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## **MAIN TENDENCIES AND PROBLEMS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM**

**Introduction.** For the 28 years of the independent Ukraine, each new interior minister, having taken up the office, began to “reform” the law enforcement system, resulting in no changes. The orders for reorganization were issued, a lot of people were dismissed for minor misconducts, job titles and names of agencies were changed.

The impetus for the real change in the law enforcement system was the second Maidan. In July 2015, Ukrainian Minister of Internal Affairs Arsen Avakov launched the new patrol police force in the country’s capital, Kyiv.

**Review of recent publications.** Scientific development of problems of reforming the bodies of the internal affairs of Ukraine is considered by the works of M.I. Anufriev, O.M. Bandurk, O.V. Jafarova, A.T. Komzyuk, O.P. Ugrovetsky, M. Yu. Frolov and other scientists. In their research major changes in law enforcement and staffing identified.

**Objectives of the paper.** To compare the system of "old" and "new" police, to determine its advantages and disadvantages; to study the problems of police reform and the ineffectiveness of these changes, to analyze the main directions of reform of

law enforcement agencies, the problems of the implementation of personnel policy in the National Police.

**Results of the research.** Law enforcement reform was an important outcome of the Maidan revolution. The new police force, replacing the old police force, has officially been in existence for four years, but little has changed beyond the name. Ukraine has not come close to the real rule of law, even though the introduction of a brand ‘new patrol police’ has been recognized as a great achievement by the post-revolutionary government.

"We had big plans," said Andrei Kobylinsky, a former Kiev patrol officer, "and for the first few months, I really believed it would happen. But the guys above, namely [Interior Minister Arsen Avakov], probably thought that too it is dangerous to pour so much young blood into the police. It is better to rely on old professionals ", he mentioned [6].

In our opinion, the priority field of activity of the units of staffing of the National Police is the recruitment of bodies of personnel who possess the necessary moral and professional qualities. The achievement of the ultimate goal of this picking depends, first of all, on how these entities are able to exercise the powers conferred on them, and how timely and impartial they are in the performance of their duties [2]. But the recruitment of law enforcement agencies began with the retraining of existing specialists: former special forces officers, members of the "Old Guard". The police certification that took place in 2016 did not bring much change. Only 8% of police officers were fired [7]. In addition, a significant proportion of them were reinstated through appeal. As a result of it, changes did not happen, instead the state also paid them compensation. Still, the main merit of this reform is the formation of the patrol police, a new unit of law enforcement.

According to Krapivin the patrol police are getting all the attention because they are visible on the streets. However, the main job of the police is to actually prevent and combat crime. The core of the police is the operational units - the criminal police and pre-trial investigation agencies. [6].

The key law enforcement agency charged with the duty to fight crime, ensure public safety and order, as well as human rights and freedoms, was the National Police. The reform of this law enforcement agency required improvement of the current legislation governing the activities of the National Police, optimization of its structure and internal organizational functions [1].

The first step to reforming the internal affairs bodies was the adoption of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Decree No 456 of April 24, 1996.

Therefore, in fact, there is no clear development plan for the police, and minor changes are not only united by common goals, but often have the opposite orientation. There are a number of public policy documents pertaining to police reform, but none contain specific timelines and measures, tools to measure the progress or effectiveness of reforms, indicators that could not be criticized by police leadership [4].

And overall, crime rates are rising. However, the main reasons are the war in the East, arms trafficking and corruption. The new National Anti-Corruption Bureau

deals with global affairs, while minor crimes remain in the hands of the police, who are not very concerned with the problems at hand. Therefore, due to the fact that the new police misses the main points of the population's confidence in it rapidly falls.

A poll conducted by the Ilka Kucheriv Democratic Initiative Fund and the Razumkov Center found that from the end of 2016 to the end of 2017, public confidence in patrol police had decreased by 24% [5]. It means that the inaction of the authorities leads to negative consequences, timeliness to an increase in the crime rate.

**Conclusion.** The real changes were to bring down corruption schemes, stop the abuse of power by officials and stabilize crime rates. Currently, these changes are being implemented very slowly, but there are still some positive aspects the gradual steps of police reform are taking place [3].

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