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Legal Framework for Archival Volunteering in Russia, Statement of the Problem, 1993–2026

Abstract

The article is devoted to an important and relevant topic of volunteerism and a separate area within this activity – archival volunteerism. The volunteer movement as a global trend in the field of social policy and national culture in a significant number of European countries has a specific legislative framework. Most European countries have adopted separate legislative acts regulating this area of social activity, defining the legal status of a volunteer/volunteer organizations, distinguishing between a volunteer and an employee, volunteer work and labor relations in accordance with their own national legislation. Currently, there is no single way to regulate volunteerism, which is explained both by the diversity of volunteer initiatives and by the objectives and goals set by the national legislation of various countries in this area. Nevertheless, there is some analogy that allows us to identify three main groups of countries in terms of the way volunteerism is regulated, which is discussed in the article. At the international level, volunteerism is regulated by such international structures as the UN General Assembly and the Council of Europe. In recent years, volunteerism has been actively developing in the Russian Federation, where, since 1993, a full-fledged regulatory framework for volunteerism has been formed. Russian volunteerism is characterized by the sectoral principle of development – this is its specificity. This means that in addition to federal legislation that ensures the basic rights of volunteers, an industry regulatory framework is also needed. In a number of specialized areas of volunteerism, there are independent laws regulating, for example, in the field of culture, the types of activities of volunteers. The field of archival volunteerism remains one of the least secure in terms of the regulatory framework. When working on the article, the method of scientific analysis, historical and legal, as well as comparative methods were used. Currently, there is a need to understand the theoretical and legal framework of volunteering in connection with the spread of volunteer practices in the archival industry. The article analyzes the existing regulatory legal acts defining the rights and obligations of volunteers and volunteer organizations, norms of archival law governing aspects of legal relations affecting the issues of ensuring the safety of archival documents and access to them. The existing regulatory legal acts on volunteerism (volunteering) at the federal level, as well as the existing sectoral archival legislation, in the author's opinion, fully allow the

development of norms for the legal regulation of archival volunteerism.

Keywords

Russia, civil society, volunteerism, volunteer, archive, legal foundations of Russian and international law, archival document, archival volunteerism, the institution of volunteerism in Russia.

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