

## The Importance of Information Technologies in the Formation of Professional Legal Awareness of Future Lawyers

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### Abstract

*The article has been devoted to the theoretical and legal analysis of the professional legal consciousness of law school students, the peculiarities of the influence of information technologies on it. The article analyzes the features of the formation of students' legal awareness in the process of professional training at the university. The aspects of the development of technologies in the modern information society have been discussed separately. Certain provisions of the current Russian legislation implementing legal regulation in the field of information society development have been analyzed. The article deals with the peculiarities of the training of the teaching staff in connection with the need to use information technologies in professional activities.*

**Key-words:** Legal Awareness, Information Technologies, Legal Education, Digitalization, E-Learning, Distance Education Technologies.

### 1. Introduction

At present, we can state the transition to an information post-industrial society. Therewith, information and telecommunications technologies act as the most important means of communication between various entities, and these technologies are also key sources of legal information. Public relations are significantly influenced by the development of the Internet, as well as other telecommunications networks, expert and analytical systems, databases, systems for processing electronic information arrays, the creation and optimization of software, electronic computer equipment, etc. The information space is in a state of constant development, consolidating people from all over the world, leveling political, social, national, and geographical boundaries. It is no

secret that at present people use a computer, both during work and rest, getting all the necessary information, including legal data, through information and communication technologies. In the aspect of global informatization, the role of law, legal methods of resolving political, economic, and educational issues is increasing, and public awareness is becoming increasingly important. Information technologies themselves require legal regulation, which makes them the object of scientific legal research, which means that the processes of the designated transition to the information society and the features of its functioning are inevitably reflected in the legal consciousness. That is, on the one hand, information technologies affect the legal consciousness, and on the other hand, they are the object of comprehension and reflection in the legal consciousness. Hence, the study of legal consciousness in the aspect of the development of the modern information society is one of the priority goals of the theory of law.

Legal consciousness is one of the key forms of public consciousness, and therefore its development and features in Russia attract the attention of various scholars, including legal scholars, who consider legal consciousness in a wide variety of aspects, including in its interaction with other legal, pedagogical and psychological categories [1].

Despite the existing scientific research of the concept of "professional legal awareness" – the features of the professional legal awareness of law students, which is influenced by information and communication technologies, are still insufficiently researched. Therewith, it is necessary to understand exactly how the changes in the information society that are taking place at present affect the legal consciousness to determine the key vectors of state policy, to form optimal programs for social development. There is an obvious need for a scientific study of the features of the formation of professional legal consciousness of law students in the conditions of informatization of Russian society.

It is necessary to investigate the causes and factors of the impact of ICTs on human consciousness, while the multidimensional nature of this impact is obvious; as well as the fact that approaches and methods of using this impact for the benefit of a person will contribute to the elimination of suffering and problems from the negative impact of ICTs on human consciousness.

Hence, the study of the features of the formation of the legal consciousness of students in a law school in the modern information society is relevant both in empirical and theoretical aspects.

## 2. Methods

The implementation of the study is impossible without defining its methodology. First of all, it is necessary to use the methods, principles, and models of philosophical and legal analysis, which will make it possible to carry out at least individual stages of research, at the maximum level of community, when one or another feature of legal consciousness, considered through the prism of informatization of modern Russian society, acquires a categorical character. Therewith, these features, characteristics of legal consciousness in their totality represent a certain phenomenon of legal consciousness, as a form of the spiritual inner world of a person, as a universal way of human subjective life, while the influence of informatization on the genesis of legal consciousness is at the forefront.

Further, to understand the essential, basic features of the subject of research, it is taken in an abstract "pure" form, regardless of certain connections and factors affecting it. This method allows solving both empirical and theoretical questions, identifying all the connections and mediations of the subject under study.

The next step is characterized by the definition of the conceptual apparatus, without which it is impossible to understand the subject in its abstract and ultimate expression.

At the final stage, the research is based on systematic and dialectical methods, which are part of the philosophical methodology itself. The problems of the transformation of legal consciousness in connection with the informatization of modern Russian society are studied by defining the dialectic of self-movement and self-expansion of such key initial concepts as "the nature and essence of legal consciousness", "transformation", "informatization", "methodology of legal theory", "information technologies", as well as based on a set of system-forming and semantic ideas and concepts. The study itself is based on a conceptual idea, the development of which becomes possible through dialectics. It is possible to study the logic, content, and nature of the legal consciousness to the maximum extent only taking into account the impact of the informatization of modern Russian society on it.

