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## **SPECIFIC FEATURES OF POLICE ACTIVITY UNDER MARTIAL LAW**

Martial law represents a complex system of emergency governance that deeply influences the structure and duties of law enforcement agencies. When a country faces war or large-scale threats to national security, the police become one of the main pillars of civil defense and social stability. Their work extends far beyond traditional law enforcement tasks and includes maintaining order, ensuring the safety of civilians, and supporting the army in strategic operations. The effectiveness of the police under martial law depends on flexibility, coordination, discipline, and respect for human rights even under extreme pressure [1, p. 25].

One of the key features of police activity in wartime is the transformation of command and control systems. The police operate under centralized management to ensure unified decision-making and effective cooperation with military administrations. This allows for faster responses to security incidents, sabotage, or infiltration attempts. The police also take part in protecting critical infrastructure – energy facilities, bridges, communication centers, and transport routes – which are often primary targets during conflicts. In this context, officers act both as defenders and regulators, combining preventive, investigative, and military-style operational functions [3, p. 34].

The legal powers of the police also expand during martial law. Officers are authorized to impose curfews, restrict movement, perform document checks, and temporarily detain persons suspected of threatening public safety. Such measures aim to prevent crimes, maintain order, and protect the population. However, their legitimacy depends on strict adherence to national and international law. Each restriction must be justified, proportionate, and transparent to avoid abuses of power that could undermine citizens' trust and democratic legitimacy [1, p. 44].

Equally important are the psychological and ethical dimensions of police work under martial law. Officers often face traumatic scenes, operate in dangerous areas, and make decisions that affect human lives. Continuous psychological support, ethical education, and resilience training are therefore essential. The ability to act professionally while maintaining empathy and respect for civilians distinguishes true professionalism from mere enforcement [2, p. 67].

International experience, including that of Ukraine since 2022, demonstrates that police effectiveness during martial law relies not only on operational discipline but also on broad cooperation with communities, volunteer organisations, and international partners. In conditions of heightened uncertainty and continuous security threats, public trust becomes a strategic resource that directly influences the stability of the state. When citizens perceive the police as a reliable and predictable institution, they are more likely to comply with legal requirements, report suspicious activity, support security measures, and participate in community-based initiatives aimed at protecting critical infrastructure and maintaining public order. Trust also reduces panic and fosters unity, which is particularly important when society faces mass displacement, shelling, or information warfare campaigns aimed at creating social fragmentation.

Therefore, modern policing under martial law must be grounded in transparent dialogue with society. This involves not only informing citizens about introduced restrictions, evacuation measures, or operational risks but also explaining the legal foundations and humanitarian reasons behind such decisions. Emphasizing that the mission of the police is the protection of life, human dignity, and the rule of law – rather than suppression or coercion – helps maintain legitimacy and reduces the risk of tension between law-enforcement institutions and the civilian population. Technological tools also play an increasingly significant role in enhancing police effectiveness during wartime. The use of drones, digital evidence systems, secure communication networks, biometric identification, and real-time analytical platforms allows for faster information processing, more accurate threat detection, and improved coordination with military units and emergency services. These innovations not only increase operational capacity but also help minimise risks to both officers and

civilians, ensuring more precise and lawful actions in high-threat environments [3, p. 27].

In conclusion, the specific features of police activity under martial law include the expansion of authority, intensified cooperation with the military, heightened ethical demands, and the need for psychological stability. The modern police officer under martial law acts not only as a law enforcer but also as a moral agent and guardian of social order. Balancing national security with respect for human rights is the key principle that determines the legitimacy and effectiveness of law enforcement in wartime [1, p. 98].

#### **References:**

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### **VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AS A MEANS OF PREVENTING OFFENSES: EFFECTIVENESS AND RISKS**

Video surveillance has become one of the key tools for ensuring public safety in modern cities. The presence of cameras in public areas creates a deterrent effect, reducing the likelihood of committing crimes and administrative offenses, especially in places with large crowds [1, p. 35-36]. In addition, video recordings significantly enhance the effectiveness of crime detection: they allow establishing the chronology of events, identifying suspects, and confirming or refuting the testimony of incident participants [1, p. 52].

At the same time, analytical systems are gaining importance—automatic license plate recognition, behavioral anomaly analysis, and