

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CORRUPTION AS A FACTOR OF SOCIAL INSTABILITY

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Abstract

The article examines the scale of involvement of Transnational Organized Criminal Groups (TOCG) in committing acts of corruption, and their related criminal cooperation with Transnational Corporations (TNCs)¹, as well as public relations in this sphere, in particular on the example of Ukraine. It suggests a solution to the problem of transnational corruption crime, in particular, applying the theory of social naturalism. The ultimate goal of the article is to analyze the problem of transnational corruption as a "factor of social instability" and to introduce this term into scientific circulation in this context. The article uses such methods of scientific knowledge as induction and deduction, as well as philosophical and phenomenological methods. According to research, the mafia now operates on the same scale and as effectively as global corporate groups. Corporations can be compared with the governments of states in terms of their influence on the economy of the state and the adoption of appropriate decisions. The authors state that the measures taken by individual states to counter the pressure of powerful TNCs have not yet led to the achievement of these goals. Financial and industrial elites, in turn, with the help of TOCG, try to impose their own order on societies that are not yet ready due to differences in culture, history, laws, social order, mentality, etc. It is emphasized in the article that the level of transnational organized crime and corruption cannot yet be significantly reduced in local societies due to the fact that the goals of elites and certain states simply do not coincide. Nowadays we can note a significant number of symptoms, in particular - the existence of such a phenomenon as transnational corruption, which indicates that we have a crisis of social order in the world. The corruption used by the TNCs is a mandatory feature that allows, among other features, to distinguish transnational organized crime from other types of criminal activity. We can note such a feature of TOCG as a criminal symbiosis with TNCs, which is considered as a violation of public order that leads to a corresponding regression. Progress in minimizing transnational corruption can be achieved, in particular, with the help of social naturalism, through the application of the postulates of which it is possible to counteract the current manifestations of willfulness and illusions that exist today in all spheres of social life, including politics, economics, morality, religion, science, art, law, etc. The study proves that in the modern world, against the

¹ The concept of transnational corporations is given in the Convention on Transnational Corporations, ratified by Ukraine on July 13, 1999, under № 921-XIV.



background of progressive changes, namely the development of new information technologies, in the economy, etc., there have been formed some trends in transnational crime including corruption that continue to deepen further and the given corruption indicates the phenomenon, which the authors define as a "factor of social instability".

Keywords

Transnational corporations; transnational organized criminal groups; corruption; crime; social instability; social naturalism.

Resumo

O artigo analisa a escala de envolvimento de Grupos Criminosos Organizados Transnacionais (TOCG) na prática de actos de corrupção, a sua cooperação criminosa conexa com Corporações Transnacionais (TNCs), bem como as relações públicas nesta esfera, em particular com base no caso da Ucrânia. É apresentada uma solução para o problema do crime de corrupção transnacional, em particular, aplicando a teoria do naturalismo social. O objectivo final do artigo é analisar o problema da corrupção transnacional como "factor de instabilidade social" e introduzir este termo na circulação científica neste contexto. O artigo utiliza métodos de conhecimento científico como indução e dedução, bem como métodos filosóficos e fenomenológicos. De acordo com a investigação, a máfia opera agora à mesma escala e com a mesma eficácia do que os grupos empresariais globais. As empresas podem ser comparadas com os governos dos Estados no que respeita à sua influência na economia do Estado e adopção de decisões apropriadas. Os autores afirmam que as medidas tomadas pelos Estados individuais para contrariar a pressão dos poderosos TNCs ainda não conduziram à realização destes objectivos. As elites financeiras e industriais, por sua vez, com a ajuda da TOCG, tentam impor a sua própria ordem às sociedades que ainda não estão preparadas devido a diferenças culturais, história, leis, ordem social, mentalidade, etc. É enfatizado que o nível de crime organizado transnacional e a corrupção ainda não podem ser significativamente reduzidos nas sociedades locais devido ao facto de os objectivos das elites e de certos Estados simplesmente não coincidirem. Hoje em dia podemos notar um número significativo de indícios, em particular - a existência de um fenómeno como a corrupção transnacional, o que indica que temos uma crise de ordem social no mundo. A corrupção utilizada pelos TNCs é uma característica obrigatória que permite, entre outras, distinguir o crime organizado transnacional de outros tipos de actividade criminosa. Podemos notar tal característica da TOCG como uma simbiose criminosa com as TNCs, que é considerada como uma violação da ordem pública que conduz a uma regressão correspondente. É possível alcançar progressos na minimização da corrupção transnacional, em particular com a ajuda do naturalismo social, através da aplicação dos postulados de que é possível contrariar as actuais manifestações de vontade e ilusões que existem hoje em dia em todas as esferas da vida social, incluindo política, economia, moralidade, religião, ciência, arte, direito, etc. O estudo prova que no mundo moderno, no contexto de mudanças progressivas, nomeadamente o desenvolvimento de novas tecnologias de informação, na economia, etc., foram formadas algumas tendências na criminalidade transnacional, incluindo a corrupção que continua a aprofundar-se e a corrupção indica o fenómeno, que os autores definem como um "factor de instabilidade social".