Philosophical and legal research does not completely exhaust the problems by the method of research, but only aims at a comprehensive and deep interpretation of the content and nature of the problem carried out within the framework of the theoretical and legal approach. In this connection, the methodology of philosophy is organically combined with the methodology of general science,

which makes up the methodology of law. Formal-legal, comparative-legal, concrete-sociological methods are used as research tools, as well as methods of abstraction, modeling, analysis of statistical reporting, structural-functional, logical, empirical, historical research, methods of hermeneutics, synergetics, comparative studies, formal-logical analysis, and others, including methods that provide an interdisciplinary approach.

The study of national legal awareness and high-quality legal education in the context of informatization of Russian society is associated with the recognition that education in the Russian understanding is something more than the study of the phenomenal state-legal world and the factual material of its past and present, which is constantly changing in the conditions of the active influence of ICT, and legal awareness is something more than knowledge about it and attitude to it. This study is related to the understanding of education as the formation of a person in the image and likeness of him/her, as enrichment, as the cultivation of a person following the unconditional ideal expressed in the ruling idea, which throughout Russian history was the Orthodox idea of truth. Education as the cultivation of a person in the process of spiritual, moral, intellectual, emotional work, and creativity. Legal education cannot be indifferent to the inner and spiritual life of the emerging person, to morality.

This approach is seen as the main condition for the essential change of legal education, all educational activities that should be carried out based on their worldview, be aimed at reviving and actively using the national legal consciousness.

The following basic principles should be used to develop educational programs:

- the principle of quality education that corresponds to the national characteristics of political and legal culture, which determines its role in the life of Russian society, which is expressed in the following: the higher the level and quality of education, the stronger the society and the state in it;

- the principle of integrity, the recognition on its basis of the unity of the spiritual and material world and the formation of a true worldview; the possibility of a certain combination of Eastern and Western approaches to understanding the surrounding world;

- orientation to the principle of integrity is necessary for understanding the legal consciousness as a complex, multi-faceted, multi-level education, represented by rational and irrational aspects. It should promote the inner integration of the physical consciousness, the lower, physical mind, and the higher consciousness, the intuitive mind, bringing them to a harmonious combination;

- the principle of integrity is the basis for understanding the unity of historical, conditional and higher, unconditional consciousness, the basis for the synthesis of various ideological trends and the possibility of considering Vedic-pagan Orthodoxy as a potential Christian Orthodoxy;

- the principle of the priority of the spiritual over the material, which allows developing an understanding that a person, including as a subject of law, is not the measure of all things; that freedom, like everything in the material, social, including the state-legal world, has a limit and limitation; that a person and the products of his/her activities – the state and law are part of the universe, in which everything is interconnected;

- the principle of the ratio of the whole and its components, the priority of the whole over the private, state interests over individual interests and human rights;

- the principles of morality, true justice, truth, necessary for understanding, the just structure of the state and righteous government;

- judicial, political, and legal principles necessary to determine the national role of the state and law in an infinitely complex world, which is exposed, including to negative informatization, to prevent increasing threats to the national existence, aimed at destroying the moral foundations of society, undermining state sovereignty, the economy, and the demographic situation in the country;

- geocological principles are necessary for the formation of knowledge aimed at protecting the environment from the arbitrary interpretation of profit, restoration of natural resources, and the role of the state in this process. Students should inculcate the geocological conciliation that N.F. Fedorov spoke about and which is now becoming the main condition for the survival of mankind.

### **3. Results**

#### **3.1 Legal awareness – Information society – legislation**

The information society is a stage in the development of civilization, which in turn is a form of joint human activity that has been developed historically and is based on ensuring the priority of information (when compared with other resources), as well as the prevailing use of information and telecommunications technologies for the implementation of key goals of human life and the creation of social ties [2].

Legal awareness is understood as a system of feelings, ideas, habits, and theories about legal realities, about law, that is actively developing under the influence of the information society, based

on information that is overwhelmingly obtained with the help of information technologies, as well as through legal attitudes and value orientations aimed at regulating human behavior in legally significant situations.

