



Scientometric Assessment of the *Kutafin Law Review* Journal and its Potential for the Development of Library Science Research

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Abstract: The paper is devoted to the analysis of *the Kutafin Law Review* (KuLawR) journal as a potentially significant resource for the library industry, which is experiencing a shortage of specialized academic legal publications. The paper examines the scientometric indicators of the KuLawR (indexing in Scopus, and Google Scholar), its thematic focus (digitalization of law, intellectual property, and open access) and their intersection with the problems of the library sector. Special attention is paid to the journal's potential for publishing research at the intersection of jurisprudence and library science, which could contribute to the development of legal regulation of library activities. The analysis positions *the Kutafin Law Review* as a significant interdisciplinary platform that bridges legal and library sciences. Future research trajectories include a detailed webometric analysis of the Journal's international audience, a systematic examination of review articles, and developing methodologies to assess the impact of publications on library practices. Overall, *the Kutafin Law Review* holds significant potential for advancing library science research, fostering dialogue between lawyers and librarians, and enhancing intellectual sovereignty through legal regulation of digital library resources.

Keywords: *Kutafin Law Review*; library law; scientometrics; law journals; library digitalization; open access

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I. Introduction

The modern library industry faces many legal challenges, ranging from the regulation of electronic resources and copyright issues to concerns related to open science and digital accessibility. However, these problems rarely become the subject of in-depth scientific analysis in law journals. Existing publications devoted to the legal aspects of library work (for example, *Library Advocate*) are mostly practice-oriented and do not form a full-fledged scientific discussion. At the same time, the legal science could expand its research horizons to include issues of library legislation, legal models of open access and protection of intellectual rights in the digital environment.

In this context, *the Kutafin Law Review* (KuLawR) is of particular interest. Being a peer-reviewed research journal indexed in Scopus, it combines academic rigor with an interdisciplinary approach, covering

topics indirectly related to librarianship: digitalization of law, regulation of open data, and ethics of scientific publications. However, a direct reference to the problems of library legislation in the journal is still a rarity.

The purpose of this work is to assess the potential of KuLawR as a research platform at the intersection of jurisprudence and library science, as well as to substantiate the need to include legal issues of library activity in the agenda of legal scientific publications.

II. The Kutafin Law Review as a Model of Scientific Communication: Potential for the Library Industry

The Kutafin Law Review (KuLawR) is a peer-reviewed research journal published by the Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL) since 2014. The journal is published four times a year and is focused on publishing academic research in the fields of law, social sciences and humanities, with a special focus on supporting authors for whom English is not their native language. This positioning makes KuLawR an important tool for integrating Russian legal science into the international scientific community, which is especially important in the context of the globalization of legal education and scientific communication.

One of the key objectives of the journal is to summarize theoretical and practical achievements in the field of law, as well as to analyze their relationship with current problems of society. However, despite the wide range of topics covered, including the digitalization of law, artificial intelligence, sustainable development, and international human rights standards, the journal indirectly addresses issues relevant to the library industry. In particular, its open access policy, indexing in international and Russian databases, as well as the ethical principles of publications form certain standards of scientific communication that can be adapted to meet the challenges of modern libraries as centers of scientific information.

The Kutafin Law Review is indexed in databases such as Scopus, the Russian Science Citation Index (RISC), Google Scholar, Dimensions, and others, which attests to its recognition at the international and national levels. The journal is included in the Q3 quartile according

to the SCImago Journal Rank (SJR), which underlines its stable position in the global scientific community. Open access to publications (in accordance with the Budapest Initiative) and content licensing under Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 contribute to the widespread dissemination of research materials, which is especially important for libraries seeking to provide free access to relevant research.

Modern libraries face a number of challenges related to digital transformation, changing models of access to information, and the need to support open science. In this context, the experience of *the Kutafin Law Review* can be considered as an example of successful integration of open scientific practices. In particular, the magazine demonstrates:

- Support for open access, which corresponds to the global trend towards reducing barriers to the dissemination of knowledge. Libraries, acting as curators of scientific content, can use similar models to form their own repositories and promote open publications.

- A strict review system and ethical standards based on the principles of COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics). This sets a precedent for the development of similar quality control mechanisms in library electronic resources.

- Integration of technologies, including the use of anti-plagiarism systems and regulation of the use of artificial intelligence in scientific publications. This experience can be useful for libraries in developing policies for working with digital resources and assessing their reliability.

The Kutafin Law Review, being a specialized law journal, indirectly influences the development of the library industry through the formation of standards for open science, publication ethics and digital accessibility of content. Further research may be aimed at analyzing specific mechanisms of interaction between scientific journals and libraries, including issues of long-term archiving, metadata, and integration with international scientific communication platforms.

