

# Legal Problems of the Information Services Implementation in Russian Civil Law

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## Abstract

The article analyzes the informational relations including relations associated with the provision of information, and relationships associated with the dissemination of information. Special attention is paid to the formulation of the concept of “information services” in connection with its absence in the Russian legislation. From a range of different relationships of the provision of information highlighted the criteria of a particular type of information services. In connection with active development of information technologies, special attention is paid to information services provided to the consumers of databases, mainly through information services specific database. The authors also underline the inadmissibility of inclusion of the communication services in the informational services.

**Keywords:** information, database, information services, consulting services, the types of information services

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 *Introducing the Problem*

Since the development of the electronic data processing and transmission system of information computer technology has been widely used for formation of various information databases on various branches of knowledge, and information services. Since the mid 70-ies of XX century and as the consequence of the development of national and global networks, the information services are provided in the form of dialogue information retrieval in remote user databases.

Currently the information services market in Russia is diverse and dynamic (URL: <http://synopsis.kubsu.ru>). It consists of the traditional media that regularly publishes news or broadcasting advertisements about goods, reference guides and reference and information services (encyclopedias, textbooks, dictionaries, directories, reference-adjustment bureau and so on), information services (legal, marketing and others), computer information law (“the Guarantor”, “Code”, “Consultant Plus” and others) and information retrieval (“Yandex”, “Rambler” and other) systems, etc. If you look at the statistics, it should be noted that over the last 10-13 years the Russian market of information services develops rapidly. IT and information services became quite significant part of the Russian non-resource exports, reaching a level of approximately \$1 billion. The average annual growth rate of the sector amounted to 25%, which is significantly higher than the rate of GDP growth (Klochkova & Ledneva, 2014).

However, the lack of legal definition of “information services” leads to the situation that it becomes problematic to define whether the particular service is “informational” or not.

Information services are not allocated in the Russian classification among types of services.

Various authors define information services both as consulting and services for the transmission of information via communication channels (communication services), services for servicing of information systems and publishing activities on the distribution of printed materials.

It should be recognized that informational services can often be related with the others or they can be the initial step in providing other services related to information support, such as marketing, audit, valuation, advertising, detective, and real estate and the other.

That's why the peculiarities of separate types of informational services require separate consideration. Services on provision and dissemination of the information are considered in the literature as the most typical types of information services.

However, problem of the qualification of the relations on the provision of the information and its distribution in the legal literature still remains debatable.

According to the 2 article of the Federal law "On information, information technologies and information protection" the informational relations include the relations connected with the provision of information, and relations associated with the dissemination of information.

Relations on dissemination of the information are aimed at obtaining or transmitting of the information to an indefinite circle of persons. They mediate actions to disseminate such information as news, as well as advertisement, firstly by the means of the mass media, by mail, or by electronic messages. Under the information dissemination should also understand and announcements of physical and legal persons, not connected with entrepreneurial activity.

Providing information is an action aimed at receiving or sending information for the specific circle of persons, which are carried out according with the agreement of the parties participating in the information exchange.

However, the criteria for distinguishing of informational services from a range of different relationships for the provision (receiving and transmitting) of the information were not regulated by the legislator, therefore it often leads to the wrong qualification.

You should pay attention to the fact that in the literature some authors distinguish between obligations on the transfer of information and the obligations on provision of information services. In our opinion, this question also requires consideration.

### *1.2 Importance of the Problem*

Information, information technologies, transfer, distribution and the use of information determines the relevance of the problems raised in the article.

A range of articles in journals, monographic studies, and PhD dissertations of the last fifty years in Russia is dedicated to the study of the legal nature, content and types of information services, due to the gradual transition from a planned economy to a market economy.

The following training and monographic publications are devoted to the aforesaid topic: L. A. Vasilenko "Informational services market" 1996; textbook "Marketing" Ed. A. N. Romanov 1996; V. K. Klueva "Economics of library in the current market concepts" 1997; A. N. Medvedeva "Cost accounting on information, consulting, marketing and auditing services" 2001; A. V. Titova "The media as an object of civil legal relations" 2004; L. V. Sannikova "Services in the Russian civil law", 2006.