Palavras-chave

Empresas transnacionais; grupos criminosos organizados transnacionais; corrupção; crime; instabilidade social; naturalismo social.

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Formulation of the problem

The UN report "The Globalization of Crime: A Transnational Organized Crime Threat Assessment" (Report UNODC, 2010) highlighted the main transnational channels of illicit distribution of drugs, firearms, and counterfeit products. It also highlights an increase in the number of crimes such as the theft of natural resources, the sale of people for sexual exploitation or forced labor, the illegal movement of migrants, maritime piracy, cybercrime, corruption and more. Through bribery and the use of proceeds of crime and threats of force, criminals influence the election results, decisions and actions of certain politicians and military people. It is stated at a high international level that the criminal sphere covers the entire planet. Confirmation of the use of corrupt practices by members of transnational criminal groups (TNCG) can be the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Convention, 2000) which stipulates that each state party shall take such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to recognize it as a criminally punishable when they are committed intentionally. However, it should be recognized that no conventions or numerous laws have brought humanity closer to reducing the manifestations of transnational corruption. We need a fundamentally totally different approach to this global problem. In other words, a new social theory is needed to overcome the crisis of the social order and to embark on the path of social progress.

According to our hypothesis, the "naturalistic" social science allows to adequately respond to the new challenges of the time, which, in particular, contributes to solving the problems that arise in connection with the process of globalization. Social naturalism, which is the worldview of the future, is able to stop social regression by eliminating its root - the "complex" of arbitrariness and illusions that afflicts people nowadays. Social naturalism is a worldview that is capable of counteracting the "complex" of arbitrariness and illusions - the sources of all evil in the world. Becoming the ideology of the New Enlightenment, it can contribute also to the radical "treatment" of various social pathologies. The concept of social naturalism returns the term "naturalism" to its true meaning and not only frees it from anti-social meaning, but also complements it with



social meaning. In this form, the concept of "naturalism" opens up new opportunities for understanding the laws by which social phenomena exist. Finding out the factors that determine corruption is a necessary condition for effectively combating it, since it allows understanding the conditionality of such a social phenomenon as corruption.

Analysis of recent publications and researches

Problems of transnational organized crime have been considered by P. Williams, E. Savona, 1996; D.J. Kenney, J.O. Finckenauer, 1995; J.R. Richards, 1999; M. Edelbacher, 1998; J.D. Torr, 1999; M.D. Lyman, G.W. Potter, 1999; R. Godson, W. Olson, 1999; L. Shelley 1999; M.G. Verbensky, 2010; V.O. Glushkov, E.D. Skulysh, 2012; H.P. Zharovska, 2015; L.V. Strashynska, 2006; S.O. Filippov, 2019 and others, to whom we are grateful for the laid groundwork for further scientific research. Under transnational organized crime, domestic criminologists understand a qualitatively new form of development of national organized crime, one of the highest levels of criminal evolution, the subjects of which are stable criminal organizations, the sphere of influence and activities of which in the form of a criminal trade extends to several states, a group of neighboring states, a region, a continent or the world community (V.O. Glushkov, E.D. Skulysh, 2012).

The aim of the article is a philosophical analysis based on the concept of social naturalism and the problem of transnational corruption as a "factor of social instability." The novelty of the study is that in this aspect the problem of transnational organized corruption has not been yet considered by scientists. The article uses a "naturalistic" social approach, which helps to solve the problems that arise in connection with the process of globalization. The authors introduce into scientific circulation the concept of "factor of social instability" in the context of a social phenomenon - transnational organized corruption. It is proved that transnational corruption as a social phenomenon is unnatural, i.e. it does not comply with the laws of social nature.

