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THE RUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONAL MODEL OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT: THEORY, LEGISLATION, PRACTICE (review of reports of the expert platform within the framework of the XI Ural Forum of Constitutionalists, October 2, 2025, Yekaterinburg)

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An overview of the reports presented at the expert platform "The Russian constitutional model of local Self-government: legislation, practice", held within the framework of the XI Ural Forum of Constitutionalists in Yekaterinburg, Russian Federation, is presented.

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The Ural Forum of Constitutionalists has been traditionally held in October at the Ural State Law University named after V.F. Yakovlev for 11 years. In 2025, all the scientific events of the named forum were dedicated to the 85th anniversary of the founding of one of the oldest departments of the university - the Department of Constitutional Law. The expert platform "The Russian Constitutional and Legal model of local Self-government: legislation, practice" was one of the most significant and massive in terms of the number of participants in the XI Ural Forum of Constitutionalists. More than 70 experts, representatives of educational and scientific organizations, governme nt authorities and public institutions from all over Russia, including Moscow, St. Petersburg, Krasn oyarsk, Novosibirsk, Omsk, Tyumen, Ufa, Kursk, Yekat erinburg, Saratov and other regions, took part in the discussion of various aspects of the development of local self-government in the Russian Federation.

Doctor of Law, Professor, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation A.N. Kokotov in his brief speech o n the topic "Features of the domestic model of local self-government" emphasized that the post-Soviet search for a model of local self-government in Russia is characterized by constant and drastic changes in legislation, which in itself deserves attention and comprehensive assess ment. Alexander Nikolaevich believes that Federal La w No. 154-FZ of 28.08.1995 "On the general principles of the organization of local Self-government in the Russian Federation" could become the basis for the stable development of the system of local self-government in Russia if it paid more attention to careful improvements in terms of improving the competencies of local authorities and ways of interaction between state and municipal bodies. However, to dat e, the frequent legislative changes in the territorial basis of self-government have hindered the differentiation and coordination of state and municipal powers, as well as the building of "subtle competence schemes" between levels of government. The model proposed in Federal Law No. 33-FZ dated 03/20/2025 "On General Principles of the Organization of Local Self–Government in the Unified System of Public Authority" (hereinafter referred to as Law No. 33-FZ) for defining three groups of powers of local self-government bodies due to possible contradictions between the still-in-force provisions of the Federal Law does not yet seem to be the "ideal" and final option. No. 131-FZ dated 06.10.2003 "On the General Principles of the Organization of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation" (hereinafter – Federal Law No. 131-FZ) and the aforementioned federal law, especially in the context of the possibility of maintaining a two-tier model of territorial organization of local self-government in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation or generally using a mixed model of territorial organization. During his speech, Profes sor A.N. Kokotov drew the attention of the participants of the expert platform to the position of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, set out in Resolution No. 29-P dated 07/17/2025. In its most general form, it boils down to the fact that the norms of part 5 of Article 24.5 of the Administrative Code of the Russian Federation, protecting municipalities on the one hand, on the other hand, may violate the rights of citizens when providing housing to an orphan by the administration of the city of Kostroma. Thus, the state authority transferred to the field is not something that is simply transferred from one level of government to another. This is a common matter between government agencies and municipalities. T hese are their joint projects. This implies the principle of joint responsibility. State bodies and local self-government bodies should be jointly

and severally responsible to citizens for the fulfillment of these powers. Special attention in the speech of Professor A.N. Kokotov was also paid to the fact that Law No. 33-FZ significantly reduced the ability of citizens to make direct decisions of authority... for example, regarding the definition of the structure of local governments. This space has been reduced before, but another step has been taken. This trend is inevitable and alarming, and it requires public discussion.