Also, the legal consciousness is understood as one of the forms of public consciousness, which is an ideal reflection of the legal reality in the human consciousness. Legal awareness is a complex phenomenon that combines a set of feelings and ideas, reflecting in addition to the knowledge of the law, also the attitude to it, as well as the assimilation of the skills of legal behavior and respect for law as a public value. The formation of a high level of legal consciousness is a prerequisite for the optimal process of realizing the freedoms, rights, and duties of the individual, in addition, it contributes to the optimization of the mechanism of legal influence [3].

Legal psychology and legal ideology are two components of the structure of legal consciousness. Legal ideology is interpreted as an understanding of the law, which includes legal theories, concepts, ideas, and knowledge. Legal ideology is a rational level of legal consciousness, which is formed in the process of intellectual understanding of the law. Legal psychology is understood as a sensory, emotional assessment of legal phenomena, which includes moods, illusions, stereotypes, habits, experiences, emotions, feelings. Legal psychology is an uncontrolled, intuitive, spontaneous level of legal consciousness. The human emotional state directly affects the choice of behavior, both legitimate and illegal. A person's perception of law occurs not only by reason, intellectually but also emotionally. Hence, legal consciousness includes elements of both legal psychology and legal ideology.

Depending on the comprehensiveness and depth of knowledge of the law, as well as other phenomena of legal reality, scholars distinguish such types of legal consciousness as ordinary legal consciousness (mass representations and assessments of people, their emotions arising about law, as well as legality, which arises in connection with everyday life realities, based on practical experience and are characterized by an empirical orientation); specialized (professional-legal) legal consciousness (beliefs, traditions, views that are formed by people who are directly involved in legal activity and have work experience, as well as professional legal knowledge); theoretical (scientific) legal awareness (views, concepts, theories – a comprehensive and deep understanding of law).

Any person is a carrier of a certain legal consciousness, both low and high, correct, or distorted, developed, or immature. An adequate, correct understanding of the law plays a crucial role in human life, behavior, citizenship, culture, and legal worldview. A deformed or undeveloped legal

consciousness is a favorable environment for a significant number of offenses and other anti-social anomalies. This pushes us to solve the question of how to form a developed legal behavior that would allow overcoming archaic stereotypes, as well as how to achieve a more developed legal consciousness of citizens. The structure of legal awareness includes at least three main parts: the skills of legal behavior, attitude to law, and knowledge of the law.

In legal science, legal consciousness is classified (according to the degree of generality) into individual, group, and mass.

The process of forming the professional legal consciousness of students in a law school in the context of the informatization of Russian society is a movement from the key goals set to certain specific results by ensuring the integrity of the educational process itself. Despite the existing scientific research in certain social areas, professional legal awareness – the features of the professional legal awareness of law students, which is influenced by information and communication technologies, are still insufficiently researched.

It should be noted that at present, the content of the concept of "e-learning", as well as the concept of "distance educational technologies", is defined at the legislative level.

E-learning is the organization of educational activities with the use of the information contained in databases and used in the implementation of educational programs, as well as with the use of technical means, information technologies, information and telecommunications networks that ensure the processing of this information, through which this information is transmitted over communication lines, and the interaction of teachers and students. Distance education technologies are educational technologies that are implemented, as a rule, using information and telecommunications networks with the interaction of teachers and students carried out at a distance [4].

Therewith, the lists of professions of secondary vocational education, as well as specialties of higher education (bachelor's, master's), the implementation of educational programs for which it is not allowed using exclusively e-learning, distance educational technologies – do not contain an indication of the legal specialty (such an indication is available only in the lists for a specialist "Legal support of national security", "Law enforcement" and the adjunct "Legal support of state security").

Also, the Priority scenario for the development of the information society in Russia contains the following points:

The state creates favorable conditions for the implementation of communication and information technologies. Russian legislation, business processes of commercial organizations, and administrative procedures (including electronic procedures) are being optimized.

Investments (including budget funds from local budgets, budgets of the subjects of the Russian Federation, as well as from the federal budget) are directed to the key areas of development and support of communication and information technologies established by the state and society.

private investments are attracted to the Russian information infrastructure.

Russian organizations create and optimize the most important information and communication technologies. The state protects their interests. Technologies created in Russia are in demand abroad.

