

# The essence and features of corruption as an object of administrative-legal influence

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**Abstract.** *The article emphasises that as an object of administrative and legal influence, corruption has a number of features. First, it poses a serious public danger, as it contributes to social injustice, violates the principle of the rule of law and undermines the effectiveness of public administration. Second, corruption has an inter-sectoral nature, which is manifested in its prevalence in various spheres of public life, including civil service, law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, economic activity, etc. It often covers not only the actions of individual officials but also entire organisational structures, which complicates the fight against it.*

*It has been established that corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence can be classified according to various criteria, which allows us to better understand its nature and develop effective countermeasures. Classification of corruption according to various criteria makes it possible to analyse its mechanisms and root causes, as well as develop effective administrative and legal measures to prevent and counteract this negative phenomenon.*

*It has been determined that further development of administrative and legal mechanisms to combat corruption requires improving the legislative framework, increasing the efficiency of law enforcement agencies, and forming an anti-corruption culture in society. An important aspect is the expansion of preventive measures, in particular, strengthening control over the financial transactions of officials, introducing modern electronic systems for monitoring their activities, and creating mechanisms to protect whistleblowers.*

**Key words:** *corruption, object of administrative and legal influence, essence, features (peculiarities), public administration, classification, efficiency.*

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**Problem statement.** Corruption is a complex socio-legal phenomenon, which manifests itself in the abuse of official position for personal gain or illegal advantages. It undermines the foundations of the rule of law, destroys citizens' trust in government, and creates unequal conditions for doing business and the development of society as a whole. The main manifestations of corruption include receiving or providing illegal benefits, abuse of power, use of official position for private interests, conflict of interest, illegal enrichment, etc. [1, p. 75].

**State of the study.** In domestic scientific thought, V.B. Averyanov, O.M. Bandurka, V.M. Garashchuk, M.Ya. Demyanenko, O.V. Dzhafarova, O.Yu. Drozd, V.O. Ivantsov, T.E. Kaganovska, T.A. Kobzeva, M.V. Kovaliv, A.T. Komzyuk, A.M. Kulish, O.M. Muzychuk, O.M. Reznik, O.Yu. Salmanova, L.E. Sigaeva, V.V. Sokurenko, O.V. Chorna, I.M. Shorobura and other scientists devoted their research to individual topical problems of administrative and legal support for anti-corruption activities. However, despite a considerable number of scientific achievements, scientists have actually ignored problematic issues related to understanding the essence and features of corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence in modern socio-economic conditions.

**Purpose and objectives of the study.** The purpose of the article is to form the author's understanding of the essence and features of corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to solve the following tasks: to consider the content of the object of administrative and legal influence; to investigate the features of corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence; and to establish

approaches to the classification of corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence according to various criteria.

Scientific novelty of the study. The scientific novelty of the study lies in the fact that the work examined the essence of corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence through the prism of taking into account various approaches to the classification of corruption.

Presentation of the main material. Corruption can have different interpretations depending on the context. In economic terms, corruption interferes with the fair distribution of resources and undermines economic stability. In the political context, corruption is viewed as the use of political power for personal interests, which leads to violations of the law and ineffective governance of the state. From a social point of view, corruption is a phenomenon that violates justice, reduces the level of trust in government institutions and creates a culture of irresponsibility in society [2, p. 69]. According to the legal view, corruption is considered an offence that includes such actions as obtaining undue advantage, abuse of office, falsification of documents and other illegal actions that violate the norms of the law. Finally, from a moral point of view, corruption undermines the moral principles of society and generates irresponsibility and dishonesty that harm the common good. Thus, corruption is a multifaceted phenomenon that requires a comprehensive approach to fully understand and combat it [3, p. 117].

The concept of "object of administrative and legal influence" can be interpreted in different ways, which emphasises its multifacetedness and importance in the

legal system. First, the object of legal regulation is the phenomena, processes or relations to which the norms of administrative law are directed. Such objects include both individuals and legal entities, as well as their actions and inaction. Secondly, administrative offences are also the object of administrative and legal influence since these are certain actions that violate the norms of administrative legislation and require a reaction from administrative bodies [4, p. 29].

In addition, public authorities that implement administrative functions and engage in managerial activities are objects of administrative and legal influence in the process of fulfilling their duties. Also, the object of administrative and legal influence can be social relations arising in the field of public administration, including relations between the state and citizens, enterprises, institutions and organisations.

