

7) switching air smuggling routes to avoid the southeast area; and (8) filing a flight plan for a U.S. airport and, at the last minute, deviating from the plan to quickly unload the drugs [3].

#### **Список використаних джерел**

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### **FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME IN EUROPE**

This report attempts to provide an overview of the situation of organized crime in Europe, drawing on official and academic sources.

Since the late 1980s, organized crime has become a hot topic in public debate and in the political and scientific agenda all over Europe. To control organized crime, far-reaching legal and institutional reforms have been passed in all European states and special instruments have been adopted by all major international organizations, ranging from the European Union to the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

First of all, I want to give the definition of the term “organized crime”. The most common definition is that organized crime – a category of transnational, national, or local groupings of highly centralized enterprises run by criminals to engage in illegal activity, most commonly for profit. Some criminal organizations, such as terrorist groups, are politically motivated. We can find at least three different notions about the nature of organized crime. One view holds that organized crime is primarily about “crime”. According to another view, the emphasis is on “organized”. It is not so important what offenders do, but how they are linked to each other. Finally, there is a view that organized crime does not have to do primarily with specific forms of criminal activities or specific collective forms of crime, but with the concentration of power.

The second important question I’d like to discuss is organized criminal activities in Europe. For Europe as a whole the Council of Europe “Organized Crime Situation Report” lists the following crime categories: trafficking in drugs, trafficking in human beings, smuggling of persons, cybercrime (including online fraud schemes), money laundering, and “other activities” (including extortion, property crimes and smuggling), with economic crimes, mainly encompassing fraud and tax fraud, receiving special attention in a separate section. One of the significant features of the

European crime landscape is that certain criminal activities link particular countries and regions within Europe and also Europe with other parts of the world. One significant facet is the East-West dimension connecting former Soviet Bloc and Balkan countries (and also transition and developing countries outside Europe) with the older Member States of the European Union in such diverse areas of crime as trafficking in stolen motor vehicles, cigarette smuggling, serial burglary, so-called ram raids, and product piracy. It must be noted, however, that the fall of the Iron Curtain has not only created opportunities for the victimization of Western countries by criminals from the East. Apart from the fact that Western Europe is a major source of synthetic drugs for the world market, there are a number of areas of crime, such as child pornography and child prostitution, human trafficking, organ trafficking, trafficking in plundered antiquities, trafficking in endangered plants and species, and illegal waste disposal, where criminal victimization originates in Western Europe.

Organized crime is a threat to European citizens, businesses, state institutions as well as the economy as a whole. Criminals easily operate across borders, which creates a need for consistent European-level action. The EU continuously adapts its response in relation to the growing complexity of the situation. This is also reflected in the development of specialized EU agencies, such as Europol, Eurojust and CEPOL. These agencies take following actions in fight against organized crime:

1. Trafficking in human beings for whatever purpose – sexual or labour exploitation – and the sexual exploitation of children, including child pornography, are despicable crimes affecting the most vulnerable citizens.

2. Large-scale attacks against information systems and various other forms of cybercrime.

3. Modern financial crimes, including tax fraud, identity theft, money laundering and outright corruption.

4. The EU's action to fight drugs is closely connected to the fight against organized crime and to the high-level protection of health.

Operational activities, such as pursuing and prosecuting criminals, remain the responsibility of EU States. The Commission's objective is to assist EU States in fighting organized crime more effectively. The EU's action extends from crime prevention to law enforcement and is based on various tools, such as legislative measures, harmonizing rules concerning offences in relation to a criminal organization, the gathering of reliable crime statistics and the funding of European projects or specialist networks.

#### **Список використаних джерел**

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