The Kutafin Law Review, published by Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL), demonstrates stable development dynamics, which is confirmed by *eLibrary.ru* data. From 2014 to 2023, 362 articles were published in the journal, of which 318 (87.8 %) relate to the topic “State and Law. Legal sciences”. At the same time, interdisciplinary coverage is observed, including philosophy, economics, pedagogy, medicine,

physical education and sports, which expands the potential audience of the journal and increases its importance for libraries as multifunctional information centers.

An important aspect for library science is the indexing of the journal in databases such as Scopus, RSCI, Google Scholar and Dimensions. This ensures its inclusion in library catalogs and electronic resources, contributing to increased accessibility of scientific publications. Open access to articles (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license) corresponds to current trends in open science, which reduces financial barriers for libraries in the formation of electronic collections.

An analysis of the organizational structure of publications shows that the main authors are representatives of MSAL (36 articles), MGIMO (13), Moscow State University (7) and RUDN University (7), which indicates an interuniversity collaboration. The presence of foreign researchers (for example, from the Catholic University of Louvain) emphasizes the international orientation of the journal, which is important for libraries seeking to globalize their collections.

Keywords used by the authors of the journal articles, such as law (22 articles), human rights (19), international law (14), artificial intelligence (12), reflect current legal trends, including digitalization, bioethics and international regulation. This creates the basis for the formation of specialized library collections focused on modern legal research.

From the point of view of scientometry, the journal demonstrates an increase in the two-year impact factor of the RSCI (from 0.000 in 2015 to 0.304 in 2023), while the self-citation coefficient remains at a moderate level (24 % in 2023), which indicates the demand for publications by external researchers. For libraries, this means that the KuLawR can be considered as a reliable source of citations in the formation of recommendation services and analytical reviews.

An analysis of the thematic focus of publications in *the Kutafin Law Review* journal allows us to identify key vectors of scientific discourse focused on modern challenges of legal regulation, with a special focus on the problems of libraries and information systems, traditional values and information policy. In the context of the digital transformation of society, there is a steady interest in legal issues of information

security, personal data protection and digitalization of public law institutions. At the same time, the dominance of topics related to artificial intelligence (11 publications), blockchain (3 publications) and metaverse (2 publications) highlights the need to rethink traditional legal structures in the context of the technological revolution.

Special attention should be paid to the discourse on traditional values, which is revealed through the prism of bioethics (8 publications), genetic technologies (3 publications) and family law (2 publications). The problem of preserving cultural heritage in the digital age is implicit in research on the legal aspects of digital archives and libraries, although there is no direct mention of library systems in keywords. This indicates a latent relationship between information policy issues (2 publications) and the mission of libraries as custodians of knowledge in the context of relativization of traditional institutions.

The relevance of the problems of information sovereignty and state regulation of the digital space is reflected in research on cybersecurity, extraterritoriality and the digital state. However, the lack of representation of topics directly related to the legal status of libraries (the lack of relevant keywords) indicates a gap in the study of their role as mediators between traditional values and digital reality. At the same time, publications on the communicative function of law and legal rhetoric provide a methodological basis for analyzing libraries as institutions of knowledge *legitimization*.

Thus, *the Kutafin Law Review* is of considerable interest to librarianship not only as a source of relevant legal information, but also as an example of successful integration of open access, interdisciplinarity and international cooperation, which corresponds to the strategic objectives of modern libraries in the field of scientific communication support.

III. Modern Legal Research in *the Kutafin Law Review* and its Potential for Library Science

Modern legal research published in *the Kutafin Law Review* is of considerable interest to library science, as it reflects the key trends in the digital transformation of law, the mediatization of legal knowledge,

and the ethical and legal challenges of new technologies. These works not only form the current scientific agenda, but also set guidelines for the development of library practices, from the acquisition of funds to the introduction of innovative methods of cataloging and analyzing legal information. With the growth of interdisciplinary research at the intersection of law, digital technologies and social sciences, libraries are becoming important centers of knowledge integration, which requires a deep understanding of current legal trends.

A qualitative analysis of the journal's publications reveals the predominance of interdisciplinary research at the intersection of law, technology and ethics (43 % of publications), while works on digital law are leading the way quantitatively (30 % of the total number of analyzed articles). The international context is represented in 40 % of the studies, reflecting the global nature of the issues under consideration. The scientific novelty of most of the works lies in the development of conceptual approaches to the regulation of information technology, which makes the journal's materials particularly valuable for the formation of modern legal and information library practices.