National technological platforms for online medicine, online education, the National Electronic Library, and a unified infrastructure of electronic government have been created. Citizens are aware of the advantages of receiving services, purchasing goods, and obtaining information using the Internet, and citizens also have the opportunity to receive financial services, municipal and state services, electronic library services, and online medicine in electronic form.

The digital economy has a significant impact on the growth of the GDP of the Russian Federation [5].

Thus, there are legislative prerequisites for the implementation of the educational process in a law school with the use of information technologies.

In general, we can agree that public administration in the information society in the use of information and telecommunications technologies is characterized by greater decentralization, openness, a reduction in the time required for various types of coordination and decision-making, and high-quality feedback. In Russia, the principle of information openness of the government, as well as access of public organizations, business communities, and citizens to information state resources is positioned as the basis of e-government.

We can summarize the existence of the rapid formation and functioning of the knowledge society as a new reality, which allows suggesting the rapid increase in information saturation in all spheres of society; about the ways and methods of processing information that is important for human consciousness; about the widespread entry of ICT into the life of each individual and society as a whole; changes in the value orientation of each person, various groups in society and society as a whole.



### **3.2 Features of the process of education of Law School students in the context of informatization of Russian society**

In legal science, it is proposed to include the following key elements in the list of information legal disciplines: computer crime; information security; the essence, structure, purpose, and types of information systems of a legal nature; working with documents; current computer technologies, as well as the principles of their implementation in the framework of legal activity; legal informatization and legal information in legal activity; the use of legal informatization tools in the framework of legal activity; theoretical foundations and empirical vectors of implementation of legal informatization in the legal field [6].

Also, the academic discipline "Information technologies in legal activity" was introduced in some universities, in the preparation of future lawyers, in the first and sometimes in the second year. The goal of this discipline is to master the technologies, methods, and means of solving professional problems and using modern communication and computer technologies. Students shall have the skills and abilities of professional work with legal information: use, search, evaluation, selection, display. The necessity of the applied nature of this discipline is positioned, since such a nature will clearly show students the practical use of information technologies in their professional future activities, will indicate the importance of their role in solving professional problems.

Realizing this goal, this discipline is based on the use of material from other legal disciplines, which in turn are the basis for the training of lawyers. In particular, in the process of mastering the text editor, electronic forms and templates of documents are created that are used in legal activities. Through spreadsheets, the analysis of statistics of legal violations is carried out, as well as simple statistical calculations. In addition, issues related to the complex structure of computer networks, telecommunications, the use of the Internet in the professional field, computer crime, and information security are discussed. Thus, the basics of database design are considered in the example of creating a file of offenders. Students, in the process of mastering the work on the Internet, get acquainted with the methods of searching for legal information, specialized portals, and sites. Working with various information databases (for example, "Garant", "ConsultantPlus") contributes to the optimal consolidation of the acquired knowledge and practice of the skills and abilities to work with legislative acts. In the course of work on the discipline "Information technologies in legal activity", practical work with reference legal systems makes it possible for students to navigate through a huge array of reference and legal information, isolate the necessary information and distinguish between

the main and secondary. The knowledge and skills acquired by students in the framework of the designated discipline are used when students write coursework, essays, reports, as well as final qualifying works in legal disciplines.

Hence, it can be summarized that modern information technologies are an integral part of the legal system, these technologies are implemented in all areas of legal activity. The use of information technologies, network, multimedia, as part of the organization of the educational process, both in the classroom and in extracurricular time, contributes to the activation of students' interest in learning, as well as the formation of a high level of self-motivation, and as a result, to improve the quality of training of lawyers-bachelors [7].

An important role is played by Internet conferences held on legal topics for lawyers who are professionally engaged in legal activities. Such conferences are increasingly being held at present. In particular, based on the NCFU Law Institute, as part of the implementation of the grant of the Russian Foundation for Basic Research, the application – "Legal awareness of students in law schools in the conditions of informatization of Russian society", Internet conferences are held on the subject of the grant. Most of the websites of various state authorities contain information about various legal conferences. Such conferences are also held on the legal portals of legal organizations and universities, and blogs, online forums, and other ways and methods of interactive communication are increasingly developing.

