

## COMPREHENSIBILITY OF LEGAL RULES AS A MEANS OF SMART REGULATION

### ENTENDENDO A REGULAÇÃO LEGAL COMO MEIO DE REGULAÇÃO INTELIGENTE

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**Resumo.** Melhorar a eficiência da regulamentação jurídica está entre as prioridades cruciais da política legislativa moderna. Esta questão é considerada, em particular, no âmbito do conceito de regulação inteligente, que visa desenvolver ferramentas para alcançar o maior efeito regulatório com o mínimo de gastos materiais, organizacionais, de tempo, etc. Um requisito importante da regulamentação inteligente é a utilização de uma linguagem jurídica compreensível, uma vez que sem comunicar o conteúdo das regras jurídicas ao destinatário, a melhoria de outros meios de influência jurídica é simplesmente inútil. O presente artigo, utilizando dados de estudos publicados baseados no método da linguística computacional, comprova que a simplificação da linguagem legislativa envolve não apenas a substituição de termos complicados por outros mais compreensíveis. A verbosidade do texto, seu volume excessivo e as inúmeras repetições também dificultam a compreensão do significado das normas jurídicas tanto para o leitor despreparado quanto para o profissional. As abreviaturas contextuais, cujo potencial para melhorar a legibilidade do texto jurídico não é suficientemente utilizado pelo legislador, são aqui consideradas como um meio de resolver o problema acima mencionado.

**Palavras-chave:** técnica jurídica, linguagem do direito, termo jurídico, regras de técnica jurídica, acessibilidade do direito

**Abstract.** Improving the efficiency of legal regulation is among the crucial priorities in modern law-making policy. This issue is considered, in particular, within the framework of the smart regulation concept, aimed at developing tools for achieving the greatest regulatory effect at the least material, organizational, time, etc. expenditures. An important requirement of smart regulation is the use of comprehensible legal language, since without communicating the content of legal rules to the addressee, the improvement of other means of legal influence is just meaningless. The present paper, using the data of published studies based on the method of computational linguistics, proves that the simplification of the legislative language involves not only the replacement of complicated terms with more understandable ones. The wordiness of the text, its excessive volume, and numerous repetitions also make it difficult to understand the meaning of legal rules both for an unprepared reader and for a professional. Contextual abbreviations, the potential of which to improve the readability of the legal text is not sufficiently used by the legislator, are considered here as a means of solving the above-mentioned problem.

**Keywords:** legal technique, language of law, legal term, rules of legal technique, accessibility of law

## INTRODUCTION

Improving the efficiency of legal regulation is among the crucial priorities in modern law-making policy. This issue is considered, in particular, within the framework of the smart regulation concept (Davydova & Makarov, 2020; Tighiz L, Yoo J. 2023), aimed at developing tools for achieving the greatest regulatory effect at the least material, organizational, time, etc. expenditures. An important requirement of smart regulation is increasing the comprehensibility of law, since without communicating the content of legal rules to the addressee, the improvement of other means of legal influence is just meaningless.

The requirement of the comprehensibility of law includes the ability to adequately perceive the content of the legal act and to understand the essence of the decrees set forth in it. To achieve this goal, it is required to improve the external form of the legal act (systematization, codification, legal design), as well as the quality of the legal language. Compliance with the language rules of legal technique is essential for the efficiency of the future legal act. This paper will examine some of these rules from the perspective of the requirements of reasonableness and bindingness imposed on them. The study will focus on the rules aimed at reducing the excessive complexity of the language of legislative acts.

One of the most important features of the current era is the rapid evolution of information and communication technology. These developments have created many opportunities for people in different fields and have improved and changed their lives. The Internet, as the global information and communication network, is the biggest phenomenon of these developments. Undoubtedly, the Internet plays an important role in ensuring the right to freedom of expression (Gunningham & Sinclair, 2017; Jamalpour & Derabi, 2023). Many people around the world access a world of information through the Internet. With the transformation it has created in the media space, the Internet has been able to be effective in this field in the real sense. Even in some cases, the Internet is mentioned as the last hope for the activity

of independent and free media. A look at the role of the Internet and especially social networks in the revolutions and transformations of Arab countries, proves the effectiveness of this new communication tool (Zainal et al., 2022; ).