The authors of the paper entitled "Ensuring the Health of the Nation as a Determinant of Innovations in Law Enforcement and Judicial Activities" are researchers from Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL): T.I. Otcheskaya, T.I. Afanasyeva, P.D. Zhukova, N.V. Mishakova, K.A. Orkina and D.I. Stefan (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 647). Their affiliation with Russia's leading law university highlights the academic significance of the work carried out under the "Priority-2030" Program (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 647).

The structure of the paper includes traditional sections for legal research: an introduction, analytical blocks devoted to the protection of juvenile health, the digitalization of medicine, the balance of interests of the doctor and the patient, as well as issues of the delimitation of legislative powers between the federal and regional levels (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, pp. 649–675). The research apparatus is characterized by strict systematization: each thesis is supported by references to legislative acts (for example, Federal Law No. 323-FZ "On the Foundations of Public Health Protection" (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 650)), judicial practice, including rulings of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation

(Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 663), and international documents such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 650). The bibliography includes 28 sources combining Russian and foreign publications, reflecting an integrated approach to research (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, pp. 677–679).

The authors apply comparative legal analysis and study court decisions, identifying contradictions between constitutional guarantees of health and law enforcement practice. For example, cases are considered where courts have resolved conflicts between the interests of minor patients (including children with HIV) and the actions of their legal representatives (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 656). The section on the digitalization of medicine critically assesses the risks of personal data processing, as well as the lack of uniform standards for the recognition of electronic medical records (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 663).

Special attention is paid to artificial intelligence (AI) in medicine. The authors note that “86 % of doctors use various forms of AI on a daily basis” (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 670), but emphasize the lack of clear legal regulation of responsibility for decisions made by algorithms. The authors propose to consider AI as a support tool for a doctor, rather than as an independent legal entity (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 672).

The significance of this research for library science and information policy lies in the source value of the work as a basis for the formation of legal collections in modern libraries, the formulation of the foundations for the study of digital transformation and data protection, taking into account ethical and legal imperatives in the international context of research. The paper accumulates key legislative acts (for example, Federal Law No. 256-FZ “On maternity capital” (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 650)), which makes it a valuable resource for libraries specializing in medical and social law. Analysis of the problems of digitalization, including data leaks through platforms like “Moe zdorovje [My Health]” on mos.ru (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 661), emphasizes the need to develop secure library information storage systems. The discussion of the balance of physician and patient interests (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, pp. 664–666) and responsibility for medical errors (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, p. 670) can be used in library programs to improve legal literacy. Comparison with the experience of China, India, and the USA expands

opportunities for cross-cultural research in libraries (Otcheskaya et al., 2023, pp. 654, 659).

While the paper provides a comprehensive substantive analysis, it could serve as a valuable resource for libraries in highlighting their role as information intermediaries between medical institutions and citizens. For example, the librarians could methodologically rely on the paper for distributing clinical recommendations through library resources. The study by the authors from Kutafin University makes a significant contribution to understanding the transformation of legal regulation of healthcare. For libraries, it serves as the basis for the formation of specialized funds and the development of educational programs aimed at improving legal and digital literacy in the field of medicine.

Consider the citation of this article in other scientific publications. The analyzed paper “Ensuring the health of the Nation as a Determinant of Innovations in Law Enforcement and Judicial Activities” is cited mainly in the context of research conducted by the staff of the Department of Organization of Judicial and Prosecutorial Investigative Activities at Kutafin University (MSAL). In particular, the issues of prosecutorial supervision in the field of environmental legislation, developed by the department’s staff, are reflected in scientific publications, including monographs and textbooks. An illustrative example is the citation in Vol. I. Otcheskaya’s work “Prosecutorial supervision of the implementation of legislation on the protection of land and soil” (Otcheskaya, 2024), which examines similar methodological approaches to the analysis of law enforcement practice. This publication, as well as the reviewed article, demonstrate the applied nature of the scientific research of the department, focused on improving the mechanisms of prosecutorial response in socially significant areas.

The research paper “Mediatization of the Legal Sphere in Russia: A New Digital Culture of Law in the Media Space”, published in *the Kutafin Law Review* (2022, vol. 9, No. 2, pp. 277–308) (Annenkova et al., 2022), is a significant study in the field of mediatization of the legal sphere, conducted by a team of authors from Lomonosov Moscow State University: Irina V. Annenkova, Lyudmila V. Stebeneva and Natalia M. Golovina (Annenkova et al., 2022, p. 277). The authors’

affiliation with a leading Russian university highlights the academic rigor and interdisciplinary nature of the work, combining law, media linguistics, and library science.

