie gubernskie vedomosti. Saratov.
Shagalovskii sbornik	- Shagalovskii sbornik. Marc Chagall Museum. Minsk.
SI	- Sociologicheskkiye issledovaniya. Science Institute of Sociology of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Soziale Geschichte	- Soziale Geschichte. Zeitschrift für historische Analyse des 20. und 21. Jahrhunderts. Bremen.
Spectrum	- Spectrum. The Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies. Astana.
SS	- Sibirskaya stolitsa. Tobolsk State Historical and Architectural Museum-Reserve. Tobolsk.

SSM	- Social Sciences and Modernity. The Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences "Science". Moscow.
SV	- Sovremennaya filologiya. Ufa.
SZ	- Sociologicheskiy zhurnal. Moscow.
Tarih Dergisi	- Istanbul Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi Tarih Dergisi. Istanbul.
TKA	- Tolski kraevedchesky almanah. Tula.
Traditzionnaya kultura	- Traditzionnaya kultura. An academic almanac representing the perspective direction in complex study of ethnoculture: national outlook, pedagogics, life, mythology, customs, ceremonies, poetry and music. Moscow.
Trudovaya pomoshch'	- Trudovaya pomoshch'. Izdanie Popechitel'stva o trudovoj pomoshhi. Saint Petersburg.
Vestnik AAJ	- Vestnik arheologii, antropologii i jetnografii. Institute of Problems of Development of the North, Russia. Tyumen.
Vestnik Chelyabinsk	- Vestnik Chelyabinskogo gosudarstvennogo universiteta, Istoriya. Publishing house of Chelyabinsk State University. Chelyabinsk.
Vestnik Chuvashskogo	- Vestnik Chuvashskogo gosudarstvennogo pedagogicheskogo universiteta im I. Ya. Yakovleva. I. Y. Yakovlev Chuvash State Pedagogical University. Cheboksary.
VestKrasno	- Vestnike Krasnoyarskogo gosudarstvennogo pedagogicheskogo universiteta imeni V. P. Astafeva. Krasnojarskiy gosudarstvennyj pedagogicheskij universitet im. V. P. Astafeva. Krasnojarsk.
Vestnik Kazak	- Vestnik Akademii nauk Kazakhskoy SSR. Academy of Science of the Kazakh SSR. Kazakhstan.
Vestnik RAN	- Vestnik Rossiyskoy Akademii Nauk. Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Vestnik Samara	- Vestnik Samarskogo gosudarstvennogo universiteta. Samara State University. Samara.
Vestn Tomsk Gos Univ.	- Vestnik Tomskogo gosudarstvennogo universiteta. Kul'turologiya i iskusstvovedeniye. Bulletin of Tomsk State University. Tomsk.
Vestnik Semej	- Vestnik gosudarstvennogo universiteta imeni Shakarima goroda Semej. Shakarim State University of Semej.
Vestnik Ufa	- Vestnik Vostochnoy ekonomiko-yuridicheskoy gumanitarnoy akademii. East Economic-Legal Humanitarian Academy. Ufa.
Vestnik VyatGGU	- Vestnik Vyatskogo gosudarstvennogo gumanitarnogo universiteta: Vyatka State University of Humanities. Kirov.

Vizantiysky vremennik	- Vizantiysky vremennik. Institute of General History of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Voprosy Istorii	- Voprosy Istorii. Russian academic journal for historical studies. The Institute of Russian History of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
Voprosi Literaturny	- Voprosi Literaturny. Writer's Union of the USSR. Moscow.
Voprosy filosofii	- Voprosy filosofii. Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow.
VTP	- Istoricheskiye, filosofskiy, politicheskiye i yuridicheskiye nauki, kul'turologiya i iskusstvovedeniye. Voprosy teorii i praktiki. Tambov.
WASJ	- World Applied Sciences Journal. International Digital Organization Scientific for Information "IDOSI Publications" UAE. Dubai.
Zapiski	- Zapiski Vostochnogo otdeleniya Russkogo arkhologicheskogo obshchestva. Archaeological Society. Saint Petersburg.
ZDMG	- Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft. Berlin Magazine of the German East Society. Berlin.