S.D. Knyazev, Doctor of Law, Professor, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, in his speech on "Once again on the constitutional nature of Russian self-government in the context of decisions of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation" noted that there are two main points of view in science and practice on the nature of local self-government. One of them, presented, in particular, by such reputable scientists as N.S. Bondar and A.N. K okotov, defines the special nature of municipal government, due to its direct connection with the population and focus on solving issues of local importance. At the same time, in a number of cases he had to defend a different position, which is that in the context of the Russian model of public government, local government acts as a decentralized form of government. For citizens facing everyday problems , it is often not so important to which branch of government — state or municipal — the official with whom they interact belongs. Moreover, it is the local self-government bodies that are perceived by the population as the closest and most accessible institutions of public power, which makes them actually the "face" of the state on the ground.

This thesis is also confirmed by practice. For example, at the initiative of the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation, municipal election commissio ns were abolished. This decision was dictated by the need to ensure the uniformity and legality of the electoral process, as well as to prevent violations of the rights of voters, which were previously allowed at the municipal level. Such a step indicates that the functional integration of municipal and state structures is not only possible, but also necessary to protect the constitutional rights of citizens. Of particular importance in this context is the opinion of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation dated March 16, 2020 No. 1-Z. In section 7 of this opinion, the Court recognized the constitutionality of including provisions on the "unified system of public power" in Chapter 4 of the Constitution (on the President of the Russian Federation) and Chapter 8 (on local self-government). However, the Court stressed that such inclusion should not le ad to the erasure of the constitutional boundaries between State power and local self-government. Professor S.D. Knyazev drew the attention of the participants of the expert platform to the fact that Law No. 33-FZ shows a tendency to strengthen organizational unity betw een the levels of government. For example, it provides for the possibility of participation of bodies of the constituent entities of the federation in the appointment or election of heads of municipalities, as well as the temporary assignment of local government functions to regional authoritie s. Even more revealing is the provision that the head of a municipality can simultaneously hold both a state and a municipal position. This casts doubt on the traditional understanding of local self-government as an independent form of democracy. It should also be borne in mind that, in accordance with part 2 of Article 15 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, local governments are required to comply with the Constitution and federal laws, as well as all other public authorities. This means that t

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heir "independence" is limited by the framework of federal legislation, which, in turn, can be checked f or compliance with the Constitution, but does not always reflect the essence of local self-government as an institution of direct democracy.

The representative of the Department of Constitutional Law of the Faculty of Law of Lomonosov Moscow State University, Doctor of Law,
Associate Professor O.I. Bazhenova in her report on the topic "Constitutionalization of local self-government in Russia: from expectations to reality; fr om reality to new expectations," stressed that the adoption of Law No. 33-FZ was largely facilitated by the unsatisfactory state of constitutional and municipal law doctrine, which failed to answer many, including key essential questions about the nature of local government, its importance in the modern state, etc. Equally, the adoption and entry into force of the aforementioned federal law became possible due to the fact that the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation not only failed - despite expectations - to provide full-fledged constitutional and legal protection for local self-government, but also laid the foundation for many provisions of the highly controversial municipal Law No. 33 with its legal positions.- Federal Law. To confirm her thesis, O.I. Bazhenova drew atte ntion to three legal positions of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation. The first of these is the recognition of municipal government as a special form of government, separate from the state (Resolution No. 3–P of January 15, 1998). Such recognition did not provide the necessary guarantees for the independence of local self–government, including those expected by the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, but at the same time created an insurmountable distance between municipal and s tate authorities. The non-viability of the designated position eventually led to the proclamation (with subsequent consolidation in P art 3 of art. 132 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation) the principle of the unity of the system of public power, used today to suppress the remnants of municipal independence. The second is that while maintaining a narrow understanding of the settlement guarantee of the territorial organization of local government (resolutions No. 1-P of January 24, 1997, No. 30-P of December 1, 2015), that is, without extending it t o large cities, the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation simultaneously refused to stand up for the protection of rural and urban settlements (villages, small (medi um, small) cities) (definitions of July 18, 2019 No. 21 76-O, October 24, 2019 No. 2955-O, December 19, 2019 No. 3578-O, etc.). The rejection of the constitutional settlement-territorial principle of the organization of municipal power (Part 1 of Article 131 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation), which became possible in this regard, created the prerequisites for a legislative transition to a predominantly single-level district municipal-territorial structure. The third is the restriction of the organizational independence of local self–government by justifying the right of regional administrative interference in the appoi ntment / termination of the powers of local government officials, as well as the right to specify the legal regulation of the organizational structure, up to the consolidation of certain issues of the structure of local self-government bodies (the order of formation of representative bodies, the head of the municipality, his place in the system of local self-government bodies).
local government) (Resolution No. 30-P dated December 1, 2015). These possibilities were directly expressed in Law No. 33-FZ. In conclusion, O.I. Bazhenova emphasized that no matter how ambiguous the role of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation may have been at the previous stage, today it is once again – but now without excessive romanticization –