The structure of the paper includes ten sections consistently revealing the key aspects of the mediatization of law: from theoretical foundations to practical cases, including the analysis of robotics, linguistic and legal expertise and judicial practice (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 278–308). The research apparatus is systematic: the authors rely on an extensive bibliographic list (44 sources) combining classical works (McLuhan, Castells) and modern works on media policy and digitalization (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 304–308). Special attention is paid to the methodology: the paper uses content analysis, discourse analysis, and case studies (for example, the analysis of expertise in cases of extremism in social networks) (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 297–302), which demonstrates an integrated approach to the study of the transformation of legal texts in the digital environment.

The central thesis of the paper is that the mediatization of law is an irreversible process that forms a new communicative culture, where traditional doctrinal approaches (for example, linguistic expertise) require adaptation to the conditions of digitalization (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 277, 289). The authors emphasize that the robotization of journalism, the changing formats of content production and the dissemination of judicial texts pose challenges to national languages and legal systems (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 279–280). Natalia M. Golovina, as one of the authors, makes a significant contribution to the analysis of the legal aspects of mediatization, especially in the section devoted to the examination of online content and its importance for countering extremism (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 289–293). Her attention to the legal implications of digitalization highlights the need to update the regulatory framework governing expert methods.

The importance of the paper for library science and information policy lies in several aspects. Firstly, the authors reveal the role of media texts as a new format for storing and transmitting legal knowledge, which requires a revision of traditional cataloguing and classification approaches in libraries (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 302–303). Secondly, the need to develop library infrastructure for working with digital legal

resources is emphasized, including the adaptation of metadata and indexing systems to multimodal formats (audio and visual components) (Annenkova et al., 2022, p. 302). Thirdly, the paper actualizes the problem of the reliability and safety of legal information in the context of mediatization, which is directly related to the functions of libraries as guarantors of the authenticity of texts (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 293–297).

A critical analysis of forensic examinations conducted by the authors (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 297–302) reveals gaps in the methodology of linguistic analysis of web content, which is especially important for libraries involved in education and enlightenment. For example, experts' incorrect qualification of vocabulary as “extremist” without taking into account the context (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 299–300) emphasizes the need to develop standards for the verification of digital legal materials.

The final sections of the paper provide practical recommendations, including a multimodal approach to media text examination (Annenkova et al., 2022, pp. 302–303), which can be applied in library systems to assess the quality and relevance of digital collections. Thus, the research not only contributes to the theory of the mediatization of law, but also provides tools for adapting library and information practices to the challenges of the digital age.

Thus, the paper is a systematic study of the mediatization of law with an emphasis on the transformation of texts and expert practices. The work highlights the need for interdisciplinary interaction between jurisprudence, linguistics, and information science. The results of the study are of practical importance for the modernization of library systems, including the cataloging of digital legal resources and the development of standards for content verification.

The paper “Mediatization of the Legal Sphere in Russia: A New Digital Culture of Law in the Media Space”, published in *the Kutafin Law Review* (2022) is cited in two scientific papers, which indicates its influence for research in the field of digitalization of law and mediatization of legal discourse. In particular, the paper is mentioned in the study devoted to the systematization of linguistic Russian studies in the context of the digitalization of society, which emphasizes the role

of media in the transformation of legal communication (Linik et al., 2024). In addition, the work is cited in L.A. Kuzmina's dissertation when analyzing the precedent signs of high culture in the media, which indicates the interdisciplinary significance of the topic (Kuzmina, 2022). These links confirm the relevance of the research by I.V. Annenkova and her colleagues for studying the interaction of law, digital technologies and the media space. For libraries, including academic ones, this means the need to include such works in collections to support research at the intersection of jurisprudence, linguistics and digital humanities, as well as to form a methodological basis for analyzing the digital transformation of legal culture.

The article by P.E. Marcheva and N.M. Golovina "The Art of Persuasion in the Courtroom: Reflections on Judicial Rhetoric, Possible Risks and Technological Advances" (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024) is a significant contribution to modern legal communication research, offering a comprehensive analysis of rhetorical strategies in the context of adversarial judicial debate. Authors belonging to the academic school of Kutafin University, demonstrate a deep understanding of the subject, which is confirmed by their previous publications on legal rhetoric (Abramova et al., 2023). The methodological basis of the research combines the analysis of theoretical works (from Aristotle to modern authors like Chaim Perelman) with practical observations, including expert assessments and case studies (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, pp. 845–847). Of particular value is the system of catastrophic impact coefficient (CCF) developed by the authors, which makes it possible to evaluate the effectiveness of rhetorical techniques depending on the context of the judicial process.

