

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ И НАУКИ РФ  
ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННОЕ  
БЮДЖЕТНОЕ ОБРАЗОВАТЕЛЬНОЕ УЧРЕЖДЕНИЕ  
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«ВОРОНЕЖСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ  
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ»

## **LEGAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Учебно-методическое пособие для вузов

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## UNIT 1

### Legal Professions in Russia

In this Unit you're going to read the text about different types of legal profession in the Russian Federation.

#### Warming-up Activity

**Task 1. Work in a small group. Discuss the following questions with your partner:**

1. How do lawyers apply the knowledge of law in their practice?
2. Where do lawyers work? What legal jobs do you know?
3. Is it important to specialize in any particular area? Why? (Give your reasons)
4. What legal profession would you like to choose after graduating from the University?

**Task 2. In the text you will find the following words and word combinations (1-12). Match the words with their definitions (a-l).**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1) license (n)      | a) the property of a person, company that has value and that may be sold to pay a debt;                              |
| 2) legal adviser    | b) something that has a single, separate, and independent existence;   |
| 3) depository (n)   | c) serious and detailed study of a subject, that is aimed at learning new facts, scientific laws, testing ideas etc; |
| 4) enterprise (n)   | d) a legal inquiry to settle a lawsuit which concerns money or property a person receives after someone's death;     |
| 5) investigator (n) | e) an official paper, card etc showing that permission has been given to do something;                               |
| 6) research work    | f) to compose a document in which a person declares what will happen to his money or                                 |

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
|                             | property after his death;  |
| 7) to draft a will          | g) to sign a document in order to make it legally valid;   |
| 8) inheritance case         | h) to happen or appear suddenly or unexpectedly;   |
| 9) asset (n)                | i) a person whose job is to give legal advice to people or organizations;  |
| 10) to certify (a document) | j) an organization, especially a business firm;  |
| 11) entity (n)              | k) a person that keeps things safely stored;   |
| 12) to pop up               | l) a person who examines all the details of an event or situation in order to find out what happened and what is happening (as a part of his job). |

**Task 3. Read the text. The following sentences (1-7) have been taken out of the text. Fill in the gaps (A-G) with the appropriate sentence.**

- 1) Also you have to present a substantial research work and pass a very difficult qualification exam.
- 2) Most of them are practicing lawyers or judges, or for example, prosecutors.
- 3) In Russia there are forty institutions of higher education in law (either a law school attached to a university or a separate entity called a "juridical institute").
- 4) There are about twenty thousand of them in Russia, and in view of the economic reform this body is growing.
- 5) Every kind of business has a jurist position and if it's a big corporation – even a legal department.
- 6) They draft wills, act as their depository and conduct inheritance cases by dividing the assets between heirs according to the will or law.
- 7) They are a part of the profession too, because they are required to have a high legal University education.

## Legal Professions in Russia

Legal profession is one of the most prestigious and highly paid professions in Russia. There is a high admission competition on Law Departments of the Universities. But after graduation people usually have a lot of options where to apply their knowledge.

There are the following job titles in the Russian Federation:

**1/ Jurists.** Everyone who has got a University Law Degree is a jurist. If you are a jurist, you can work in any position where special license is not required and everything that you have to have is a University Law degree (and of course some legal practice is strongly recommended). For example, you can work as a legal adviser for any public or private firm. **A**\_\_\_\_\_ Also, every Federal or State Governmental Agency or Commission has a legal department. So, normally University graduates have a lot of choices.

**2. Lawyers** in Russia work mostly within colleges of advocates – self-managed organizations. To get the status of a lawyer one should have a 5-year education at an accredited University and at least 2 years of legal experience (or at least 6 month of practice in any division of the State Lawyer Chamber) and to pass a qualification exam. Upon receiving the status, a lawyer can practice law everywhere in Russia.

Many lawyers are employed by the law offices of enterprises, ministries and agencies as an **in-house counsel (juriconsult)**. These lawyers have all powers of an attorney, but they represent their single and permanent "client" – their respective organization. **B**\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Judges.** To be a judge you have to have a University education and a particular number of years of legal experience. For example, for the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation – 15 years, for the trial court – no less than 5 years. **C**\_\_\_\_\_ Almost all judges have life-term positions but only until they reach 70 years old.