Therefore, the new technology has provided the basis for using the right to freedom of expression by removing the limitations and obstacles of publishing, searching and receiving information. On the other hand, due to the influence of the Internet in their daily life, people need it and expect the Internet services to be accessible, safe, cheap and stable. With the development and progress of the Internet, its legal issues, especially the issue of drafting laws and regulations for this new media and communication tool, have always been discussed and different views have been raised in this field. At first, it was thought that the new technology does not require the existence of legal rules, or at least due to the cross-border nature of the Internet, the formulation of national rules and regulations cannot be very effective. But over time, it became clear that in addition to the necessity of international and regional measures to support important issues such as Internet governance, the necessity of providing technical infrastructure, preventing the monopolization of great powers, etc., the importance of national regulation cannot be denied. Now this question is raised, whether it is possible to specify certain principles and follow them in the formulation of legal rules and regulations for the Internet? If the answer to the first question is positive, what are these principles and on what basis should they be determined? In this article, an attempt has been made to provide an appropriate answer to the mentioned questions based on the research conducted.

How to make policies and decisions more efficient at the level of a country is one of the issues around which many questions have been raised today. This efficiency does not necessarily mean the high strength of the program from the very beginning of the design, but if our policy has some characteristics, it can be improved over time and find a higher match with the problem and work more effectively. Smart policymaking is an approach in the field of policymaking in which it is tried to continuously benefit from the effects of program implementation in order to improve it by creating an effective relationship between the three parts of design, implementation and evaluation in the policy. provided citizens with higher quality public services. Self-correction, the impact of technology for the effectiveness of actions and the use of data in the design of the mechanism are among the things that are considered in the smart policy. The smart policymaking cycle consists of 6 steps, which are: identifying policy issues, diagnosing, designing, implementing, testing and refining. In the process of smart policymaking, suggestions are recommended as key operators to improve the policymaking process, which include: creating a purposeful and standardized collaboration between political activists and academic researchers, pre-evaluation and continuous evaluation of plans in order to enable correction. Automatic, using the evidence obtained from the evaluations carried out in order to improve the design and formulation of laws and their implementation, including the evaluation discussion as a fundamental step in the policy-making process and the use of educational implementation before implementation on a large scale in order to Design evaluation and familiarization with implementation aspects.

Today, the Internet has played an important role in securing the right to freedom of expression, and by removing the restrictions on publishing, searching and receiving information, it has provided the basis for the use of this fundamental right. This new means of communication, like any other social matter, requires systematization through the establishment of applicable laws and regulations. Undoubtedly, this process for the Internet can be useful and effective when it is established and implemented with a correct understanding of the characteristics of this media and new communication tools and the conditions of society. In this article, an attempt has been made to identify and introduce the principles for drafting legal rules and regulations of the Internet, considering the current situation and developments of the Internet in the near future and international and regional experiences. It is suggested that these principles should always be taken into account in policies and regulations.

## **METHODS**

Using data from published studies based on the method of computational linguistics, the paper proves that simplifying the language of law involves not only replacing complex terms with more comprehensible ones. Analyzing the texts of existing laws, the authors demonstrate that ignoring the rules of legal technique often makes these texts incomprehensible even for professionals. What is meant here is not obvious defects and mistakes in the text. Formally, a document can be written correctly, but be extremely confusing, verbose, and difficult to comprehend. A comparison of different versions of the same law makes it possible to show

how the text of the norm becomes more complicated, which could be easily avoided by using simple language rules of legal writing.