placed special hopes on the constitutional and legal protection of local self-government. The implementation of Law No. 33-FZ, and with it the state of local self-government, largely depends on whether the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation is ready to defend its previous legal positions, which not only expanded the possibilities of state power, but also set appropriate boundaries for it in matters of territorial organization, competence, organizational structure, etc., and whether it ready to advocate for local self-government when assessing the constitutionality of new institutions of municipal government (for example, institute of redistribution of powers as a tool for dividing competence between state and municipal authorities).

Professor of the Department of Constitutional and International Law at the St. Petersburg University of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, Doctor of Law, Professor P.A. Astafichev in his report on the topic "Problems of improving legislation on local self-government" drew attention to a number of problems related to the content and implementation of Law No. 33-FZ. In particular, the aforementioned law does not consistently distinguish between the categories of issues of "local importance" and "direct support for the livelihoods of the population."; It implies, on the one hand, a significant narrowing of the application of the electoral system (at the settlement level), on the other – additional guarantees of universal and equal popular representation in municipal and urban districts. The existing modernization of the procedure for establishing and changing the boundaries of municipalities, as well as their transformation (unification, division, change of appearance), on the one hand, is a factor in strengthening the position of representative democracy, on the other hand, it is detrimental to the direct expression of the will of citizens. The expansion of non-elective ways of filling the position of head of a municipal entity (election by a representative body based on the nomination of the highest official of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation), the dual status of this subject of public legal relations (as simultaneously filling state and municipal positions) should also be critically assessed. At the same time, Law No. 33-FZ compares favorably with its predecessors with more successful legal and technical techniques in the formulation of legal norms, especially in matters of delineation of subjects of jurisdiction and powers.

Head of the Department of State and Municipal Law, Faculty of Law, Dostoevsky Omsk State University, Doctor of Law, Professor Kostyukov A.N. in his report on "Municipal legal structures and their continuity" drew attention to the preservation of previously existing municipal legal structures in the practice of legal regulation and recognition of their role in a new changed socio-political situation. The search for a measure of the old and the new in municipal law remains an urgent task. In particular, the construction of a municipal entity has traditionally been understood as a public legal entity with a permanent resident population, within whose boundaries local government is carried out, there is municipal property and a local budget. Federal Law No. 33-FZ excludes municipal property and the local budget from the structure of a municipal entity. In fact, it is equivalent to an ordinary territorial unit. There is no continuity in understanding the construction of the municipality. The construction of issues of local importance in Law 33-FZ is similar to the issues of direct provision of vital activity of the population. Meanwhile, the semantic content of these constructions is different. Issues of direct provision of vital activity of the population are more concise than issues of local importance. For example, the approval of

