



Country Report 2019 Russian Federal Bar Association

Since January 1, in accordance with the decree of the Government of the Russian Federation, an increase in the rates of payment of state-appointed advocates in criminal proceedings has been introduced.

On May 14-18, 2019, the IX St. Petersburg International Legal Forum was held. On May 15, an international RFBA conference dedicated to the lawyers' remuneration including a success fee was organized within the framework of the Forum. Presidents of the bar association and legal societies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Germany, England and Wales, France, Hong Kong, and Moldova participated in it. During the conference, the Union of Lawyers of the Republic of Moldova joined to the Charter on the Fundamental Principles of Advocate's Activity:

<https://fparf.ru/en/documents/international-legal-acts/charteron-the-fundamental-principles-of-advocate-s-activity/>

On August 8, the RFBA appealed to the law enforcement bodies in connection with cases when defenders were not allowed to visit detainees on unauthorized actions held on July 27 and August 3 in the center of Moscow.

On August 9, the RFBA held a conference "Professional Rights of Advocates: Violations and Protection". A discussion of common problems in the field of protecting the rights of advocates as well as an exchange of experience in the work of regional bar commissions for protection of professional rights took place.

On October 1, the Federal Law of November 28, 2018 No. 451-FZ "On Amending Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation" entered into force, general jurisdiction courts of appeal and general jurisdiction courts of cassation began their work. The RFBA believes that the adoption of this law can be called a milestone in the development of national legal proceedings, since this law introduces new independent institutions for the correction of judicial errors and tools for procedural savings in determining type of legal proceedings.

On December 2, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed Federal Law No. 400-FZ of December 2, 2019 on Amendments to the Federal Law on Advocacy and the Bar in the Russian Federation approved fundamental amendments entering into force step by step: on March 1, 2020, March 1, 2021 and March 1, 2022

The novelty most anticipated by legal community was the introduction of success fee agreements since March 1, 2020. But it applies for advocates and civil cases only.

In 2019, the RFBA signed cooperation agreements with the Azerbaijani Bar Association, Union of Lawyers of the Republic of Moldova, Chamber of Advocates of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and Vietnam Bar Federation; participated in numerous international conferences and events.

In 2019, preparations began for the jubilee X St. Petersburg International Legal Forum, which will be held on May 19-23, 2020 in St. Petersburg. The RFBA invites all representatives of the legal community to participate in it.