

# Victor Naumov

## Office Managing Partner



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St. Petersburg

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## Overview

Victor Naumov is a St. Petersburg Managing Partner, Head of the Russia IP, IT and Telecommunications practice, Co-Head of Europe Internet & Tech Regulatory.

Victor Naumov has been advising government authorities and leading Russian and global companies for more than 23 years on a wide range of legal issues, including intellectual property protection and the management of intangible assets; regulation of Internet and e-commerce; IT and data security; regulation of video games, mass media and telecommunications, artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, Legal Tech, Big Data, Fintech, 3D printing, robotics and quantum technologies. He also has unique experience providing legal support and successfully settling IT, IP, telecommunications, media and Internet litigation.

As part of implementing the Digital Economy of the Russian Federation program (ANO Digital Economy), Victor is a member of the main Statutory Regulation working group and also heads the Cyber-Physical Systems working group (an expert community at the Statutory Regulation competency center operating at Skolkovo Foundation). He is a member of the Russian Federation State Duma Expert Council on the Digital Economy and Blockchain Technologies under the Committee on Economic Policy, Industry, Innovative Development and Entrepreneurship. He is also a member of the Federal Antimonopoly Service Advisory Board on Competition in Information Technology. Since 1999, Victor has participated actively in developing processes for business to regulate itself, in the development of draft legislation on IP, innovation, the Internet and the “new economy.” He is the author of the Recommendations for E-Commerce in the Russian Federation (2000), the CIS’ first Recommendations for E-Commerce for the Committee on Economic Policy and Entrepreneurship of the State Duma of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly (2001), Organizational and Legal Recommendations on the Presentation of a Russian Federation Government and Administrative Authority Website (2003), co-author of the Concept for Using IT Technologies and E-Documents in the Activities of the Commercial (Arbitrazh) Court of St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region (2006). Victor’s most recent initiatives include the creation of the first robotics draft law in Russia—commissioned by Grishin Robotics—and the development of the draft of the world’s first international robotics convention, the Model Convention on Robotics and Artificial Intelligence commissioned by Skolkovo Foundation. The Convention is a major study unique for Russia and devoted to the development of legislation on robotics and cyberphysical systems. Victor has also prepared a unique international study to identify the scope of information covered, respectively, by banking secrecy, communication secrecy, doctor-patient confidentiality, trade secrets and other types of secrecy, and how to transfer them to third parties. The team led by Victor participated in creating a knowledge management system implemented by Rosatom State Corporation. In June 2017 Dentons and Rosatom co-founded a unique consortium

whose participants act as joint experts, provide information support and popularize the culture of knowledge management. Also, under Victor's leadership, Dentons lawyers were the first in Russia to develop a concept for regulating the Internet of Things and continue to work in this area, handling this topic in the Association of the Internet of Things. In October 2018 Victor initiated the opening of—and became the curator of—a unique subdivision, the Dentons Russia Legal Innovations Laboratory. The Laboratory is oriented toward developing and implementing innovative technologies in the legal field.

Victor Naumov is a co-author of the first online course in Russia on Internet regulation in Russia (Coursera Open Education platform). Victor was awarded a St. Petersburg Government prize for outstanding achievements in higher education (in 2018). He is a senior researcher of the information law and global information security sector of the Institute of State and Law of the Russian Academy of Sciences (ISL RAS) and an associate professor of the St. Petersburg State University, where he lectures in the Economics and Law Faculties. In 2004 he received a state medal for the 300th Anniversary of St. Petersburg for his academic work, and in 2007 he received a state medal for his contribution to the computerization of society in Russia. He is the holder of the Justice law award for achievements in developing the practice of law (in 2017). He has received two grants from the Russian Foundation for Fundamental Research (RFFI) to conduct: (1) integrated research of the legal and ethical aspects of developing and using artificial intelligence and robotics systems and (2) research of conceptual approaches to shaping a system for the legal regulation of information security considering the major challenges in a global information society (in 2018). Victor Naumov is the author of the idea and the leader of the "Preserved Culture", a project founded in 2010 and dedicated to the preservation of the country's cultural heritage. The films and publications created in the framework of the project have repeatedly become winners of state and public competitions and festivals.

Victor authored the first monographs in Russia and the CIS on the legal regulation of the Internet and telemedicine (in 2002). He won the Rambler search engine's "Person of the Year 2002" competition in the Legislation category (in 2003). Since 2010 he has been top ranked by *Chambers and Partners*, *The Legal 500*, *Best Lawyers*, *IAM Patent 1000*, *Kommersant* and *Managing IP* in IP and IT in Russia.