Separate aspects of the problem are raised in periodicals, including electronic journals. Particularly the following questions were raised: in the article of L. P. Fomicheva the question of the feasibility of using databases in the activities of different entities is discussed (Your organization acquires legal-reference system "Garant"—Legal-reference system "Consultant Plus", 2002); in the article of E. V. Izmajlova the role of the information in entrepreneur activity is discussed ("Information in business relations"—Moscow State University Herald, 2005); L. B. Sitdikova Legal nature of Internet services—Russian Law: Theory and Practice, 2007), advertisement as the kind of information and its place in the contract on the paid services is analyzed in magazine "Lawyer", 2007.

Comprehensive research of the mentioned problems was made in the following dissertations of A. E. Sherstobitov "Civil-law regulation of obligations on information transfer" 1980; M. V. Jafis "Formation of the informational services market" 1998; U. E. Sidneva "Information services in the system of economic relations (theoretical aspect)", 2001; I. I. Rodionova "The formation and development of market information services and products in the context of globalization" 2003; R. N. Morodumova "Contract on Paid information and consultancy services" 2004; L. B. Sitdikova "Legal regulation of relations in the sphere of provision of information and consultancy services in the Russian Federation" 2009.

### *1.3 Hypotheses and Their Correspondence to Research Design*

1) On the problem of classifying database and software to the informational services we have come to the following conclusion. In accordance with the Russian Civil Code the database is the subject of the copyright and also it is the object of the related rights. The Article 1260 of the Civil code defines the database as the set of independent materials that are presented in an objective form (articles, calculations, legal regulations, judicial

decisions and other similar materials), and systematized so that they may be found and processed using electronic computers.

The originator or other author of a derivative or composite works (anthologies, encyclopedias, databases, atlas, newspapers, magazines, or other similar works) acquires the copyright to carry out selection or arrangement of materials, regardless of the legal protection of the work on which the derived or composite work is based.

Regard must be paid to the legislator's approach when the right of the database producer is considered not as the special right, but as the right related to copyright. At the same time article 1334 of the Civil Code includes also quantitative (arithmetic) criterion—"The manufacturer of a database whose creation (including the processing or presentation of the relevant materials) requires significant financial, material, organizational or other costs owns an exclusive right or comprises at least 10,000 independent information elements.

Paid provision of the information contained in the various databases that are currently carried out through the implementation of database instances and software, as well as providing user access to databases. Implementation of database instances and their software is made through a network of retail trade on the basis of a contract of sale of information products. In modern information society, databases are becoming a popular item. In 2000, only in the European Community total turnover of companies in the field of databases and directories publishing amounted to 8.2 billion euros. ("The EU publishing industry: an assessment of competitiveness" [http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/ict/policy/doc/pira\\_2003\\_1046\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/ict/policy/doc/pira_2003_1046_en.pdf)).

It should also specify that the database contains both the information of free access and the published works protected by copyright. The transition of ownership on a thing does not entail the transfer (provision) of intellectual property rights on results of intellectual activity and means of individualization that are expressed in this thing, except for the cases stipulated by law. The art 1291 of the Civil Code proclaims, that on the selling of original of the work, by its owner having exclusive right on a work, but who are not the author of the work, the exclusive right to the product passes to the purchaser of the original work, unless the contract provides otherwise.

Therefore, the person that lawfully acquired a database instance, acquires ownership of the media, and in relation to material contained in the database, is entitled, without the authorization of the right holder to extract and implement subsequent use in personal, scientific, educational and other non-commercial purposes to the extent justified for a particular purpose, and to the extent that such actions do not violate the copyright of a database producer and other persons.

During the exploitation of the database instance, there is a need for constant actualization of the materials that make up the database. Therefore, databases' manufacturers providing commercial implementation of database instances at the same time offer the information systems servicing which includes a number of information services. The acquisition of the system information and legal support "guarantor" in the form of instance information data Bank software where the information service of this system is carried out under the contract of compensated providing of information services exemplifies the possibility of the contract for provision of the information services.

The package of the informational servicing of the information system "Guarantor" includes the following services: regular update of the complete system, provision of the operational assistance and advice, search and provision of the rare legal documents on the individual orders, subscription to the printed editions "The Verge of the Guarantor", "News of the Guarantor" and other informational materials, and also individual informing on various legal issues, etc. (<http://www.garant.ru>). Thus, in the process of information servicing of the reference-retrieval system through the information services provision, the information needs of stakeholders are satisfied.

Another form of the information delivery contained in databases is the provision of access to it under the contract of paid information services provision. Information provision by the informational request with the use of databases can be performed in various ways, one of which is the provision of the necessary information contained in the database to the user of the information by the operator of the information system (end-user or informational mediator). This method is specific for the provision of information with restricted access. The provision of information services in the form of a credit report of the credit bureaus can serve as an example of this type of service.

