

Finally, despite the extraordinary circumstances, the police remain obligated to observe the rule of law. International humanitarian law and national legislation impose clear limitations on the use of force and the treatment of civilians. Any violation may undermine public trust and carry legal consequences. Thus, professionalism, discipline, and ethical conduct become defining indicators of police performance under martial law.

In conclusion, police activity during martial law requires a combination of expanded operational capabilities, interagency cooperation, technological adaptation, and unwavering adherence to legal and ethical standards. The effectiveness of police forces in such conditions directly influences the stability of society, the protection of citizens, and the resilience of the state.

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THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

International cooperation has long been recognized as a fundamental pillar in the global fight against organized crime. Its critical importance has been starkly highlighted by recent unprecedented challenges, including widespread civil unrest, and ongoing conflicts. As organized crime continues to transcend national borders, weaving intricate networks across continents, the collaborative efforts between states become ever more vital in effectively countering these sophisticated threats.

The 2021 Global Organized Crime Index underscored the high regard for international cooperation among resilience indicators, achieving a global score of 5.68. This suggests a widespread willingness among nations to engage in cooperative measures to bolster their capacity against organized criminal enterprises. Europe, in particular, demonstrated significantly higher levels of cooperation at 7.02, while Asia and Africa, though scoring below the global average (5.27 and 4.79 respectively), still considered international cooperation their highest-scoring resilience indicator.

Despite the prevalent political rhetoric emphasizing the significance of international cooperation in anti-crime strategies, persistent concerns have been raised regarding the actual effectiveness of existing multilateral mechanisms and their tangible impact on complex transnational challenges. The inherent inertia in mutual legal assistance, the general reluctance surrounding extradition processes, and the cumbersome nature of formal cooperative instruments have often rendered international cooperation inadequate. This disconnect is evident in the Index, where robust international cooperation scores have not consistently correlated with lower levels of organized crime across most countries.

Nevertheless, amidst some regional shortfalls in international cooperation and an acknowledged need for more concerted efforts to strengthen responses to transnational organized crime, recent multilateral initiatives offer a glimmer of hope. The remarkable unity demonstrated by several countries, notably European Union member states, in response to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, suggests a potential blueprint for future cooperation in combating organized crime.

A Unified Global Response. The full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February 2022 prompted an immediate and resolute display of solidarity from European states. In stark contrast to what was arguably a more muted response to the annexation of Crimea and parts of Donbas in 2014, European nations collectively exhibited unwavering support for Ukraine. This included unprecedented provisions of arms and military assistance by the EU, alongside billions of euros in crucial financial, humanitarian, and emergency aid.

Furthermore, a suite of restrictive financial measures was imposed on Russia by European countries. These included the freezing

and seizure of assets belonging to Russian oligarchs, the suspension of several Russian financial institutions from the SWIFT banking system, a ban on the import of specific Russian goods, and the closure of EU airspace, seaports, and roads to Russian vehicles.

While European countries, alongside their international counterparts, continue to deliver humanitarian aid – both in-kind and through funding – to address the immediate fallout of the war, EU member states are also actively collaborating with Ukraine on its post-war recovery. This involves significant financial aid aimed at rebuilding the country's infrastructure and revitalizing its economy. These commitments were notably reaffirmed at the second Ukraine Recovery Conference, held in the United Kingdom on June 21–22, 2023, where further pledges were made by individual states and a concerted push was initiated to encourage private sector engagement and investment in Ukraine.

A Model for Future Cooperation. In the initial phases of the conflict, resources were primarily channeled towards humanitarian and military assistance. However, cross-border law enforcement cooperation has since gained significant priority in tackling both existing and emerging criminal markets. European countries have broadened their cooperative scope, working intimately with Ukrainian officials to mitigate criminal activities exacerbated by the war, such as arms and human trafficking. Immediately following the onset of the conflict, a joint anti-trafficking plan was implemented, in collaboration with Ukrainian authorities and international organizations, to prevent human trafficking and to identify and assist victims. European countries and Europol have also partnered with their Ukrainian counterparts to establish specialized centers aimed at curbing arms trafficking in the region, a critical measure given the proliferation of arms and ammunition within Ukraine.

Moreover, European states are dedicated to assisting Ukraine with judicial reform, strengthening the rule of law, and enhancing anti-corruption mechanisms. The EU Anti-Corruption Initiative has maintained close collaboration with its Ukrainian counterparts to ensure transparency in the country's recovery process and to prevent Ukraine's historical challenges with public sector corruption from impeding these efforts.

These initiatives vividly demonstrate the willingness of European countries to go above and beyond, extending their cooperation beyond direct aid to the war-torn nation and its victims. While these efforts were not isolated – with other nations, such as the United States, also making substantial contributions and working with Ukraine and the EU – the unified approach adopted by the European continent has been exceptional. European countries have displayed remarkable resilience and solidarity through their cooperation with each other, with other nations, and with Ukraine. This showcases their possession of the necessary tools and mechanisms for effective international cooperation, which can be mobilized in times of urgent need. Such cooperation should serve as a compelling example in the multilateral response to organized crime, illustrating how to achieve more tangible and lasting results, especially at a time when long-standing multilateral coalitions appear to be under strain.

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PECULIARITIES OF USING INTERNATIONAL DATABASES IN CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATION

In the modern world, crime is increasingly taking on a transnational character due to globalization, the development of international relations, active population migration, and the use of modern information technologies. Effective crime control in such conditions is impossible without close cooperation between law enforcement agencies of different states, which relies on the rapid exchange of reliable information. International databases play a crucial role in this process, enabling authorities to identify criminals, track their activities, and coordinate actions across borders.