The issue of the potential beneficiary of activities aimed at simplifying the text of the law is methodologically important. If the need for simplification is justified by the interests of ordinary “unprepared” users of the law, the discussion inevitably comes down to finding a balance between the simplification and primitivization of the legislative text, the admissibility of replacing complex bureaucratic structures with those that will be easily perceived at the ordinary level, and choosing colloquial synonyms for professional legal terms. The Plain English movement (Zódi, 2019) originally dealt with this range of issues. Some Russian scientists also consider the issue of simplifying the language of law in the same context (Belov & Gulida, 2019). Many studies confirm the fact that the rejection of old-fashioned verbal constructions, the use of direct word order, reducing the length of a sentence, and increasing the number of verbs in them not only have a positive impact on understanding the text by ordinary people but also improve the efficiency of professional lawyers’ work (Zódi, 2019). Nevertheless, the reference to “ordinary citizens” adds a populist note to this discussion, diverting from strictly scientific issues. The discussion often is reduced to the dilemma of “professionalism versus populism”.

Examining the historical course of evolution and development of media freedom shows that now there are two different and opposite systems regarding the establishment and activity of media in different countries according to their political systems, which are: "punitive system" and "preventive system". Each of the countries applies one of these systems according to the conditions and the type of attitude they have towards the freedom of the media. Punitive or prosecuting system is a system in which "individuals and groups, free from any pressure and restrictions and knowing that the abuse of the right will lead to civil or criminal liability, have the initiative to enjoy the recognized fundamental rights and freedoms without to inform the administrative departments of their actions. As long as the exercise of this right goes through its normal routine, the government has no right to interfere.

Interference begins when individuals and institutions with rights do not respect the legal limits that are established to maintain public order and other social considerations. It is in this case that the judicial system, based on certain rules, intervenes and tries the violators of the rules related to public order and the violators of the rights of others, and if the crime or violation is proven, it is sentenced to punishment or compensation.

In countries that have a libertarian system, the "punishment or prosecution" system is used. In these countries, there are no restrictions - except in exceptional cases, which of course are foreseen in the laws and reasonable restrictions - for the establishment and activity of the media. Real and legal persons can establish it with complete freedom or in some countries only by submitting a notice or requesting the registration of their desired media. The laws of these countries, in addition to recognizing this degree of freedom for the media, in order to protect the interests and interests of the public, foresee reasonable restrictions for them, in case of disobeying these laws, they will be prosecuted in regular courts and often with the presence of a jury. It will be investigated and the violators will be punished.

In countries with an authoritarian system, where the government is generally afraid of the political freedoms of the people and tries to limit and channel these freedoms in any way, the establishment and activity of the media is subject to the preventive system or the security system. In these countries, in order to control the disclosure and enlightening activities of opposition and critical groups, people must obtain a license to establish a media. The adoption of this policy will eventually lead to the fact that only the people trusted by the government will be able to establish the press and other media, and in this way, all news and information forums will remain in the hands of the government. In this system, "public power imposes requirements on individuals and interested groups to prevent any illegal act; this means that individuals and groups cannot enjoy their rights and freedoms before completing the previous ceremonies. The preventive system is also called the police system, which plays an essential role in orderly affairs and maintaining order.

In terms of evaluating this system, it seems that individuals and groups have more secure judicial security due to prior coordination with the government authority in enjoying their rights and freedoms, and as soon as the formalities are performed, there is basically no danger to them. But the basic problem is that the rights and freedom of the people are placed in the hands of the government's power and initiative, and this method leads the society towards a guided system that narrows the field of God-given human rights even more than before. In the Internet as well, the application of each of the mentioned systems has special and significant effects. This topic is more relevant to internet media, its scope also spreads to parts of the internet that are only used for communication. For example, social networks have a dual use; On the one hand, it is considered public media, and on the other hand, it covers the group communication of individuals

with friends and people around them. Adopting a preventive system has banned the use of these networks in some countries. Or regarding e-mail, some countries take steps to interrupt or significantly reduce the speed of access to e-mail service provider sites at certain times; While if the punitive or prosecution system prevails, only crimes and violations are prosecuted.

