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Features of the police forces reform in Georgia

У статті проаналізовано процеси реформування органів внутрішніх справ в Грузії. Розглянуто особливості реформування поліцейських підрозділів в Грузії. Наголошено, що правоохоронна система покликана захищати права людини та набання демократії цивілізованої держави. Обґрунтовано доцільність використання досвіду діяльності поліції Грузії в Україні.

Ключові слова: поліція, діяльність, реформа, досвід, Грузія.

В статье проанализированы процессы реформирования органов внутренних дел в Грузии. Рассмотрены особенности реформирования полицейских подразделений в Грузии. Отмечено, что правоохранительная система призвана защищать права человека и достижения демократии цивилизованного государства. Обоснована целесообразность использования опыта деятельности полиции Грузии в Украине.

Ключевые слова: полиция, деятельность, реформа, опыт, Грузия.

The article analyzes the reform of internal affairs of Georgia and features of the police reform in Georgia. It is emphasized that the law enforcement system is designed to protect human rights and achievements of the democratic civilized state. It is stressed that foreign experience of police reform is very important to Ukraine, because the process of the law enforcement system reforms has begun. It is indicated that the law enforcement system in Ukraine certainly needs reforms, not cosmetic and fragmentary but comprehensive, systematic and thorough. The expediency of using the experience of Georgian police in Ukraine is determined.

Keywords: police, activity, reform experience, Georgia.

Issue. The problem of reforming the law enforcement system Ukraine is becoming more important in the overall process of democratization of state and society, and their transformation by the need to approach the European and Euro-Atlantic standards. After all, the law enforcement system was designed to protect human rights and democracy civilized state property [1].

One of the most important factors of Ukraine's accession to the European Community must be the overcoming the corruption. The reform of law enforcement aims to create a legal, institutional, social and political levels of combating crime, building the Interior Ministry due to European standard. Modern Ukraine dimension requires channeling the main vector of development in a democratic society, able to provide every citizen the realization of his abilities and vital needs [2, p. 235].

The credibility of the authorities in combating crime depends not only on the performance of disclosure of criminal offenses, but on public

confidence in law enforcement as defenders of individual and public interests, adherence to security forces of the rule of law. The level of public trust to the police reached maximum only 3-5%, and after the events of Euromaidan this figure, according to the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, felt to 0,8%. The reasons for this very low credit of confidence to the law enforcers were systemic weaknesses in the internal affairs of Ukraine [3, 2, p. 236].

Foreign experience of police departments is constantly improving, so its research to the isolation of positive elements and identifying ways of borrowing for Ukraine is relevant and has both theoretical and practical importance.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Restructuring and activities of the Interior Ministry of Ukraine is closely related to problems of administrative and legal reform leaders and researchers who are in particular V. Averyanov, O. Bandurka, J. Bytyak, V. Bevzenko, I.

Holosnichenko, E. Dodin, R. Kalyuzhny, T. Kolomoets, V. Kolpakov, A. Komzyuk, A. Kuzmenko, R. Miller, V. Opryshko, V. Pyetkov, D. Pryimachenko, A. Ryabchenko, N. Tishchenko, H. Yarmak and others.

Some issues on development of reform of the Interior Ministry of Ukraine and police systems of foreign countries the following fellows studied: M. Anufriev, O. Bandurka, J. Bytyak, V. Bevzenko, S. Gusarov, V. Zarosylo, D. Kalayanov, O. Klyuyev, A. Komzyuk, N. Kornienko, S. Kuznichenko, M. Chicken, O. Martynenko, N. Matyukhin, O. Muzychuk, A. Nehodchenko, S. Pyetkov, G. Ponomarenko, A. Pronevych, A. Syniavska, H. Yarmak. These scientists made a significant contribution to the science of administrative law, in particular the study of activity in foreign countries, but the issue on the specifics of the police reform in Georgia is still opened and scientific works, that already exist, studied only the fragments of it without any comprehensive approach or any emphasizing on the urgency and novelty of the chosen subject.

