

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.

Key institutions in this field include Interpol and Europol. Interpol maintains the world's largest centralized databases containing information on fingerprints, DNA profiles, lost and stolen passports, vehicles, and photographs of internationally wanted persons. Europol focuses on combating organized and serious crime within the European Union, using the secure SIENA information exchange system. These resources allow law enforcement agencies to access data on suspects, their connections, and movements quickly and efficiently.

A distinctive feature of international databases is the unification of standards and procedures for data collection, storage, and exchange. Unified technical formats in fingerprinting and DNA identification ensure compatibility across different countries, while standardized methods for data verification, logging, and record-keeping enhance control over information usage and reduce the risk of misidentification [1].

Another significant advantage is operational efficiency. Databases are updated in real time, allowing authorities to respond immediately to new information about suspects, lost documents, or stolen property. At the same time, access is strictly controlled, and information is transmitted through secure channels with multi-level encryption and user authentication to ensure the protection of personal data [2].

Multi-factor identification is also essential, combining biometric data (fingerprints, DNA, photographs), documentary data (passports, identity cards, registration records), and forensic data (crime scene traces, methods of criminal activity). This integrated approach increases the accuracy of identification and reduces the risk of errors.

The use of international databases is strictly governed by international and national legal frameworks, which protect human rights, ensure confidentiality, and regulate data retention. Regular audits, access controls, and updates to security procedures are essential to maintain trust and compliance [3].

In conclusion, international databases are not merely technical tools—they represent a cornerstone of modern international law enforcement cooperation. By enabling the rapid and reliable identification of criminals, these databases strengthen the ability of authorities to prevent and investigate crimes across borders. They help

create a coordinated, proactive approach to transnational crime, terrorism, and organized criminal activities, ensuring that offenders cannot exploit gaps between national jurisdictions.

Moreover, the continuous development of technical capabilities, combined with strict adherence to legal standards and protection of personal data, ensures that these systems remain both effective and ethical. The integration of biometric, documentary, and forensic data allows for precise multi-factor identification, which significantly reduces errors and increases public trust in law enforcement.

Finally, the success of international databases depends not only on technology but also on international cooperation, mutual trust, and the commitment of countries to share information responsibly. When these conditions are met, international databases become a powerful instrument for global security, helping societies feel safer and making it increasingly difficult for criminals to act with impunity. In a globalized world, these systems are indispensable for creating a unified security space and upholding the rule of law on an international scale.

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