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## COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF AFFIXAL AND PREFIXAL DERIVATIVES OF ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN TERMINOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

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### **Abstract**

**Aim.** The aim of this study is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of affixal and prefixal derivatives of terms in international humanitarian law in English and Russian languages, including not only core terms of international humanitarian law but also general terms, commonly used words in the national language, and function words.

**Methodology.** The research we conducted employed a multifaceted methodology to analyze affixal and prefixal derivatives in the terminology of international humanitarian law, in both English and Russian languages. Synchronous analysis method systematically organizes the vocabulary and establishes systemic relationships. Comparative-contrastive analysis method reveals the specifics of multilingual terms and forms the basis of language for special purposes in the field of international humanitarian law. Cognitive-conceptual analysis method determines and justifies the features of cognitive professional activity. The study also includes a comparative approach, which analyzes concepts of international humanitarian law in English and Russian based on the translation of legal documents. The goal is to establish the degree of equivalence and discrepancies in the definitive features of concepts in this legal field.

**Results.** The analysis of the terminology in this legal sphere showed that several derivatives can be formed from the same root morpheme, collectively referred to in linguistics as a derivational nest. This is understood as a "complex unit of the derivational system, representing an ordered set of all derivatives with the same root, linked by relationships of immediate or mediated derivativeness to one non-derived (basic) word, which is called the apex of this nest". The analysis revealed that terms derived from the same base, thanks to suffixes determining meaning, can denote processes, results of processes, and agents: peacemaking – peacemakers, diplomacy – diplomat, and so forth. The study of Russian prefixal derivatives allowed us to identify a multitude of terms with antonymous prefixes in their morphemic structure, which can be expressed by the following prefixes: anti-; de-; dis-; un-. According to the research findings, most affixal terms in international humanitarian law involve both prefixes and suffixes. Suffixes, essentially, represent a common means of terminological formation, which, in turn, reflects the complexity of terminology.

**Research implications.** The theoretical significance of the study lies in the fact that our analysis of affixal and prefixal derivatives of English and Russian terms in international humanitarian law opens up prospects for further development of terminological studies, language theory for specific purposes, lexicography, terminography, theory of intercultural communication, and translation theory.

The research materials can be applied in compiling terminological dictionaries and in work on the systematization, unification, and standardization of terms in international humanitarian law. The collected material and the results of the comparative study can also be used in university courses in linguistics, history of linguistics and history of the English language, general and specific lexicology, terminology, theory of translation in the legal field.

**Keywords:** affixal terms, comprehensive analysis, word formation, suffixal terms, terminology system of international humanitarian law.

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Научная статья

## КОМПЛЕКСНЫЙ АНАЛИЗ АФФИКСАЛЬНЫХ И ПРЕФИКСАЛЬНЫХ ПРОИЗВОДНЫХ АНГЛИЙСКИХ И РУССКИХ ТЕРМИНОВ МЕЖДУНАРОДНОГО ГУМАНИТАРНОГО ПРАВА

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### Аннотация

**Цель.** Проведение комплексного анализа суффиксальных и префиксальных производных терминов международного гуманитарного права в английском и русском языках, включающего, наряду с основными терминами международного гуманитарного права, общие термины, общепринятые слова национального языка, служебные слова.

**Процедура и методы.** В проведённом нами исследовании использована многоаспектная методология, в том числе: метод синхронного анализа; метод сравнительно-сопоставительного анализа, который позволяет анализировать понятия международного гуманитарного права на английском и русском языках на основе перевода юридических документов с целью установления степени эквивалентности понятий в этой правовой области и расхождений в их опреде-

лённых характеристиках; метод когнитивно-концептуального анализа. Материалом для нашей статьи послужила терминология международного гуманитарного права, выявленная приёмом сплошной выборки из англо-русских юридических словарей, толковых и энциклопедических юридических словарей, в том числе электронных.

