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Ensuring national security is a priority area of the criminal law, criminological and criminal-executive policies of Russia

The regular XI Russian Congress of Criminal Law was held in Moscow on May 31 - June 1, 2018 - a forum where the most topical problems of the criminal law and practice sciences are discussed by lawyers primarily from the Russian Federation, and also scholars from other countries. This congress was dedicated to the memory of the professor, the head of the Criminal Law Chair of the Lomonosov Moscow State University Vladimir Komissarov - an outstanding scientist and brilliant organizer, who died a year ago. Vladimir Komissarov's has contributed a lot in the establishing of the contacts between Russian and foreign scientists. For many years he organized and held a series of Russian congresses on criminal law, always selecting highly relevant topics, for example: "Constitutional bases of criminal law" (2006), "Scientific foundations of criminal law and processes of globalization" (2010), "Criminal law: origins, realities, transition to sustainable development" (2011), "Modern Criminal Policy: Search for an Optimal Model" (2012), "Criminological Foundations of Criminal Law" (2016), etc.

In the 2018 memorial Congress took part 548 scientists from all over the vast Russia, as well as lawyers from Slovenia, the USA, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Serbia, China, Kyrgyzstan, Poland, Croatia and Italy.

Structurally, the work of the Congress, considering the number of participants and the variety of problems, looks really complex. After the plenary session, during which the trends in criminal policy in Russia were discussed along with the problems arising from the instability of the criminal law caused by the introduction of numerous changes and additions to the text of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation; functions of modern criminal law; criminal liability of legal entities, etc. Section sessions were held: "Criminal Law: General and Special Part", "Criminology and Criminological Policy", "Criminal Executive Policy and Penal Enforcement Law", "International and Foreign Criminal Law", as well as sub-section "Modern security threats and criminal law: challenges of the digital world". In addition to the sections on the second day, discussions were held in a narrower circle at several round tables on the topics most relevant or controversial: "Modern Terrorism: Problems of Lawmaking, Law Enforcement and Counteraction," "The Theoretical Model of Serving Criminal Penalties in the Form of Prisoners for Economic and Official crimes".

It should be noted that the discussion of the fight against terrorism caused an extremely high interest among the participants of the Congress, which is understandable taking into account the growing threats and prevalence of this type of criminal behavior in many countries in recent years. The experts substantiated not only their positions with respect to the notion of terrorism, terrorist activities, and other theoretical and dogmatic issues, but convincingly argued for proposals to improve international law and national legislative measures aimed at combating this dangerous phenomenon.



The main points expressed by the participants of the Congress were published in a volume of 750 pages. The collection of theses is divided into 5 parts: criminal law (79 theses - pp. 6-292), criminology (51 material - pp.293-483), criminal executive law (29 abstracts pp.484-580), international and foreign criminal law, including 31 materials (pp.581-709), and finally, the section on contemporary criminal law in English, consisting of theses of 10 reports (p.710-740). As can be seen from presented data, the main attention of the Congress participants was focused on the problems of criminal law, which, strictly speaking, was predetermined by its organizers. This collection, like previous editions of materials of earlier Congresses of criminal law, gives an idea of what Russian criminalists are doing, what are the most painful points in criminal policy, what are the requirements of law-making and law-enforcement practice, determines the guidelines and directions for further research.

In addition to the Collection of theses, a special issue of the journal Science and the Life of Kazakhstan (No. 3 for 2018) was published, dedicated to the memory of the President of the Russian Congress of Criminal Law, member of the Kazakhstan International Club Vladimir Komissarov, in which his colleagues' memoirs, a list of his scientific works, copies of diplomas, the author's abstract of the doctoral dissertation on the topic: "Crimes that violate the general safety rules (concept, system, general characteristics)", defended by him in 1997, biographical information, unique photographs.

The Russian congress of criminal law, despite the loss of its founder, will continue to be held in Moscow in late May-early June (now every two years, not annually). It is open to all professionals. Information about the terms and conditions, requirements for publications is posted on the website of the Moscow State University. M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University.

Translation by T. Rednikova