In addition, an important component of the object of administrative-legal influence is the protection of the rights and legitimate interests of individuals and legal entities, which is regulated by administrative law. All these aspects indicate that the object of administrative-legal influence covers a wide range of relations and phenomena subject to legal regulation [5, p. 156].

It is also worth noting that the object of administrative-legal influence acts as an important tool for ensuring the effectiveness of public administration and stability in society. It underlies the influence of administrative bodies on various spheres of public life, from the economy to the environment, and the establishment of certain rules and norms that contribute to the effective functioning of the state.

Objects of administrative-legal influence can also change depending on socio-economic, political and cultural conditions. For example, in the modern world, the issues of digitalisation, personal data protection and regulation of new technologies are becoming increasingly relevant, which requires the adaptation of administrative-legal regulation. This leads to the need for constant updating of norms and rules relating to new objects of administrative and legal influence.

In general, the object of administrative and legal influence is a dynamic category that reflects not only the current needs of society but also future challenges. Not only the rule of law but also the level of citizens' trust in state institutions depends on the effectiveness of this influence. Therefore, it is important that administrative law adequately responds to changes in society and ensures a balance between the interests of the state and the rights of citizens [6, p. 269].

As an object of administrative and legal influence, corruption has a number of features. First, it poses a serious public danger, as it contributes to social injustice, violates the principle of the rule of law and undermines the effectiveness of public administration. Second, corruption has an inter-sectoral nature, which is manifested in its prevalence in various spheres of public life, including civil service, law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, economic activity, etc. It often covers not only the actions of individual officials but also entire

organisational structures, which complicates the fight against it.

Another feature is the difficulty of detecting corruption offences. Since such acts are mostly hidden and are carried out by mutual consent of the parties, their documentation and proof in court require significant efforts and special investigation methods. This necessitates the need to strengthen control over the activities of officials, the introduction of transparent decision-making mechanisms and the use of anti-corruption tools, such as financial monitoring and income declaration [7, p. 199].

Yes, corruption is a serious challenge for the state and society, and its prevention and counteraction require a comprehensive approach. Administrative and legal influence plays a key role in this process, ensuring the coherence of control mechanisms, bringing to justice and preventing corruption. An effective anti-corruption policy contributes to increasing trust in state institutions and strengthening the rule of law and the formation of an honest and transparent society.

Corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence can be classified according to various criteria, which allows us to better understand its nature and develop effective countermeasures.

By the level of prevalence, corruption is divided into domestic (petty) and systemic (large). Domestic corruption covers the illegal benefit that citizens or enterprises provide to officials to resolve everyday issues, for example, in hospitals, schools or law enforcement agencies. Systemic corruption is more extensive, as it includes corruption schemes that permeate public authorities.

By subject composition, corruption among civil servants, judicial corruption, corruption in the business environment and international corruption are distinguished. Civil servants can use their official position for personal enrichment, judges can make decisions under the influence of illicit gain, and the business environment often encounters corruption in the form of lobbying of private interests. International corruption refers to schemes involving foreign companies or states.

By the nature of the offences, corruption can be active or passive. Active corruption involves the provision of illicit gain or illegal lobbying, while passive corruption consists of receiving money for refraining from committing certain actions or abusing power [9, pp. 42-43].

By the form of manifestation, corrupt acts are divided into obtaining unlawful benefits, abuse of power, conflict of interest and financial fraud. Abuse of power is manifested in the use of an official position for personal gain, while a conflict of interest arises when an official makes decisions in their own favour or under the influence of family and other connections. Financial fraud includes the misappropriation of public funds, abuse during public procurement, etc.

By areas of public life, corruption is divided

into corruption in education, healthcare, public procurement, the activities of law enforcement agencies, etc. In the educational sphere, it manifests itself in bribery when entering universities and falsification of diplomas; in medicine, in the form of informal payments to doctors or the purchase of medicines at inflated prices. Corruption in public procurement includes fraud during tenders and in law enforcement agencies – "covering" criminal schemes [10, p. 378].

Thus, the classification of corruption according to various criteria allows for a more effective analysis of its manifestations and the application of appropriate administrative and legal mechanisms to prevent and counteract corrupt acts.

In addition, corruption can be classified by the degree of organisation. It can be individual, when one person uses their official position for personal gain; group, when several people coordinate their actions to satisfy a common interest; institutional, when corruption becomes the norm in the activities of a certain organisation or public authority, giving rise to permanent corruption schemes.

