

Directions of interaction between law enforcement authorities during the detection of criminal offences

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Abstract. *The article emphasises that the directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences allow us to consider such activities through the prism of real prospects for their implementation in practice, to clearly understand the informational, logistical, and personnel aspects that are especially important in the process of their implementation, as well as the possibilities of their improvement and the factors that influence them.*

It is argued that the directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences represent a system of repetitive, coordinated, and comprehensively ensured such interaction of actions that allow us to coordinate the activities of various law enforcement agencies around common processes, plan, analyse, review, and improve them.

Attention is focused on the fact that the strategic direction of interaction primarily covers the organisation of discussions on future cooperation and the definition of its mission, vision, and values that will be its basis. It is important to focus not only on the expediency for the purpose of solving criminal offences but also on the needs of law enforcement agencies – subjects of interaction: how such activities will affect their employees, their working and leisure conditions, and their ability to satisfy their needs for self-development and continuous professional development, as well as to determine the financial, security, and personnel aspects of such activities both at the time of their approval and in the future. At the same time, the basis of this direction is the ability of law enforcement agencies to demonstrate strategic leadership.

It has been found that another direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the solution of criminal offences is analytical, which allows you to manage data, summarise information and formulate analytically substantiated conclusions and proposals for improving everyday processes. The analytical direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies is implemented within the framework of the activities of expert institutions, as well as criminal analysis units, which successfully operate in the National Police of Ukraine.

Keywords: *areas of interaction, law enforcement agencies, detection of criminal offences, strategic direction, analytical activities, international partners*

Problem statement. The multifaceted nature of the content of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences is revealed in the process of understanding the specific areas of such activity.

At the same time, the areas of interaction are characteristic of group activity, the final result of which depends on the coordinated efforts of several subjects at once. In this context, one should agree with A. Synoversky and M. Skrynyk, who note that “the group method of investigating criminal offences committed by organised criminal groups under martial law is a systemic approach that involves the joint activities of various services and specialised bodies in order to identify, stop and disclose criminal schemes of organised criminal groups and expose their leaders. The main aspects of the group method of investigation include joint coordination of actions; exchange of information to identify criminal schemes; planning and conducting joint operations aimed at stopping the activities of organised criminal groups; expert support, involvement of experts from various fields, such as finance, accounting, and audit, to conduct analysis of financial transactions and identify financial, budgetary and other criminal offences; and joint use of resources and technical capabilities to ensure a successful investigation, in particular access to databases, analytical tools, etc” [1, p. 147].

Directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences allow us to consider such activities through the prism of real prospects for their implementation in practice, to clearly understand the informational, material and technical, and personnel aspects that are especially important in the process of their implementation, as well as the possibilities of their improvement and the factors that influence them. In the unity

of these aspects, a special goal of interaction arises, which is somewhat different from the goal and objectives of criminal proceedings.

State of the study. A number of problematic issues related to ensuring effective interaction between law enforcement agencies of Ukraine were considered by such leading scientists as O. M. Altunina, O. M. Bandurka, P. D. Bilenchuk, V. T. Bilous, P. N. Biryukov, V. M. Vasylenko, V. M. Vats, S. G. Gasparyan, V. V. Galunko, I. P. Golosnichenko, N. T. Goncharuk, V. Yu. Gritchina, O. V. Dzhaferova, O. Yu. Drozd, V. M. Yednak, I. D. Kazanchuk, A. V. Kalayda, T. A. Kobzeva, A. T. Komzyuk, I. M. Koropatnik, O. V. Kryzhanovska, Yu. P. Loboda, B. V. Malyshev, O. M. Muzychuk, V. V. Sokurenko, O. Yu. Terekhova, I. Yu. Tkachenko, S. O. Shatrava, N. A. Shust and other domestic and foreign researchers. However, scientists did not take into account the problems of establishing directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences.

Purpose and objectives of the study. The purpose of the article is to investigate the directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences. The achievement of the outlined goal will be facilitated by solving the following research tasks: to determine the general theoretical foundations of understanding the essence of the directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences and to analyse the strategic, analytical and educational directions of interaction.

Scientific novelty of the study. The scientific novelty of the study lies in the fact that the author identified and examined in detail atypical areas of interaction between

law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences.

Presentation of the main material. The areas of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences are a system of repetitive, coordinated actions aimed at comprehensively ensuring such interaction that allows coordinating the activities of various law enforcement agencies around joint processes, planning it, analysing it, reviewing it and improving it.

Some scientists are convinced that “forms of interaction can be grouped into the following areas of activity: information and analytical (mutual exchange of information, in the process of which operational officers transfer to investigators information obtained during the performance of their activities that may be useful for the investigation; joint analysis of evidence and materials of criminal proceedings in order to combine knowledge for more effective analysis and interpretation of the evidence obtained, and putting forward investigative versions); strategic (discussion and development of an investigation strategy, definition of roles, tasks of each participant, development of tactical plans for joint operations and measures, definition and coordination of the main areas of investigation to achieve common goals); technical-forensic (sharing resources, exchange of technical means; mutual support in the use of special technical means and equipment for effective investigation; access to common databases and resources for convenient exchange of information); consultative (exchange of experience and advice to overcome specific difficulties in the investigation)” [1, p. 148].

