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### **CORRUPTION AS A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY**

Corruption exists in all countries, but in different proportions, at different levels, it has a specific nature of its origin. In Ukraine, corruption does not exist – it flourishes [3, p. 1–2]. The link between the legal and illegal economy provides a mechanism for the functioning of the latter. One of the most important phenomena of the transmission mechanism between the shadow and the official economy (public administration) is corruption – the activities of persons authorized to perform the functions of the state, aimed at unlawful use of their powers to obtain material goods, services, benefits or other benefits [4].

Corruption to one degree or another exists in any economic and political system. In democratic or authoritarian societies, corruption, like shadow activity, is a secondary phenomenon that does not significantly affect the general level of government. However, with total shadowing of economic processes, corruption can turn into a structure-forming element of public administration.

As individual encyclopedic dictionaries testify, the word «corruption» comes from the Latin «corruption», which means «corruption», «corruption», that is, it can be interpreted as the corruption of individual officials of the state apparatus, as «social corrosion» that «eats away» the state power and society as a whole [2, p. 1]. Corruption is a complex social phenomenon that negatively affects all aspects of the political and socio-economic development of society and the state. It consists in both illegal actions (inaction) and unethical (immoral, moral) actions. Corruption can be defined as a complex social (and in fact asocial, immoral and illegal) phenomenon that arises in the process of exercising power relations by authorized persons using the power given to them to satisfy personal interests (interests of third parties), as well as to create conditions for the implementation of corruption actions, concealment of these actions and assistance to them [2, p. 2]. Corruption is illegal activity, which consists in the use by officials of their rights and official opportunities for personal enrichment; venality and venality of public and political figures [3, p. 1–2].

The fight against corruption and bribery is associated with the solution of the following main tasks: 1) reducing the number of so-called «bribe-intensive» functions of state administration (issuing permits, licenses, certificates, etc.); 2) a clear legislative definition of the procedures

for making management decisions; 3) ensuring the transparency of decision-making through competitions, tenders, etc.; 4) increasing criminal liability for corruption, etc. [2, p. 5]. A number of specialists are trying to classify corruption by subjecting this phenomenon to a certain structuring. In our time, there are four main types of it: 1) bribery in trade associated with the functioning of the black market, illegal financial and property transactions, tax evasion, falsification of financial documents; 2) the patronage system, which arises, as a rule, when the implementation of illegal transactions is concentrated in the hands of a limited number of individuals or organizations. The figures who control the patronage systems try to monopolize power up to the establishment of full control over the activities of the legitimate government; 3) nepotism (friendship or nepotism) leads to the emergence of unfair large concessions when concluding transactions, the appointment of relatives to key positions in the management system, preferential purchase of property, access to hard currencies, and the like; 4) crisis corruption – the work of a large number of businessmen in conditions of risk, when decisions of official bodies that can lead to large political shifts or changes in the country (government guarantees to investors, the privatization process) become the subject of sale and purchase.

The presence and prosperity of all four types of corruption in Ukraine is evidence that Ukrainian corruption is systemic. This is in contrast to developed countries, where corruption of ten affects only one constituent part of politics – an influential party or a political party, for example. Ukraine, on the other hand, is less protected (on the border with complete insecurity, which is a conscious and provoked) system of institutions and security organizations», which all own the majority of those who» have access to a corrupt body», to use it for survival, and the privileged minority to continue their enrichment [1, p. 3–4].

It is possible to significantly reduce the corruption opportunities of officials not only through changes in legislation. Many innovations, according to experts from the Center for Political and Legal Reforms, are quite realistic to introduce without changing laws. This requires only the will of the heads of self-government bodies. It is possible to destroy the corruption opportunities of officials by minimizing their contacts with citizens who prepare or make decisions. This can be achieved through the use of postal communication and e-mail, the creation of unified offices where citizens can submit all documents at once, the order of queues, increasing the hours of reception of officials, improving the information of citizens through the creation of information services and electronic resources with a detailed list of all services and their procedures. provision, introduction of a mechanism for paying fines through banking institutions, and not on-site inspection by inspectors. On its electronic portal, the city authorities plan to introduce online consultation of residents and the acceptance of their applications via the Internet.

At the same time, the applicant will be able to find out which of the officials at a certain moment is considering his request and when he can

receive an answer. In the meantime, we can state that today all these innovations are being introduced very slowly in Ukraine, so everyone can significantly reduce corruption risks for themselves by studying in detail the procedure for providing the desired service from the state. «The best way to fight corruption on a personal level is knowledge. The more a person knows the legislation, the mechanisms for solving a certain issue, the more he will be protected from corruption» [5]. In each area of manifestation of the shadow economy, it is necessary to look for different ways of shading, because the specificity of each industry does not allow everything to be reduced to a standard interpretation. Thus, the business sector needs to be legalized by improving the taxation system, in the extractive industry it is necessary to carry out transparent distribution of special permits and licenses to carry out activities, in the payment of wages to employees – to eliminate disparities in wages and introduce tax differentiation. Therefore, it is necessary to create conditions for the legalization of the shadow sector and the elimination of corrupt state structures at all levels of government [6; 7]. It is necessary to de-shadow the economy, aimed at overcoming the phenomenon of corruption through a system of administrative, organizational and legal measures. An effective strategy for shading the economy will help raise the national economy to a qualitatively new level.

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