Within this article we intend to consider the particular reform of police forces in Georgia and to analyze the possibilities and the feasibility of its use in Ukraine.

The main body. Today, Ukraine is experiencing a period of profound social upheaval and transformation (annexation of Crimea, events in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions). The reform of the Interior should be based on the recommendations of experts in advanced police functions – decentralization and demilitarization of the MIA plus solid personnel policy according to the Georgian sample (but not the entire one). It should be emphasized that the same countries as Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia reformed its law enforcement agencies during the period of profound social upheaval and transformation. In these examples, there is nothing unacceptable for Ukraine, but at the same time it is impossible to copy the model of reforming one of them and introduce it in Ukraine. But any reform is possible with one condition which is the political will to create a qualified law enforcement agencies that use public confidence [4, p. 165].

In the post-Soviet period, until the arrival of Mikhail Saakashvili as the president, Georgia had one of the highest level of governmental corruption in the world. Bribery affected the whole system of the Interior affairs. The initiators of the reform of law

enforcement were Georgian President Saakashvili and Vano Merabishvili, the Minister of Civil Affairs in the 2004-2012 (he was arrested after change of the regime in Georgia). What was done in the course of this reform? In 2004, immediately after the victory election of Saakashvili, the heads of all power structures of Georgia were sacked. From the Ministry of Internal Affairs 15 thousand police officers were dismissed. Cop is a part of the Georgian traffic police. There was no traffic police within three months but its new staff was recruited from scratch on a solid competitive basis, when only 650 were selected from 2,500 candidates. All patrol cars were equipped with computers and access to the Internet [5].

Patrol police minimized contact with drivers. Streets were equipped with cameras: if the driver violated the rules and it was fixed by the camera, he was sent a proposal to enter the police web site, view an account and pay the penalty for using online payment.

Patrol police tasks are beyond the scope of GAI (Ukrainian police): its functions include not only the maintenance of order on the roads, but also the response to any emergency situation. Criminal police is responsible for the rest. Selection of the detectives and investigators was no less hard than the patrol officers, positions were retained only by 5% of police officials. All employees of the Criminal Police were at an additional three-month training at the police academy. The Ministry of Internal Affairs established a general internal inspection in investigating of the corruption.

The salary of the police increased tenfold (average - \$ 700, salary of an investigator is much higher - about \$ 2,000, when an average salary in the country is about \$ 200). Medical insurance is included. The high unemployment rate in Georgia made police service a prestigious occupation. The competition for a place in the police academy – 50 people to one place.

A special “Service of provocateurs” offers police officers a bribe. In 2005 200 police officers were fired for bribes [6].

Penalties for corruption radically increased: for a bribe of \$ 50 patrol policeman may get a sentence of 10 years imprisonment. As a result of these innovations, according to surveys, in 2011 87% of residents trusted police of Georgia [7, p. 342].

Conclusion. Summing up the above, we note that the international experience of police reform is

very important to Ukraine, because nowadays the process of reforming the law enforcement system has begun. It is therefore necessary to use the experience of structural reform of the police departments in country, where the maximum result was reached. In particular, the experience of the best reforming of the patrol police was carried out in Georgia. In this connection the experience of Georgia may be very useful for Ukraine.

Law enforcement system in Ukraine needs a comprehensive, systematic reformation in certain areas.

Therefore, on the basis of the analyzed features of reforming the law enforcement system in Georgia, some useful conclusions can be formulated:

1. Systematic reform. Supporting only individual reforms is not enough to overcome the corruption and raise public confidence in police. The

key to success is to cover all areas by the reform without any exception. A single reform will be ineffective and will bring no results.

2. Decent wages and benefits. A person appreciates staying in public service, because of decent pensions, social benefits.

Today the improvement of police in Ukraine is important, which requires separate research and scientific study and encourages scientific research to be continued.

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