

*Кононенко В., курсант 2-го курсу  
Національної академії внутрішніх  
справ  
Консультант з мови: Богуцький В. М.*

**OVERVIEW OF CURRENT AND PROPOSED  
DEVELOPMENTS  
IN ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGIES IN CENTRAL AND  
EASTERN EUROPE**

The tremendous political, economic and social changes in Central and Eastern Europe brought about a substantially altered phenomenology of crime and consequently the appreciation that societies are confronted with new problems. The efforts in fighting corruption in the region consist of very intensive and dynamic legislative activities.

This is reflected in the recent intensive activity on national anti-corruption legislation of a preventive and repressive nature in almost all the countries. In Estonia specific anti-corruption legislation contained the definition of corruption and an extensive list of holders of public offices who might be held liable. The provisions of this law also offer new investigative options and special extraordinary investigative measures in corruption cases.

Poland enacted in succession some Acts that paved the way for new methods of investigating corruption cases by enabling the

penetration of corrupt circles and utilizing operational information during trials.

The Czech Republic has an interesting definition of corruption: an act that endangers and affects the general public interest not only in relation to legislative, executive and judicial decision-making processes but also including other activities in cultural, social and other "public" spheres. Therefore, the notion of "public figure" does not only include personnel in governmental, legislative and judicial structures, but also office holders in selfgoverning bodies.

Bulgaria adopted a Law on special reconnaissance that should widen the list of investigative measures envisaged in the Criminal Procedural Law.

All the countries have modified their substantive criminal and administrative law provisions relating to the complex issue of corruption.

In criminal law, the main changes were targeted towards sanctioning policy, the insertion of new modalities of crimes related to corruption, with a tendency to enlarge the notions of public interest and the holders of public positions that should be covered by preventive and repressive measures against corruption. In a profoundly new situation, the legislator introduced a much broader definition of the actors of bribery; in Romania, "any person occupying a function within a public body or a private and state owned commercial firm or institution, who uses his real or presumed influence upon other employees, in order to gain profit for himself or for others"; in Hungary, "an employee or member of a state organ, economic or social organization"; in Estonia, "officials in agencies or institutions in charge of taking decisions relating to the delivery of state property, and property of local self-managing bodies or public legal persons or members of Boards of Directors in these entities; clerks in public non-profit associations whose position enables them to obtain undue rewards; a similar approach is adopted in the Czech Republic.

The legislators in those countries that have developed a broader approach towards anti-corruption strategies do not rely

mainly on the deterrent effects of harsh punishments, but rather on more elaborated preventive and innovative approaches in organizational, administrative and civil law legislation, accompanied by improvements in the existing instruments for detection, and other corruption-related control measures.

The new problems encountered in fighting corruption in the new social and economic circumstances in Eastern and Central Europe have brought about legislative innovations. These legislative novelties in the substantial penal law of most of the countries are accompanied by modifications in the procedural rules that provide for more effective detection and investigation of corruption cases and other forms of organized crime.

It is hoped that the new initiatives for more effective coordination and exchange of experience will contribute greatly towards transforming this perspective into reality.

#### **Список використаних джерел:**

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