**Результаты.** Анализ терминологии данной правовой сферы показал, что от одной и той же корневой морфемы может быть образовано несколько производных, совокупность которых определяется в лингвистике как словообразовательное (или деривационное) гнездо. По результатам исследования было установлено, что в образовании большинства аффиксальных терминов международного гуманитарного права, участвуют префиксы и суффиксы. Суффиксы представляют собой распространённое средство терминообразования, которое, в свою очередь, отражает комплексность терминологии. Проведённый анализ показывал, что произведённые от одной и той же основы термины благодаря суффиксу, определяющему значение, могут обозначать процесс, результат процесса, деятеля: *мировотворчество* – *мировотворцы*, *дипломатия* – *дипломат* и т. д. Исследование английских производных позволило выявить множество терминов, имеющих в морфемном строении антонимичные префиксы, которые могут быть выражены следующими префиксами: *anti-*; *de-*; *dis-*; *un-*.

**Теоретическая и/или прикладная значимость.** Теоретическая значимость работы заключается в том, что проведённое нами исследование аффиксальных и префиксальных производных английских и русских терминов международного гуманитарного права своими результатами открывает перспективы для дальнейшего развития терминоведения, теории языка для специальных целей, лексикографии, терминографии, теории межкультурной коммуникации, теории перевода. Материалы исследования могут быть применены в практике составления терминологических словарей, в работе по систематизации, унификации и стандартизации отраслевой терминологии международного гуманитарного права. Собранный материал и полученные результаты сопоставительного исследования могут быть также применены в вузовских курсах по языкознанию, истории языкознания и истории английского языка, общей и частной лексикологии, терминоведению, теории перевода в правовой сфере.

**Ключевые слова:** аффиксальные термины, комплексный анализ, словообразование, суффиксальные термины, терминосистема международного гуманитарного права

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### Introduction

The article presents the research results associated with a multi-aspect analysis of suffixal and prefixal derivatives of English and Russian terms used in the field of international humanitarian law, including both single-component and multi-component terms.

**The relevance of the research** is determined by both linguistic and extralinguistic factors, among which the following phenomena can be attributed:

– The absence of works related to the study of the relationship between language and international humanitarian law.

– Insufficient study of specialized terminologies comparatively.

– Insufficient study of the contemporary state of terminology in international humanitarian law.

– The absence of works dedicated to the use of general terms in language for specific purposes, common lexicon for verbalizing legal information through specialized terms in situations of armed conflict.

In total, we have examined 1234 terms in English and 1134 terms in the Russian language, functioning in the language for specific purposes in the field of international humanitarian law. The material for our article was based on the terminology of international humanitarian law identified by the method of complete sampling from English-Russian legal dictionaries, explanatory and encyclopedic legal dictionaries, including electronic ones. The following dictionaries of legal terms were used: Vorobiev V. V., Zakirova E. S., Lebedev D. I. "English-Russian Dictionary of Legal Terms and Reference"<sup>1</sup>; Makushev P. V., Khridochkin A. V. "International Law: Dictionary-Reference Book"<sup>2</sup>; Dodonov V. N., Panov V. P., Rumyantsev O. G. "International Law: Dictionary-Reference Book"<sup>3</sup>; Ilyin Yu. D. "Comprehensive English-Russian and Russian-English Legal Dictionary"<sup>4</sup>; Bushe-Solnye F. "Practical Dictionary of Humanitarian Law"<sup>5</sup>; Borisenko I. I., Saenko V. V. "Modern Russian-English Legal Dictionary"<sup>6</sup>; Avdeeva T. G., Aleshin V. V., Ashavsky B. M. et al. "Dictionary of International Law"<sup>7</sup>; Tikhomirova L. V., Tikhomirov M. Yu. "Legal

Encyclopedia"<sup>8</sup>; Mal'ko A. V. et al. "Legal Encyclopedic Dictionary"<sup>9</sup> and others.

The study is quite comprehensive and delves into the intricacies of terminological derivation in the context of international humanitarian law. It's clear that the research aims to bridge the gap in the literature by providing a detailed analysis of how affixal and prefixal derivatives function within this specialized legal language, both in English and Russian [1].

