

*Гладун В.,*

здобувач ступеня вищої освіти бакалавра  
Національної академії внутрішніх справ  
*Консультант з мови: Зубенко В.*

## **EVIDENCE – BASED CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES**

The growing demand for transparency and efficiency in criminal justice has made evidence-based investigation methods increasingly relevant. Countries like the US, UK, Canada, and Australia actively apply data-driven approaches to improve investigative accuracy and public trust. In transitional legal systems such as Ukraine, these models are still emerging, creating a need for comparative analysis and adaptation. This study aims to explore international practices of evidence-based criminal investigations and assess their applicability to the Ukrainian context. Key tasks include reviewing theoretical foundations, comparing global models, identifying benefits and risks, and proposing recommendations for implementation.

Evidence-based criminal investigation improves decision-making by reducing reliance on intuition and increasing the use of validated research findings. Lum & Koper argue that structured investigative models based on empirical data lead to more consistent and just outcomes in police work [1]. This shift not only enhances the quality of investigative decisions but also fosters a new professional culture within law enforcement—one that values analytical reasoning over routine or intuition. In transitional legal systems such as Ukraine's, adopting evidence-based models could play a pivotal role in strengthening public trust, reducing investigative errors, and aligning domestic practices with international standards of fairness and transparency.

Cross-border investigations involving digital evidence face significant legal and procedural challenges due to divergent national frameworks. Casino highlights that the lack of harmonized standards complicates evidence exchange and admissibility in international cases [2]. This issue is particularly relevant in the context of growing transnational cybercrime, where timely and reliable access to digital

evidence is crucial. Without unified standards, investigators often face delays, legal uncertainty, and challenges in ensuring the integrity of cross-border procedures.

Comparative analysis shows that countries with institutional support for evidence-based policing—such as the UK and Australia—achieve higher investigative efficiency and public trust. Mbuba emphasizes the role of policy integration and training in sustaining these models [3]. This highlights the importance of long-term investment in professional development and policy continuity. Without institutional commitment and structured training, evidence-based practices risk remaining theoretical rather than becoming embedded in daily investigative routines.

The use of forensic data analytics and virtual asset tracing is becoming central to modern investigations, especially in cybercrime and financial offenses. Ovsianiuk demonstrates how Ukraine and other jurisdictions are adapting international practices to local needs [4]. This reflects a broader trend toward digital transformation in law enforcement, where investigative success increasingly depends on the ability to process complex data and trace illicit financial flows. Ukraine's efforts to align with global standards show both the potential and the challenges of integrating advanced forensic tools within evolving legal and institutional frameworks.

Human rights concerns in digital investigations require balancing technological efficiency with procedural safeguards. Ragni stresses the importance of transparency and due process in the use of remote data collection and AI tools [5]. This concern is especially relevant as digital tools become more embedded in investigative workflows. Without clear legal boundaries and oversight, the use of AI and remote surveillance risks infringing on privacy rights and undermining the legitimacy of criminal proceedings. Safeguards must evolve alongside technology to preserve trust and uphold fundamental freedoms.

### **References:**

1. Lum, C., & Koper, C. (2017). *Evidence-Based Policing: Translating Research into Practice*. Oxford University Press.

2. Casino, F., Pina, C., López-Aguilar, P., et al. (2022). SoK: Cross-Border Criminal Investigations and Digital Evidence. *Journal of Cybersecurity*. Oxford Academic
3. Mbuba, J. M. (2023). *Comparative Criminal Justice: International Trends and Practices*. Bloomsbury Publishing.
4. Ovsianiuk, D., Okushko, A., Panchenko, Y. (2025). Methodology of Detection and Forensic Features of Investigation of Crimes Involving Virtual Assets: A Comparative Analysis of International Practices. *Scientific Journal of the National Academy of Internal Affairs*.
5. Ragni, C. (2023). *Digital Evidence in International Criminal Proceedings and Human Rights Challenges*. University of Milan. ResearchGate

*Глушан К.,*  
здобувач ступеня вищої освіти бакалавра  
Національної академії внутрішніх справ  
Консультант з мови: **Зубенко В.**

## **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME (EUROJUST, INTERPOL, JOINT OPERATIONS)**

International cooperation in combating transnational crime is essential in the modern globalized environment, as threats such as organized crime, cybercrime, human trafficking and terrorism transcend national borders and require coordinated institutional responses [1].

Interpol, as the largest global police organization, plays a core role in facilitating real-time criminal intelligence exchange and coordinating international policing actions. Its system of notices, shared databases, and operational support mechanisms enhances national capacities to track fugitives, identify suspects, and respond to complex transnational threats [1].