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## **ABROAD EXPERIENCE OF POLICE WORK IN ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN**

**Actuality of theme.** Analysis of such a complex issue in scope, importance and content as ensuring the rights and freedoms of the least protected and vulnerable stratum of society - children, definitely requires consideration of foreign developments, because the study of foreign experience contributes to the expansion of our ideas about the legal phenomena under investigation, helps to look at one or another the problem from a different point of view, to compare one's own achievements with the achievements of foreign colleagues, not to waste time on solving problems that have already been solved on the pages of foreign publications.

The study of the foreign experience of the organization and activities of the police in the field of ensuring the rights and freedoms of the child is complicated by the fact that a significant part of the powers exercised by the National Police in Ukraine are assigned to the competence of civil bodies and services in some of the mentioned countries, and in some countries they are exercised by the police in conjunction with non-police bodies and institutions.

The purpose of the work is to study the activities of the police of foreign countries in the field of ensuring the rights and freedoms of the child in order to evaluate its effectiveness and introduce the most valuable developments on the national soil.

The system of bodies and institutions endowed with special competence in the field of children's rights in the USA operates on the basis of the principles of: an individual approach to each child; application of special procedures for criminal prosecution of a child who is in conflict with the law; existence of the institute of state guardians; the priority of the function of helping, rather than punishing, the delinquent child; implementation of selected influence measures with the participation of the public; broad involvement of social services and volunteers in preventive work in the child's environment [1, p. 207].

In general, work with children or minors to ensure their rights and freedoms is carried out by the US police within the framework of: 1) general social legislation, the norms of which are aimed at supporting childhood and carrying out protective work with minors; 2) legislation regulating the juvenile justice system. Thus, according to the first option,

the US police actually appears as a system of social protection bodies of the country's population, in particular, the children's population. In the USA, much attention is paid to protective work with children who have left home and the homeless: shelters and hostels operate, individual and group counseling, conversations with parents are held with the aim of returning the child to the family; assistance is provided to families reunified with children, etc. The legal status of a child is taken quite seriously in the USA. Yes, in the state, a pregnant woman and her unborn child are legally two separate subjects, and if the expectant mother leads a lifestyle harmful to her future child, then law enforcement agencies can forcibly isolate her in order to prevent the use of drugs, alcohol or smoking [2, p. 63–64].

Ensuring the rights and freedoms of the child is also extremely important in the process of the police performing its direct functions, which is evident in the US juvenile justice system. Its origin is connected with the creation in 1899 in the city of Chicago of the world's first «children's court», which tried cases involving minors. The development of juvenile justice in the USA «in a modern way» took place in the 60s of the XX century. It was then that the juvenile rehabilitation model began to be fully implemented.

The activities of the British police in the field of protection of the rights and freedoms of children are carried out on the basis of the Statute of the British Police (1996); Statute on Protection of Public Order (1986); Statute on the Protection of Children (1986); the Law on Children and Adolescents (1969); Police and Criminal Evidence Act (1984); Law on Child Support (1991), etc.

The British police have wide discretionary powers in the area of administrative jurisdiction over offenses committed by children and offenses against children's rights, as well as powers to prosecute child offenders. In particular, the Law on Police and Criminal Evidence (1984) provides for the right of a constable to detain a minor in cases: 1) when the minor's last name is unknown, and the policeman himself cannot establish it; 2) when there are good reasons to doubt that the surname indicated by the minor is his own surname; 3) when the police officer is not satisfied with the minor's information about his address; 4) when there are good reasons to believe that the arrest is necessary to prevent further illegal actions of the minor; 5) when there are reasons to believe that the arrest of a minor will protect children or other «vulnerable persons» [3, p. 73].

The main principle of administrative and legal regulation of the activities of the UK police in the field of combating domestic violence is the principle of "zero tolerance" to the latter. Police officers who arrive on a domestic violence call are required to detain a person who has committed violence against a child, even if there are no witnesses. The law provides for criminal liability for domestic violence against a child. It is legally determined that court decisions in cases of domestic violence against children are made in the shortest possible time.

The Law of the Republic of Poland on combating crimes in the family guarantees every child and family member assistance in the event of violence against them and provides for prompt response to such facts. The police and social services are entrusted with the implementation of operational actions, the content of which is: 1) removal of the perpetrator, who committed violence against the child, from the common premises; 2) making a decision to issue a protective order (protective order), which prohibits the aggressor from taking certain actions or, on the contrary, requires him to take certain actions; 3) submission of the decision on punishment to the public in general order; 4) in certain cases, removal of a child who is being abused from the family and transfer to a «temporary» family until the court makes a decision on further actions [4].

**Conclusions.** Emphasizing the importance and usefulness of further study of the issue of ensuring the rights and freedoms of children by the police of foreign countries as a whole, with the aim of improving the administrative and legal status of the NP of Ukraine in the specified area, we consider it relevant to use relevant foreign experience in the following areas: 1) formation of a mechanism for the interaction of the police with non-police bodies and institutions in children's affairs; 2) the involvement of public law enforcement formations in the performance of police tasks to ensure the rights and freedoms of the child.

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