

# Tasks of internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of anti-corruption action

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**Abstract.** The article determines that one of the fundamental tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption is to identify corruption and corruption-related offenses committed by employees of the National Police of Ukraine. This task is one of the leading ones, associated with constant analytical work, studying documents in the official activities of police bodies and units, administrative decisions taken, and recording illegal actions during the service of police officers. It is established that the task of terminating and operational support of pre-trial investigation of corruption and corruption-related offenses, which is assigned to the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption, is reduced to planning and conducting joint operations with the Security Service of Ukraine and the State Bureau of Investigation to document illegal activities of both police officers and other persons whose actions pose a danger to the effective functioning of law enforcement agencies. In the process of coordinated planning of joint operational-search activities and investigative (search) actions, development of operational combinations, effective interdepartmental cooperation is implemented, and operational-technical capabilities, forces and means of bodies and units of different departmental affiliation are organically applied in a single complex. Methodology. The scientific research is based on both general and special methods of scientific knowledge. In particular, in the process of analyzing reference literature, provisions of individual regulatory legal acts, in particular the Constitution of Ukraine, departmental orders of the National Police of Ukraine, the State Bureau of Investigation and the Security Service of Ukraine, including interdepartmental orders, as well as works of domestic scientists who provide a comprehensive analysis of these provisions, structural-logical and system-functional methods were used. Structural-logical and system-functional methods were used to analyze the essence of the tasks assigned to the public authority, to study the main approaches to understanding the tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating. Results. The article emphasizes that the tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption are practically oriented holistic complexes of measures aimed at achieving the goal of maintaining internal security, implementing effective internal control and ensuring the own security of the bodies and units of the National Police.

**Key words:** tasks, internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine, subjects of combating corruption, detection of corruption and corruption-related offenses, termination, operational support of pre-trial investigation.

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## INTRODUCTION

In the structure of the administrative and legal status of internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption, a special place is given to the tasks assigned to the relevant units at the level of the laws of Ukraine and subordinate regulatory legal acts, consolidating the key areas of their influence on public relations, determining their place in building a special system of service discipline in the bodies and units of the National Police of Ukraine.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The scientific research is based on both general and special methods of scientific knowledge. In particular, in the process of analyzing reference literature, provisions of individual regulatory legal acts, in particular the Constitution of Ukraine, departmental orders of the National Police of Ukraine, the State Bureau of Investigation and the Security Service of Ukraine, including interdepartmental orders, as well as works of domestic scientists who provide a comprehensive analysis of these provisions, structural-logical and system-functional methods were used. Structural-logical and system-functional methods were used to analyze the essence of the tasks assigned to the public authority, to study the main approaches to understanding the tasks of the internal

security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption.

Based on the comparative legal method and the generalization method, the specifics of the most general tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption are considered.

The validity and reliability of the study are ensured by using a system of sources: regulatory and legal acts of various legal force, dictionaries, scientific commentaries, etc. The risks of regulatory ambiguity and unsystematic application are reduced by using categories established in legal science.

Methodological limitations of the study are associated with the informational closure of certain aspects of the activities of internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine. These factors are compensated by using data from various sources, their verification, comparison with generally accepted approaches, and critical analysis of the information presented in them.

## RESULTS

According to the Great Explanatory Dictionary of the Modern Ukrainian Language, a task is: "1) a specific, planned scope of work, business, etc.; 2) a goal to which one aspires; what one wants to accomplish" [1, p.378].

A clear definition of the tasks assigned to a public authority is the basis for ensuring its accountability, controllability by civil society, and compliance by its leaders and employees with human rights and freedoms. Accountability mechanisms, when developed as part of national efforts to reduce corruption, constitute an "integrity system." This system of checks and balances is designed to achieve accountability between different branches of government and institutions. The system manages conflicts of interest in the public sector, effectively distributes power, and limits situations in which conflicts of interest arise or negatively affect the common good. This includes accountability, transparency, prevention, and punishment [2, p. 157].

Thus, the updated concept of public administration is being formed in the context of the formation of a service state in Ukraine and the establishment of "human-centrism" as a new philosophy of administrative and legal relations and interaction between the state and its citizens. The establishment of "human-centrism" as a new philosophy of administrative and legal relations and public administration implies the predominance of the interests of man and society over the interests of the state [3, p. 74].

The Regulation on the Department of Internal Security of the National Police of Ukraine defines the following main tasks of internal security units: "formation and ensuring the implementation of measures on internal security issues in the National Police of Ukraine; prevention, detection, warning and termination of criminal, corruption and corruption-related offenses that are being prepared or committed by police officers, civil servants and other police officers; organization and implementation of measures to protect police officers, civil servants and other police officers from obstruction in the performance of their official duties" [4].

Thus, as we can see, the tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption in the Basic Regulation are defined quite succinctly, which requires additional reference to the positions of scientists on this issue.

According to Z.R. Kisil, "an essential task of police activity is also to promote statehood, strengthen service discipline, control and responsibility" [5, p. 123].

A. Tanko notes that "among the tasks outlined as guidelines for achieving international sustainable development goals, the following directly relate to police work: reducing the level of violence; preventing human trafficking and all forms of exploitation; increasing the level of public trust in human rights activities, ensuring equal access to justice; combating illegal arms trafficking; reducing the scale of corruption, etc. Therefore, the main tasks of the National Police Service of Ukraine are to create a safe environment for human life, which is ensured by the activities of law enforcement agencies focused on the needs of citizens, their effective preventive activities to eliminate social dangers, and the inclusion of the community and activists in maintaining public order" [6, p. 204].

