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GENERAL APPROACHES IN COMBATING TERRORISM IN THE USA

Terrorism is a type of crime that has 2 forms: international and domestic. International terrorism - violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups who are inspired by, or associated with, designated foreign terrorist organizations or nations (state-sponsored). Domestic terrorism- violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups to further ideological goals stemming from domestic influences, such as those of a political, religious, social, racial, or environmental nature.

There are many factors that contribute to the development of crimes in the field of terrorism. Individuals are often radicalized online and quickly mobilized for violence. Without clear group affiliation or leadership, lone criminals are difficult to identify, investigate and prosecute. International and domestic violent extremists have developed an extensive presence on the Internet through messaging platforms and online images, videos, and publications.

A vital component to prevent and counter terrorism is cooperation between countries across borders. For example, sharing real-time information, exchanging evidence and witness statements, or requests for extradition. Most of the proceedings on terrorism are related to the cross-border element - there is the recruitment of militants, the purchase of weapons and explosives, communication between cells.

When countering terrorism, States are required to respect international human rights. Further, counter-terrorism measures that violate human rights are counterproductive. They may provoke additional acts of terrorism, undermine the effectiveness of law enforcement, and restrict effective international legal cooperation.

In the USA, an Patriot act USA was adopted, which provides that law enforcement agencies and special services are allowed to disclose to each other official and secret information related to the criminal prosecution of persons suspected of terrorism.

Law enforcement agencies can now obtain a court warrant for roving wiretap, which gives the right to use electronic means to listen to the conversations of the subject of surveillance from all telephone devices during his movement.

Also, in order to prevent the commission of terrorism, it was allowed to expand the possibility of electronic surveillance of persons suspected of terrorism, at the same time: the list of data that the provider must provide at the request of law enforcement agencies was increased, the official procedure for using special devices for secretly collecting information in computer networks has been simplified.

It was stipulated that the conduct of "secret" searches by law enforcement and intelligence agencies without notifying the suspect of their conduct.

Also, the Prosecutor General has the opportunity to turn to the Ministry of Defense on issues related to terrorism, so that in the event of this crime, the troops will be auxiliary forces.

The US anti-terrorism system is characterized by a developed legal framework that fully ensures the functioning of law enforcement and intelligence agencies in this area. Anti-terrorist legislation is constantly being used and improved, and the system of state actors to counter terrorism is extensive, properly financed and effectively coordinated by special interagency bodies. The US anti-terrorist system fully meets its strategic goals: preventing terrorist acts, limiting the use of mass-use weapons for terrorist purposes, preventing any aid and financing of terrorism, and creating obstacles for terrorist organizations to establish control over certain territories.

Reference:

1. What We Investigate. URL: www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism.

2. Terrorism prevention branch. URL: www.unodc.org/unodc/en/terrorism/index.html.

3. USA Patriot Act. URL: www.fincen.gov/resources/statutes-regulations/usa-patriot-act.

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US POLICE OFFICERS' TRAINING AND SERVICE TRAITS

Police training in the U.S. is most often measured in weeks, while in many other countries it is measured in months or years.

A 2018 Justice Department Study of State and Local Law Enforcement Training Academies found that the average length of core basic police training in the U.S. is 833 hours, or less than 22 weeks. A more recent survey by PERF found a similar result, with responding agencies reporting an average of 20 weeks of basic police training.

In comparison, police recruits in Japan get between 15 and 21 months of training. Police in Germany get 2.5 years of training. And in Finland, police education takes three years to be completed.

U.S. law enforcement agencies do often provide additional training for police on the job who serve in specialized police units such as narcotics squads and violent crime suppression teams. But in Memphis, it was one of those special units -- Street Crimes Operation to Restore Peace in Our Neighborhood, or SCORPION -- whose members are accused of fatally beating Nichols during a traffic stop arrest. The unit has now been deactivated following Nichols' death.

A 2020 study by the University of Cincinnati looked at the impact of a training program focused on de-escalation and critical thinking skills in the Louisville Metro Police Department in Kentucky. The program, called Integrated Communications, Assessment and Tactics (ICAT) was developed by PERF. University of Cincinnati researchers found that ICAT