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SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE OF TURKEY, CANADA AND G7 IN COUNTERING ORGANIZED CRIME

Ukraine has declared its intention to enter the European Union of developed democracies that have high standards of safety, well-being, and living, as well as the priority of human rights, the rule of law, and punishment inevitability for those who have committed a crime. Strengthening of democratic institutions is impossible without reducing the negative effects of corruption and organized crime, which remain one of the greatest current threats in our country. Therefore, the study of foreign experience in countering organized crime in general and in the financial system particularly is becoming especially relevant today and that is why the topic should be learnt extensively [1, p. 25].

Organized crime has become a serious concern for the entire global community. The era of globalization has transformed the world into a new social order characterized primarily by the unrestricted movement of goods and factors of production along national borders. The globalization of society and the advancements in transportation and communication technologies have provided various opportunities not only for the prosperity of our societies, but also for the criminal world as well.

Availing themselves of these advancements, organized crime syndicates have become a major challenge for the international community. It can even be said that organized crime has become among the top non-military threats to international security and stability since the end of the Cold War [4].

Combating international organized crime is one of the major challenges for the international community. Although law enforcement is primarily the responsibility of sovereign nations, crime is becoming increasingly global. Thus, organized crime requires a coordinated international response and a close regional cooperation.

Turkey's cooperation against international crime

Bilateral agreements for cooperation against drug trafficking, terrorism and organized crime do also have significant importance. Turkey has concluded such agreements with more than 70 countries. Furthermore, as a country which has achieved great success in the fight against organized crime and illicit drug trafficking, Turkey has led a national initiative aimed at setting up an infrastructure to carry out efforts at the international level. Within this framework, the Turkish International Academy Against Drugs and Organized Crime (TADOC) was founded in Turkey with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. TADOC, with the aim of sustaining and improving the conditions of the fight against organized criminal groups in the light of scientific data has set up an appropriate basis to establish and foster regional and international cooperation by building a network in the fight against crimes by integrating trainees from different agencies of various countries. Since its establishment in 2000, more than 1600 national and international law enforcement officers have participated in the training and seminar programs organized by TADOC [4].

1989 meeting of G-7 leaders in Paris

As an example, there is a successful experience of international countering organized crime in financial sphere. Considering the relevance of the issues related to money-laundering, at the 1989 meeting of G-7 leaders in Paris, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) was set up to develop financial measures against money-laundering. The FATF is an intergovernmental body that develops an anti-money laundering policy and contributes to its implementation at the national and international levels.

The FATF consists of 29 participating countries all over the world and two regional organizations: the European Commission and the Gulf Cooperation Council. The FATF mission is to ensure that all financial centers comply with international standards for prevention, detection, and prosecution of money laundering. The FATF has developed Forty Recommendations, which are international standards and constitute the basic structure of counter-measures against money laundering to be applied at the global level. They define the general principles for action to be reflected in the national legislation of the countries on the following issues: criminal liability, the justice system, administrative and civil coercion measures, the financial system, international cooperation, etc. and emphasize the need to strengthen national legal actions aimed at the counteraction to money laundering, to increase the role of the financial and banking system in this matter, and to expand international cooperation.

The FATF focuses on analyzing global financial flows, banking and financial systems and money laundering practices with a view to identifying weaknesses in combating this phenomenon. In case of negative evaluation results, the FATF has the right to apply certain measures, such as warnings issued for a country, blacklisting a country (the list of countries that do not cooperate with the FATF against money laundering), even to apply

recommendations on limiting cooperation with offending countries. The consequence of sanctions may be restrictions and termination of settlements, blocking funds on correspondent accounts of banks and accounts of enterprises, closing these accounts, etc [1, p. 25–29].

Legalization or Decriminalization of Certain Goods and Services in Canada

Canada has made great progress in combating organized crime. One of the most successful methods is legalization of certain goods and services. Rather than increasing regulation, the decriminalization of some goods and services provided by criminal networks might lessen the social demand that fuels organized crime. For example, a number of arguments have been made for the decriminalization of the possession of various psychotropic drugs. The substantial expenditures associated with drug enforcement could be allocated elsewhere (e.g., for treatment) and the medical as well as social ills (including crime) associated with the illicit status of heroin and other substances could potentially be minimized. Drug enforcement is not only costly; it has also been shown to be limited in its ability to curtail supply.

Also, it has been argued that the current approach drives up drug prices, thereby subsidizing rather than combating drug traffickers. Prohibition in the US during the 1920s and 1930s transformed organized crime from small peddlers of vice into powerful crime syndicates with political connections, respectability that came from serving the public the alcohol they desired, and the organization to deliver contraband to large numbers of people. Without the lucrative profits from drugs, criminal organizations might no longer be viable, although some evidence suggests that they might shift to other activities. In Colombia, for example, pressure against the drug cartels led some of their henchmen to take up kidnapping for a living, thereby dramatically increasing the incidence of this crime. Also, legalization in one country would have no bearing on the demand for illicit substances in other countries. Thus, some of the major cartels would continue to operate.

The major downside of legalization is that consumption might increase with the greater acceptability and accessibility of various substances. Increasing consumption may be viewed as inherently undesirable and may create a variety of social, health, and economic costs. Also, there is no guarantee that legalization necessarily cuts into the profits of organized crime. For example, the proliferation of state-run lotteries in the US during the 1970s was said to produce no threat to the revenues of illegal gambling operators. This may be the case because the level of gambling and other behaviors that have been subject to prohibition is not fixed. State-run operations may simply increase participation in such activities. Furthermore, the regulation and taxation of drug markets may prove to be an insurmountable challenge. For example, there are so many foreign and domestic sources of marijuana that much of its production and distribution would remain beyond the reach of regulators [3].

In a context where criminality respects no national border or sovereignty, it is vital to have a comprehensive approach to fighting crime and strengthen international cooperation, particularly between judicial bodies and law enforcement agencies. France, Turkey, Canada and other countries therefore play an active role in multilateral forums dealing with these issues, working to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of the different forums [2].

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DRUG SMUGGLING TO THE UNITED STATES BY PLANE

Criminal networks traffic a range of drugs including cannabis, cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine. As international borders become increasingly porous, global abuse and accessibility to drugs have become increasingly widespread. This international trade involves growers, producers, couriers, suppliers and dealers. It affects almost all of our member countries, undermining political and economic stability, ruining the lives of individuals and damaging communities. The end-users and addicts are often the victims of a powerful and manipulative business [2].

Drug trafficking is often associated with other forms of crime, such as money laundering or corruption. Trafficking routes can also be used by criminal networks to transport other illicit products. As criminals devise ever-more creative ways of disguising illegal drugs for transport, law enforcement faces challenges in detecting such concealed substances. In addition, new synthetic drugs are produced with regularity, so police need to always be aware of new trends and products on the illicit market.

Significant amounts of cocaine and marijuana are smuggled into the United States by private aircraft, although a large volume of both drugs enters the country by other means. Smugglers have adapted to increased