

- control of pet owners regarding their mandatory vaccination.

However, municipal guards have fewer powers than the national police. Municipal security cannot make arrests or conduct investigative actions, but they are authorized to issue fines for certain offenses. In terms of special equipment, municipal security officers are authorized to carry and use the following equipment: rubber batons, handcuffs, tear gas, and stun guns. Officers patrolling the streets do not have weapons.

Unlike the national police, the municipal police do not deal with criminal cases, but they do assist in collecting evidence and protecting crime scenes from unauthorized persons.

References:

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FOREIGN EXPERIENCE OF POLICE FORENSIC INVESTIGATIVE BODIES

The research relevance is determined by the need to reveal effective methods and strategies for investigating business-related criminal offences to ensure an effective fight against corruption and legal security in the economy. The study's objectives are to identify optimal strategies and tools, as well as to develop recommendations for improving legal regulation in Ukraine. The hermeneutic method, comparative legal method, and case study method were used in the study. The analysis of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, in terms of crimes in economic activity, revealed the main difficulties that exist in the investigation of economic crimes in Ukraine, such as gaps in criminal legislation and insufficient level of efficiency of investigations due to corruption of law enforcement agencies and business

representatives. An analysis of the experience of investigating criminal offences in business activities in Germany, the USA, the UK, and the Republic of Lithuania has made it possible to conclude that there are similarities and differences in the legal acts on the investigation of criminal offences in the business sphere, the structure of specialized bodies and the powers of persons involved in the investigation of such offences. This analysis helped to identify the specifics of foreign approaches to certain aspects of investigations, such as anti-corruption bodies and financial monitoring. The effectiveness of investigation systems in other countries is significantly different, as they have more systematic legislation, and a clear structure of law enforcement agencies and special agencies dealing exclusively with economic crimes, which in turn increases the percentage of solving the relevant crimes. The author suggests possible ways to improve the legislation and practice of investigating relevant crimes. The research on this topic brings new approaches and practical conclusions to science, contributing to the improvement of investigation strategies strengthening the legal framework for combating economic crime and increasing the effectiveness of law enforcement measures in the context of the business sector.

A united front

Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, European states showed immediate solidarity for Ukraine. In contrast to their arguably more indifferent response to the annexation of the Crimea and Donbas regions in 2014, European states have collectively demonstrated their unwavering support for Ukraine by supplying arms and other military assistance (an unprecedented move at the time for the EU), and providing billions of euros in financial, humanitarian and emergency aid to Ukraine.

In addition, European countries implemented restrictive financial measures on Russia, such as freezing and seizing the assets of Russian oligarchs, suspending a number of Russian financial institutions from the SWIFT banking system, banning the import of certain goods from Russia and closing EU airspace, seaports and roads to Russian vehicles.

While European countries, together with their international counterparts, continue to provide humanitarian aid, either in kind or through funding, to address the short-term effects of the war, EU member states are also working with Ukraine to rebuild the country's infrastructure and to restore its shrunken economy through substantial financial aid. This was reaffirmed at the second iteration of the Ukraine Recovery Conference, hosted by the United Kingdom on 21–22 June 2023, where further commitments were made by individual states as well as a push by European countries to encourage private sector engagement and investment in Ukraine.

A path to follow

Although in the early stages of the war resources were primarily allocated to humanitarian and military assistance, cross-border law enforcement cooperation has since been prioritized to tackle both existing and emerging criminal markets. In this respect, European countries have broadened the scope of their cooperation by working closely with Ukrainian officials to mitigate certain criminal markets exacerbated by the war, including arms and human trafficking. Immediately after the war started, a joint anti-trafficking plan was implemented to prevent human trafficking and to identify and assist victims of trafficking in cooperation with the Ukrainian authorities and international organizations. European countries and Europol have also been working with their Ukrainian counterparts and have set up special centres to reduce arms trafficking in the region following the proliferation of arms and ammunition amassing in Ukraine.

European states are also committed to assisting Ukraine in the areas of judicial reform, and strengthening the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms. The EU Anti-Corruption Initiative has continued to work closely with its Ukrainian counterparts to ensure that the country's recovery is transparent and that Ukraine's history of corruption in the public sector does not interfere with this process.

These initiatives show that European countries are willing to go the extra mile by extending their cooperation beyond direct aid to the war-torn country and its victims. While these efforts were not isolated, with other countries such as the United States making significant contributions and working with Ukraine and the EU to help the country, the united approach of the European continent has been unparalleled. European countries have shown unexpected resilience and solidarity by cooperating with each other, with other countries and with Ukraine, demonstrating that they have the tools and mechanisms for effective international cooperation that can be called upon in times of urgent need. This cooperation should serve as an example in the multilateral response to organized crime and of how to achieve more tangible and lasting results – especially at a time when the multilateral coalitions we have so long taken for granted are disintegrating.

References:

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