### **3.3 The importance of information technologies in the formation of legal awareness of law students**

The transition to electronic media, as the custodians of information, contributes to the optimal implementation of legal activities, while there are threats to the information security of the country, which comes from various criminal groups, especially those with ties to the state apparatus. In this connection, there is a need to improve the legislation in the field of information technology, the implementation of organizational measures aimed at suppressing computer crimes carried out in the information field, which will positively influence and strengthen the legal consciousness of lawyers.

The scientific legal consciousness changes to a certain extent under the influence of information technologies, but in contrast to the ordinary legal consciousness, scholars themselves are the creators of new modern information technologies, which in the future will be used in law enforcement, law-making activities, as well as in the daily life of people. The works of scientists,

reflected in electronic information form, loaded information systems to which people have free access, become public domain, according to the proposed scientific concepts and ideas, carriers of professional consciousness solve specific situations of law enforcement. The formation of modern information, expert and analytical systems is not possible without the joint work of both computer science professionals and legal scholars. A key element of legally directed information technology is the legal knowledge base created by legal theorists.

The formation of the legal consciousness of students in a law university in the context of the informatization of Russian society is a complex legal and social process due to the active development of telecommunications and information technologies, as well as the results of this development, including the comprehension, awareness of legal norms and other related phenomena; creation on this basis of legal concepts, ideas; expression of individual legal emotions and feelings.

Thus, legal awareness, as an information and communication and regulatory social component, is characterized by dynamic and multi-layered informatization processes (which develop based on legal information, usually obtained through information and telecommunications technologies) and is reflected in society with the help of legal ideas, theories, views, norms, as well as revealed in people's ideas about law and human behavior.

It is necessary to develop an up-to-date model for the formation of professional legal awareness of students in law schools in the context of the informatization of Russian society. It is advisable to include the following elements in this model: emotional-volitional (it includes self-assessment of knowledge, as well as confidence in the reality of performing certain types of activities, assessment of the real possibility of managing the learning process itself, satisfaction obtained from the real possibility of using the acquired skills, knowledge for future professional activities, etc.); cognitive-activity (this element characterizes the "knowledge base", that is, a set of knowledge and ideas that are of great importance for professional activities; this element also determines the level of professional skills for solving various professional tasks); motivational-value (provided by the manifestation of beliefs, motives, etc.). for carrying out professional activities).

We can agree with the point of view available in legal science, according to which: "The new digital format of the professional legal environment should be formed exclusively on the balance of fundamental knowledge and practical skills" [8].

The elements of the process of formation of professional legal consciousness of a lawyer are control and evaluation (assessment of the optimality of the process of formation of professional legal

consciousness); structural and content (selection, specification, structuring of the content of education that forms professional legal consciousness); the target (structuring and specification of the tasks and goals of the formation of professional legal consciousness, as well as the allocation of appropriate levels of professional legal consciousness).

#### **4. Discussion**

The study of the features of the formation of professional legal consciousness of law students is aimed at leveling several contradictions, namely: between the need that society has for a high level of professional legal consciousness and the lack of a system for the formation of this legal consciousness; between the requirements for the level of professional legal consciousness of future lawyers and the weak degree of development of methodological and scientific support for the formation of legal consciousness in the context of informatization of education and society.

At present, there is a need to carry out a study of the theoretical and empirical features of the formation of professional legal awareness of students of the legal specialty at the university. The formation of the professional legal consciousness of future lawyers in higher educational institutions will be more optimal if there is a model and didactic conditions within the educational process that contribute to the formation of the professional legal consciousness of the future lawyer; the presence of technology for the formation of this type of legal consciousness with the use of methods and means of communication and information technologies in the framework of professional training; diagnostic materials and criteria are available to determine the level of formation of the professional legal consciousness of future lawyers; monitoring of the quality of the formation of this type of legal consciousness is implemented.

In recent years, the law has undergone significant changes in the Russian Federation, the reason for this was a change in the state-legal structure, following the path to the democratic type. Therewith, the development of social relations in the information field, the emergence, and optimization of information technologies is much faster than the development of legal norms regulating this area. In this regard, there is a need for the formation of the legal consciousness of future lawyers, which will adequately respond to changes aimed at the formation of the information society, and this is one of the most important goals for the formation of the legal consciousness of the future lawyer.