The idea that the text of the law must be written in language clear enough for any user can also be seen in the opposite way. The quality of the text is especially important for professional “users”: judges, government officials, and lawyers who arrange their work in line with it. If the law uses complicated terms, the citizen can address a lawyer for an explanation. However, if the content of the legal norm is stated in such a way that it is difficult even for a professional to understand it, this inevitably leads to misinterpretation or errors in law enforcement acts. Besides, lawyers, citing and interpreting unreadable norms in the texts of court decisions, contracts, and other documents, are forced to turn their own texts into even more complicated ciphers. As a result, the efficiency of the entire legal system is reduced. A simple and clear text is one that is less likely to contain errors and logical inconsistencies. The author of the text has to present his or her own idea clearly, to think it through, and elaborate it sufficiently to do without explanations, clarifications, and unnecessary repetitions. In this context, the problem assumes not an external nature (“lawyers must take care of ordinary people”) but an internal one (“the work of lawyers themselves is impossible without high-quality legal texts”).

As applied to the Russian legal language, the second approach is more relevant. First, the issue of using obsolete words and constructions is not as acute here as, for example, in the English legal language. Second, due to the significant bureaucratization of Russian society, the official business style itself is widely used in completely different areas of life and is not perceived by the majority of educated people as something alien and incomprehensible.

### **Online legal advice in the age of technology and the Internet**

Undoubtedly, due to the fact that now is the age of the Internet, using legal consulting services through specialized sites in this field can be better for companies or individuals in the following ways:

- 1- Easy and fast access to online legal advisor and expert lawyer by phone at all hours of the day
- 2- The possibility of receiving accurate and useful advice through prominent lawyers and elite legal entities without location restrictions
- 3- Saving time to go to institutions in person and not wasting time in traffic and causing fatigue.
- 4- The possibility of sending audio, video, photo and text as a file without having to spend money on paper printing
- 5- The possibility of choosing the best lawyers by checking the mentioned records online and choosing the best person according to the criteria of the client, such as gender, geographical location and the amount of attorney's fees
- 6- Preparing judicial documents such as bills, petitions and complaints without physical presence and as soon as possible
- 7- Receiving answers to questions and receiving legal advice outside working hours through applications such as WhatsApp or Telegram
- 8- Using the guidance of the most expert people in the field of judicial and legal issues without the influence of factors such as busy work and long distance
- 9- The most convenient and best way to solve legal issues and problems online and without waiting in long queues at law offices and institutions
- 10- Absence of any kind of trial and error regarding the review of client files due to the presence of experienced people and review of similar files many times
- 11- Carrying out the entire work process electronically and securely in keeping the documents and personal information of the clients

### **RESULTS**

The Plain English movement, which began in the second half of the 20th century (Williams, 2004), drew scholars' and practitioners' attention to the problem of legal language comprehensibility. It is believed that this movement began with the publication of Mellinkoff's book “The Language of the Law” in 1963 (Mellinkoff, 1963). The ideas of plain language resulted in changes in legislation, legal education, and practice. Laws on plain language were enacted, law schools introduced legal writing courses, and practicing lawyers began to adhere to the plain language principles when drafting contracts and other documents. In

1993, the Plain Language Association International was established (Blasie, 2023). Nowadays, numerous practical guides on legislative drafting activities posted on the official websites of foreign state bodies provide specific recommendations for improving the lexical and syntactic composition of legal texts.

In the U.S., the Plain Language Act of 2010 is in effect, which requires federal agencies to use clear government communications that the public can understand and use (Blasie, 2023). The Texas Administrative Code contains principles of plain language used when reviewing non-standard contracts. For example, these principles include presenting information in clear, concise sections, paragraphs, and sentences, using everyday words instead of legal and business terms, eliminating repetition in the content, and presenting information in the “question and answer” format (Wontorczyk & Gaca, 2021). New Zealand has recently passed the Plain Language Act, aiming to improve the efficiency and accountability of public service by using clear, concise, and comprehensible language in public documents. However, the provisions of the law do not create any obligations, for the execution of which one can apply to the court. The law clarifies that plain language is a language that is appropriate to the target audience, clear, concise, and well-organized. Plain language should be used in English-language documents of public agencies whose target audience is the general public and which are related to the provision of information about agency services (how to obtain services, how to comply with established requirements, etc.) (Wontorczyk & Gaca, 2021).