The methodology is robust, employing various analytical methods to dissect the structure and formation of terms. The results highlight the complexity of the derivational systems in both languages, with a particular focus on the concept of a "derivational nest," which is a key element in understanding how terms evolve and interrelate within a language<sup>10</sup>. The implications of this research are significant for the fields of lexicography, terminography, and translation theory, as it provides a framework for understanding and standardizing terms in international humanitarian law. This can be particularly useful for educational purposes and for professionals working within this field.

The conclusion underscores the importance of prefixes and suffixes in forming terms that are not only linguistically accurate but also conceptually aligned with the systematic nature of international humanitarian law. The study's findings could indeed serve as a foundation for further research and development of terminological systems in this legal sphere.

Overall, the research presents a valuable contribution to the understanding of legal terminology and its application in international contexts. It's a testament to the dynamic nature of language and the need

<sup>1</sup> Воробьев В. В., Закирова Е. С., Лебедев Д. И. Англо-русский словарь юридических терминов и понятий. М.: Прометей, 2020. 404 с.

<sup>2</sup> Макушев П. В., Хридошкин А. В. Международное право. Словарь-справочник. М.: Прометей, 2017. 570 с.

<sup>3</sup> Додонов В. Н., Панов В. П., Румянцев О. Г. Международное право. Словарь-справочник. М.: ИНФРА-М, 1997. 362 с.

<sup>4</sup> Ильин Ю. Д. Большой англо-русский и русско-английский юридический словарь. С транскрипцией. М.: Живой язык, 2018. 528 с. Further in the text: Ильин Ю. Д. Большой англо-русский и русско-английский юридический словарь.

<sup>5</sup> Буше-Сольнье Ф. Практический словарь гуманитарного права / пер. с франц. Кирпичниковой Е., Алексейцевой Т. М.: Весь мир, 2017. 1018 с. Further in the text: Буше-Сольнье Ф. Практический словарь гуманитарного права.

<sup>6</sup> Борисенко И. И., Саенко В. В. Современный русско-английский юридический словарь. М.: ABBYY PRESS, 2010. 487 с.

<sup>7</sup> Словарь международного права / Авдеева Т. Г., Алешин В. В., Ашавский Б. М. и др.; под ред. С. А. Егорова. М.: СТАТУТ, 2014. 495 с.

<sup>8</sup> Тихомирова Л. В., Тихомиров М. Ю. Юридическая энциклопедия. М.: Юринформцентр: изд-во Тихомирова М. Ю., 2014. 972 с.

<sup>9</sup> Малько А. В., Нырклов В. В., Игнатенкова К. Е. Юридический энциклопедический словарь / под ред. А. В. Малько. М.: Проспект, 2016. 1131 с.

<sup>10</sup> Doebbler C. F. J. Dictionary of Public International Law. London: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2018. 700 p. Further in the text: Doebbler C. F. J. Dictionary of Public International Law.

for continuous study to keep pace with the evolving landscape of international law and communication [2]. The study of legal terminology holds significant importance due to the expansion of international political, military, economic, and business contacts, leading to an active increase in the number of specialized lexical units aimed at facilitating professional communication in the field of law, including in the sphere of international humanitarian law [3].

To study the basic terms and concepts used in legal communication within the framework of international humanitarian law as the newest branch of international law, we have utilized primary international conventions, protocols, the UN Charter, and others. Additionally, we have conducted a comprehensive analysis of terms in international humanitarian law, nominating specific international rules, principles related to the protection of non-combatant (or ceased to participate) individuals, including civilian populations, medical personnel, journalists, wounded, prisoners of war, victims of air and sea disasters, and other individuals entitled to certain guarantees for the protection of their lives. We have also explored terms nominating emblems and distinctive signs used for the identification of protected individuals, civil defense means, places, and objects of cultural value.

Review and analysis of the degree of development of the topic "Comprehensive analysis of affixal and prefixal derivatives of English and Russian terms in international humanitarian law" allow to identify several key points.

– In the last five years, interest in affixal and prefixal derivatives in the terminology of international humanitarian law has significantly increased. This is due to the growing attention to the linguistic aspects of this area, as well as to the strengthening of interaction between English-speaking and Russian-speaking specialists in this field.

