

## **FIGHT AGAINST CRIMES: EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE**

Crime has today become one of the most serious problems in the world. It poses a threat to the development and security of states. Numerous criminal groups carry out their activities internationally, and consider state borders not as barriers, but as commercial opportunities. Therefore, the prevention of crime is a priority task of the states. This is reflected in the unification within the UN framework, its specialized agencies, international non-governmental organizations, the efforts, political will and resources of the states to jointly combat transnational crime, especially in its appearance, such as economic crime.

Under conditions of global integration trends, technological and social progress achieved by mankind in the last decades of the XX century, crime acquires new forms. At its disposal now there are enormous strength and financial resources, the latest advances in science and technology. New types of crimes are emerging, especially in the economic sphere, such as computer, information, banking crimes, for which there are no national borders, and experience of dealing with them in the international community as a whole, and in a separate state, yet insufficient.

These days previously known crimes of an international character such as smuggling, corruption, counterfeiting, money laundering, etc. Are getting greater and more sophisticated.

Crimes committed in the economic sphere at the national and international levels, in aggregate, began to occupy a leading place (after narcotic crime) in the total number of crimes of international character.

If earlier, three decades ago, we could say and say that the fight against crimes committed at the national level in the economic sphere was largely the prerogative of the national forces and law enforcement agencies, but now this struggle requires the efforts of the international community, since the consequences of these crimes, their end result manifests itself behind national boundaries.

Today, no one, even the most powerful state, is in a position to effectively counter transnational crime. Wide international cooperation is needed - International organizations, especially the United Nations, are called upon to play an important role in combining and coordinating the efforts of countries in combating transnational crime, including in the economic sphere, at the national and international levels.

One of the most respected and influential organizations that pays much attention to the problems of combating international crime is the United Nations. According to its Statute, various aspects of this issue are constantly considered by the General Assembly and ECOSOC. In its work on the prevention of crime and criminal justice, the United Nations pursues its goals: prevention of crime in the territory of States and at the interstate level; control of crime, both at the national and interstate level; strengthening regional and international cooperation in crime prevention, criminal justice and combating transnational crime; coordination and consolidation of the efforts of the UN member states in preventing and combating transnational crime; improving the efficiency of the work of justice, respect for human rights in relation to victims of crimes and all persons involved in the criminal justice system; promoting the achievement of high standards of humanity, justice and professionalism.

In order to provide a forum for policy statement and promotion of the organization's activities in the field of crime prevention, the General Assembly in 1950 sanctioned the convening of the UN Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders every five years. As a result of the congresses, a number of important international instruments, guidelines and standards that the state should follow in the administration of justice has been prepared and adopted. These documents relate to both the promotion of human rights in the field of justice and the organization of the activities of criminal justice bodies. Cooperation of States in the field of criminal justice is usually carried out on a contractual basis. One of the basic provisions of these treaties is to ensure the inevitability of punishment for committing a crime, preventing and combating crime, and humane treatment of offenders.

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is the functional body of ECOSOC, whose functions include: development of the United Nations guidelines in this area, monitoring and review of the implementation of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program, assistance and assistance in coordinating the activities of regional and interregional institutions. The main activities of the Commission are organized and economic crime, including money laundering, protection of the environment by criminal-law measures, etc.

One of the ECOSOC functional commissions is the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which deals with the objectives of the treaties and the implementation of their provisions, and provides the Council with recommendations for the control of narcotic and psychotropic substances.

In order to increase the effectiveness of the UN drug control agencies, the UN Program on Drug Control (IPPC) was adopted in 1990, which plays the role of a center for sharing experiences and information on issues related to controlling narcotic and psychotropic substances and developing recommendations for further actions and technical assistance to governments. In 1991, the General Assembly established the UN Fund for the implementation of the International Program on Drug Control.

The main task of the UN Secretariat for crime prevention is to assist in collecting information on measures taken by States in relation to crime prevention and combating; promoting the dissemination of UN information in this area, which may be of interest to Member States. Within the framework of the Secretariat, a Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs has been set up, with the Department for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Through its activities, the Center is the main unit of the United Nations system, which has professional and technical expertise in crime prevention, criminal justice, and criminology.

Cooperation of States in the field of crime prevention is also carried out within the framework of specialized UN agencies. For example, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) are working hard to establish international legal standards aimed at ensuring the safety of navigation and international air traffic from unlawful interference, the World Health Organization is engaged in medical aspects of the fight with drug addiction. Regional organizations - CE, EU, OSCE, CIS, OAS, LAD, OAE, and others also have organizational and legal mechanisms for coordinating the efforts of Member States in the fight against international crime. For example, within the framework of the Council of Europe: 1) the European Convention on the Extradition of Offenders (1957), the Additional Protocols to it (1975 and 1978) (Ukraine ratified the documents in 1998); 2) European Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (1959) and the Additional Protocol thereto (1978) (ratified by Ukraine in 1998); 3) Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime (1990), etc.