

Governments and international organizations continue to invest in the development of legal, technical, and organizational tools to combat cybercrime. For instance, the "PRAVO-Police" program, implemented by the UN in cooperation with the European Union, helps Ukraine strengthen cyber defense by training experts and providing modern technologies. Given the growth of global cyber threats, such programs supported by international organizations are becoming increasingly important [2].

To sum up, international cooperation in investigating cybercrimes is critically important for ensuring security in the face of the rapid development of digital technologies, as cybercrime investigations require a comprehensive approach and close international collaboration. The consolidation of efforts among states, information exchange, and the use of advanced technologies are the foundation for effectively countering transnational cyber threats. Despite numerous challenges, the international community continues to work on strengthening cooperation and ensuring security in the digital space, while further standardizing legal norms and improving methods of collecting digital evidence, which will also contribute to the successful fight against cybercrime.

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EXPERIENCE IN COMBATING CRIME: INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES OF SELECTED FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Crime is one of the biggest threats to the safety and stability of society. Each country faces its own challenges in this area, so examining the experience of combating criminal activities in foreign countries provides an opportunity to develop effective strategies and policies.

The most effective *method of combating crime* is to prevent it from occurring, which is a strategic approach focused on identifying and addressing the causes of crime before offenses are committed. According to

United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention, there are several fundamental principles underpin successful prevention efforts:

- *Government leadership* is crucial at all levels, requiring active involvement in creating humane and effective crime prevention strategies with strong institutional frameworks for implementation and review.

- Additionally, *socio-economic development and inclusion* are the key; crime prevention should be integrated into broader social and economic policies that address employment, education, health, housing, poverty, marginalization, and exclusion, particularly targeting at-risk communities, families, and youth.

- *Cooperation and partnerships* are also essential. Effective crime prevention necessitates collaboration across ministries, community organizations, NGOs, the business sector, and citizens.

- *Sustainability and accountability*, with adequate resources, clear accountability, and consistent funding, are critical for maintaining crime prevention initiatives, including their implementation and evaluation.

- Prevention strategies should be *knowledge-based*, drawing on multidisciplinary insights into the causes of crime and evidence-based practices.

- Furthermore, respect for *human rights, the rule of law*, and promoting a *culture of lawfulness* are essential to any crime prevention approach.

- Strategies should also acknowledge the *interdependence* between local and international crime issues, as well as the different needs of men, women, and vulnerable groups in society [1].

The United States has intensified its efforts against transnational organized crime by focusing on intelligence sharing, interdictions, targeting enablers, and building international partnerships. The U.S. prioritizes high-risk criminal groups, expands intelligence tools, and fosters a collaborative culture among law enforcement, intelligence agencies, and the private sector. Annual assessments and fusion center data-sharing pilots ensure that efforts align against the top threats posed by transnational criminal organizations (TCOs). Strengthening investigations and prosecutions includes mapping resources, coordinating across agencies, enhancing visa security, increasing sanctions and rewards, and supporting legislation that imposes tougher penalties on TCO actors. Through enhanced cooperation with Europol, Interpol, and embedding U.S. personnel in high-risk areas, the U.S. extends its anti-crime efforts globally.

In targeting corrupt officials and enablers, the U.S. freezes assets and imposes sanctions, streamlining this process while improving the use of FinCEN in investigations. Additionally, the U.S. collaborates with financial and digital experts to curb illicit financing through cryptocurrencies. To further counter TCO threats, the U.S. coordinates messaging on these

issues, enhances information sharing through international data platforms, and trains foreign law enforcement agencies. Collaboration with Five Eyes partners and active engagement in global forums like the UN and G7 reinforces a unified international response against TCOs, with particular focus on cybercrime, synthetic drugs, and asset recovery [2].

The Netherlands is a significant hub in the international drug trade, facing challenges from criminals involved in trafficking cocaine, heroin, MDMA, and cannabis. These criminals generate vast profits, using their wealth to bribe officials and launder money. As both a producer of synthetic drugs and a distribution point for Latin American cocaine, the Netherlands collaborates with other nations to dismantle global criminal networks, intercept drug shipments, and prevent money laundering. This includes targeting drug smuggling at its source, seizing assets from criminals, and increasing inspections at ports and airports.

To combat these criminal activities, the Netherlands works closely with the EU, Europol, and countries such as Belgium, Germany, and the UAE. Partnerships with agencies like the Public Prosecution Service, police, customs, and international organizations like Europol and Eurojust facilitate information sharing, coordinated policy-making, and strengthening of cross-border crime laws [3].

France faces significant organized crime challenges, including human trafficking, arms and drug trafficking, environmental crimes, and cybercrime. Criminal networks exploit vulnerable individuals and smuggle drugs, arms, and endangered wildlife into and through France, impacting both urban and rural areas. To combat these issues, France actively enforces international anti-crime treaties and collaborates with global partners to counter human and drug trafficking. Specialized units target organized crime, cybersecurity, and environmental crime, focusing on criminals operating in mainland France and overseas territories. France also provides legal, psychological, and medical support to victims, though resources are limited.

In addition to tackling organized crime, France is committed to fighting corruption with the help of two independent oversight bodies and anti-money-laundering measures. France's strategy prioritizes international collaboration, legal reform, and community-based programs to enhance security and prevent organized crime [4].

Canada confronts similar challenges, with organized crime involving human trafficking, drug smuggling, arms trafficking, cybercrime, and money laundering. Indigenous women and foreign workers are particularly vulnerable to exploitation by organized crime networks engaged in a variety of illicit activities. Smuggling across the U.S.-Canada border, counterfeit goods, and financial crimes related to weak transparency in beneficial ownership are also pressing issues.

In response, Canada has developed a comprehensive legislative framework and maintains partnerships with the U.S. and China to tackle transnational trafficking and smuggling. Canada's government enforces stringent anti-money laundering policies, requiring financial institutions and professionals to report suspicious transactions. Initiatives such as a five-year national awareness program on human trafficking and expanded support for victims underscore Canada's commitment to tackling organized crime. Canada also emphasizes cybersecurity, establishing dedicated cybercrime units to respond to growing online threats.

Joint multi-agency operations in Canada combat organized crime, although funding limitations sometimes restrict the reach of these initiatives. Border security has been enhanced through the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, granting Canadian customs authorities more power to seize counterfeit goods and monitor cross-border trafficking. Canada has integrated civil society efforts, providing victim support services, fostering public-private partnerships, and raising awareness through national campaigns. However, the lack of a unified national strategy on organized crime remains a gap. Despite these challenges, Canada continues to engage internationally to address the expanding scope of organized crime and to reinforce its enforcement and preventive measures [5].

The experiences of various countries in combating crime highlight the importance of international cooperation, preventive strategies, and adaptable frameworks in addressing diverse and evolving criminal threats. Each nation's approach, from intelligence sharing and targeted interventions to legislative measures and public engagement, reflects the complexity of transnational crime. These varied strategies provide valuable insights into crafting comprehensive policies that can be tailored to meet specific national needs, with the overarching goal of fostering safer and more secure societies.

Список використаних джерел

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