– It is important to note that comprehensive analysis of affixal and prefixal derivatives includes not only the study of specific suffix-

es and prefixes, but also their functional significance in the formation of the terminology of international humanitarian law. This approach allows for a deeper understanding of the specificity of term formation and their semantic load [4].

– In the context of recent research, an increase in the number of works devoted to the comparative analysis of English and Russian terms in international humanitarian law, taking into account their affixal and prefixal structure, can be noted. This indicates a growing interest in the linguistic features of this area.

– Thus, it is important to say that the topic of comprehensive analysis of affixal and prefixal derivatives of English and Russian terms in international humanitarian law has received increased attention over the past five years, which indicates its relevance and potential for further research.

#### **Analysis of Suffixal Derivatives of English and Russian Terms in International Humanitarian Law**

During the analysis of affixal single-component terms of diverse-structured languages of international humanitarian law, we have found that the suffixal method of term formation is more pronounced. Among the most productive suffixes in the English language is the suffix "-ing," contributing to the creation of names:

*processes and actions:* bargaining, foraging, hearing, reforming, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, peacemaking, self-executing, suffering;

*results of action:* boarding, screening, smuggling. We have also identified that in English terminology of humanitarian law, suffixes "-tion" and "-sion" are highly productive: adjudication, adoption, annexation, assimilation, capitulation, convention, coalition, compassion, competition, commission, confederation, demobilization, democratization, desertion, evacuation, injunction, liberation, militarization, persecution, protection, reconciliation, revolution, victimization, etc. Additionally, productive English suffixes



creating derivatives with specific meanings include "-er/-or," for example: adjudicator, bystander, commander, conciliator, fighter, prisoner of war, privateer, surrender, waiver, etc [5]. We have found that a small number of derivatives are formed using what we consider less productive suffixes such as "-age" and "-ance," for example: advantage, allegiance, ambulance, assistance, avoidance, bondage, espionage, pillage, etc [5]. Furthermore, within the English terminological system, derivatives formed using suffixes "-ity" and "-ness" are distinguished, imparting the meaning of attribute, property, state, or quality: dignity, diversity, impartiality, impunity, locality, military, neutrality, proportionality, responsibility, ripeness, security, sovereignty, witness [5]. We believe these suffixes have low productivity due to the scarcity of similar terms. In the analysis of Russian suffixal derivatives of terms in international humanitarian law, we have identified that suffixes perform specific terminological functions. Thus, the most productive in the process of forming Russian terms are suffixes "-ни[j]-(e)" and "-ени[j]-(e)," giving the meaning of a subject or phenomenon with procedural significance: *возвращение* (return), *дезавуирование* (disavowal), *депонирование* (deposit), *запрещение* (prohibition), *интернирование* (internment), *истребление* (extermination), *лишение* (deprivation), *наказание* (punishment), *нападение* (attack), *нарушение* (violation), *переселение* (relocation), *похищение* (kidnapping), *правонарушение* (tort), *преследование* (persecution), *преступление* (crime), *признание* (recognition), *принуждение* (coercion), *прекращение* (cessation), *разоружение* (disarmament), *разрешение* (permission), *соблюдение* (compliance), *спасение* (rescue), etc<sup>1</sup>. The study of the meanings of suffixes "-ни[j]-(e)" and "-ени[j]-(e)" has shown that a certain parallel can be drawn between this Russian suffix and the English suffix "-ing." Firstly, these suffixes are highly productive in both lan-

guages, particularly actively used in forming noun terms in the terminology of international humanitarian law. Secondly, both suffixes exhibit a direct connection with conceptual semantic space. Thirdly, both suffixes have categorical meanings of "actual process" and "action," conceptually meaningful and objectified as a noun [5]. Similar to the suffix "-ing," suffixes "-ни[j]-(e)" and "-ени[j]-(e)," creating noun names with procedural meanings, allow terms to be grouped into specific classes.

