

# Modernization of labor relations in Russia at the turn of the epoch: the fight for duration of the working day

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## Abstract

**Subject/topic.** The article considers the process of formation of the labour legislation of the Russian Empire, the center of attention of researchers is the question of the regulation of working time in the period from 1870 to 1913. **Goals/objectives.** Explore the features of the modernization of labor relations in Russia in the context of working hours. **Methodology.** The authors of the article base on the historical approach, as the main research methods were used: statistical, analytical, comparison, and analogy. **Results.** The article shows that the approach to an investigated problem in various departments of Russia were different. The opposite view was present in the business environment. The generalization is made that, despite the adoption of a progressive law of 1897, weak oversight from the state and the lack of professional workers' organizations led to mass violations of the law. **Theoretical/practical significance.** The theoretical significance of the study lies in the fact that the presented results can be used for further deeper analysis of the evolution of labor relations in Russia. **Conclusions/relevance.** Dynamics of reduction of working hours in all manufacturing industries had the lowest rates: the average duration of the working day was reduced from 10.7 hours in 1904 for men to 10.0 hours in 1913, for women and teenagers with 10.4 hours to 9.7 hours. In Russia in the late XIX – early XX century the struggle for a new time frame productive activities of employees were protracted and controversial.

**Keywords:** *working day, labor relations, Russia, employees, overtime work*

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