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**ELABORATION OF THEORETICAL AND SCIENTIFIC BASICS
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW BY F. F. MARTENS**

The object of the article – theory and history of international law, the subject – scientific works of F.F. Martens, where theoretical and scientific basics of international law are disclosed. The author made an attempt to reach the following goals: to reveal the understanding of subject, place and meaning of international law in the system of legal sciences in accordance with F.F. Martens views, to show his argument as regards concept, periodization, dual basis of international law, dialectics of controversial circumstances of its existence, social functions of international legal science.

Some authors assume that most important contributions of F.F. Martens are linked not so much with problems of theory and history of international law, but with practical elaboration of certain issues, particularly the issues of the law of war and international arbitration. This is not right. He was given 16 Russian and foreign awards for the fruitful public and scientific-pedagogical service, recognized by the European and Russian legal communities as one of the major authorities in the field of international law. His works were published in Russia and European countries, and were part of compulsory reviews of law literature. During his lifetime many authors devoted him their scientific compositions. F.F. Martens defended his views in hot polemics with representatives of various scientific institutions that set up trends in the European jurisprudence of that time. In the following scientific researches it is necessary to shed light on such problems as foundation of the basics of historiography and methodology of the international law source study put forward by F.F. Martens.