Suffixes with a high degree of productivity include "-k-(a)" and "-ац[и][j]-(a)/-яц[и][j]-(a)," for example: *бомбардировка* (bombing), *миграция* (migration), *компенсация* (compensation), *высылка* (expulsion), *декларация* (declaration), *делимитация* (delimitation), *демаркация* (demarcation), *демиитаризация* (demilitarization), *декриминализация* (decriminalization), *интеграция* (integration), *легализация* (legalization), *мобилизация* (mobilization), *нейтрализация* (neutralization), *натурализация* (naturalization), *оговорка* (reservation), *оптация* (option), *оккупация* (occupation), *повестка* (summons), *проверка* (verification), *редемаркация* (redemarcation), *ректификация* (rectification), *репатриация* (repatriation), *реинтеграция* (reintegration), *сегрегация* (segregation), *трансформация* (transformation), *эвакуация* (evacuation), *эксплуатация* (operation), etc. The suffix "-ость" indicating the *безнаказанность* (impunity), *безопасность* (security), *дееспособность* (legal capacity), *законность* (legality), *легитимность* (legitimacy), *нейтральность* (neutrality), *неприкосновенность* (inviolability), *неотчуждаемость* (inalienability), *ответственность* (responsibility), *правосубъектность* (legal personality), *соразмерность* (proportionality), etc<sup>2</sup>.

We have identified terms in the Russian terminology of this legal sphere, morpho-

<sup>1</sup> Ильин Ю. Д. Большой англо-русский и русско-английский юридический словарь.

<sup>2</sup> Буше-Сольнье Ф. Практический словарь гуманитарного права.

logically consisting of the suffix "-(и)-т-ель," giving such meanings as:

*an object that performs an action* (restrictor, indicator);

*performer of an action* (liberator, violator, witness);

*principle* (estoppel). During the analysis of English and Russian derivational suffixal terms in international humanitarian law, certain similarities were discovered in the terminological systems of these two languages, namely: 1) among single-component derivative terms in the terminology systems of the investigated languages, there is a predominance of verbal nouns; 2) suffixes having the meaning of categorical belonging are highly productive; 3) equivalence of derivative terms with the suffixes "-ing" and "-ни[j]-(е)" is observed, the positive property of which facilitates overcoming difficulties in professional communication among representatives of different languages [6]. We believe that in terminology, the main requirements imposed on the derivational nest are: 1) the presence of the nest base, i.e., a non-derived term; 2) the presence of derivative terms from the non-derived one; 3) structural-semantic and grammatical relationships between derivative terms and the nest base. The study has shown that derivational nests may consist of three and four components, for example: command – commander – commando; defence – defensive – defendant; detainee – detaining – detention<sup>1</sup>; diplomacy – diplomat – diplomatic; human – humane – humanity – humanitarian; internee – internal – internally – internment – international; militia – militant – military – militarization; nation – national – nationality – nationalism – nationalization; occupy – occupying – occupation; protect – protecting – protection; гражданин – гражданство – гражданский (citizen – citizenship – civil); диплом – дипломатия – дипломат – дипломатический (diploma – diplomacy – diplomat – diplomatic); закон – законность – законный

(law – legality – legal); миротворцы – миротворчество – миротворческий (peacekeepers – peacekeeping – peacemaker); нейтральный – нейтральность – нейтралитет – нейтрализация – нейтрализованный (neutral – neutrality – neutrality – neutralization – neutralized)<sup>2</sup>.

### Analysis of Prefixal Derivatives of English and Russian Terms in International Humanitarian Law

After suffixation, the prefixal method of term formation is the second most productive. There is a considerable number of prefixal single-component terms in the analyzed material.

Unlike suffixes, prefixes can influence the meaning of the created term but do not change the categorical and part of speech belonging of the base.

According to A. I. Smirnitsky, "prefixation in modern English is more characteristic of the verb system" [7]. In this context, prefixes reveal themselves in retained verbal nouns in their morphemic structure. A distinctive feature of the language of the investigated field is the presence of a large number of prefixal verbal nouns with action meaning, which is related to the fact that the studied branch is based on a special human activity connected with a humane mission – protecting human rights in armed conflict situations [8].