The U.K. Consumer Rights Act uses concepts such as transparency and prominence of a term. A term is considered to be transparent if it is expressed in plain and intelligible language and (in the case of a written term) is legible. A term is prominent if it is “brought to the consumer’s attention in such a way that the average consumer ... would be aware of the term” (Blasie, 2023).

Russian laws sometimes enshrine requirements for the participants in legal relations to explain the content of regulatory acts to the less informed party. According to Article 16 of the Fundamental Principles of the Law on Notaries of the Russian Federation, “a notary is obliged to assist individuals and legal entities in exercising their rights and protecting legal interests, to explain their rights and obligations, to warn of the consequences of performed notarial actions so that legal ignorance could not be used to their detriment”. According to Article 3 of the Law of the Russian Federation of February 7, 1992 No. 2300-1 “On Protection of Consumer Rights”, the right of consumers to education in the field of consumer protection is ensured by including appropriate requirements in federal state educational standards and educational programs, as well as through the organization of a system for informing consumers on their rights and actions necessary to protect those rights. Besides, according to Clause 3 of Article 3 of the Law of the Russian Federation of November 27, 1992 No. 4015-1 “On the Organization of Insurance Business”, insurers are obliged to explain the provisions contained in the rules of insurance and insurance contracts at the request of policyholders, insured persons, beneficiaries, as well as persons who intend to conclude an insurance contract. However, such requirements may not be sufficient if the explained rules themselves are too confusing.

Most constituent entities of the Russian Federation have adopted laws on normative legal acts, which enshrine the rules of legal technique, including the requirements for the clarity and precision of legal language. At the level of federal legislation, such requirements are not normatively established and are contained only in some methodological recommendations. For example, the Methodological Recommendations for the Implementation of the Principles of Openness in Federal Executive Bodies adopted in 2013 (Panina & Pavlyukova, 2015) contain a number of specific tips to improve the comprehensibility of legal acts, including the assessment of the target audience, competent text structuring, correction of syntactic structures and lexical composition of the text, etc. At the same time, the language of the document itself clearly indicates the adherence of its authors to the traditional clerical style. A striking illustration of this is the following recommendation: “...reducing the use of verbal nouns”, which confirms that the authors of the text themselves are not ready to abandon verbal nouns.

In general, Russian legislation today is characterized by a trend toward a constant increase in the level of the linguistic complexity of the texts of regulatory legal acts. This trend is empirically obvious and is also confirmed by special studies. Two such studies have been carried out in recent years by specialists from the Higher School of Economics (Moscow) and the European University (St. Petersburg) (Kuchakov & Savelyev, 2018; Savelyev, 2020). Using different methodologies, the authors of both projects mathematically prove that the growth of the index of syntactic complexity of modern laws significantly exceeds the normal level for the Russian language. In particular, each subsequent convocation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation adopts laws, which are syntactically more complex than the previous ones (Panina & Pavlyukova, 2015). When a law is amended, its subsequent edition always turns out to be more complicated than the original one (Kuchakov & Savelyev, 2018). The total volume of the text and the average sentence

length increase significantly. Similar trends are generally traced in the acts of other federal authorities and in regional legislation (Kuchakov & Savelyev, 2018).

Some researchers emphasize that this trend is not in line with the processes taking place not only in the languages of other countries (a decrease in the complexity indicators was noted in 37 languages of different countries) but also in the Russian language (in particular, in the texts of the media) (Kuchakov & Savelyev, 2018). It also cannot be explained by the subject matter of draft laws: on the top of the rating of the most unreadable laws (Panina & Pavlyukova, 2015), there are acts devoted to social support measures for various categories of citizens, pension provision, protection of orphans, and other “popular”, rather than narrowly professional, issues.

The criteria for evaluating the texts in the above-mentioned studies differ, although they overlap to a large extent. In particular, in both cases, the use of verbose terms, which are repeated in the text, increasing its volume and reducing its comprehensibility, is considered as a serious problem: “bodies included in the unified system of public authority in a constituent entity of the Russian Federation” (11 words in Russian), “personified card for attending a sports competition” (6 words in Russian), “participants in the circulation of goods subject to mandatory marking with identification means” (8 words in Russian), “notification of the suspension or resumption of the use of the main technological equipment for producing ethyl alcohol or alcoholic beverages using ethyl alcohol” (20 words in Russian).

