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INTEGRATING ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS INTO THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF UKRAINE

English language proficiency is becoming a critically important professional requirement for the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) system of Ukraine amid social transformation driven by the consequences of the Russian-Ukrainian war, Euro-integration, democratic processes, and close international cooperation with partners at the international level. As rightly noted: "English proficiency among law enforcement and rescue personnel is an important step towards strengthening international ties. This will facilitate communication with foreign colleagues, participation in international training, and joint operations" [1].

The purpose of the work is to analyze the current state of MIA professional standards, substantiate the critical necessity, and develop

concrete, practically-oriented mechanisms for integrating English language proficiency requirements, harmonized with European standards, for all services within the MIA system.

The professional competence of a modern MIA employee cannot be considered complete without a foreign language communication component. Analysis shows that current professional standards for most key positions (patrol officers, investigators, rescuers) contain only general, declarative requirements or completely ignore the need for English language proficiency. Adopting the mandatory application of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) or the NATO STANAG 6001 standard is vital for achieving Ukraine's interoperability with other states. This necessity is officially confirmed by the agency's leadership. Specifically, Deputy Head of the National Police of Ukraine Serhii Kobets emphasizes: "Knowledge of the English language for our police officers is not just an advantage, it is a requirement of modernity. Fluent proficiency allows us to cooperate more effectively with international law enforcement structures, as well as ensure the safety of foreign guests" [2].

On June 27, 2024, Law No. 3760-IX came into force, which defines the status and rules for the use of the English language in Ukraine, establishing a mandatory requirement for English proficiency for numerous categories of civil servants and officials. [3] In our opinion, the ways to implement this initiative include modernization of the educational process in departmental higher education institutions (HEIs) and training centers, motivational and stimulating mechanisms, and material and technical support. Critically important are the development of a unified electronic platform for distance learning of professional English, which will provide 24/7 access to training materials, and the procurement of specialized textbooks oriented towards STANAG 6001. CEPOL is the European Union Agency that brings together and supports a network of law enforcement training institutes, providing priority training on security, cooperation, and information exchange priorities in EU member states and non-member states, including Ukraine. The Agency offers innovative and advanced training activities, particularly through the specialized LEEEd platform, which includes online courses, webinars, and opportunities for professional exchanges [4].

We can already observe examples of the practical implementation of these requirements. The National Police of Ukraine and the Association of Innovative and Digital Education (AIDE) are launching large-scale English language training for 15,000 National Police of Ukraine employees. This initiative will allow law enforcement officers to master the English language through the "Lingva Skills" educational platform [2]. The implementation of European standards requires not only updating the training content but also officially formalizing the criteria for assessment and certification. To this end, the formalization of the requirement for a CEFR/international certificate as a mandatory condition for appointment to international-focused positions is key. This is necessary to ensure the transparency and objectivity of confirming language competencies. The use of CEFR provides a clear and internationally recognized assessment system that distinctly differentiates language skills (speaking, writing, reading, listening). This enables the precise alignment of an employee's language qualification with the defined professional requirements of their position within the MIA structure. We propose introducing a differentiated approach to language requirements that correlates with the level of responsibility and the frequency of international interaction:

- Level A2/B1 (Basic Working): Mandatory for line personnel (patrol police officers, junior rescuers, personnel at border crossings). Competencies: providing basic information, understanding simple instructions, and completing elementary protocols.

- Level B2 (Professional/Independent User): Mandatory for investigators, operational staff, representatives in Europol/Interpol, and mid-level managers. Competencies: drafting official documents, conducting interrogations, participating in international training, and managing situations involving foreign citizens.

- Level C1 (Expert): Mandatory for senior management, international liaison officers, and departmental university faculty. Competencies: conducting complex negotiations, preparing analytical reports at the international level, and public speaking.

The language requirements will be implemented in accordance with the Law on the Use of the English Language in Ukraine. The resolution will come into effect four years after the termination or repeal of martial law [5].

The implementation of the proposed measures will lead to increased quality of international cooperation and a significant improvement in the operational effectiveness of joint missions, which directly contributes to deepening the Euro-Atlantic integration of the Ukrainian security sector. Therefore, the integration of differentiated English language proficiency requirements into the MIA professional standards is a critically necessary and officially supported step towards achieving international interoperability. Despite the future implementation defined by law, successful realization requires the immediate modernization of training programs and the introduction of motivational and stimulating mechanisms. Future research should focus on verifying the effectiveness of new educational courses, creating specialized teaching methods for working under high psychological stress, and analyzing the feasibility of including additional foreign languages in personnel training in border regions.

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PRACTICAL MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTING ENGLISH IN GOVERNMENT BODIES

English is an international language and at the same time the main language in the EU. Ukraine's efforts to join the EU and the prospects of membership in it, as well as further integration in all spheres of life, necessitate the study and proficiency in English at the highest possible level for its effective implementation in the state authorities of Ukraine.

Maksimova A. notes that an appropriate regulatory and legal basis has been formed for the introduction of English in Ukraine. The adopted document covers issues of preschool education, language training of officials and the leisure sector. The author emphasizes that this act is not innovative, but rather reflects the current needs of the state in the conditions of the European integration course [1, p. 253].

A large-scale process is being observed in Ukrainian society - a gradual and systematic rejection of the use of the Russian language in various spheres of life, which actualizes the need to study English and master it by both Persian citizens and officials. Today, English is the official language of international communication, in particular the language of concluding contracts and agreements, and its modern content reflects the value orientations and priorities of the world community. In these conditions, there is a growing need for active state measures aimed at spreading English as a key tool of international communication in Ukraine. The state's European integration course also provides for the recognition of European standards of language policy, which makes raising the status of English in Ukraine not only an urgent need, but also a strategically important step on the path to joining the