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the layout of advertising structures, the issuance of permits for their installation and operation as a matter of local importance has nothing to do with the direct provision of vital activity of the population, who can live peacefully without advertising structures. The settlement structure is excluded from 33-FZ. The municipal district has become a municipal district. What for? There is no answer to this question. The administrative-territorial structure of Russia was created by Catherine the Great on the German model and included urban and rural settl ements, settlements, rural areas, urban districts, and the municipal-territorial structure, as a rule, coincided with the administrative-territorial structure. It was convenient. Federal Law 3 3-FZ invented two-tier and one-tier local self-government. In the second case, there are no settlements in the territorial structure. Rural settlements hung in the air, abandoned without local self-government settlements. Rural settlements, due to urbanization, were already dying naturally. Today, this process has been artificially stimulated, and continuity in the municipal and territorial structure has been interrupted. Further legal registration of local self-government as an element of a unified system of public authority will require amendments to federal legislation. It can be predicted that it is unlikely to be significantly recycled. The changes are likely to be spot-on.

Doctor of Law, Professor, scientific director of the Institute of State and Law of Tyumen State University, one of the oldest and permanent participants of the Ural Forum of Constitutionalists Chebotarev G.N. devoted his report to the topic "Public Chambers (councils) of municipalities in the system of public power. The scientist noted that along with state power and municipal power, public power functions in the public space of Russia, which is a kind of public power. Public authority should be understood as a type of public authority formed on the basis of the will of citizens' associations in order to realize public group interests in order to achieve publicly significant results of public activities that affect the socio-economic, spiritual and moral development of society and the state. Public chambers of various levels play a significant role in the system of public authority. As an institution of civil society, they also carry out mediation functions to establish interaction between civil society and the state. At the same time, they themselves act as socially recognized centers consolidating the activities of public formations of civil society. Head of the Department of Constitutional, Administrative and Customs Law at Tver State University, Doctor of Law Antonova N.A. in her speech on "The interests of the local community as a constitutional and legal value" emphasized that the Constitution recognizes and guarantees local sel f-government in the Russian Federation, which is based on the interests of the local community. And if the previous Law No. 131-FZ designated local self-government as a form of exercising power based on the interests of the population, then in Law No. 33-FZ the legislator is limited only to indicating that local self-government is designed to ensure that tasks are solved in the interests of the population. However, due to its specificity, such a category as "the interests of the local community" can be defined as a constitutional value underlying the organization a nd functioning of local self-government. Since the interest of the local community is primary in relation to local self-government as a constitutional value, local self-government cannot be considered outside of such an interest. As a result of the actual integration of local self-government into public administration, local self-government bodies have actually lost their role as representatives of the will of local communities.

The lack of a mechanism for implementing and ensuring such a constitutional value as the interests of the local community leads to the emasculation of the value of the institution of local self-government itself.

Doctor of Law, Professor, Professor of the Department of Constitutional and Municipal Law at the O.E. Kutafin Moscow State Law University, M. Yu. Dityatkovsky, in his report "On compensation for additional costs to local Governments in performing public functions" , recalled that in 2020, when amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation were adopted, provisions on compensation for additional costs to local governments Article 133 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation has been updated. The mention of decisions taken by public authorities as a basis for compensating local governments for additional costs was excluded. Instead, a complica ted formulation was provided that additional expens es incurred as a result of the performance of public functions by local governments in cooperation with State autho rities are subject to compensation. At the same time, to date, there has been no mention of compensation for additional costs to local governments in the performance of public functions either in Federal Law No. 394-FZ of December 8, 2020 "On the State Council of the Russian Federation" or in Law No. 33-FZ. As one of the reasons, Professor Dityatkovsky M.Yu. highlights objective difficulties in distinguishing the institution of compensation for additional costs to local governments in the performance of public functions with the institution of granting local governments separate state powers. For example, there is no definition of "public functions" in the legislation. In this regard, the nature of the "other procedure" for the participation of local self-government bodies in the exercise of public functions in the relevant territory is absolutely incomprehensible, in addition to the already existing effective institution of vesting local self-government bodies with separate state powers. In addition, various mechanisms are currently in place to provide the financial resources necessary to exercise the transferred individual State powers and to compensate additional costs to local governments in the performance of public functions. Thus, in the first case, the principle of preliminary transfer of financial resources necessary for the exercise of certain state powers is fixed, which was named in classical literature as "cash now, goods later". When compensating expenses to local governments, the opposite principle of the subsequent transfer of financial resources is fixed, which was named in the same classical literature as "goods now, cash later".