The repetition of the same terms in a sentence is a typical problem of formal business style. It is hardly possible to get rid of them completely, but there are a number of technical legal techniques reducing the negative impact of cumbersome and ponderous terms on the perception of the text.

One such technique is the use of contextual abbreviations, which make it possible to minimize the negative impact of long terms on the readability of the text. The methodological recommendations on the legal technical design of draft laws developed by the Central Office of the State Duma of the Russian Federation (Kynev, 2017) do not contain any requirements for the use of legal terms in the text of the law. In contrast, the methodological recommendations on the linguistic expertise of draft laws (Kynev, 2017) include the following provision: “If the text of a draft law uses long and cumbersome names of bodies, organizations, objects, and persons, the method of contextual abbreviation is often used, that is, at the first use, the full name is given, and the shortened form is provided in parentheses”. It should be noted that the phrase “is often used” does not sound like a rule or even a recommendation. Rather, it is simply a description of one of the possible techniques of presenting the text of the law. This is precisely the way the legislator perceives this technique, as an optional one. At the same time, there is usually no consistency and logic in the use of this technique.

For example, in the Federal Law of January 10, 2002 No. 7-FZ “On Environmental Protection”, a number of terms are set forth with an abbreviated version indicated in parentheses. However, in the text of the law itself, the introduced abbreviation is often not used. For instance, the construction “information on the state of the environment (environmental information)” is used in this form 10 times, and the phrase “state environmental monitoring (state monitoring of the environment)” is repeated 31 times in the law. The term “requirements in the field of environmental protection (hereinafter also referred to as environmental requirements)” in the abbreviated form is not used in the law even once. At the same time, the version “requirements in the field of environmental protection” (without abbreviation) is used 37 times.

The provided examples show the inconsistency and negligence shown when creating the text of the law. The developers “forget” not only about the possibility of using contextual abbreviations but also about those abbreviations that have already been introduced into the structure of a regulatory act. As a result, instead of simplifying the text, they clutter it with unnecessary verbal constructions. The non-binding nature of the rule on the use of contextual abbreviations not only reduces its effectiveness but also introduces additional confusion to the text. At the same time, there is probably no need to set it as an imperative requirement. Even formulated as a direct recommendation (without an indication of its binding nature), this rule would significantly increase its effectiveness.

Another problem is associated with the soundness of the technical legal rules regarding the possibility of using abbreviations in the text of the law. The above-mentioned methodological recommendations on the linguistic examination of draft laws establish a clearer rule in this regard: “Acronyms and abbreviations are not recommended for use in legislative acts” (Wontorczyk & Gaca, 2021). As an explanation, it is stated that over time, such words can become obsolete and, if their full form is not indicated, turn out to be incomprehensible to the reader. This argument is quite convincing, but it is easily ruled out by the possibility to indicate the full transcription of the abbreviation at its first mention in the text. On the other hand, the

complete rejection of abbreviations – even the generally accepted and most common ones – does not make it possible to use the significant resource for reducing and simplifying the legislative text.

The simplest example is the collocation “Russian Federation”. The analysis of the lexical diversity of legislative texts shows that it is one of the most frequently repeated (Kuchakov & Savelyev, 2018). At the same time, the abbreviation “RF” is generally accepted, but is never used for the purpose of abbreviating official texts. For instance, the Federal Law of December 21, 2021 No. 414-FZ “About the General Principles of the Organization of the Public Power in Subjects of the Russian Federation” contains 65 articles in which the phrase “Russian Federation” is used 2,265 times. If, as an experiment, one replaces these words with abbreviations, then the volume of the text will be reduced by 40,770 printed characters, i.e. by 11% (when printed, these are 98 and 88 pages, respectively). In this case, the text itself will only benefit since sentences will become shorter, and endless repetitions will less distract from understanding its meaning. There will also be no problems with clarity, accuracy, and uniform interpretation of formulations since the meaning of the abbreviation in the word combinations “subject of the RF”, “legislation of the RF”, “Federal Assembly of the RF” is clear to everyone and is interpreted unambiguously.

