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## ON THE REGULATION OF PROTECTION OF STATE SECRETS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

There was an increase rivalry of the great powers, which led to the improvement of legal regulation of state secrets in the early twentieth century. First of all it was defined by measures aimed at combating high treason and espionage. Thus, the Russian Empire was not a clear definition of «state secrets.» There was no a detailed list of information constituting a state secret also.

During the 1908-1914 years, these disadvantages were eliminated to some extent. However, the notion of state secrets has been reduced to the military component. To a large extent it was a result of the conviction of Joint Staff of all warring states in agility and short duration of the future war.

This rule-making fever in this issue coincides with the eve of the First World War. During the tension growing over those two weeks, opinion of the

list of prohibited data varied and their list grew. The public also met these documents ambiguously.

The final document, which can be considered analogous to the List of information constituting a state secret was prepared in July 29, 1915, on the special condition that it was agreed with the Minister of Interior. He has covered not only military issues but also economic and political life of the country, including information that could discredit the government.

However, we must note that period of military secrets in Russia never got the finished appearance of a *de jure*. During the war the lawyers went after their German counterparts.

Without going into details, we note that the German jurisprudence has considered all the information of a military nature, which were unknown to the foreign country, to be military secrets.