The use of information technologies can effectively influence the formation of a high level of legal consciousness of future lawyers, it is necessary to implement legal regulation in the educational sphere for the optimal use of these technologies, to implement a consistent policy of effective use of modern information technologies in the framework of legal education and legal education. That will allow those who have completed their training to professionally protect the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, a high level of legal awareness is of particular importance in the protection of the rights of the child, which is noted by Russian scholars [9].

It is worth pointing out that the conditions are formed in modern society, with the help of information technologies that are necessary for creating social activity of a person, people's participation in the management of state affairs, in the legislative process, and the implementation of public control over the functioning of the state apparatus. State authorities, at the regional and federal levels, as well as municipalities, create their websites on the global Internet, on which it is mandatory to post legal information about their activities. Meanwhile, not all state bodies organize the functioning of interactive reception rooms on their websites, Internet voting, surveys, and the use of other information technologies, and therefore there is a need to optimize interactive interaction, through which feedback is provided by civil society-states, as well as the state – civil society through the development of these tools.

A competent state policy in the field of using and creating information technology creates the necessary conditions for people's participation in the management of public affairs, in the legislative process, will contribute to the real functioning of the principles of a democratic society and the state, fill the domestic information space with meaningful and important information, and significantly improve psychological moods, will contribute to the formation of active citizens with a high level of legal culture and legal awareness.

A lawyer needs professionally-oriented assimilation of information technologies, along with knowledge of the features and principles of regulating public relations directly in the information field. The use of information technologies is necessary for a professional lawyer to successfully solve such tasks as obtaining legal information and preparing it for others, organizing information exchange, and optimizing professional activities. The use of information technologies in legal activity leads to a reduction in time costs, improves the quality of decisions made, and in some situations protects against making decisions that do not comply with the norms of law, but are dictated by other interests, which inevitably serves to increase the level of professional legal consciousness.

In the process of transition to the information society, there is a need to create a set of measures of information-technical, analytical, legal, organizational, methodological, conceptual nature, aimed at improving the legal culture, legal awareness of a professional lawyer by:

increasing the number of information technology capabilities for analyzing the current regulatory framework to identify gaps, conflicts, contradictions in the legislation and make timely proposals by professional lawyers for its improvement;

strengthening the relationship of state bodies and legal practitioners with the population through information technologies to continue the democratization of society, social and public administration institutions;

the most active implementation of information technologies in all areas of legal activity, which will make it possible for lawyers to make prompt, unbiased, reasonable, high-quality decisions, and make their professional activities open to control, both by the society and by the professional group;

expanding access to legal information, increasing the level of legal knowledge, using information technologies, optimizing the information component in the legal consciousness.

Information technologies are a source of information and knowledge, as well as a way to exchange achievements and knowledge. Currently, there is a large amount of data on the Internet about various "round tables", legal seminars, scientific conferences with the use of information technologies. Information progress makes it possible to publish scientific articles and abstracts almost instantly on public Internet resources.

Videoconferencing technologies allow participating in them in absentia, scholars can participate in discussions, make presentations, and voice their concept, being located geographically in different parts of the world, which certainly expands the circle of people taking part in the conference. Taking into account the vast territory of Russia, the lack of financial opportunities and time-virtual participation provides a wider range of scholars to share scientific achievements, to contribute to the discussion of topical issues of legal science.

Unfortunately, not all the information necessary for conducting scientific research reaches the consumer, which has both subjective and objective reasons. The latter include a certain lack of saturation of information technologies with scientific knowledge, due to the relatively recent appearance of the Internet and information technologies. The subjective reasons include the lack of necessary skills and abilities to work with information technologies directly from the scholars

themselves. A fairly large number of legal scholars, due to their age, are not among the computer users and the achievements of information progress, another part of scholars do not show such a desire, and another group, although they own information technologies, but use them in activities not related to science.

Therewith, legal scholars are gradually being implemented in the information society and organize interactive relations with the scientific community, pursuing the goal of developing and promoting legal science.

It is worth emphasizing that the technologies of Internet forums are of great importance for the effective development of scientific legal consciousness. Since it is within the framework of these forums that a scientific discussion of the key problems of legal science is possible, with the involvement of law students, practitioners, and ordinary citizens in this discussion.