Someone might consider the use of the abbreviation as disrespect for the name of the state. However, taking into account such a tangible improvement in the text quality, it is worth thinking: is not the concern for the comprehensibility of state laws a manifestation of greater respect for the state?

Another example of an appropriate abbreviation is related to the use of the overly cumbersome term “information and telecommunications network ‘Internet’” in Russian legislation.

Currently, the Academic Spelling Dictionary (Scientific and informational "Spelling Academic Resource ACADEMOS" of the Institute of the Russian Language) allows writing the word “Internet” with a lowercase letter and without quotation marks. This word has long been assimilated into the Russian language and does not need any explanation. At the same time, the legislator continues to use the term “information and telecommunications network ‘Internet’”. For example, in Federal Law No. 124-FZ of April 30, 2021 “On Amending the Federal Law ‘On Advertising’”, this phrase is repeated 43 times, accounting for 9% of the total text (given that the law contains only 2,300 words). As a rule, the discussed structure is repeated three times in each sentence, sometimes more frequently. For example, Clause 3 of Article 3.10 contains 156 words, 28 of which are accounted for by the above-mentioned construction, which is repeated seven times. This is 18% of the entire text of the article! The use of the commonly used word “Internet” would not only reduce the volume of the article by 20% but also increase its comprehensibility and readability. Thus, the efficiency of technical legal rules is achievable if they are reasonable and binding. In this case, reasonableness must be assessed taking into account the focus of the rule on the achievement of a certain goal.

### **The use of artificial intelligence in online legal advice, law making and enforcement**

Artificial intelligence and its benefits for online legal advice is one of the advanced technologies in today's world, which is widely used in various industries. One of the interesting applications of artificial intelligence in the legal sector is for law firms. For example, to set up an online contract, you can ask your questions and get the necessary guidance from it.

One of the main applications of artificial intelligence in the field of law is to use it as an intelligent legal advisor, for example, by using artificial intelligence algorithms, users' legal questions can be answered automatically. These questions may be about financial laws, labor laws, legal laws, etc. Unlike the industrial revolution that automated physical work and replaced muscles with hydraulic pistons and diesel engines, the AI-based revolution automates mental tasks. While it may optimize some jobs, AI is driving more fundamental changes in many roles that will completely change and partially replace human colleagues.

Artificial intelligence has a profound impact on law enforcement. Although in the short term AI is more likely to help rather than replace lawyers, it is currently being used to review contracts, find relevant documents in the discovery process, and conduct legal research. Recently, AI has been used to help draft contracts, predict legal outcomes, and even recommend judicial decisions on sentencing or bail. The potential benefits of AI in law are real and can increase attorney productivity and prevent costly mistakes. In some cases, it can increase the wheels of justice for research and decision making. However, AI is not yet ready to completely replace human judgment in the legal profession.

### **Applications of artificial intelligence in online legal advice**

Using artificial intelligence, it is possible to design a system that answers legal questions. This system can easily answer different questions in different legal fields by using advanced algorithms. For example,

people looking for answers to questions like "Is this practice legal?" ", "What is the punishment for this crime?" and "How can you object to this issue?" ", they can easily use these systems.

### **Analysis of text and rules**

Artificial intelligence can help analyze text and rules. Using advanced algorithms, artificial intelligence can be used to analyze laws and legal texts. For example, by using this method, it is possible to compare different rules and identify the changes that have been made in them.

### **Chat bots**

The use of artificial intelligence-based chatbots can help improve online legal advice. By using this method, it is possible to direct people to similar questions and similar issues, and according to different data, different questions can be easily answered.

How can lawyers use artificial intelligence in law firms? The legal industry is already using artificial intelligence in many aspects of its work. Artificial intelligence in law firms may not be obvious, but it helps lawyers and paralegals do their jobs better.