Providing access to databases may include the possibility consumer of the information independently perform most operations in search of the required information in the databases from the information terminal—some special equipment (often a personal computer or intelligent terminal)—that allows user to obtain the necessary

information. Obtaining the necessary information from the database is made on the query using special software, in real time, and the access to them can be either local (intranet) or remote (interactive). Interactive services in a broad sense are the information services received with the help of interactive technologies. In a narrow sense, interactive services mean services that provide access to remote databases (Romanov, 1996, p. 529). In the first case, the user works with the terminal, which is connected directly to the server, containing the database. The remote access assumes that the database may be distanced from the user location; for connection with which the information-telecommunication network (e.g. the Internet) is required.

Providing access to databases can include after-session processing of the received information by printout or record on electronic media. The record of the received information on the physical storage media may be performed by a user itself or by the other person. In the latter case, services on transfer of the received information on different types of physical storage media are considered as fee-based provision of informational services.

2) Analyzing the problem of classifying of the information services related to the collection of information and having common features with the services on the search of information to the relations on the dissemination of the information, we concluded that the contract of distribution of periodicals by subscription is a contract on provision of the services to provide a certain amount of information in accordance with conditions determined by the customer, i.e. the contract on provision of the fee-paid information services.

3) The importance of information services is determined by the necessity not only of their theoretical and practical developments but the legislative consolidation. Undertaking a study on the legal problems of information services in the civil law of Russia, we concluded that the information service should understand the actions (activities) on search, collection, storage, processing, classification, and distribution of a certain amount of information in accordance with the purposes and query defined by the customer (Sitdikova, 2009, p. 9).

## 2. Method

During the study the authors relied upon general and private methods of cognition: historical, legal, formal-legal, comparative legal, sociological and others. The main method is a system-structural which helped to reveal the legal nature of the information services in relation to other phenomena, as well as the inner content of each of the studied phenomenon of law.

The combination of legal, historical and comparative legal methods allowed us to identify the specifics impact of the historical conditions at the development of information services, and in particular the impact of national and global data networks on the development of software, and on formation of database as a object of rights and as the method of communicating information to the consumer. Formal legal method made it possible to analyze legal rules governing informational relations with the means of describing and summarizing the general features of services related to gathering and dissemination of the information and therefore the definition of “information services” was suggested and its variations were highlighted.

On the basis of the sociological method, grounded conclusions, suggestions and recommendations based on specific information obtained from official sources, materials, periodicals, Internet resources, standards, legal-reference systems, the media. Systemic-structural method gave the authors the opportunity to consider information services as a kind of obligation on the fee-based services.

## 3. Results

During the research of the information services realization, we concluded that the scope of information services is very diverse. It is often difficult to distinguish information services from the services of the information retrieval and dissemination of information, services on provision and dissemination of information. Special importance should be attributed to the paid provision of the information contained in different databases through a contract of sale of information products. The database is a particular object of copyright and the object of related rights. According to the civil legislation the database is a set of separate informational materials, presented in an objective form, which are systematized so that these materials could be found and processed using electronic computers. Database manufacturers when selling the instances provide a range of information services, in particular informational servicing of the database (update, actualization, search etc.) through the software providing access to a specific database. The separate type of the information provision is the provision of access to the database on the basis of the Fee-For service agreement.

During the study of the databases we have also marked the ways of information provision among which the key is the provision of the necessary information from the database by the operator of the informational system. The provision of paid informational services will be done in case that related services on transferring of the received

information on various types of media will also be provided.

The article is not featured the topic of services, that mediate the provision of information, such as consulting services, services for the transmission of information via communication channels (communication services), services of information systems and services in sphere of publishing activities related to the distribution of printed materials.

#### 4. Discussion

The lack of a unique approach to the understanding of the information services and their contents has led to a scientific debate among civil law scholars, such as L. A. Vasilenko, E. V. Izmaylova, M. V. Jafis, A. N. Medvedev, R. N. Morodumova, I. I. Rodionov, L. V. Sannikova, U. E. Sidneva, A. V. Titov, L. P. Fomicheva, & E. G. Shablova.