The analysis of Russian prefixal derivatives has allowed us to identify numerous terms with antonymous prefixes in their morphemic structure. Taking into account the features of the prefix, we have identified three groups of prefixal terms entering into antonymic relations: terms in the morphemic structure of which antonymous prefixes are present; terms where the antonymic prefix is present only in the morphemic structure of one of the pair; terms where the prefix does not influence antonymy. During the re-

<sup>1</sup> Doeblbler C. F. J. Dictionary of Public International Law.

<sup>2</sup> Левитан К. М., Одинцова О. А., Павлова С. В. Англо-русский и русско-английский юридический словарь = Англо-русский и русско-английский юридический словарь. М.: Проспект, 2018. 512 с.

search, we have identified that in the English terminological system of international humanitarian law, antonymous relations can be expressed by the following prefixes:

anti-: anti-aggression, anti-personnel;  
de-: delegitimation, demobilization, de-spoil;  
dis-: disarmament, displacement, disuse;  
un-: unaccompanied, unexplode, unnecessary.

As a result of the conducted research, it was established that for English terms of international humanitarian law, the prefix re- is highly productive, conveying the idea of repeating or re-implementing an action, for example: recapture, reconciliation, reconstruction, redoubt, reintegration, resettlement, retreat, etc.

It is also important to emphasize the wide application in the Russian terminological system of this legal branch of units containing the prefix "право" (right), for example, правонарушение (violation of law), правопреемство (succession of law), правосубъектность (legal capacity), правотворчество (lawmaking), etc<sup>1</sup>.

From the above, it follows that prefixation can indicate generic (hyper-hyponymic) relations between concepts nominated by these terms.

### Conclusions

Thus, as a result of the research, it can be concluded that most affixal terms of international humanitarian law involve both prefixes and suffixes.

Obviously, prefixes can significantly change the meaning of the base word while not altering the categorical and part of speech belonging of the derived term. Considering the quantity of derivatives, predominantly represented by prefixes in both terminologies, it can be noted that they are capable of creating antonym pairs. It is also noteworthy that the same prefixes actively participate in creating relationships of genus

between terms and, subsequently, between concepts. This property of prefixes is undoubtedly significant. It is explained by the fact that the hierarchical relationships underlie the systematic nature of the concepts of international humanitarian law [8]. It has been found that suffixes essentially represent a common means of term formation, which, in turn, reflects the complexity of terminology. It should be noted that through suffixes, the class membership of a particular term can be established. It can be argued that the identified similarity will serve as additional justification for the comprehensive organization of terminology into the terminological system of this legal sphere.

It should be noted that single-component derivative affixal terms of international humanitarian law represent the most common morphological class in the English and Russian terminological systems examined by us. In terms of quantity, the least represented in this group can be considered complex terms.

In conclusion, it is necessary to note, that the theoretical significance of this research is indeed substantial. It not only deepens the understanding of the processes involved in the creation of terminology in the field of international humanitarian law but also lays the foundation for future research in areas such as terminology, specialized language, lexicography, terminography, intercultural communication, and translation theory. This study contributes to the development of methods for the standardization and systematization of terms, which is particularly important for ensuring accuracy and understanding in international legal communication [9]. The theoretical significance of the research is as follows:

1. Development of Terminological Research: The analysis of affixal and prefixal derivatives of terms in international humanitarian law in English and Russian languages expands the boundaries of terminological research, providing new data on the structure and functioning of terms.

2. Theory of Language for Special Purposes: The study aids in understanding the

<sup>1</sup> Буше-Сольнье Ф. Практический словарь гуманитарного права.



specifics of language for special purposes, especially in the context of international law, which can be useful for developing educational programs and courses.

3. Lexicography and Terminography: The results of the research can be used to create terminological dictionaries, as well as in work on the systematization, unification, and standardization of terms in international humanitarian law.

4. Theory of Intercultural Communication: Understanding affixal and prefixal derivatives of terms is important for ensuring

accuracy and effectiveness in intercultural communication in the field of international law.

5. Translation Theory: The research provides a basis for the translation of legal terms, which is critically important for the correct understanding and interpretation of international documents and legislation.

These aspects underscore the importance of the research for the academic community and professionals working in the field of international humanitarian law and can serve as a foundation for further research in this area.

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