

Summary

LAWYER IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM OF SERBIA

Serbian legal profession starts counting its history since the second half of the 19th century. By the Law on Human Right Representatives adopted on 28th February 1862, the Principality of Serbia introduced legal assistance to its legal system and entrusted it to the educated lawyers, i.e. legal advocates. That is how, 158 years ago, the foundations were laid for a modern legal profession, which would, following the development of society in different historical periods, evolve to the position it holds nowadays, continually striving for independence and autonomy in the protection of human rights and freedoms. This paper will present all the laws and amendments to the law which regulated the position of the legal profession from the Principality of Serbia, through the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenians, the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia, the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Socialist Republic of Serbia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to the most recent and currently valid Law on the Bar of the Republic of Serbia from 2011. Due to the times and social arrangements in which it was created, each law regulated both the professional and the ethical manner of practicing advocacy through the criterion of worthiness of doing this profession, which was, at certain times, replaced by the criterion of moral and political eligibility, but also determined the measure of independence to this profession and the position of the Bar. This paper shows in total twelve laws and amendments to the law on advocacy over the past 158 years.

Keywords: *laws, legal representative, lawyer, advocacy.*