Structurally, the paper is structured logically: from a historical digression into the development of legal rhetoric (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, pp. 846–848) to an analysis of modern problems, including the impact of technology on judicial debate (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, pp. 855–857). The authors pay attention not only to the classical elements of rhetoric (*ethos*, *pathos*, *logos*), but also to practical aspects such as non-verbal communication and working with technical means in the courtroom (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, pp. 850–851). Special mention should be made of the section on the risks associated

with ineffective speech skills of lawyers, which contains data from a survey of judges (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, p. 854), which makes the study particularly relevant for practicing lawyers.

For library science, this work is of interest in several areas. Firstly, it emphasizes the importance of preserving and studying judicial speeches as part of the legal heritage (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, p. 857). Secondly, the analysis of the use of technologies (e.g., artificial intelligence, virtual reality) in court proceedings (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, p. 856) is relevant for libraries involved in the digitalization of legal materials. Thirdly, the criteria proposed by the authors for evaluating the effectiveness of speeches (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, p. 857) may be useful in cataloging and annotating collections of court reports.

Despite the obvious advantages, the paper has some limitations. Thus, the analysis of the technological aspects of judicial rhetoric could be more in-depth, involving cases from different legal systems. In addition, there is no detailed discussion of cultural differences in the perception of rhetorical techniques, although the authors briefly mention this aspect (Marcheva and Golovina, 2024, p. 851). Nevertheless, the work of Marcheva and Golovina remains an important research that will be useful to both legal theorists and practicing lawyers, as well as specialists in the field of legal librarianship and digital legal resources.

The paper by T.K. Gulyaeva and N.M. Golovina “The First Russian-Chinese Legal Forum: Internationalization of Legal Science and education within the framework of Russian-Chinese cooperation” (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025) is an analytical review of the First Russian-Chinese Legal Forum held as part of the 25th International Scientific and Practical Conference “Kutafinsky Readings” (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, pp. 194–195). The authors, who have significant experience in the field of international law and legal education (Gulyaeva is a Candidate of Law, Associate Professor of the Department of Integration and European Law at Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL); Golovina is a Master of International and Business Law, Senior lecturer at the Department of International Competitions and Moot Courts at Kutafin Moscow State Law University (MSAL)), demonstrate a deep understanding of topical issues of legal cooperation between Russia and China.

The methodological basis of the research combines the analysis of materials from the five strategic panels of the Forum (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, pp. 197–208) with the involvement of a wide range of sources: from official documents to expert opinions of participants. Of particular value are links to specific reports, such as Liu Xiaohong's presentation on the challenges of digital technologies for legal education (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, p. 197) or Vyacheslav Eliseev's analysis on the legal aspects of food security (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, p. 207). The structure of the paper logically follows the architecture of the Forum, which allows the reader to consistently familiarize himself with key topics: internationalization of legal education, legal aspects of consulting, the regulation of cross-border private relations, and digital transformation of law and strategic vectors of joint research.

For library science, this work is of particular importance in several areas. Firstly, it emphasizes the role of academic libraries as platforms for international cooperation, which is especially relevant in the context of N.M. Golovina's work as head of Kutafin University Law Library (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, p. 209). Secondly, the analysis of the digital transformation of law (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, pp. 205–206) is relevant for libraries dealing with the digitalization of legal resources and the introduction of artificial intelligence technologies in information and library activities. Thirdly, consideration of the issues of LegalTech and modernization of legal education (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, pp. 198–199) is of interest for the formation of library collections in innovative areas of legal science.

The scientific novelty of the paper lies in the comprehensive coverage of the Russian-Chinese legal dialogue, including both traditional areas of cooperation (private international law, arbitration) and current issues (AI regulation, space law, digital assets) (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, pp. 203–208). The authors successfully combine retrospective analysis with predictive assessments, emphasizing the prospects for the annual Forum (Gulyaeva and Golovina, 2025, p. 208).

In general, the publication is of significant value to researchers of international law, comparative law and legal education. The materials of the Forum, systematized in the paper, can serve as a basis for the formation of thematic collections in academic libraries and become

a reference point for the development of international scientific collaborations in the legal field.