It should be noted that the possibility of an open and free discussion of the law to a certain extent forms a collective mind, of which any person can become an integral part. This collective mind, which is formed in online discussion clubs, allows finding an answer to a wide variety of questions, and also contributes to the resolution of any contradictions in the field of legislation [10].

Currently, legal scholars face such tasks as learning how to work effectively with information technologies; to justify the use of information technologies from a scientific point of view; to form a legal framework regulating the use of information technologies in various areas of public life; to fill information technologies with scientific and legal knowledge.

## **5. Conclusion**

The peculiarity of the social group "law students" is manifested in the fact that this group is borderline, it includes carriers of ordinary legal consciousness, while they gradually move into the group of carriers of already professional legal consciousness during the educational process. A certain part of the students who tend to carry out scientific research activities, in the course of training, become carriers of scientific legal awareness. Such students take an active part in the work of scientific communities, these students write essays, scientific articles, participate in initiative groups, conferences with various proposals for optimizing legislation.

It is the young part of Russian society that is greatly influenced by information technologies. Throughout its history, students have always been a vehicle for new achievements and ideas, easily

and quickly absorbing and accepting discoveries and knowledge. Various reference-legal and analytical systems, computer programs, mobile technologies, the Internet – are almost instantly mastered and used by young people, both in their free time and as part of the educational process.

Along with the traditional factors that affect the legal consciousness – with the transition to the information society, new factors arise that are inextricably linked with the improvement and development of various software products, databases and data banks, expert and analytical systems, etc. Information technologies either go in parallel with traditional factors that affect the legal consciousness or modify them in a certain way, give them qualitatively new characteristics, increase their influence, both negative and positive.

Even though the movement of information flows within the information society, due to its specificity, cannot be fully regulated by the legislation of any country, so it does not have territorial borders, nevertheless, such issues related to the formation of legal consciousness, such as education, upbringing, should be regulated by law.

The use of information technologies in the process of conducting practical and lecture classes qualitatively increases the assimilation, creates stable visual images in the mind, allows demonstrating the educational material.

A serious problem in the field of professional legal awareness is the lack of knowledge among lawyers in the field of legal regulation of information relations, as well as the skills and abilities to use information technologies in practice. Therefore, the optimization of the level of professional legal consciousness should be carried out according to two main vectors, namely: 1) it is necessary to constantly improve the knowledge of the law, as well as law enforcement skills, to form firm attitudes to the implementation of the law; 2) it is necessary to acquire skills in working with information technologies while using them based on clear specific legal regulations.

It seems necessary to introduce a special discipline for students of the legal specialty, which allows them to master the use of information technologies in the profession. The use of various information technologies in the process of teaching legal disciplines will make it possible to qualitatively improve the level of legal education, and as a result, the level of legal consciousness of students.

It is necessary to introduce high-quality professional development programs in legal educational institutions to implement the training of teachers with the skills and abilities to implement information technologies in the educational process.



The legal consciousness reflects the spiritual, ideal essence of law as an integral part of the culture, as an element of the way of life of a particular people in the most versatile and complete way. There are a wide variety of ideas and rules and norms of behavior in different cultural and historical societies, types of civilizations.

Each nation, state-organized, has its exclusive legal consciousness, or, if we think more broadly, its legal mentality. This mentality is interpreted by R.S. Bainiyazov as a deep level, a layer of legal consciousness, an aura, the intuition of the nation, and an original legal spirit [11].

Therewith, the role of the spiritual, moral, and legal aspects of the legal consciousness of the individual increases in the conditions of the deforming impact of IT technologies.

The events of 2020 in terms of the pandemic and isolation forced researchers to change their understanding of the ways and methods of processing information that is important for human consciousness, paying attention to the rapid and widespread entry of ICT into the life of each individual and society as a whole; changes in the value orientation of each person, different groups in society and social medium as a whole.

Education in the Russian understanding is something more than the knowledge of legal reality and the study of the factual material of the legal sphere, it is also the formation of legal awareness and legal worldview of the individual, taking into account the impact of ICT and the results of this impact to achieve the legal identity of lawyers. Education is an area in which a highly educated, highly moral professional lawyer with a high level of legal awareness and legal outlook should be formed, capable of continuous further development, education, and active participation in the development of the country and the state.

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