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PECULIARITIES OF POLICE ACTIVITY UNDER MARTIAL LAW

The introduction of martial law significantly transforms the legal, organizational, and practical foundations of police activity. In such

conditions, the police become one of the key actors ensuring public security, protecting critical infrastructure, supporting military forces, and maintaining social stability. Their role expands beyond traditional law-enforcement functions and acquires features that require enhanced coordination, rapid response and adherence to both national and international humanitarian norms. Understanding the peculiarities of police work during martial law is essential for evaluating challenges, identifying operational priorities, and ensuring the lawful implementation of extraordinary security measures [1; 2].

Under martial law, police activities are regulated by special legal provisions, primarily the Law of Ukraine “On the Legal Regime of Martial Law” and the Law “On the National Police” [1; 3]. These laws grant police expanded powers, including identity checks, inspections of vehicles and premises, enforcement of curfews, and detention of individuals suspected of threatening national security. Despite this expansion, police actions must remain proportionate and lawful, complying with constitutional rights and international standards [2]. The balance between security and civil liberties becomes a central challenge.

A hallmark of police activity during martial law is intensified cooperation with the Armed Forces, Territorial Defence Forces, the Security Service of Ukraine, and emergency services [4]. Joint patrols, intelligence sharing, securing military convoys, and protection of critical infrastructure require clear operational coordination and division of responsibilities to avoid overlap or conflict.

Martial law increases risks of looting, sabotage, disinformation, and other wartime crimes. The police must prevent and respond to such offences while maintaining community trust. Key priorities include:

- 1) enforcement of curfews;
- 2) protection of evacuation routes and civilian shelters;
- 3) prevention of looting and property crimes;
- 4) detection of sabotage groups;
- 5) countering misinformation [5].

Even under martial law, the police must respect international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions [2]. They are responsible for preventing unlawful detentions, ensuring human treatment of detainees, and protecting vulnerable groups such as displaced persons, children, and victims of war-related crimes.

Ensuring accountability is essential to preventing abuses and maintaining public legitimacy [6]. Police effectiveness during martial law depends heavily on public cooperation. Transparent communication, assistance to civilians, evacuation support, and humanitarian engagement strengthen public trust. Community-oriented policing principles remain relevant even in wartime conditions [7]. Martial law creates an environment of high operational stress. Police face shortages of personnel and equipment, increased workloads, damaged infrastructure, and high psychological pressure [5]. Addressing these challenges requires logistical support, continuous training, and psychological assistance. Police increasingly rely on technological solutions such as drones, surveillance tools, digital communication systems, and data-driven risk assessment models [6]. These innovations enhance situational awareness and operational efficiency in dynamic wartime environments.

Police activity under martial law is characterized by expanded powers, intensified cooperation with military structures, and heightened responsibility for internal security. Despite extraordinary circumstances, police must uphold legality, human rights, and professional ethics. Their ability to adapt directly influences national resilience and public safety [3; 6].

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STANDARDS AND PRACTICES OF DIGITAL FORENSICS: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NIST, ISO, AND ENFSI GUIDELINES FOR ENSURING THE ADMISSIBILITY OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE

Digital forensics has become increasingly relevant in today's society due to the rapid growth of cybercrime, the proliferation of digital devices, and the critical role of electronic evidence in legal proceedings. The relevance of this topic lies in the need to ensure that digital evidence is reliable, scientifically validated, and legally admissible, particularly in contexts where incorrect or incomplete analysis may compromise justice. The purpose of this study is to analyze international standards and best practices in digital forensics, identify their strengths and limitations, and propose recommendations for their implementation in national forensic practice to enhance the credibility and admissibility of digital evidence.

Modern digital forensics operates at the intersection of technical, legal, and methodological requirements, and therefore relies on international standards that ensure the reliability and admissibility of digital evidence in court. The report NIST IR 8354 "Digital Investigation Techniques" emphasizes that digital methods are based on well-established principles of computer science, yet they possess inherent limitations related to data incompleteness, loss of artifacts, and the possibility of obtaining fragmented or partially corrupted information [1, pp. 9–10]. These considerations highlight the need for scientific validation of forensic tools, as well as the documentation of