According to the level of power at which corruption is carried out, local, national and international corruption are distinguished. Local corruption is widespread in local government bodies, for example, in the process of distributing land or budget funds. National corruption covers higher-level state bodies – ministries, parliamentary committees, and the judiciary. International corruption includes international tax evasion schemes and illegal financing by transnational companies [11, p. 147].

According to the motives of corrupt activities, economic, political and social corruption are distinguished. Economic corruption is aimed at obtaining financial benefits (for example, embezzlement of the budget); political corruption is aimed at maintaining power and influence (bribery of voters, illegal financing of parties); and social corruption is aimed at obtaining social advantages (for example, illegal receipt of benefits or positions).

According to the method of interaction between the parties, corruption can be forced or voluntary. Coercive corruption occurs when a person is forced to give a bribe through pressure, threats or blackmail, while voluntary corruption involves a conscious interaction between both parties for mutual benefit.

In terms of its consequences for society, corruption can be latent (hidden) or overt. Latent corruption is carefully disguised, for example, through mechanisms of "gifts" or intermediaries, while overt corruption can be so widespread that it is even perceived by society as a "normal" phenomenon [12, p. 43].

Thus, the classification of corruption according to various criteria makes it possible to analyse its mechanisms and root causes, as well as to develop effective administrative and legal measures to prevent and counteract this negative phenomenon.

We believe that further development of administrative and legal mechanisms to combat corruption requires improving the legislative framework, increasing the efficiency of law enforcement agencies, and forming an anti-corruption culture in society. An important aspect

is the expansion of preventive measures, in particular, strengthening control over the financial transactions of officials, introducing modern electronic systems for monitoring their activities, and creating mechanisms for protecting whistleblowers.

One of the key tools for preventing corruption is the digitalisation of public administration. The introduction of electronic services, automated decision-making systems, and electronic declaration of income and expenses of civil servants reduces the human factor and minimises corruption risks. Initiatives such as the single portal of public services "Diya" in Ukraine contribute to reducing contacts between citizens and officials and reduce the possibility of corruption abuses [13, p. 29].

In addition, the effectiveness of administrative and legal influence on corruption depends on the independence and transparency of anti-corruption bodies. Another important aspect is the strengthening of international cooperation in the field of combating corruption. Ukraine actively participates in international initiatives, such as the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and the UN Convention against Corruption, and also cooperates with the European Union and other international partners to implement the best global practices. An important role is played by the exchange of experience and training of law enforcement officers and judges, as well as participation in joint investigations of transnational corruption.

**Conclusions.** Thus, within the framework of this article, it has been noted that the object of administrative and legal influence acts as an important tool for ensuring the effectiveness of public administration and stability in society. It underlies the influence of administrative bodies on various spheres of public life, from the economy to the environment, and the establishment of certain rules and norms that contribute to the effective functioning of the state.

It has been emphasised that corruption, as an object of administrative and legal influence, has a number of features. Firstly, it poses a serious public danger, as it contributes to social injustice, violates the principle of the rule of law and undermines the effectiveness of public administration. Secondly, corruption has an inter-sectoral nature, which is manifested in its prevalence in various spheres of public life, including the civil service, law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, economic activity, etc. It often covers not only the actions of individual officials but also entire organisational structures, which complicates the fight against it.

It has been established that corruption as an object of administrative and legal influence can be classified according to various criteria, which allows us to better understand its nature and develop effective countermeasures. Classification of corruption according to various criteria makes it possible to analyse its mechanisms and root causes, as well as to develop effective administrative and legal measures to prevent and counteract this negative phenomenon.

It has been determined that further development of administrative and legal mechanisms for combating corruption requires improving the legislative framework,

increasing the efficiency of law enforcement agencies, and forming an anti-corruption culture in society. An important aspect is the expansion of preventive measures, in particular, strengthening control over the financial transactions of officials, implementing modern electronic systems for monitoring their activities, and creating mechanisms for protecting whistleblowers.

It has been emphasised that effective countermeasures

against corruption require an integrated approach, including improving legislation, digitalisation of public administration, strengthening independent anti-corruption bodies, international cooperation, and active participation of civil society. Administrative and legal influence should be not only punitive but also preventive, aimed at creating conditions in which corruption becomes disadvantageous and socially unacceptable.

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