

officers' activities are integral elements of an effective strategy in this area. A key aspect of all innovation must remain ethics and legal compliance. All innovations must be implemented with clear guarantees of compliance with the rights and freedoms of citizens, ensuring proper control by authorized institutions, as well as maximum transparency of procedures and processes.

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### **THE IMPORTANCE OF OSINT TECHNOLOGIES FOR CRIMINAL PROCEDURAL ACTIVITIES.**

In the era of digital technology, when information is readily available from various sources, the use of OSINT (Open Source Intelligence) tools is becoming increasingly crucial in the investigation of criminal offences. It should be noted that OSINT is the process of collecting, analyzing and using publicly available information. This information can be obtained from various sources, including websites, social networks, public databases, news resources, and blogs. The primary purpose of OSINT is to gather relevant information for further analysis and informed decision-making. This approach is applied in various fields, including law enforcement, intelligence, business analytics, and cyber security. In today's digital environment, where a vast amount of information is published online, OSINT is becoming a crucial tool for various types of analysis and research, including the investigation of property crimes [1].

OSINT is a set of methods and techniques for searching for information in publicly available sources, such as social networks and open databases on the Internet. The primary advantages of OSINT are the accessibility of sources and the low cost of obtaining such information. Using OSINT methods, it is possible to -identify a person who has committed a crime from a photograph; -determine the location of a wanted person, using social networks, in particular the personal pages of both the wanted person and their circle of acquaintances;-determine a person's circle of acquaintances and interests, etc. It should be noted that OSINT is not merely a process of searching for information, but also involves storing, processing, and comparing it with other information to achieve a specific result in establishing circumstances relevant to criminal proceedings, creating forensic theories, and planning the investigation process [2].

The main aspects that contribute to:

**Identification and search:** Establishing the personal data, connections, habits and geolocation of suspects/defendants, as well as searching for hidden property and assets, which is particularly relevant when investigating economic and corruption crimes.

**Cybercrime investigation:** OSINT serves as the basis for tracking digital traces, analyzing metadata and identifying sources of criminal activity in cyberspace and the Darknet.

**Recording war crimes:** In the context of aggression, OSINT has become a key source of information for documenting events, recording destruction, and identifying those involved. [3]

OSINT technologies are a critically important and indispensable tool in modern criminal investigations, ensuring the fast and effective collection of information. The primary value of OSINT lies in its ability to transform vast amounts of publicly available data — from social networks and open registries to geographic information systems — into actionable leads and potential electronic evidence in a wide range of cases, including cybercrime, economic crime, and asset tracing. Moreover, as the Supreme Court notes, in the context of armed conflict, OSINT is a key technology for documenting and recording war crimes, identifying those involved, and gathering evidence for international justice. However, the biggest challenge for this tool lies in the area of procedural legitimacy: for information from open sources to be considered admissible evidence, it must be adequately secured (through

recording and ensuring authenticity) in accordance with the requirements of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine.

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## **THE MODEL OF CRIMINAL POLICE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM: CRIME PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION**

The relevance of this research topic is determined by the growth of transnational crime, cyber threats, and organized criminal groups, which require new approaches to law enforcement. The United Kingdom has developed an effective model of criminal police that combines preventive and analytical methods, the use of modern technologies, and community involvement in maintaining public order. The analysis of the British experience is highly relevant for Ukraine in the context of security sector reform and the implementation of European policing standards, as it allows the integration of proven practices of community-oriented and intelligence-led policing, while strengthening public trust in law enforcement agencies.