At the same time, consideration of individual areas should begin with the strategic one, within which a common understanding of future activities for the detection of criminal offences is formed.

O.S. Senyshyn, N.V. Ilkiv, E.O. Ugolkov note that “the development of strategic areas for the development of interaction between business, public organisations, and state authorities is an important step in ensuring effective solutions to social problems and improving the quality of life of the population, strengthening democratic institutions. Such joint interaction can lead to many positive consequences: strengthening democratic institutions (development of civil society and increasing trust between citizens and authorities), improving the quality of life of citizens, more effective solutions to social problems (poverty, unemployment), creating new jobs, improving the level of education and healthcare, and improving the state of the environment” [2].

The strategic direction of interaction primarily includes organising discussions on future cooperation and defining its mission, vision, and values that will be its basis. It is important to focus not only on the feasibility of solving criminal offences but also on the needs of law enforcement agencies – subjects of interaction: how such activities will affect their employees, their working and leisure conditions, and their ability to meet their needs for self-development and continuous professional development, as well as determining the financial, security, and personnel aspects of such activities both at the time of their agreement and in the

future. At the same time, this direction is based on the ability of law enforcement agencies to demonstrate strategic leadership, which consists in the ability of each individual employee or serviceman to identify a problem in everyday processes, inform management about it, after which such an idea, proposal, solution or algorithm must go through specialized departments, departments of various departments, which must form a clear request, which can also be coordinated with higher education institutions, scientific institutions, and then sent to central executive bodies, specialized committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in order to develop concepts and strategies that would regulate and lay the vector of development of law enforcement agencies for years to come.

The strategic direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies in the process of solving criminal offences finds its direct expression in the preparation of such regulatory legal acts as the Comprehensive Strategic Plan for Reforming Law Enforcement Agencies as Part of the Security and Defence Sector of Ukraine for 2023-2027, the preamble of which states that “law enforcement agencies during the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine faced unprecedented challenges in their activities, primarily security challenges, to which they had to respond promptly. Among them are organisational and other problems that affected the ability of law enforcement agencies to effectively perform their functions to ensure the national security of Ukraine in a number of aspects. At the same time, society has retained a clear demand for decisive and positive changes in all spheres of life, including law enforcement, after Ukraine's victory. The priority among such changes is to guarantee the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, as well as the further development of a democratic state in which the rule of law is firmly ensured. Along with this, the need to accelerate digitalisation and ensure maximum efficiency and effectiveness of work in the public sector is deepening. This request is more than relevant for the system of law enforcement agencies, which must strengthen their strategic and operational potential in order to properly perform the functions defined by the legislation of Ukraine. Changes in the system of law enforcement agencies should be comprehensive and concern all aspects of their functioning: from the training and selection of highly professional employees for service to ensuring the effectiveness of the system, taking into account international standards, in particular, accountability and transparency. Corruption and other risks should be further minimised, including by strengthening mechanisms for democratic civilian control over the decision-making process. At the same time, the general goal of law enforcement reform is to improve their value orientations, organisational culture, management structure, and legislative regulation, in particular, taking into account the needs of law enforcement practice” [3].

It is worth noting that the strategic direction mainly involves interaction between the heads of central executive bodies, departments, administrations, people's deputies of Ukraine, and the Office of the President of Ukraine. Such interaction can also be reduced to the adoption of interdepartmental orders that coordinate individual actions

that most often require interdepartmental cooperation.

Another direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences is analytical, which allows you to manage data, summarise information and formulate analytically substantiated conclusions and proposals for improving everyday processes. Regardless of what industry you work in, it is important to understand what happened in the past and what is happening now and to predict what may happen in the future. The answer lies in data analytics. Data analytics is the process of making sense of data. The process begins with collecting data, finding patterns, and then using these patterns to make predictions. These predictions can be used to set goals or make decisions. In data analytics and data science, there are 4 main types of data analysis: descriptive, diagnostic, predictive, and prescriptive. Appropriate tools and methods should be used to conduct these types of analysis. This also depends on the type of industry where the analysis should be conducted [4, p. 111].

The analytical direction of law enforcement interaction is implemented within the activities of expert institutions, as well as criminal analysis units that successfully operate in the National Police of Ukraine. Thus, “criminal analysis”, as a multidisciplinary information and analytical activity, is widely used by leading law enforcement agencies in the world to increase the effectiveness of combating crime and ensure rational use of resources and sound management. Criminal analysis is a key component of the Intelligence-led Policing (ILP) model, which aims to support institutional governance and decision-making by investigators and operatives through the process of analysing information and disseminating analytical findings” [5, p. 105]. At the same time, the interaction between different agencies plays an important role in such analytical interaction. Thus, “the analysis of data collected during the investigation of crimes such as fraud, securities manipulation, money laundering, and interference in accounting transactions requires an analyst with special training and experience. For example, highly qualified specialists – forensic experts and computer forensics specialists – may be involved in the interpretation of information and the transmission of data on the activities of criminal networks.” [5, p. 108].