So, L. V. Sannikova, analyzing the findings of E. G. Shablova, who distinguish liabilities on the transfer of information and the obligation to provide information services, comes to the conclusion that this distinction seems artificial, as "...informational services is a broader concept than service to the transmission of information. The transmission of information is the final step in the provision of information services, and for the transfer of one or the other required information, you must first collect and systematize such information" (Sannikova, 2006, pp. 103-104). Agreeing with the arguments L. V. Sannikova about the "artificiality of the distinction" at the same time it should be noted that the proposed construction is inadmissible, unless the provision of information services does not provide for the collection and systematization of information, for example, the required information is already contained in the database of the service provider. E. V. Izmaylova views this issue in a slightly different context, noting that in the modern informational relations alongside with the contracts for the information transfer there is a contract for the provision of information services, as well as a number of other contractual models. During the analysis of the relations for information transfer which traditionally in the literature and in practice are characterized as agreements on Fee-for services, E. V. Izmaylova concludes that the proposed qualification is doubtful, and as an argument argues that "...one of the qualifying attributes of the obligation for provision of services is the consumption of services by consumer at the time of its provision, and the author further notes: "...however ... the information is not consumed by the recipient at the time of its delivery..." (Izmaylova, 2005, pp. 76-78). E. V. Izmaylova also questioned the contract for the information transfer, which some authors refer to the contract of purchase and sale, and expresses the idea that this agreement is a contract for the transfer of information, which is a contract of a special kind, i.e. is an separate kind of agreement. Indeed, it can be argued that during the transfer of information the latter is not always consumed in the moment of its delivery. In certain cases, information is consumed in the process of one or another professional activity, and in some cases may further be transferred to other subjects of property turnover on a contractual basis. E. V. Izmaylova has made the above statement basing on the theoretical postulates about the information as the object of civil rights. In our opinion, for the proper qualification of the relationship, you must use the selection criteria information services arising from the characteristics of its properties. The main criterion for the highlighting of the information services from relations on the information provision (receiving or transmitting) is the activization of the information needs of the customer in the form of an information request. It is the presence or absence of this criterion that is crucial for proper qualification of the relationships for the provision of information. With this purpose it is necessary to consider different types of information provision and to highlight the informational services.

With the emergence of new information technologies the field of information services has expanded considerably. The most important source of information is databases containing bibliographic, statistical, scientific, technical, commercial and professional information.

The use of computer technology and modern telecommunications systems allowed us to collect, store large amounts of information in databases, to handle and transfer them with great speed. The introduction of technologies for remote access to databases has led to the fact that they became the main sources of the informational support for users. In this regard a controversial approach to the problem of classification concerning various activities related to information technology and informational services arises among the researchers. First and foremost this refers to the creation and dissemination of a variety of databases and software and to the use of information telecommunication networks. So, J. E. Sidneva while considering information services in the system of economic relations, comes to the conclusion that the production and sale of computer programs, databases, and telecommunications services (communication services) should be included into the field of information services (Sidneva, 2001, pp. 62-64).

Some authors also classify the information transmission services and communication services as the

informational services (Vasilenko, 1996, pp. 23-27; Jafis, 1998, pp. 41-42). Without denying the target orientation of the communication services at providing opportunities for information exchange between its users, we suggest that this type of services cannot be attributed to informational, due to its lack of a functional feature—a request for information. Communication services are only the means of conveying information. At the same time when they are provided as the related services the informational services are also provided, and it blurs the line between them. This is especially pronounced when such type of universal communication services as Internet is provided (Sitdikova, 2008, pp. 203-208).

Noteworthy is the point of view of L. P. Fomicheva that “... provision to users of a system “Guarantor” (database and software) is made on the basis of a contract of paid informational services for a specified period”. A similar position is shared by R. N. Morodumov (Morodumov, 2004, p. 132). The given approvals of the authors require clarification. The problem of the information provision is also connected with the work of libraries. According to Art. 1 of the Federal law “On libraries” library is informational, cultural, educational institution, owning the organized fund of replicated documents, and submits them on the temporary basis to citizens and legal entities. Thus, libraries are places where a significant part of the society informational resources are concentrated and one of the main places of the information services provision. GOST 7.73-96 defines information resources as a set of data that is organized for effective and meaningful information.

According to the State Committee for communications and information, there are more than 150 thousand libraries in Russia. Despite the fact that the main task of library services is to create conditions for the realization of the right to free use of library and information resources guaranteed by the state to the citizens of the Russian Federation, however, in recent times, the process of rendering of paid library and information services is formed rapidly. These include: priority access to new books, the issuance of stock documents from the reading room, provision of publications on conjunctural topics, the selection of documents by the stated criteria, thematic information, bibliographical materials, performing factual references, annotations and preparing abstracts and digests, editing bibliographic descriptions, indexing, works of authorship, Photocopying and recording information on electronic media (Kluev, 1997, p. 41).