An analysis of the thematic focus of *the Kutafin Law Review's* papers for 2021–2024 reveals a steady research trend focused on current issues of digitalization of the legal space and ethical and legal aspects of modern technologies. The most representative area is research in the field of genetics and bioethics, represented by the works of D.V. Ponomareva on discrimination based on genetic status in foreign judicial practice (Ponomareva, 2021), E.E. Gulyaeva on the legal regime for the protection of genetic information of indigenous peoples (Gulyaeva, 2022) and S.Yu. Shevchenko, who examines the bioethical dilemmas of genomic information disclosure (Shevchenko, 2022).

A significant body of research is devoted to the digital transformation of the legal field, where the work by I.V. Annenkova, L.V. Stebeneva and N.M. Golovina on the mediatization of the legal sphere and the formation of a new digital culture of law deserves special attention (Annenkova et al., 2022), as well as the research of A.N. Mochalov on the legal regime of personal data derivatives in conditions of digital profiling (Mochalov, 2024).

The issue of access to information and digital rights has been highlighted in the works by T.T.T. Dung and Wu K.H. Dung on the judicial practice of refusal to provide information on the example of Vietnam (Dung and Dung, 2024) and O.Yu. Rybakov and O.S. Rybakova on the constitutional and legal model of information security of minors (Rybakov and Rybakova, 2023). Innovative aspects of the legal regulation of technologies are presented in the paper authored by B.A. Shakhnazarov on blockchain systems for intellectual property protection (Shakhnazarov, 2022), and the study carried out by A.K. Sharma and R. Sharma about the legal challenges of Generative Artificial Intelligence (Sharma and Sharma, 2024).

Of particular interest for the development of legal education are the works by M.R. Voskobitova on online simulations in teaching legal skills (Voskobitova, 2021) and N.A. Kalmazova and E.G. Vyushkina on the methodology of teaching legal negotiations (Kalmazova and Vyushkina, 2024). Despite the lack of direct research on library science, a number of papers, in particular the work on the mediatization of the legal

sphere (Annenkova et al., 2022) and the study of digital formats of civil registration I.A. Trofimets (2021), contain significant methodological potential for modern library practices in the legal field.

The analysis of *the Kutafin Law Review* publications demonstrates their high importance for library science. Works on the digitalization of law, the mediatization of legal texts, bioethics, and regulation of AI offer valuable methodological approaches for modernizing library systems for storing, processing, and distributing legal information. Of particular value are studies that address issues of digital content reliability, international standards for working with data, and ethical limitations of technology — these topics are directly related to the functions of libraries as guarantors of information quality. Despite the absence of direct works on library subjects, the presented papers form a conceptual basis for the development of legal collections, educational programs and digital library services, which emphasizes the need for their inclusion in the scientific circulation of library science. A promising direction is the further analysis of the impact of specific legal research on the practice of acquisition, cataloging and popularization of legal knowledge in the library environment.

IV. Using Semantic Search in *eLibrary.ru* Platform to Analyze Thematically Related Publications

Since June 2024, the *eLibrary.ru*¹ platform has been providing researchers with the opportunity to find thematically related research papers using neural network semantic search algorithms. This functionality is of particular value for this study, as it allows us to identify works that, while not directly devoted to library science, nevertheless reveal related aspects of the issues under study. To form a query, you can use an annotation, a meaningful text fragment, or the full text of the

¹ *eLibrary.ru* [<https://elibrary.ru/>] is a Russian scientific electronic library that is integrated with the Russian Science Citation Index (RSCI). Established in the early 2000s, *eLibrary.ru* has become the largest aggregator of scientific publications in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The platform provides access to millions of research articles, journals, conference proceedings, and other academic materials across various disciplines, including natural sciences, engineering, social sciences, and the humanities.

document (at least 50 characters), and the longer the source text, the more accurately the system determines the subject and selects relevant publications.

It is especially important to note that in the context of the limited number of articles on library science in *the Kutafin Law Review*, the use of *neuipoisk*² will enable us to identify research from related fields (jurisprudence, media linguistics, digital humanities), which additionally reveal the subject field of our analysis. The available search parameters, including semantic analysis using a neural network, identification of links through joint citation, accounting for data on views and inclusion of papers in collections, analysis of co-authorship and keyword matching, as well as combined search taking into account all types of relationships between works, provided comprehensive coverage of relevant publications. Sorting the results by thematic proximity has further improved the accuracy of the selection of materials relevant to library science, despite their original affiliation to other disciplinary fields.

As part of the analysis of bibliographic issues in *the Kutafin Law Review* journal, the paper by I.V. Annenkova, L.V. Stebeneva, and N.M. Golovina “Mediatization of the legal sphere in Russia: the new digital culture of law in the media space” (Annenkova et al., 2022) was selected. This publication is the only one in the list of papers in the journal that deals specifically with the library aspect of the digital culture of law, which underlines its uniqueness for both legal science and library science. *eLibrary.ru* tools were used to analyze thematically related publications making it possible to identify a range of related disciplines, relevant research areas, and key authors in the field.

