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## **COMBATING ORGANIZED CRIME. FOREIGN EXPERIENCE**

Organized crime is the most complex and dangerous antisocial phenomenon that has no state borders and the scale of which poses a real threat to the state and society. The very concept of "organized crime" is interpreted differently in different sources, but it remains unchanged that it is a group activity of persons who extract or control territories and markets, internal and external, through violence, intimidation or corruption. In the process of criminal evolution, organized crime has got immune to traditional crime prevention, investigation, justice and punishment systems.

There are now two ways to combat organized crime that show good results, taken alone or in combination, complementing each other. These solutions are "prevention" and "proactive tactics".

Two approaches for preventing and combating organized crime are distinguished: in the first case, prevention of organized crime is carried out by law enforcement agencies in general, without the creation of special bodies designed to prevent organized crime. In the second case, specialized bodies are created.

Some European countries and US use the second approach to increase the effectiveness of organized crime activities.

In the UK, for example, there is the SOCA (Serious Organized Crime Agency), which focuses on:

- 1) raising public awareness of organized crime;
- 2) an increase in the amount of refunds obtained illegally;
- 3) increasing the threat to organized crime groups in the UK through worked out operational and investigative actions, as well as introducing new ways of combating this phenomenon. [1]

In Italy, in order to strengthen the fight against organized crime, the Parliament of the country has established a special General Council on

Organized Crime, as well as the District offices to struggle against Organized Crime and Mafia Departments.

Also, every six months, the Minister of the Interior reports to Parliament on the work done. An annual report by the Minister of Parliament on the full range of organized crime issues is also foreseen. This gives the people and the leadership of the country a clear vision of the results of the activities of all departments. [2]

The task of combating organized crime is, in one way or another, entrusted to federal law enforcement agencies, which number is more than seventy in the United States. In the complex multi-entity system of US federal law enforcement agencies, there are several major ministries that play a leading role in the fight against organized crime in the country:

- 1) The Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- 2) State Attorneys' Office (prosecutor's office);
- 3) A Grand Jury.

In addition, the United States Government has created a Shock Force under the Organized Crime Program. The main task of the "Storm troops", under the overall guidance of the US Department of Justice and in close contact with state law enforcement, is to identify organized crime groups. [3]

A Central Bureau of Investigation was set up in Poland in 2000 that mainly deals with three directions:

- 1) combating organized crime and illegal activities that contribute to its prosperity (arms trade, explosive devices, extortion, etc.);
- 2) crimes related to drug trafficking (production, smuggling, distribution);
- 3) economic crimes (money laundering, fraud, corruption).

So, as we can see in the example of the above states, the use of the unconventional method of preventing organized crime is becoming more widespread in Western Ukrainian countries. Creating a separate, specialized body that is not purely punitive but has prevention functions is the choice Ukraine must make in order to effectively combat organized crime. We should also not forget about international cooperation with organizations such as Interpol, Europol, etc., because working closely with these organizations we will be able to increase the efficiency of our work and gain even more experience in cases related to organized crime.

#### ***Список використаних джерел***

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