## Experience

### State regulation of intellectual property and information technologies

- **Competency center for statutory regulation of the digital economy, which operates at the Skolkovo Foundation:**
  - Doing the first study in Russia of the development of robotics and cyberphysical systems legislation, including defining the terms cyberphysical systems, how they are put into use and commerce, and determining liability.
  - Doing a comprehensive comparative-law study of the regulation of different types of secrets in various areas (e.g., telecommunications, banking, taxes), studying the legislation and law enforcement practice of 12 jurisdictions (Russia, EU, Spain, Estonia, Germany, UK, US, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Israel and the UAE) to shape approaches to developing domestic legislation in these areas, in particular, regulating data transfer, Big Data and the digital economy.
- Developing the draft of the first international robotics act in the world: The Model Convention on Robotics and Artificial Intelligence is available at: <http://robopravo.ru/uploads/s/z/6/g/z6gj0wkwhv1o/file/6dbrNqgu.pdf>.
- **Grishin Robotics GP Limited:** Creating the first robotics draft law in Russia. The draft robotics law is available at: <https://www.dentons.com/ru/insights/alerts/2017/january/27/dentons-develops-first-robotics-draft-law-in-russia>.
- **In cooperation with Russoft and the Internet Initiatives Development Fund (IIDF):** Whitepaper "The Internet of Things: Legal Aspects (Russian Federation)" (version 1.0, version 2.0). The draft whitepaper is available at: <http://отрасли-права.рф/article/19944>.
- **Rosnanotech State Corporation:** Preparing an expert opinion with regard to the development of innovation in Russia, drafting laws regarding IP and encouraging information technologies and investment.

## Knowledge and IP management

- **Rosatom State Corporation:** Analyzing and structuring business processes; developing a set of internal regulations on intellectual property management in Rosatom state corporation and the nuclear sector as a whole.
- **Rosnano State Corporation:** Improving legislation affecting intellectual property, innovation, the management of state intellectual property and development of grant institutions.
- **Prosveshcheniye Publishers:** Auditing IP and IP management business processes, developing an IP management process target model and developing a set of draft internal regulations for IP management.
- **Russian telecommunications holding:** Building an integrated IP risk management system, including developing automated solutions for risk assessment; analyzing key business processes and the existing IP risk management system, building a risk map (identification, assessment, ranking). Developing the design of the client's group control procedures to cover risks, drafting written recommendations on changing the company's bylaws and business processes to include the control procedures in them. Drafting the text of amendments to the company's bylaws.
- **Russian bank:** Developing bylaws on the software rights management process, including the Rospatent registration procedure; holding seminars with employees of the client's subdivisions; due diligence of software, analyzing business processes in software sublicensing, the development and procurement of software and IT services; developing an algorithm for the IP information system and IP risk management system.
- **St. Petersburg Metro state unitary enterprise:** Performing due diligence of internal intellectual property management regulations.
- **Russian Federal Nuclear Center/All-Russian Scientific Research Institute of Experimental Physics (VNIIEF) Federal State Unitary Enterprise:** Analyzing business processes and developing IP risk management procedures in populating and using a scientific research information portal; building a risk map in connection with developing a scalable IT system complex.

## Internet and information technologies

- **Global Internet company:** Advising on the localization of standard conditions of use of an app in accordance with Russian statutory requirements; launch of paid Internet applications; conclusion of peering and caching agreements; applicability of state secrecy law in the functioning of online applications; use of voice-recognition applications in Russia; litigation concerning an audiovisual work rights infringement case.
- **Opera Software AS:** Structuring and supporting the client's major content deals with Russian telecom operators, content and hosting providers, drafting licensing agreements for the client's mobile apps; advising on personal data processing, regulation of advertising and protection of confidential information.
- **Russian search engine market leader:** Successfully completing litigation over infringement of exclusive rights, setting a precedent for search engines operating in Russia.
- **A global e-seller of goods and services:** Advising on the import of electronic products to the Russian Federation, including the drafting and filing of the public notification required to import electronics supporting cryptographic functions. Advising on how to do e-commerce in Russia, including in connection with legal regulation of copyright, trade secrets, personal data protection, licensing, advertising and information in Russia.
- **Vkontakte:** Advising on data protection and e-commerce; representing the client in court in numerous disputes involving IP and protection of business reputation.
- **Global social network:** Advising on Russian law regulating social networks as sources of information (including under the Yarovaya law) and grounds for website blocking.