1. General trends in transnational organized crime and its relationship to corruption in Ukraine

First of all, let us outline that social relations are only a part of public relations. Social progress includes progressive changes both in the social sphere (relations between classes, interclass changes, etc.) and outside it: industrial, ideological, foreign policy and other relations. Social progress manifests itself in various forms and concerns the social organism of the state (Skvoretz V.O., 2011).

When studying corruption crime, criminologists do not always pay attention to the study of society, processes, phenomena that occur in it, but focus their efforts mainly on the criminal law aspects of the problem. Therefore, the study of corruption in post-Soviet countries is so essential for legal science and practice.

Corruption exists in any country, but in Ukraine it has a peculiarity, namely, the ability to nullify any attempts to free itself from the systemic social crisis that has affected its entire society. We can note the increase in social tensions and social conflicts in Ukraine against the background of an unhealthy economic situation, which, if failed to be solved



in time, may lead to the interruption of the development of our society (Busol O, Kostenko O., Romanyk B., 2022).

The most influential and powerful transnational organized groups are located in different parts of the world: "La Cosa Nostra" in the United States, "Cosa Nostra" in Europe (Italy), "Triada" in Asia (China) and "Yakuza" in Japan. To this list we can add also some others: the Colombian drug cartels of Latin America, the Jamaican-British, Albanian, Serbian, Israeli, and Mexican mafias.

In the Persian Gulf region, members of Transnational Criminal Groups, namely drug dealers and precursors, terrorist financiers, etc., operate in or through the region, including the United Arab Emirates, taking advantage of its strategic location as a center of regional trade, as well as a financial center and transport hub. Weak or inadequate legislation as for terrorism and corruption is a significant vulnerability in the region, especially in Kuwait.

In the Caribbean states, trade and smuggling routes are leading to an increase in crime, including violence and corruption. For example, the US White House predicts that as the Merida Initiative and the Central American Regional Security Initiative demonstrate success in Mexico and Central America, traders may increase the volume of their smuggling routes in the Caribbean.

From Asia to Canada, multinational organized groups supply chemical precursors for the illicit manufacture of synthetic drugs, primarily ecstasy. Various networks of transnational organized groups smuggle ecstasy and marijuana to the south and cocaine to the north across the Canadian border.

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland receives a huge economic profit - between \$ 32 billion and \$ 64 billion – gained from annual large-scale human trafficking, drug trafficking, financial fraud and mass marketing fraud (Manifests Itself).

According to the authors - Ukrainian scientists, Ukraine has also been impacted by the criminal processes that take place on a global scale. In 2017, Ukrainian police identified seven organized groups and criminal organizations with transnational ties. One of the most resonant exposures was a joint Ukrainian-German investigative operation to detain a criminal group of luxury car hijackers from Europe (the National Police of Ukraine). Criminal groups from the CIS countries pose a huge danger in the spread of organized crime for all states. There are currently 6,000 such groups and two hundred unions operating globally (Bauernebel Herbert, 2018). There is now fierce competition between TNCs for markets and spheres of influence. For example, in 2017, 19 drug traffickers of Italian origin were arrested by the Federal Criminal Police and the Palermo branch of the Italian Financial Guard in Villingen-Schwenningen. Goods and money worth 4 million euros were confiscated from them. The detainees were operating in Germany at the behest of the Mondino clan, a Sicilian mafia group from Palermo. The criminal activity consisted of smuggling tons of marijuana and cocaine from Albania to Germany with further laundering of the proceeds from their sale with the help of slot machines, which criminals forced their compatriots - owners of bars and shops - to install under the threat of destroying their businesses. Proceeds from drug trafficking were used to purchase weapons in the Balkans (S. Debrer). Undoubtedly, the fact is that the internationalization of crime, with its structure and dynamics typical for many states, makes it important to take into account general trends that are similar, as well as critically evaluate the national



experience of different countries regarding the practice of influencing criminogenic factors.

2. Corruption crime as a transnational phenomenon

The results of the research of Ukrainian scientists indicate that in total, there are currently about 30 multinational corporations in Ukraine, with more than 7,000 representative offices and branches. Some TNCs act as partners of Ukrainian companies. Meanwhile, we can talk about a certain expansion of foreign TNCs in Ukraine, which is accompanied by the use of "mixed" and "disguised" pseudo-investment strategies. Often investment strategies have only nominal nature, since the main reason for their application is not the use of Ukraine's production potential, but the minimization of customs duties. In this case, the amount of capital investment required for pseudo-investment may be incomparable not only with the turnover of the parent company, but also with the turnover of the enterprise established in Ukraine (A.A. Semenov, V.V. Kryzhanivska).

