

potism, foreign unfreedom, the main focus in determining the principles of the church was given to identifying the internal, spiritual, theological-dogmatic content. The question of the sovereignty of the church in such circumstances retreat-

ed into the background. West, following the Roman tradition of pragmatic, the most concerned in practical relations and corporate design. The church, as opposed to weakening of state structures was becoming stronger.

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THE CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET STATE IN THE VIEWS OF THE TOP PARTY LEADERSHIP (ON THE EVE OF THE USSR FORMATION)

This article argues that at the initial stage of creation of the USSR at the top party leadership, there was no unified approach to solving the problem of the development of the Soviet state. This question is the key to the formation of Soviet statehood.

A method of historicism was used in the article. It allowed considering the specific situations, phenomenon and processes in the context of Soviet period. The method of dialectical analysis, which also was used, based on the principles of unity and struggle of opposites within a historical epoch as a system of social relations. The use of such methods has helped the author to avoid bias and one-dimensionality in a scientific analysis of the studied subject matter.

The analysis of sources and literature determined that questions of development of the USSR in the beginning of existence of the Union state were princi-

pal in the discussions of the party leadership. Different approaches to solving them often contributed to the emergence of conflicts between state leaders, which greatly influenced the formation of the state system of the USSR.

On the example of the relationships of V. Lenin and I. Stalin revealed principles and approaches of the representatives of the party leadership to the issue of development of the USSR in the period of formation of the Soviet state. Conflicts and compromises in party leadership on this issue became one of the determining in the evolution of forms of development of the Soviet statehood.

Theoretical theses, which were formulated in the article, can be used in research, legal and law enforcement, educational process at higher education institutions with legal profile, and at improving the skills of practitioners and scientific-pedagogical staff in the field of jurisprudence.