## E-commerce and fintech

- **A major global e-commerce company:** Advising on a wide range of regulatory and contractual issues which the client faced when localizing its business in Russia, including customs law issues, consumer protection, legal requirements on advertising and lotteries and information law requirements regulating website activity.
- **A global e-seller of goods and services:** Advising on the import of electronic products to the Russian Federation, including the drafting and filing of the public notification required to import electronics supporting cryptographic functions. Advising on how to do e-commerce in Russia, including in connection with legal regulation of copyright, trade secrets, personal data protection, licensing, advertising and information in Russia.
- **A leading global developer of text recognition and linguistics solutions:** Advising on structuring the client's e-business in light of sanctions risks.
- **A major Russian goods and services classifieds site:** Providing legal analysis of issues related to the possibility in principle of using a new contractual structure of running a real estate classifieds site.
- **One of Russia's biggest online shops :** Advising on a legal due diligence in connection with the acquisition of a shareholding in an online bookstore.  
Media, telecommunications and navigation systems
- **1HDTV (General Satellite Group):** Assisting in a complex litigation with the Kartina.TV information service, which specializes in rebroadcasting Russian TV channels.
- **One of the world's largest entertainment and media enterprises :** Advising on television broadcasting and matters of intellectual property protection, drawing up agreements with telecommunications and television operators.
- **International media holding:** Advising on mass media activities and TV broadcast licensing in Russia. Reviewing and developing contract terms, liaising with the Russian Authors Society on issues related to the client's activities.
- **Leading Russian mobile communications services and mobile content provider:** Advising on compliance with the laws for various innovative mobile apps represented in Russia, Germany, France, Great Britain, the US, South Korea and other specific jurisdictions.
- **Geolocation platform:** Advising on compliance with regulatory requirements in mapping, handling of information and personal data and IP laws in connection with a Street View project.

## Litigation in IP, IT and telecommunications

Victor has been handling Internet disputes successfully in Russia for 20 years. His first cases were the first Russian Internet disputes, kodak.ru and promo.ru cases in 1999. In 2001 he was awarded an honorary Rospatent prize for IP protection on the Internet and was elected a member of the Russian Internet Academy (no longer in existence). In 2012 he won the first cloud services disputes.

- Since 2013 he has actively represented leading Internet services in disputes over the blocking of information.
- Since 2015 he has represented clients in major Internet disputes with the antimonopoly authorities.
- In 2017 he represented clients in the first Russian Big Data disputes.
- **VKontakte:** Successfully representing since 2008 in several dozen litigations with rights holders.
- **Russian telecommunications holding:** Advising in connection with a claim brought against the client by the right holder of wordmarks because the client used certain words in the name of one of its cellular service rates.
- **International Internet company:** Representing in connection with its former technical director filing a claim

to prohibit the use of key software and for recovery of millions of dollars. The claim was dismissed in full.

- **A manufacturer of consumer goods:** Representing in seven related litigations in different Russian cities initiated on the claims of its competitor for trademark infringement. All seven disputes were resolved in the client's favor.
- **Online game developer:** Advising in connection with a consumer protection claim brought by a user who was blocked by the client (the blocking was due to the use of banned apps, and the claim was for refund of money invested in the game).
- **International online platform:** Advising the owner of an online platform in connection with applications of the prosecutor's office to include the main pages of the client's sites in the register of prohibited pages.

## Recognition

Victor has regularly appeared in many ratings since 2006. He is one of just two lawyers in Russia and the CIS to receive top rankings from *Chambers and Partners* and *The Legal 500* in both IP and IT, Media and Telecommunications. Below are the most important examples.

