

**Ihor V. Pyrih, Srhii O. Prokopov, Denys V. Vodopyan. Current requirements and state realities of combating organized crime.** The article describes in detail the concept of professional crime, its devastating impact on Ukraine's democracy, and offers suggestions on ways to identify, prevent, and stop professional crimes. The importance of the operational units of the National Police of Ukraine in the fight against professional crime in the current conditions of law enforcement reform is considered, the problems of the legislative and practical significance of the units of the criminal police are described. The modern legislation which defines the general principles and tactics of combating professional crime is analyzed and proposals for its improvement are made. Attention is drawn to the fact that, in recent times, the danger is not even the possibility of bribery of officials by criminal groups, but the gradual entry of members of criminal organizations and, even, their leaders and organizers into power structures, state administration, control and law enforcement bodies.

Another problem we have outlined above is the lack of training and lack of professional experience of law enforcement officers in the fight against organized crime. The dismantling of the Organized Crime Offices and the establishment of Strategic Investigation Departments and their subordinate departments had a mixed effect on the results of combating crime. Positive, in our opinion, is the accession to the body of experts in the detection and investigation of crimes of economic orientation, as organized crime at the present stage, as noted above, aimed at including the commission of these crimes. The negative tendency is, in our opinion, the turnover of personnel, due to the sometimes rather harsh and unfair conditions of competitive selection of candidates, the lack of individual approach to the staff with many years of work experience. One way to solve this problem is to train specialists in strategic investigations departments in universities with specific conditions of study, followed by a mandatory internship under the guidance of mentors for at least three years.

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