### **Document management and automation**

As law firms continue to move away from paper documents, electronic document storage presents similar challenges to paper document storage. Electronic records take up less physical space, but sorting and finding documents is still a challenge. AI-based document management software stores and organizes legal files including contracts, case files, memos, emails, and more using tagging and profiling capabilities. This method of storing and organizing digital files, along with full-text search, greatly enhances documentation. Easier to find document management solutions also enable document ID and sign-in/out privileges to maintain version control and security. Also, document management software can connect to other systems such as Microsoft Office to easily share files with others.

Document automation helps law firms create documents using intelligent templates. Legal professionals can automatically fill in form fields directly from the file in templates, saving time and effort. Legal document automation provides a centralized and efficient process for generating letters, agreements, applications, invoices, invoices and other legal documents.

Conducting due diligence often requires legal professionals to review large numbers of documents such as contracts. As with other document-related challenges, AI can help legal professionals review documents more quickly. An AI-based due diligence solution can provide specific documents that require due diligence, such as documents that contain a specific clause. AI due diligence software can also detect document changes.

Determining justiciability or quantifying the value of a claim requires an extensive analysis of existing cases. AI can quickly review those records and help lawyers prepare more accurate and appropriate documents based on that data.

Using artificial intelligence to automate routine manual tasks helps improve efficiency across the enterprise. AI-powered processes eliminate time-consuming and labor-intensive activities to increase productivity, whether it's searching for a contract or conducting due diligence or creating an invoice. When lawyers become more efficient, they can focus more time on their clients, while increasing the time spent on billable work.

Artificial intelligence and machine learning have the potential to reduce barriers to justice, particularly the high cost of accessing legal aid. By saving time on manual and routine legal work, lawyers can reduce estimates and costs for clients. For example, if an investigation that used to take 20 hours now takes two hours, lawyers can pass that time on to their clients. While the legal industry has yet to fully realize these benefits of using AI, the potential is there.

## **CONCLUSION**

The key task of linguistic rules is to ensure that the will of the legislator reaches the addressee without distortion. Therefore, the prohibition of abbreviations is reasonable only to the extent that it ensures the unambiguity of formulations and the possibility of their uniform interpretation (Borovkova, 2021; Lubozheva, 2021). If the adherence to this prohibition in a certain stage result in the excessive complication of the text, an increase in its volume, and its cluttering by numerous repetitions, the process of interpretation inevitably becomes more problematic, and the risks of interpretative errors increase. Therefore, it is

reasonable to relax this restriction by allowing abbreviations where the meaning of the text is not distorted and where verbal economy makes it more transparent (Pogosyan, 2021).

As for the binding nature of such rules, not always there is a need for specific sanctions to maintain it. When such rules are explicitly formulated in methodological recommendations, instructions, and guidelines for the authors of legal acts, they are observed due to the authority of the entity which established them or due to administrative or corporate influence (when failure to comply with recommendations, although not resulting in a specific punishment, can be perceived as the poor-quality performance of the employee's duties). One more mechanism for ensuring the binding nature of the rules of legal technique is associated with the existence of a doctrinal tradition entrenched in the professional environment. In fact, for the rules and means of legal technique, this mechanism plays the most important role. The sphere of professional craftsmanship primarily relies on the tools developed and adopted by the professional community. These rules are familiar to every lawyer from their student years and therefore often do not require additional formalization or legitimization.

There are two situations when it makes sense to resort to means other than a doctrine to legitimize the rules of legal workmanship. First, if the rules accepted by the professional community are outdated and need to be adjusted (it is the adjustment of the obsolete legislative style that is the purpose of the Plain English movement). Another situation is when the authority of the doctrine is insufficient to ensure the proper quality of legal texts. Such a situation, as shown above, is characteristic of current Russian law-making practice, which confirms the need to formalize some of the rules of legislative technique.

The issue of the increasing volume of the legislative body and the growing complexity of the modern Russian legal language cannot be solved without a targeted state policy, which should concern both the rules of lawmaking technique and the legislative procedure. The latter should be organized in such a way as to encourage those who write the law to look at it through the eyes of those who read it.

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