The impact of new information technologies and the Internet on various areas of library work has helped to expand the list of services provided by libraries. The creation of electronic catalogs, full-text databases and electronic publications, provision of the remote access to them in libraries, has led to the active development of electronic document delivery (EDD).

For example, the library of the Russian Academy of Sciences St. Petersburg offers as the paid the following services: search and selection of information resources a global network; the implementation of bibliographic and factual information on a wide range of topics and levels of difficulty of the search source information; preparation of thematic bibliography; bibliography revision of the order; checking the availability of publications in various funds (library of the Academy of Sciences, in the collections of the libraries of the Russian Federation and foreign libraries; provision of electronic copies of documents from the collections of other libraries; providing readers documents (books, Newspapers, magazines) orders, domestic and international tickets, etc. (<http://www.rasl.ru>). As shown above, the paid library and information services are the result of the initiative professional activity aimed at meeting the additional needs of users and their requests by the means of library.

The analysis of different types of information provision leads to the conclusion that the relationships for the provision of information are broader and include both an information services and obligatory relations arising from the contract of purchase and sale. If the information is in the mode of its confidentiality, the parties should include the terms about the mode of its legal protection. In the process of providing library and information services, the services that provide information and search, processing and systematization are also executed.

Finding information on the informational request is made not only in the process of providing library and information services, but also as a main activity of information intermediaries who carry out a retrospective search of information, providing search information about the sources of information sources of information or the information on a certain topic or problem in the definite depth’s informational arrays (Rodionov, 2003, p. 115).

A variety of information firms that offer to search for relevant customer information from different sources, can serve as the information intermediaries. So, any persons who are interested can obtain information from the real estate cadastre, which can hereinafter be used by the citizens and legal entities to create the derived data for commercial distribution.

However it is not possible for the information of limited access as it is stated by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Similar rules established in the Federal law of the Russian Federation “On the State Registration of Rights to Real Estate and of Transactions with It”, as well as in the Federal law “On investment funds”. The main difference between these types of services is the latitude of the used information massive. The most common are services to search for information using the Internet for search of business partners, products, services and companies that market them, etc. This type of service is especially important for consumers of information, who are limited by time to make research on their own or due to the lack of access to the Internet. While providing this type of information services they get the necessary information almost in the same form in which it’s posted online or any other form, which is convenient to the customer. The provision of services in the form of information retrieval can be clearly traced in marketing, real estate and other activities.

Thus, the information search is carried out on the basis of the contract of paid providing of information services on request and to the conditions determined by the customer. Information services relating the collection of information have common features with services to find information. However, the collection of information is characterized by the active participation of the executor in the provision of services, i.e. has a high degree of individualization. As M. V. Iafis noted “...this kind of service is distinguished by the fact that is focused on the corporate market”. The collection of information characterizing the corporate market is represented by the information provided when creating a database of credit histories. Most clearly information gathering is expressed in the provision of marketing services, and especially detective services.

As noted earlier, the relations on information dissemination mediate actions on the dissemination of such information as news, mass character, promotional information, as well as announcements of physical and legal entities, not connected with entrepreneurial activities by the means of mass media, mailings, or electronic messages.

Some scholars believe that the relations on the information dissemination belong to the information services. We can hardly agree with this statement, primarily because of the relations on the information dissemination can mediate obligations different by the legal nature, while in case of dissemination of news for example the contractual relationship of the parties may be missing.

There are various points of view regarding the dissemination of information in form of the mass media products through the retail network.

So, A. V. Titov in scientific monograph suggests: “...one can even assume that the relationship between the newspaper and the subscriber have the legal nature of the contract of paid providing of information services, at the same time, the author states: “...if the reader buys a newspaper at retail or receives information over the TV without payment to the TV company, so the norm containing in Art. 779 of the Civil code legal scheme is unacceptable” (Titov, 2004, p. 63).

We share the point of view A. V. Titov, but the approach of A. N. Medvedev, who in the volume of information services distinguishes the relations associated with obtaining information in the form of purchased books and brochures, as well as obtaining information in the form of periodicals by subscription, seems to be a controversial.