Doctor of Law, Associate Professor, Professor of the Department of Constitutional Law at Southwestern State University, A.N. Gutorova, co nsidering the topic "The position of the head of a municipal entity: innovations and prospects," note d that Law No. 33-FZ introduced a new way of electing the head of a municipal entity by electing a representative body of a municipal entity from among candidates submitte d by the highest official of the subject of the Russian Federation. At the same time, for the administrative centers (capitals) of the subjects of the Russian Federation, the possibility of choosing the method of election was excluded, the head of the municipality is elected exclusively by the representative body of the municipality from among the candidates represented by the highest official of the subject of the Russian Federation. In the Kursk region, the regional legislator has already used the novelties and 31.07.2025 He adopted the law "On Amendments to the Law of the Kursk Region "On the Procedure for Election, place in the system of Local Self-government Bodies and Terms of office of heads

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of Municipalities", which defines the range of subjects for nomination and the possibility of reintroducing a candidate who was previously nominated but did not receive enough votes. By Decree of the Governor of the Kursk Region dated August 20, 2025 No. 209-pg "On the Commission for the selection of candidates for the post of Head of the Kursk City District Municipality", the composition of the commission and the working procedure of the commission (including the range of issues that may be addressed to the candidate) were approved.

A lively discussion was sparked by the report of the Associate Professor of the Department of Public Law Sciences of the Volga-Vyatka Institute (branch) of Kutafin University (MGUA), Candidate of Law, Associate Professor I.A. Pibaev "Is it fun to walk together?": the status of heads of municipalities in the new law on Local Self-government". In particular, the speakers focused on the practice of using a warning and reprimand mechanism against heads of municipalities for improper performance or non-fulfillment of duties to ensure the exercise by local governments of certain state powers delegated to local governments by federal laws and (or) laws of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation. Scientists have found 6 cases of reprimands and 1 case of warnings in law enforcement practice from 2022 to the present. All these examples allowed us to identify several problems. Firstly, the problem of compliance with the requirements of Federal Law No. 414-FZ dated December 21, 2021 "On General Principles of the Organization of Public Authority in the Subjects of the Russian Federation" and Law No. 33-FZ regarding: a) the procedure for imposing penalties, b) consideration of deadlines, c) compliance with the procedure for dismissal from office. Secondly, in the vast majority of cases, real claims against heads by senior officials (for example, on the implementation of national projects, data entry into information sys tems, accidents on heating networks) were legally replaced by improper execution of tran sferred state powers (guardianship and trusteeship, administrative commissions, etc.). Thirdly, lack of transparency of the mechanism used. Decrees (orders) of the highest official of the subject on issuing warnings or reprimands to the heads are not publicly available.

Doctor of Law, Professor, Professor of the Vitruk Department of Constitutional Law at the Lebedev Russian State University of Justice, M.A. Lipchanskaya, in her speech "Territorial and Organizational Transfor mations of Local Self-Government: Challenges and New Meanings of Constitutional Principles", critically commented o n the legal essence of local self-government, legalized in Law No. 33-Federal Law, according to which local self–government is a form of self-organization of citizens recognized and guaranteed by the Constitution of the Russian Federation. A certain legal dichotomy can be identified in the legal regulation of local self-government: local self-government is a form and has signs of self-organization of citizens, in which the population creates bodies with public functions and endowed with public authority.