- *Chambers Russia Awards 2019:* Victor Naumov has received award for Outstanding Contribution to the Legal Profession.
- *Chambers Global and Chambers Europe:* From 2007 to date, he has been recognized as a leading lawyer in Intellectual Property in Russia (Band 1) and TMT in Russia (Band 1). From 2012 to date, he has been a leading lawyer in dispute resolution in St. Petersburg. "He always looks for the interesting approach and way to solve the problem. It's interesting to work with him." "He knows how to support a client, how to do it quickly and effectively, and how to get things co-ordinated and done. He is not just a lawyer, but he understands the IT business." "Sources emphasise the team's all-round assistance, saying it demonstrates a 'practical approach' on projects that are 'multifaceted, complex and often require niche expertise.'" "He is valued for his 'exceptional strategic thinking and in-depth knowledge of the industry.' One client adds: 'Having him on your team is almost an unfair advantage!'" "Victor Naumov has a 'brilliant' reputation in intellectual property and technology. He is described as the 'IP guru' by market sources and works with market-leading clients such as Yandex and Diebold." "He is a star in our IP litigation sphere."
- *The Legal 500:* From 2008 to date, he has been named a leading lawyer in IP in Russia (Tier 1) and TMT in Russia (Tier 1). "Practice head Victor Naumov is 'at the core of the team, providing deep knowledge, fantastic effectiveness and a quick wit.'" "St Petersburg-based practice head Victor Naumov 'always goes the extra mile for the client'." "Victor Naumov's professionalism makes his team the 'best adviser on Russian IT law.'" Also in 2021 Victor appeared as a recommended lawyer in Commercial/Corporate/M&A in St. Petersburg and Dispute resolution - in IT litigation.
- *Best Lawyers:* From 2013 to date, Victor has been recognized as a leading lawyer in Corporate Law, Intellectual Property, Telecommunications and Media Law in Russia. In 2018 he was named "Lawyer of the Year in Information Technology Law in Russia." In 2016 he was "Lawyer of the Year in Intellectual Property in Russia," and in 2013 he was "Lawyer of the Year in Information Law in Russia."
- *Acritas Stars, 2021:* Featured as a 'standout lawyer' based on client recommendations.
- *Pravo.ru, 2019–2020:* Leading lawyer in IP, TMT and Digital Economy in Russia.
- *Client Choice Awards, 2018:* Leading lawyer in IT & Internet in Russia.
- *IAM Patent 1000, 2017:* Leading lawyer in IP in Russia. "He has a mix of professional skills and human qualities that makes collaborating with him a great experience."
- *Kommersant, 2008–2012, 2017–2021:* Leading lawyer in Digital Economy (2021), FinTech (2020, 2021), IP and TMT in Russia (2017–2021), one of the most open practice heads and advisers in St. Petersburg (2008–2012).

- *IP Stars, 2014–2017, 2020*: IP star in Russia; Trademark star in Russia (2020).
- *Media Law International, 2015*: Leading lawyer in Media Law in Russia.
- *Delovoy Peterburg TOP 100, 2014*: One of the best managers in St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region in the Legal Services category.
- *International Law Office Awards, 2013*: Exclusive winner of Client Choice award for the Information Technology category in Russia.
- *The Lawyer Monthly Legal Awards, 2013*: “Intellectual Property Lawyer of the Year in Russia.”

## Honors and Awards

- Victor has authored more than 180 articles on law and IT.
- “V. I. Kochedamov. Works on the history of urban planning with commentaries by modern scientists” edition in 4 volumes about the architectural heritage, written within the framework of the Preserved Culture project, was awarded a diploma of the Union of Architects of Russia at the review competition “The Best Printed Edition of the Architectural Heritage”.
- Winner of the St. Petersburg Government’s prize for outstanding achievements in higher education for the online course “Legal regulation of relations on the Internet: a Russian perspective” developed together with Vladislav Arkhipov (the online course is available on the Coursera and Open Education platforms: <https://ru.coursera.org/learn/regulirovaniye-interneta>), 2018
- Winner of the St. Petersburg Government’s prize for outstanding achievements in higher secondary vocational education for co-authoring the online course “Legal regulation of relations on the Internet: a Russian perspective,” 2018
- Victor was awarded the badge "Honorary resident" of the municipality of municipal district No. 7, 2018
- Winner of a Justice Award “For Successes in Legal Practice”; the award is co-organized by the St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region governments, the Association of Lawyers of Russia and St. Petersburg State University, 2017
- Awarded a special badge by MTS PJSC and the official status of “Mentor” in legal services, 2017
- Winner in the “People of our Region” nomination in the Malaya Rodina 2017 13th Russian Contest of Regional and Local History Literature held by the Federal Agency for Press and Mass Communications. Victor was nominated in connection with publication of the book House of Academicians: History and Fates (as part of the Preserved Culture project which Victor initiated), 2017
- Awarded a Bishop’s award for shooting the documentary “Hope for Salvation” (as part of the Preserved Culture project), 2018
- Member of the editorial board of Information Law journal ([www.infolaw.su](http://www.infolaw.su))
- Four-time elected co-chairman of the IT and Telecommunications Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in St. Petersburg, Russia, 2007 and 2018
- Received a medal for the 300th Anniversary of St. Petersburg (2004) and a medal for his contribution to the computerization of society, 2007
- Winner of the Rambler.ru search engine’s “Person of the Year 2002” competition in the Legislation category, 2003
- Winner of the National Intel Internet Award “For Contributing to the Protection of Intellectual Property on the Web.” The prize was founded by the Russian Patent and Trademark Agency, the Russian Internet Academy, the Russian Authors Society, and the Russian Society for Multimedia and Digital Networks, 2001
- Winner of a state academic fellowship for young scientists in informatics, 1997, and an INTAS fellowship,