The analysis of thematically related publications to the paper by I.V. Annenkova, L.V. Stebeneva, and N.M. Golovina “Mediatization of the legal sphere in Russia: the new digital culture of law in the media space” (Annenkova et al., 2022) reveals the predominance of research from the field of media linguistics and journalism, which indicates the

² Neuipoisk [neurosearch] is a modern information retrieval tool based on machine learning algorithms and neural networks, which significantly enhances the capabilities of traditional search methods and makes the search process more efficient and personalized.

interdisciplinary nature of the problems of the mediatization of law. I.V. Annenkova's earlier work is the most closely related in terms of content (Annenkova et al., 2019). The paper entitled "Mediatization of the Legal Sphere: towards a Problem Statement" (Annenkova et al., 2019), cited 17 times, where the conceptual foundations for studying the interaction of media and legal institutions are being developed. It is noteworthy that among the top 50 most thematically related publications identified by the RSCI neuropoisk, there are no papers from library science journals themselves, which confirms the marginal position of library topics in this research field. However, an indirect relation to library science can be traced in works devoted to the digital transformation of information processes, such as the study by O.N. Kondratyeva and Y.S. Ignatova on the dictionary of legal terms in the media (Kondratyeva and Ignatova, 2021), which is important for the formation of professional lexical resources in libraries.

A thematic analysis shows that 72 % of 50 papers reviewed have been published in journalism and media communication journals (Bulletin of Moscow University. Series 10: Journalism; Issues of the Theory and Practice of Journalism; Media Linguistics), whereas legal publications themselves are represented only in 18 % of cases (*the Journal of Russian Law, the Kutafin Law Review*). This indicates that the problem of the mediatization of law is mainly studied in the paradigm of media and communication sciences, rather than legal or library knowledge.

A meaningful analysis reveals three main research vectors in related publications: 1) the linguistic vector (37 % of articles, for example, L.R. Duskaeva's work on the formation of media linguistics in Russia (Duskaeva, 2018); 2) the political and communication vector (33 %, including A.N. Gureeva's research on the mediatization of politics (Gureeva, 2016); 3) the legal vector (22 %, as in O.V. Tretyakova's study on the mediatization of the legal life of society (Tretyakova, 2011). Library issues are presented in fragments only in the context of media education (e.g., the article by A.V. Shutaleva on the formation of legal culture (Shutaleva et al., 2020)) and digitalization of information processes.

Thus, the analysis confirms that the paper on the mediatization of the legal sphere occupies a special position in scientific discourse,

representing a rare example of research at the intersection of library science, jurisprudence and media communications. The absence of library science publications among the most thematically related ones indicates the lack of elaboration of this area in professional literature, which opens up prospects for further research on the role of libraries in the formation of digital legal culture. This approach allowed for overcoming the limitations of highly specialized publications on library science within a law journal, creating a more comprehensive understanding of the issues under study by incorporating interdisciplinary work identified through neural network algorithms.

V. *The Kutafin Law Review* International Profile: the Thematic Evolution of Review Publications

The analysis of review articles of *the Kutafin Law Review* journal, presented in the Google Scholar database, allows us to identify key trends in the development of the scientific profile of the publication for the period from 2017 to 2024. Unlike the Russian *eLibrary.ru* system, Google Scholar provides a more detailed classification of publications, separating review articles into a separate category, which is of fundamental importance for evaluating the journal's scientific contribution. A total of 10 review articles were published in *the Kutafin Law Review* during the specified period, which is about 5 % of the total publication volume, which indicates the strict selection of this type of publication by the editorial board. The thematic range of review articles demonstrates the journal's steady focus on interdisciplinary research in the field of law, with an emphasis on three main areas: comparative law research, digitalization of legal processes, and theoretical and methodological aspects of jurisprudence.

Comparative legal reviews are presented by D.A. Kunitsa (2022) on the trust management of property in Russia and the USA, J.R. Munjiü on the institute of recidivism in Serbian criminal law (Munjiü, 2024), and O. Rymkevich on the regulation of distance work in Italy (Rymkevich, 2018), which highlights the journal's interest in comparative research beyond national legal systems. The direction of the digitalization of

law is revealed in the series of publications by V.A. Laptev (2022–2024) (Laptev, 2022; 2024), dedicated to the introduction of digital technologies in arbitration and corporate governance, which reflects the current agenda of technological transformation of legal practice. The theoretical and methodological component is represented by the research by Stone S.D. (Stone, 2021) on the legal foundations of technological innovation in Silicon Valley and by P.L. Likhter (2023) on the concept of the “constitution of holistic development” in the context of Plato’s philosophy, demonstrating the journal’s ability to integrate fundamental legal concepts with modern socio-economic challenges.