The Sverdlovsk Region's experience in imple menting the norms of Federal Law No. 33-FZ was cited in his speech by A.V. Bleshchik, PhD in Law, Associate Professor of the Department of Constitutional Law at the V.F. Yakovlev Ural State Law
University. In particular, he noted that according to the results of monitoring conducted by the Staff of the Legislative Assembly of the Sverdlovsk Region, in order to bring the legislation of the Sverdlovsk Region in line with the above-mentioned The law will require amendments to 21 laws of

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the Sverdlovsk region. The implementation of Federal Law No. 33-FZ in the Sverdlovsk Region is carried out in three main directions: - reorganization of the municipal and territorial structure. There are 94 municipalities in the Sverdlovsk Region, including urban and municipal districts, as well as 5 municipal districts, 5 urban settlements, and 16 rural settlements. Maintaining the existing model of municipal-territorial structure in the region seems to be the most reasonable option for the development of municipalities in the region. - formation of local self-government bodies (election of heads of municipalities). Among the unresolved problems, A.V. Bleshchik highlighted the absence of amendments to the Law of the Russian Federation "On a Closed Administrative-territorial Entity", according to which the election of the head of a municipal entity by a representative body from among candidates submit ted by the competition commission remains. The reason for this is not clear: either an oversight by the legislator, or a feature of the status of the candidate, which excludes the use of other methods of election. Is the legal position of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation valid (resolution No. 30-P on the Irkutsk case dated December 01, 2015) regarding the mandatory establishment by the regional legislator of criteria according to which municipalities are determined, for which the only way to elect heads can be provided? How can the limits of the competence of the authorities of the subjects of the Russian Federation be determined when establishing the procedure for consideration by the highest official of the candidates proposed by the subjects of nomination and the presentation of candidates to the representative body? Bleshchik A.V. He noted that the abundance of questions arising in connection with the implementation of the norms of Federal Law No. 33-FZ in regional legislation is natural, however, answers to them are still possible either by taking into account the law-making and law enforcement experience of other subjects of the Russian Federation, or by active actions of the federal legislator himself, who, based on the results of generalization of regional practice and opinions of representatives of the academic community. science, will come to the conclusion that it is necessary to improve Federal Law No. 33-FZ and prepare amendments aimed at eliminating it s obvious defects.

Candidate of Law, lecturer at the Nizhnevartovsk Career Guidance Training Center, lecturer at the Training Center of the Association of Siberian and Far Eastern Cities, N.P. Aleshkova, focused on certain problematic aspects of law enforcement practice in the field of combating corruption at the municipal level. In particular, there was a sharp increase in the number of anti-corruption regulations not included in the relevant Federal Law of December 25, 2008. Federal Law No. 273-FZ "On Combating Corruption", and Federal Law No. 33-FZ, while the latter uses a number of terms and categories that are not provided for by anti-corruption legislation. Despite the fact that Federal Law No. 273 provides grounds for terminating the powers of persons holding municipal positions (Articles 13.1) or municipal service positions (Articles 8, 8.1, and 11) due to loss of trust, this decision is not supported by real sanctions either in law or in practice. Then w hat is the point of the institution of "loss of trust"? And whose trust is being lost, exactly? The representative body of the Ministry of Defense? A representative body of a specific convocation that voted to terminate its powers? The population of this MO? Scientists have proposed a number of possible amendments to regulations

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that would clarify and strengthen the provisions of anti-
corruption legislation for its more correct application at the municipal level.

The presentation of Roy O.M on the topic "Consolidation of municipalities in the context of the development of municipal identity" was of particular interest. He is leading researcher at the Institute of Philosophy and Law of the Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and one of the few participants in the expert platform who did not have a specialized legal education.
It was noted that the large-scale reduction of rural municipal settlements and their subsequent unification into municipal districts, the transformation of the existing boundaries of administrative-territorial division at the local level contributes to the destruction of the foundations of municipal identity, expressing the totality of social and psychological attitudes of citizens living in local settlements, in involvement in the events taking place on their territory and actively involved in the affairs of local communities. Municipal reform in 2025 It leads to the creation of administrative-territorial units, within the boundaries of which the municipal identity is often not formed. The format of the municipal district is related to the fact that it includes settlements with completely different levels of socio-economic development, national and ethnic composition and geographical location. The consequences of enlarging the format of municipalities can cause: the destruction of the usual communication system between territorial l evels, reduced accessibility of citizens to public and municipal services, isolation of the network of territorial entities at the local level; increased corruption risks, increased d istrust of municipal authorities and loss of incentives for self-organization.