1998

- Creator and director of the Internet-rozysk (investigation) project organized by Internet provider Dux and the St. Petersburg Criminal Investigations Directorate, 1998–2001

## Insights

- Victor has authored more than 140 articles on law and IT.
- Victor is the initiator of the Preserved Culture project and author of the book House of Academicians: History and Fates.
- Victor is the author of “IT in Jurisprudence” and “IT Law” courses at the St. Petersburg State University
- “Engaging with evolving regulations – GDPR”, "Business Going Digital" online guide, October 2018
- Co-author, “Consumer protection and online advertising”, "Business Going Digital" online guide, October 2018
- Co-author, “Identifying and contracting with digital consumers”, "Business Going Digital" online guide, October 2018

## Activities and Affiliations

### Memberships

- Member of the expert council of the IPA CIS and the Regional Commonwealth in the Field of Communications, 2021 – present.
- Member of the expert council of the Legal Insight magazine award “Best Legal Departments of Russia”, 2019 – present.
- Head of the Legal Committee of the Competence Center of the National Technology Initiative in the field of Distributed Registry Technologies based at St. Petersburg State University.
- Expert of the Statutory Regulation competency center and working group and head of the Cyber-Physical Systems working group as part of implementing the Digital Economy of the Russian Federation program, 2017 – present
- Member, The Federal Antimonopoly Service Advisory Board on Competition in Information Technology
- Member of the Russian Federation State Duma Expert Council on the Digital Economy and Blockchain Technologies under the Committee on Economic Policy, Industry, Innovative Development and Entrepreneurship
- Member of the Legal Committee of the Coordination Center for TLD RU
- Member of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), an international non-profit association of engineering professionals
- Senior Researcher of the information law and global information security sector of the Institute of State and Law of the Russian Academy of Sciences
- Associate professor of the St. Petersburg State University information systems department. Lectures on IT in Jurisprudence, Information Law and IT Law
- Director of the Digital Regional Development sector of the Urban Studies and Cyberanthropology scientific-educational center at Pushkin Leningrad State University

- Member of the Board of the Interregional Division, Association of Lawyers of the Russian Federation (ALRF) for St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region
- Head of the legal group at the Association of the Internet of Things, 2018 – present
- Expert of the Russian committee of the UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP), 2003 – present
- Expert of the Partnership for Development of an Information Society in Northwest Russia steering group, 2003 – 2005

## Prior and Present Employment

- Managing Partner, Head of the Russia IP, IT and Telecommunications practice, Co-Head of Europe Internet & Tech Regulatory, Dentons, St. Petersburg (2019 – present)
- Managing Partner, Head of the Russia IP, IT and Telecommunications practice, Dentons, St. Petersburg (2012 – January 2019)
- Partner, Head of the Russia IP/ IT/ Telecommunications practice, Salans, St. Petersburg (2008 – 2012)
- Partner, Beiten Burkhardt, St. Petersburg (2006–2008)
- Senior Associate, Head of the IP/ IT/ Telecommunications Group, DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary, St. Petersburg (2005 – 2006)
- Manager, Head of IP/ IT Litigation Group, Ernst & Young, St. Petersburg (2003 – 2005)
- Private law practice and research at the St. Petersburg Institute for Informatics and Automation of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SPIIRAS) (2003)
- Lawyer, Tetris (Russia’s first Internet café), Dux Internet provider (1997 – 1999)
- Economist, Military Insurance Company OJSC, St. Petersburg branch (1997 – 1998)

*\*Biography includes grades according to Dentons’ internal classification*

## Areas of focus

### Practices

- Arbitration
- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Privacy and Cybersecurity
- Consumer Products Representation and Services
- Public Policy and Regulation
- Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies
- Franchising and Distribution

### Industry sectors

- Communications



- Energy
- Financial Institutions
- Information Technology (IT)
- Media, Entertainment and Sports
- Technology
- Manufacturing
- Retail
- Economic Development
- Government
- Transportation

## Issues and opportunities

- Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology

## Education

- St. Petersburg State University, 2003, PhD, dissertation entitled "Regulation of Distribution of Information on the Internet"
- St. Petersburg State University, 1997, Law Degree
- St. Petersburg State University, 1996, Computer Science Degree
- St. Petersburg State Marine Technical University, 1994, Mechanical Engineering Degree

## Languages

- English
- Russian