

### Список використаних джерел:

1. The fight against organized crime. URL: [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.britannica.com/place/Italy/The-fight-against-organized-crime&ved=2ahUKEwj19u5s9n-AhUCAhAIHd8UC\\_4QFnoECBMQAQ&usg=AOvVaw1BX7V7Q7qWRgt8JtGXWW5Y](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://www.britannica.com/place/Italy/The-fight-against-organized-crime&ved=2ahUKEwj19u5s9n-AhUCAhAIHd8UC_4QFnoECBMQAQ&usg=AOvVaw1BX7V7Q7qWRgt8JtGXWW5Y)
2. The Fight Against the Italian Mafia. URL: [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://academic.oup.com/edited-volume/38662/chapter-abstract/335793850%3FredirectedFrom%3Dfulltext&ved=2ahUKEwj19u5s9n-AhUCAhAIHd8UC\\_4QFnoECC8QAQ&usg=AOvVaw1JY1al51Cc83RLJGAv-j2n](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&url=https://academic.oup.com/edited-volume/38662/chapter-abstract/335793850%3FredirectedFrom%3Dfulltext&ved=2ahUKEwj19u5s9n-AhUCAhAIHd8UC_4QFnoECC8QAQ&usg=AOvVaw1JY1al51Cc83RLJGAv-j2n)

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### **SPECIFICATION OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN JAPAN**

The main object of the article is to give the information about criminal activity in Japan. While all types of criminal actors have a presence in Japan, the criminal ecosystem of the country revolves around mafia-style actors. There are slightly more than two dozen designated mafia syndicates (legally referred to as the Boryokudan or Yakuza).

A Japanese organized crime group known as Yakuza has been in existence for more than 300 years, the group can be traced back to as early as 1612 when group members began to attract the attention of local officials due to their odd clothing, haircuts, and behavior. In the 1700's, the Yakuza began organizing into families, and group members united with each other for mutual protection. They began to control booths at fairs and markets and developed a reputation for shoddy merchandise and deceptive salesmanship.

They also played a role in Japan's gambling tradition. In the 1800's, the Yakuza began to modernize, recruited members from construction and dock jobs, and even began to control the rickshaw business. Group members became involved in politics, taking sides with certain politicians and officials. They cooperated with the government so they could get official sanction or at least some freedom from the government.

Similar to that of the Italian Mafia, the Yakuza hierarchy is reminiscent of a family. The leader of any gang or conglomerate of Yakuza is known as the oyabun ("boss"; literally "parent status"), and the followers are known as kobun ("protégés," or "apprentices"; literally "child status"). The rigid hierarchy and discipline are usually

matched by a right-wing ultranationalistic ideology. Kobun traditionally take a blood oath of allegiance, and a member who breaks the Yakuza code must show penance—historically through a ritual in which the kobun cuts off his little finger with a sword and presents it to his oyabun, though this practice has declined over time.

According to police estimates, gang membership reached its highest level, of some 184,000, in the early 1960s. However, by the early 21st century their numbers had declined to approximately 80,000, divided roughly evenly between regular members and associates. The members are organized into hundreds of gangs, most of them affiliated under the umbrella of one of some 20 conglomerate gangs. The largest conglomerate is the Yamaguchi-gumi, founded about 1915 by Yamaguchi Harukichi but fully developed and aggrandized only after World War II by Taoka Kazuo.

The different Yakuza are involved in various criminal markets to different extents. Some – the Yamaguchi-gumi, for instance – formally forbid their members from engaging in drug trafficking (although many do still operate in the drug markets), whereas other Boryokudan are heavily involved in the criminal market for drugs.

Overall, the various Boryokudan throughout Japan are engaged in criminal markets such as human smuggling, prostitution, arms and drug trafficking, illegal gambling and real estate. Boryokudan membership has decreased steadily over the past decade, although the number of arrests has increased significantly. While the Yakuza have been in decline and increasingly ostracized by Japanese society, due in large part to the Yakuza exclusion ordinances that were enacted between 2010 and 2011, new groups operating under a looser and more decentralized structure have emerged.

Sometimes referred to as the Hangure, these groups have partially filled the vacuum left by the Boryokudan, but also operate on a less professional basis and engage in more petty crime. However, they often operate with ruthless violence and engage in organized fraud [1].

Ties between organized criminals and Japanese politicians have been common for decades but have been reduced in recent years as public opinion on the Yakuza and organized crime in general has become increasingly intolerant. Nevertheless, in recent years, there have been a number of cases of high-ranking officials in the Liberal Democratic Party having ties to organized crime, and there are still accusations that cabinet members have associations with criminal actors. Foreign criminal actors and mafia-style groups with a presence in Japan include groups of West African and Chinese origin, who work together with the Yakuza.

Despite their criminal activities, the Yakuza style themselves as ninkyō dantai (literally “chivalrous organization”). While their methods are often questionable, they have been known to perform charitable acts, such as donating and delivering supplies to earthquake victims during the Kōbe earthquake of 1995 and the earthquake and tsunami of 2011. Over time the Yakuza have shifted toward white-collar crime, relying more and

more on bribery in lieu of violence, and indeed in the early 21st century they were one of the least murderous criminal groups in the world [2].

These activities make the relationship between Yakuza and police in Japan a complicated one; Yakuza membership itself is not illegal, and yakuza-owned businesses and gang headquarters are often clearly marked. Gang whereabouts and activities are often known to Japanese police without the latter's taking any action. Members have even been called upon to perform public functions, as when a Yakuza force was assembled to serve as a security force during a 1960 visit by U.S. Pres. Dwight Eisenhower (although the visit ultimately did not occur).

Although Yakuza are Japanese-based crime groups, they can lead to transnational implications, and nondomestic governments also may play significant roles. In the battle against bōryokudan, the government's efforts also extend beyond the domestic area; for instance, the National Police Agency's 2015 white paper listed border control as one area in which Yakuza activity was targeted. Moreover, as an organized crime group, the Yakuza have been actively deterred by foreign governments such as the United States. The US. froze assets belonging to two Yamaguchi-gumi members in 2012, and in 2016, the U.S. put sanctions against the Kobe Yamaguchi-gumi syndicate.

The prosecution of organized crime by the U.S. has also influenced the Japanese government in certain regards in combatting the yakuza. For instance, as noted by Reilly, the Anti-Boryokudan law was influenced by RICO in the U.S. Also, according to Reilly, the political movement of a 'War on Drugs' in the United States also influenced Japan in constructing the Anti-Boryokudan Law.

#### **Список використаних джерел:**

1. Yakuza. Past and Present. URL: <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/yakuza-past-and-present>
2. Global Organized Crime Index. URL: <https://ocindex.net/country/japan>

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## **POLICE ACTIONS IN THE CONDITIONS OF WAR**

It is common knowledge that the activities of the police in Ukraine are regulated by various legal acts, first of all, the Constitution of Ukraine and the Law of Ukraine «On the National Police of Ukraine».

According to Article 2 of the Law of Ukraine «On the National Police of Ukraine», the tasks of the police are to provide police services in the following areas: ensuring public