

**Scientific and Methodological Expert
Recommendations
Based on the Proceedings
of the First International Scientific Conference
“Philosophical Reflection
on Historiographical and Prospective Tasks
of Contemporary Public Law”
(Ekaterinburg, November 14, 2024)**

The Institute of Philosophy and Law of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences undertook substantial scientific research and organizational efforts in 2024. These endeavors were aimed at generating new scientific insights regarding the peculiarities and contradictions inherent in the formation of a unified Russian narrative within the public sphere. This narrative is intrinsically linked to the development of a consolidating identity and the elucidation of the historical and cultural unity of a sovereign nation. In alignment with this scientific project, several all-Russian and international scientific conferences were organized and conducted, including:

1. “The Heritage of Immanuel Kant and Modernity – on the 300th Anniversary of the Birth of the Great Thinker,” Ekaterinburg, April 22–23, 2024;

2. Roundtable Discussion within the International Ural Scientific Forum, dedicated to the 300th anniversary of the Russian Academy of Sciences: “Historical Truth and Collective Memory: Mechanisms of Regulation of Russian Historical Policy,” Ekaterinburg, April 26–27, 2024.

3. Conference on “Cancel Culture and Social Ostracism in History and Modernity,” Ekaterinburg, May 16–17, 2024;

4. International Scientific Conference “Philosophical Reflection on Historiographical and Prospective Tasks of Contemporary Public Law,” Ekaterinburg, November 14, 2024.

Dozens of scholarly presentations have been prepared for a range of scientific events, complemented by articles

published in leading academic journals indexed in the Russian Science Citation Index (RSCI) and those within the core of RINTS, including but not limited to *State and Law, Russia in Global Politics, Changing Societies & Personalities, Antinomies*, and *Discourse-Pi*. Among the most significant recommendations directed toward specialists, as well as federal, state, and municipal legislative and executive bodies, and relevant institutions and organizations, the following should be emphasized:

I. Enhancing the Effectiveness of Normative and Legal Regulation Regarding Historical Policy, Memory Policy, Citizenship Education, and Education

1. Advance the conceptual frameworks for democratic governance in contemporary societies, taking into account the evolution of democratic institutions in Russian history. Foster mechanisms for interaction between state authorities and local self-governments with citizens, encouraging the implementation of legal institutions that facilitate the involvement of representatives from diverse segments of Russian society in discussions on matters of national importance and local significance. Investigate the political and legal issues surrounding governmental transparency, particularly in light of the opportunities provided by the digitalization of public relations.

2. Refine collaboration formats with BRICS member and partner states on human rights protection issues. Develop expert recommendations regarding mutual national regimes for citizens of BRICS countries and enhance mechanisms for legal assistance in criminal cases. Promote the adoption of soft law instruments within BRICS that address human rights regulation, which could subsequently serve as a basis for the development of legally binding documents in this area.

3. Recommend the specification of normative-legal protection for universal values within Russian legislation – values that are supported by the overwhelming majority of Russian citizens as the foundation of a consolidating civic identity. It would be prudent to enhance references to historical experience in legal documents with a stronger empha-

sis on contemporary (modern) values and a forward-looking perspective.

4. In the interest of developing strategic planning documents, propose precise formulations for categories such as values, truth, historical truth, solidarity, and others. Convene discussions on these categories with the involvement of expert communities from relevant institutes of the Russian Academy of Sciences, as well as other scientific and educational organizations.

5. Develop clear and unambiguous legal criteria for classifying local territories as self-governing. Establish transparent and effective rules for the interaction between local self-governments and governmental authorities within the federal subjects.

II. Countering Ideological Appropriations, Destructive Ideologies, and Distortions of Russia's Civilizational Development

1. In the realm of scientific and ideological support for Russia's civilizational development, it is recommended to abandon the strategy that frames the confrontation between Russia and the collective West as a conflict between *Tradition* and *Modernity*. This framework implies that Russia concedes the monopoly on *Modernity* to the West. It is proposed to operate under the principle that *Tradition* does not exist independently of high modernism; together, they constitute the relevant *Modernity*. The resulting approach involves viewing *Modernity* as a continuously reproducing space of alternatives. From this perspective, Russia, due to its currently existing diversity of social practices and its policy of maintaining an alternative space on the global stage, emerges as a historical subject that shapes an effective and attractive model of *Modernity* for many contemporary societies.

2. In the realm of philosophical and legal descriptions of Russia as a civilization-state, it is crucial to avoid uncritical enthusiasm for concepts aligned with reactionary civilizational rhetoric that do not meet the needs of the present day. The concept of a *civilization-state* can become effective and persuasive if developed as a pragmatic alternative to

the outdated *civilizationalism* of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This concept should not rely on speculative interpretations of the past and present that primarily hold historical value.

3. In the current context, safeguard the value core of the Russian *civilization-state* assumes particular significance. It is advisable to conduct a systematic analysis of Russian social theories and textbooks that conceptualize the current state of Russian society and state during the post-Soviet period. The aim is to identify and evaluate narratives directed at delegitimizing Russian values.

4. In the preparation of school and university textbooks, educational courses, events, and patriotic education programs, it is recommended to justify the priority of the unity of the Russian nation over the interests of specific groups. When formulating recommendations, it is prudent to rely on collective perceptions that have been established based on values developed through extensive public discussions.

5. Develop collaboration among legal universities, academic institutions, expert analytical centers, and governmental bodies to improve communication efficiency among them. The goal is to formulate effective strategies and concepts for development that ensure historical and cultural unity for the sovereign Russian nation.

III. Enhancing the Quality of Education and Historiographical Competence Among Lawyers and Other Social Science Representatives

1. Conduct a systematic study of the contributions made by Russian legal scholars (classics of legal thought), that promote the values of constitutionalism, democracy, human rights and freedoms, as well as the traditional values of Russian society.

2. Ensure the development of methodological foundations for the study of historiographical sources. Organize a permanent scientific-theoretical seminar titled “Historiography of Philosophical, Legal and Historical Sciences.”

3. Initiate the development and publication of an academic course titled “History of the State and Law in Russia,”

reflecting the contemporary level of development in historical and legal research.

4. Preserve the teaching of legal philosophy as a mandatory subject at the level of legal master's programs. Develop an educational and methodological complex for teaching legal philosophy at the master's level, involving both legal scholars and philosophers. It is recommended that when studying the history of legal philosophy, the historical genesis of domestic political and legal concepts be taken into account, including those related to Byzantine heritage.