

PRYPOLOVA L.

Candidate of Law Sciences,
Lecturer at the Department
of Core Legal Disciplines
(*Institute of the State Penitentiary
Service of Ukraine*)

**CONTENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY IMMUNITY:
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN EXPERIENCE**

In 2014, Ukraine has begun making effective steps to improve legislation and reform the area of public authority. In particular, this year has been the key for changes in the Ukrainian parliament. Deputies are representatives of the people, called to represent and protect the interests of society. The state gives MPs immunity, thus emphasizing the importance of their work.

The study allowed identifying the following shortcomings within the legal regulation of parliamentary immunity:

a) inability of arrest or detention of deputy in the place of crime (there is no provided principle of immunity from jurisdiction in cases of flagrante delicto);

b) consideration of the procedure of detention or arrest of MP is too complicated and requires time expenditures (several days), which may contribute to the destruction of evidences, disappearance of witnesses and victims and escape of the criminal. Thus, it makes it impossible to investigate the crime so to say “following a hot scent”;

c) immunity covers the entire period of parliamentary activities, including inter-session period which is not associated with the direct implementation of parliamentary activities;

d) immunity covers all criminal offenses prescribed by the Criminal Code of Ukraine, while we believe that positive experience of foreign countries provides parliamentary immunity only for certain categories of crimes.

In view of the above, we believe that Ukrainian legislation on the functioning and implementation of parliamentary immunity needs to be improved. Namely we consider it necessary:

- to legally regulate the possibility of arrest or detention of deputy in the place of crime;
- to minimize the time of consideration of the submission procedure and issuance of permit for detention or arrest of deputy;
- to provide immunity only for sessional period;
- to provide immunity for grave and especially grave crimes.