Professor of the Department of Constitutional, Administrative and Municipal Law of the Siberian Federal University, Professor of the Department of State and Legal Disciplines of the Siberian Law Institute of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, Doctor of Law, Associate Professor Bezrukov A.V. in his report on "The fate and Prospects of Local Self-government in Russia" outlined the main directions of constitutional and municipal reforms in modern Russia, drawing attention to their interrelationship, as well as the need for careful, consistent and consistent implementation in accordance with the provisions of Articles 3, 12, 132, 133 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation. As part of the development and strengthening of the role of municipal control, the speaker showed its special importance and proposed to introduce the categories of "public authority control" into the legal doctrine. Such control is intended to combine and integrate state, municipal and public control into a single system of public authority control. In conclusion, the speakers proved the need to further strengthen and develop general theoretical, sectoral and intersectoral links in the construction of various public law mechanisms, including mechanisms of public authority control in general and municipal control in particular.

Head of the Department of Constitutional, Administrative and Municipal Law at Siberian Federal University, Doctor of Law, Associate Professor A.A. Kondrashev, in his report "On the relationship between State and Municipal power: Hierarchy or cooperation?" analyzed the constitutional amendments of 2020 and the provisions of Law No. 33-FZ, drew attention to the fact that the legislator "reanimated" The "Soviet" principle of unity of power at all levels (Article 89 of the 1977 Constitution of the USSR) in violation of Articles 3 and 12 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation. The new Law No. 33-FZ, in line with the amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, sets a new goal – to abolish the independence of municipal government and integrate it into the state government as a fully organizational and functional part of the state apparatus, modeled on the Soviet rigidly hierarchical management model. As the foreign experience of local self-government organizations shows, it is in those countries where the interaction of local governments and public authorities is based

on cooperative principles that the sustainable development of local self-government as the most important public law institution and the improvement of the effectiveness of the management of the relevant territories is achievable.

Concluding the expert platform, Professor of the Department of Constitutional Law of the Ural State Law University named after V.F. Yakovlev, Doctor of Law Kozhevnikov O.A. and Associate Professor of the Department of Constitutional Law of the Ural State Law University named after V.F. Yakovlev, Candidate of Law Krysanov A.V. shared their ideas regarding the participation of local governments in ensuring the security of territories and citizens in the context of new legislation on local self-government. In particular, it was noted that a systematic analysis of Russian legislation and strategic planning documents in the field of security indicates the dominant state approach, in which security is perceived not only as protection from dangers, challenges and threats, but also as an essential element for the sustainable development of territories (municipalities). The legislation defines a system of strategic planning at all levels of public authority: federal, regional, municipal, and also establishes mechanisms for implementing state policy in the field of strategic planning. Local governments are involved in the strategizing process not as performers, but as full—fledged participants - developing their own strategies and programs. An analysis of the practice of law enforcement of strategic planning documents has shown the lack of a unified approach to the development of municipal security strategies, unresolved methodological issues, the order of interaction between different levels of government, etc. The active participation of local governments in strategic planning makes it possible to take into account the real needs of the population, increase the sustainability of territories and the level of protection of citizens. A total of 21 representatives from various Russian cities and scientific schools spoke at the expert platform "The Russian Constitutional and Legal Model of Local Self-government: theory, legislation, practice", held in the meeting room of the Yekaterinburg City Duma. At the same time, all participants did not hide the problematic issues of the reform of local self-government, its focus on separating the population from the actual local government, the transformation of municipal government into a part of state power, which weakens the "basic" constitutional and legal foundations of local self-government as one of the forms of democracy, enshrined in art. 3 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

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