Yu. Martynenko includes the following as the main tasks and functions of the internal security service:

"organization of measures for state protection of personnel of structural units from attacks on their life and health in connection with official activities; protection of the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the interests of society, which ensures its stable functioning and neutralization of threats to its integrity; implementation of operational and preventive measures to prevent cases of betrayal of the interests of the service and prevention of other offenses; prevention and detection of abuse of official position, corrupt acts, and other offenses among employees of structural units; prevention of penetration into the service of structural units by persons pursuing criminal and mercenary intentions, as well as counteraction to attempts by employees of these bodies to participate in illegal activities" [7].

## DISCUSSION

One of the fundamental tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption is to identify corruption and corruption-related offenses committed by employees of the National Police of Ukraine.

Ukrainian legislation allows the use of a number of sources to collect information during the investigation and prosecution of corruption, such as: any information from public sources; Internet and media; court decisions, bankruptcy records, administrative and disciplinary proceedings; disclosed corporate information, information disclosed by insurance, banking and other regulators and commissions (for example, the election commission); private data banks that collect public information (Worldcheck, Factiva Spark, Integrum and others, regularly used by compliance services of banks and corporations operating in international markets); property, land, enterprise and other state registers; state audit reports, various inspections; information from tax authorities on tax payments and income received; information from the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine, as well as other financial intelligence units around the world - reports on suspicious transactions, other information; asset declaration forms that public officials are required to submit, records of political party contributions to election campaigns, reports on charitable contributions; requests for mutual legal assistance, requests from law enforcement partners in other countries; current investigations of another crime (money laundering, drugs, etc.); current civil trials or administrative proceedings involving the private sector, including testimonies, transcripts and court decisions, as well as any other information from such proceedings [8].

Thus, the task of identifying corruption and corruption-related offenses in the activities of employees of the National Police of Ukraine is one of the leading ones, associated with constant analytical work, studying documents in the official activities of police bodies and units, adopted administrative decisions, recording illegal actions during the performance of service by police officers. In order to implement this task, regular inspections of

the performance of service by employees of various bodies and units are carried out, including checking office cabinets, office safes, the state of documentation, its storage, and assessing the role of local leaders in the process of maintaining a high level of discipline and legality.

Another important task in the activities of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption is the termination and operational support of pre-trial investigations of corruption and corruption-related offenses.

Investigations of corruption cases have become increasingly complex in recent years. The difficulties associated with investigating complex corruption schemes require the involvement of specialized experts and professionals to trace assets, identify individuals and private sector organizations responsible for them, and analyze complex financial transactions, often with the need to resort to special investigative methods, such as undercover operations and cybercrime investigations. While the use of traditional investigative approaches, including access to open-source and government-held information, interviewing witnesses, and conducting searches and inspections, often proves effective in investigating many forms of corruption, proceedings related to the collection of financial information and the ability to track, identify, freeze, and confiscate illegally obtained proceeds have proven more complex. Particular challenges in such transnational corruption cases often include tracing the proceeds of crime, identifying suspected organizations and individuals, including beneficial owners, and facilitating the effective exchange of intelligence and evidence across borders to ensure successful investigations and prosecutions [9].

In this context, the interaction of employees of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine with investigators of the State Bureau of Investigation provides for the following types: 1) joint study and analysis of operational-search information on preparations for the commission of a criminal offense; 2) coordinated planning of operational-search measures and investigative (search) actions, in particular NSRD, when implementing operational-search information; 3) consultations on the materials of operational-search cases; 4) joint work as part of an investigative-operational group created to implement operational materials; 5) joint analysis of the causes and conditions contributing to

the commission of a corruption criminal offense, as well as discussion of preventive measures" [10, p. 320].

In the process of terminating and operationally supporting the pre-trial investigation of corruption and corruption-related offenses, the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine actively cooperate with the Security Service of Ukraine and the State Bureau of Investigation in accordance with the provisions of interdepartmental orders, namely: Order of the State Bureau of Investigation and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine dated 07/21/2025 No. 367/486 [11] and Order of the Security Service of Ukraine and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine dated 02/20/2025 No. 54/112 [12].

In view of this, the task of stopping and operational support of pre-trial investigation of corruption and corruption-related offenses, which is entrusted to the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of counteraction to corruption, is reduced to planning and conducting joint operations with the Security Service of Ukraine and the State Bureau of Investigation to document the illegal activities of both police officers and other persons whose actions pose a danger to the effective functioning of law enforcement agencies. In the process of coordinated planning of joint operational-search measures and investigative (search) actions, development of operational combinations, effective interdepartmental cooperation is implemented, and operational-technical capabilities, forces and means of bodies and units of different departmental affiliation are organically used in a single complex.

## CONCLUSIONS

Thus, the tasks assigned to a public authority should be primarily aimed at protecting human rights and freedoms in its interaction with the state, providing the widest possible opportunities for a person as the highest social value in the state. The tasks of the internal security units of the National Police of Ukraine as subjects of combating corruption are practically oriented holistic complexes of measures aimed at achieving the goal of maintaining internal security, implementing effective internal control and ensuring the own security of the bodies and units of the National Police.

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