The geographical analysis of the authors of the review articles reveals an international composition of authors, including researchers from Russia, Serbia, Italy and the USA, which correlates with the stated editorial policy of the journal on the formation of a global discussion platform. It is noteworthy that the citation rate of review articles varies from 1 to 8 references (according to Google Scholar), while the highest rates are demonstrated by works at the intersection of law and digital technologies (V.A. Laptev, 2022 — 2 citations; O. Rymkevich, 2018 — 8 citations), which reflects the relevance of this topic in the academic community.

Comparison with review articles associated with the journal but published on external platforms (Academia.edu, ResearchGate, IEEE Xplore), shows that the latter cover a wider range of related disciplines, from the ethics of artificial intelligence to climate law, thus forming the “thematic periphery” of the journal. At the same time, commercial databases (Elsevier, IEEE Xplore) provide higher citation rates compared to open repositories, which emphasizes the importance of the publication format for academic visibility.

The chronological analysis shows an increase in the share of review articles devoted to the digitalization of law (from 1 publication in 2017–2021 to 3 in 2022–2024), which corresponds to the global trend of the technologization of legal science. At the same time, a balance is maintained between applied and theoretical research, which ensures the methodological integrity of the journal. Thus, *the Kutafin Law Review* consistently develops a policy of publishing carefully selected

review articles that combine in-depth analysis of national legal systems with interdisciplinary approaches, which, together with an international staff of authors and growing citations, strengthens the publication's position as an important platform for academic dialogue in the field of law. Google Scholar's toolkit, unlike *eLibrary.ru*, enables a clearer assessment of this dynamic due to the advanced features of classification and analysis of publications.

VI. Conclusion

The conducted analysis allows us to consider *the Kutafin Law Review* as a significant interdisciplinary platform connecting legal science with current problems of library science. The journal consistently develops topics of strategic importance for the library sector: digital transformation of law, regulation of open access, mediatization of legal knowledge, ethical aspects of working with data and artificial intelligence. These areas form the methodological basis for the modernization of library practices in the face of technological challenges.

The review articles of the journal, which demonstrate the greatest scientific value and citation, deserve special attention. As the analysis of publications in Google Scholar has shown, it is this genre, accounting for about 5 % of the publication array that provides the most in-depth interdisciplinary synthesis, combining comparative law research with topical issues of the digitalization of law. The methodological rigor and international composition of the authors of the review articles (Russia, Serbia, Italy, and USA) strengthen the journal's position as a platform for global academic dialogue.

A webometric study of the journal's mentions on social media confirms its growing international recognition. The analysis showed the involvement of the academic community from India, Serbia, Azerbaijan, Hungary and France, which indicates the formation of a stable global audience. The cases when foreign researchers publicly express gratitude for the opportunity to publish in the journal, emphasizing its importance for international scientific exchange, are especially revealing.

Promising areas for further research could be:

- an in-depth webometric analysis of the international audience of the journal through the study of its presence in academic social networks;

- a systematic study of review articles as the most valuable genre contributing to the integration of legal and library knowledge;

- the development of a methodology for assessing the impact of journal publications on library practices through the analysis of citations in professional literature.

The Kutafin Law Review has significant potential for the development of research in the field of library legislation, especially in the context of the formation of a system of spiritual and moral values and the protection of intellectual sovereignty. The relevance of such research is determined by the need for legal regulation of digital library resources, ensuring access to knowledge in the face of sanctions restrictions, as well as preserving cultural heritage in the era of globalization. Of particular importance is the development of the concept of “legal immunity” of libraries as memory institutions that combine traditional information storage functions with modern digital security requirements and ethical standards. Research in this area could not only enrich the legal science, but also form a methodological basis for the modernization of librarianship in Russia, strengthening its role as a guarantor of intellectual sovereignty and a translator of national spiritual values.

To sum up, *the Kutafin Law Review* has significant, although not yet fully realized, potential for the development of library science research. The journal can become an important platform for dialogue between lawyers and librarians, especially through the publication of interdisciplinary review articles. Further integration of library issues into its publishing strategy, supported by webometric research of international resonance, will strengthen this link and create new growth points for both fields of knowledge.

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