The analytical activity of law enforcement agencies together with local self-government bodies to determine the results of work in the main areas of operational and service activity in the format of relevant reports is also important. In some territorial communities, there is a positive practice of placing such reports in free access so that each resident has the opportunity to form a comprehensive picture of the security situation in the community, as well as the effectiveness of the work of law enforcement agencies, in particular the National Police of Ukraine.

It is also worth paying attention to the educational direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offences. After all, the basis of constructive joint activity is the preliminary possession of basic communication skills, understanding of modern approaches and methods of investigation and detection of criminal offences, and the technical tools used in this regard.

As H. Dekanoidze and M. Khelashvili argue, education and training of police officers is the basis of an effective system of internal security and protection. Crime has become more complex, and threats are increasing. Law enforcement officers must be open to new approaches. Working closely and building relationships with citizens of different backgrounds and ethnicities requires a socially competent and culturally aware officer. Well-educated and trained officers are much more skilled, able to solve problems, think creatively and show impartiality. Effective and professional differentiation based on the education/training of police officers is especially important for countries with economies in transition that are creating new police forces and carrying out reforms in the law enforcement sector [6].

At the same time, an important role in the implementation of the educational direction is assigned to international partners who, after the Revolution of Dignity, have been actively involved in the processes of building domestic law enforcement agencies. It should be noted here that the integrated approach to conducting exercises and trainings, which are aimed at representatives of several agencies and units at once.

An example of such cooperation with the OSCE is that “on October 2-3, 2024, a seminar on countering the illicit trafficking of firearms that was held in Kyiv. The training was supported by the OSCE in partnership with the European Union Advisory Mission to Ukraine (EUAM). The event was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs system – the National Police and the State Border Service – as well as other law enforcement agencies of Ukraine – in particular, the Prosecutor General's Office, the Security Service of Ukraine and the State Customs Service of Ukraine, which are part of the Coordination Centre for Countering the Illicit Trafficking of Firearms and ensure its work. During the training, the participants got acquainted with international experience and best practices in exercising control over the circulation of firearms. They discussed modern challenges and threats related to the illicit trafficking of weapons. In particular, in the context of Russian armed aggression against Ukraine. Ukrainian law enforcement officials also identified further steps to build the capacity of the Coordination Centre as an interagency body. The seminar was attended by representatives of the South-Eastern and Eastern Europe Coordination Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (UNDP SEESAC), the European Multidisciplinary Platform to Counter Criminal Threats (EMPACT Firearms), and the Firearms Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC Firearms Programme) [7].

Conclusions. Thus, the directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offenses allow us to consider such activities through the prism of real prospects for their implementation in practice, to clearly understand the informational, logistical, and personnel aspects that are especially important in the process of its implementation, as well as the possibilities of its improvement, the factors that influence it.

It has been argued that the directions of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of

criminal offenses represent a system of repetitive, coordinated, and comprehensively ensuring such interaction of actions that allow us to coordinate the activities of various law enforcement agencies around common processes, plan, analyze, review, and improve them.

Attention has been focused on the fact that the strategic direction of interaction primarily covers the organization of discussions of future cooperation, the definition of its mission, vision, and values that will be its basis. It is important to focus not only on the expediency for the purpose of solving criminal offenses, but also on the needs of law enforcement agencies - subjects of interaction: how such activities will affect their employees, their working and leisure conditions, the ability to satisfy their needs for self-development and continuous professional development, as well as to determine the financial, security, and personnel aspects of such activities both at the time of their approval and in the future. At the same time, this direction is based on the ability of law enforcement agencies to demonstrate strategic leadership. The strategic direction mainly involves interaction between the heads of central executive bodies, departments, administrations, people's deputies of Ukraine, and the Office of the President of Ukraine. Such interaction may also be reduced to the adoption of interdepartmental orders that coordinate individual actions that most often require interdepartmental cooperation.

It has been found that another direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the

detection of criminal offenses is analytical, which allows managing data, summarizing information, formulating analytically substantiated conclusions and proposals for improving everyday processes. The analytical direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies is implemented within the framework of the activities of expert institutions, as well as criminal analysis units, which successfully operate in the National Police of Ukraine. Analytical activities of law enforcement agencies together with local government bodies are also important in determining the results of work in the main areas of operational and service activity in the format of relevant reports.

Attention has been drawn to the educational direction of interaction between law enforcement agencies during the detection of criminal offenses. After all, the basis of constructive joint activity is the preliminary possession of basic communication skills, understanding of modern approaches and methods of investigation and detection of criminal offenses, and the technical tools used in this process.

It has been emphasized that in the process of implementing the educational direction, an important role is assigned to international partners, who after the Revolution of Dignity are actively involved in the processes of building domestic law enforcement agencies. It should be noted the comprehensive approach to conducting exercises and trainings, which are aimed at representatives of several agencies and units at once.

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