

human trafficking, whether as countries of origin, transit or destination of victims [3].

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Луцишена А.,

здобувач ступеня вищої освіти бакалавра
Донецький державний
університет внутрішніх справ
Консультант з мови: **Березенко Н.**

LANGUAGE AS EVIDENCE: HOW FORENSIC LINGUISTICS HELPS SOLVE CRIMES IN EUROPE

Forensic linguistics studies how language can be used as evidence in crime investigations. In Europe, this field is more and more often used to study anonymous messages, threats, ransom notes, emails, and online communication to find their authors or to see if the text was changed. Features like word choice, sentence style, spelling, and writing habits can help connect a text to a specific person [1].

One of the main uses in Europe is finding who wrote a text. Every person has a stable "language fingerprint," and experts compare suspicious texts with known writing samples of possible suspects. Studies show that looking at grammar, common word combinations, and writing style helps reduce the number of possible authors in cases with anonymous threats or extortion letters [4].

Forensic linguistics is also important in cybercrime cases. Criminals often try to hide by copying another writing style or using automatic tools. But strange word choices, unusual grammar, or unnatural sentence rhythm often reveal these tricks. European

investigators have used linguistic analysis to uncover online fraud and identify members of cybercrime groups [2].

Another important area is the study of hate speech and extremist messages. The Council of Europe advises using linguistic experts to decide if a message fits the legal meaning of hate speech or calls for violence. Linguists can explain hidden meanings, code words, sarcasm, or indirect calls for aggression, helping courts understand online content while respecting human rights [5].

Countries should quickly remove online hate speech, support victims with legal, medical, and psychological help, and promote education, training, and counter- speech to stop harmful content from spreading [5].

Multilingual forensic work is also becoming more important, especially in international cases with many languages and nationalities. European police often need language experts to study multilingual communication, fake documents, or transcripts from global criminal networks. This experience is very important for Ukraine, which is improving cooperation with Europol and other European bodies [3].

But there are still problems. Courts do not always see linguistic analysis as strong evidence compared to other forensic methods. Researchers say we need clearer methods so that linguistic results are reliable. Ethical issues also matter: similar language cannot automatically prove guilt, and experts must respect the presumption of innocence [6].

In conclusion, European experience shows that forensic linguistics is a strong tool for solving crimes connected to digital communication, anonymous messages, fraud, and hate speech. If Ukraine uses these methods, it can improve investigations and make its forensic system more similar to European standards.

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Лях А.,

здобувач ступеня вищої освіти бакалавра
Національної академії внутрішніх справ
Консультант з мови: **Василенко О.**

EXPERIENCE OF COMBATING CRIME IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

The problem of crime is global and multifaceted; it is an acute problem for any state, regardless of its political system or economic development. Effective counteraction to crime requires not only the improvement of domestic legislation and law enforcement practice, but also the constant study and adaptation of the best international practices. In this context, the analysis of the experience of other countries is an extremely valuable source of knowledge and innovative approaches to increasing the efficiency of the national criminal justice system.

Most European states consider the creation or existence of a criminal group as an activity dangerous to society. Italy is especially worth highlighting, where criminal legislation provides for direct liability for membership in a criminal group. In addition, Italy applies