Stanisław Sagan, Viktoriya Serzhanova

ACTS CONCERNING POLITICAL SYSTEM OF ICELAND AND ICELANDIC CONSTITUTIONS

The main aim of the article is to analyze the political and constitutional acts of Iceland. Icelandic constitutionalism was developing in the shade and under the influence of Danish political achievements. Danish law belongs to the so called western circle of Nordic legal culture. In Iceland the original institutions of government, which dates back to the beginning of the thirteenth century, have developed. The annexation of Iceland by Denmark at the end of the fourteenth century tied the fate of Icelanders with this country and its legal culture until the mid-twentieth century. This caused that the development of the indigenous political institutions of Iceland, which dates back to the beginning of the tenth century, was stopped.

The Authors refer to the legal acts concerning political system of Iceland in the preconstitutional period, Icelandic historical constitutions and the constitution of 1944, which is still in force. Currently, Icelanders are preparing a revision of their constitution. Original, yet unique feature of this process is that for the first time in the history of global constitutionalism Icelanders have prepared the text of a new constitution through online consultations. Such procedure of the preparation of the draft of a new constitution has been considered as the unprecedented manifestation of direct democracy.