

Vasyl S. Berezniak, Violetta V. Rets. Application of criminal law for illegal influence on the results of official sports competitions in the era of legalization of games. The scientific article examines the issue of legal correctness of criminal law and certain rules of law, which regulates the prohibition of illegal influence on the results of official sports competitions, as well as a number of risks that may arise in connection with the legalization of gambling, including bookmaking (sports betting) as a derivative of gambling.

Criminal law is constantly updated to meet the requirements of the time. The same applies to the ban on sports betting, which contains a number of features. This study analyzes the specific risks created by the legislator during the implementation of the relevant norm.

Examining criminal liability for manipulating the results of official competitions and formulating proposals to improve the criminal law on this topic, it is clear that the legalization of gambling, and especially bookmaking, may be a question of criminal liability for participation in sports betting. It turns out that for the existence of criminal law there is no special rule that regulates the prohibition of gambling, including bookmaking. Article 369-3 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine can be prosecuted only on the grounds of influencing the results of official sports competitions and receiving benefits as a result of such acts; violation of the ban on sports betting. With the legalization of bookmaking, betting on sports will become even easier as well as avoiding further criminal liability.

The legalization of any recently banned activity is used to expand the budget replenishment, because the gambling business, like any other, must pay taxes, but it is reasonable to think that expanding the budget is not to encourage gambling, and industry development and agriculture, stimulating the economy, etc.

Keywords: *sports betting, gambling business, illegal influence on the results of official sports competitions.*