

Makarenko N.K. Criminological definition of professional crime behavior of human and its study in a european scientific opinion. The article deals with analysis of the study of the problem of professional crime by European criminologists. It has been established that scientific views on professional crime, like the activity of professional criminals themselves, have historically changed.

The article discusses in chronological order the main achievements of the past in the spectrum of issues related to professional crime: its nature, features, determinants, preventive measures, etc.

Certain aspects of professional crime attracted the attention of researchers in the 17th century, but quite meaningful approaches to professional crime, its causes and preventive measures appeared in the second half of the 19th century. It was in the period of the XVII – XIX centuries that evolution was observed from the classical to the anthropological, and then the sociological approaches to the definition of professional crime.

However, there was no complete scientific methodology or system for studying the personality of a professional criminal in European scientists of the late XIX – early XX centuries. The problem of professional crime as an independent type of crime was not formulated by them. At the same time, their scientific research gave impetus to the emergence of new criminological theories and had an impact on the development of criminal legislation of the XX century.

Keywords: *biological factors, sociological approach, professional crime, criminal professionalism, crime prevention.*