In this regard, the point of view, R. N. Morodumov, who also disagreeing with A. N. Medvedev notes that these actions should not be attributed to the subject of the contract of paid provision of information services is of interest. In developing his position, the author notes that “...in this case there are relations of purchase and sale of material objects containing information (DVDs, books etc) ... while the contract of paid provision of information services is not intended to the transfer of ownership of an information resource, and is aimed to provide access to certain volume of organizationally ordered information with the purpose of sample required by the customer” (Morodumov, 2004, pp. 111-112). The legislators share a similar point of view, and in the article 2 of the Law “On mass media” is stated that the distribution the mass-media products means selling (subscription, delivery, distribution) of periodicals, audio-video programs.

The above arguments show that books, brochures, periodicals, etc. are the documents by their nature (publications, or in a broader meaning-informational products), and from the point of view of civil law – they are things. According to Art. 128 of the Civil Code, things and services are named as separate objects of civil rights, but from the point of view of formal logic – they are homogeneous notions; hence, the term “services” can not include the notion of “things”, and therefore the purchase of things is part of the civil contract of purchase and sale or its variants. A. Sherstobitov also noted that the transmission of information in the case when the data carrier has character of a thing is in essence the transfer of a thing with the specific characteristic as a data carrier (Sherstobitov, 1980, p. 17).

It seems that in the case of purchase of books, brochures and periodicals in retail sale distribution of information, the material carrier of information is the object of the civil rights. If we proceed from the definitions given in the Law on information, the above actions are characterized as dissemination of information, with a focus on its obtaining by an indefinite range of persons.

At the same time, another example of the complex combinations of the legislator's concerning relations for the dissemination of information are the Rules of distribution of periodicals by subscription. The recipient makes the sample of information materials from the catalog of periodicals through a request for selected periodicals, carries out a subscription using the model of the contract on the distribution of periodicals by subscription, that may provide for the delivery of periodicals to the addressee.

According to the national classification of economic activities (OKVED), the list of communication services includes other activities of the postal service which provides for subscriptions to Newspapers, magazines, books and other printed publications, but also Newspapers, magazines and other printed publications, i.e. the subscription agreement on periodical is the contract of compensated providing of services. This conclusion is confirmed by the legal norm contained in paragraph 12 of the rules of distribution of periodicals by subscription, in accordance with which the subscriber can refuse to perform the contract of subscription before transmission of the next instance (instances) periodicals. The subscriber gets the cost of the instances that have not been delivered. This provision is entirely consistent with the norm Art. 782 of the Civil code, which also indicates that the agreement on the subscription on periodical is qualified by the legislator as contract of paid provision of services.

Currently, information agencies offer the electronic editions which differ by having of the printed equivalent, and can be either electronic counterparts of the publications or be the independent electronic publication. Electronic publications are distributed with the means of magnetic, optical and (or) magneto-optical devices, as well as by e-mail or can be placed on the server of the publisher. Having a high degree of operativeness and relevance, the electronic print edition combines the advantages not only of the newspaper (magazine) but also of the database. By using software the subscriber can form his own collection of materials on the certain request.

Unlike the provision of information in the case with advertisement the contractual relationship of the parties do not arise in connection with the need to obtain a specific requests for the information, but with the purpose to attract the attention of a greater number of consumers to the object of advertising to promote its products and services.

In our opinion, the advertising and the provision of services on dissemination of announcements of physical and legal entities, not connected with entrepreneurial activity, should be executed by the contract of compensated providing of information services. In these cases the customer expresses the activation of his needs in the form of the need for information notifications.

It follows from the definition of "information service", that its main directions are services on search, collection and storing of the information, its processing and systematization, as well as the provision and dissemination of information.

The above means that the "built-in" system that combines the views of scholars, gives us reason consider the information services not separately but as the single legal category and allows us to formulate a general notion of "information service".

The sphere of informational services is thus extremely popular in Russian society. At the same time the variety of services related to information support, such as marketing, auditing, valuation, advertising, detective, real estate and others require further detailed consideration.

## 5. Conclusions

The sphere of information services is very diverse, and therefore in the article special attention is paid to the division of information services from information retrieval or information dissemination. In this regard, in the future publications the authors plan to examine the services, that mediate provision of information, such as consulting services, services for the transmission of information via communication channels (communication services), services on maintenance of information systems and services that provide publishing activities related to the distribution of printed materials. Particular attention will be paid to health services, which may include both informational and consulting assistance through the provision of appropriate services.

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