For example, the website of the President of the United States reports that in the Russian Federation and Romania there is a close link between organized crime, dishonest officials and large capital, which threatens economic growth and prospects for democratic governance. These transnational organized criminal businesses have established a monopoly on the energy, telecommunications and precious metals markets (Manifests Itself).

We can note, among others, such distinctive features of TNCs as a planetary vision of markets and global competition; exercising economic and political influence on the states in which TNCs operate. In recent years, there has been a system of world order in which TNCs control about half of world industrial production, 63% of foreign trade, most patents and licenses for new equipment, technology and know-how (Strashinskaya L.V., 2006). In total, there are more than 65,000 TNCs in the world, with about 700,000 foreign branches in more than 150 countries. In the process of transnational corporations' activities, corruption is inevitably committed, because between these TNCs there is fierce competition for the resources of the planet - natural, material, human, financial, informational, technological, etc. Corruption crime, acting at the first stage as a national problem, crosses borders and becomes a transnational phenomenon, one of the main means of influencing organized crime in all spheres of international life. Regarding the spread of transnational corruption, it should be noted that \$ 1 trillion per year is just an approximate figure, which gives only a general idea of how much ill-gotten gains are received worldwide - both in developed and developing countries. According to the official publication of the US President, between \$ 1.3 trillion and \$ 3 trillion a year is laundered worldwide (between 2% and 5% of the world's gross domestic product) (Manifests Itself). According to the World Bank, about \$ 80 billion is spent annually on bribing government members and politicians. The total volume of transactions in the drug business exceeds half a billion dollars, and the profits from the "transfers" of illegal immigrants - \$ 3.5 billion. Developing countries spend about 14% of GDP on combating crime and corruption, while developed countries spend 5%. At the same time, power and wealth are concentrated with only a small number of people and corporations. In our opinion, it is global competition that prevents multinational companies from paying much attention to social, and even more so, criminological problems, for fear of losing their capital. So



far, the world order is not based on social justice. It seems that the benefits for one of the participants in the global market (state or TNC) may not satisfy the other participants, and therefore one should sacrifice a part of its economic benefits for the sake of overall strategic development. However, in recent years, we can notice the tendencies of the undivided domination of the policy of international organizations which support global markets over the activities of organizations that care about ensuring public goods, in particular, preserving peace, protecting the environment, protecting human rights, combating poverty, developing health care, culture, education.

The range of methods of TNC intervention in the affairs of host countries and means of influencing the political and social situation in these states is quite wide. In particular, the criminal world has more than a million independent armed groups. In the case of their criminal conspiracy and coordination, they can affect not only national security but also the state of affairs on all continents. In total, in the 1990s, about 5 million people died in wars over gaining access to natural resources. Another 6 million people migrated to other countries, and 11 to 15 million people changed their place of residence (Michael Renner, 2002).

The fight between corporations for raw materials and markets leads to wars between the states they represent. Military conflicts still occur in the territories of developing states, and such states are often a "bargaining chip" of competing more developed and economically strong states. During military conflicts, corruption schemes are being developed, in which the governments of "interested" states take very active part. An example is Ukraine, where combat operations are actually conducted now in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. We consider it important to study the problem of the influence of TNCs and the distribution of natural and other resources of these territories among the oligarchs. Thus, according to a sociological survey conducted by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology, commissioned by the NGO Detector Media and with the financial support of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Sweden in Ukraine, as many as 65% of Ukrainians (which is quite a large number) are convinced that the war in Donbass will not cease because it is beneficial to the Ukrainian government and the oligarchs (Gordonua.com). What really distinguishes one political system from another is the extent to which ruling elites seek to use their power to serve the common good of society or simply by enriching themselves, their friends, and their families (F. Fukuyama, 2016).

It is no secret that influential rich states, using the national resources of poorer states, gain benefits for transnational corporations. TNCs also control the world information space, eliminate competitors and establish world order on terms favorable for them. In this case, the final incomes are received by the owners of these corporations, i.e., ultimately, residents of developed countries.

3. Specifics of actions of organized transnational crime subjects

According to research, the mafia now operates on the same scale and as effectively as global corporations. Its members use the speed and other capabilities of the Internet to coordinate their actions and internal logistics. Criminal networks have also borrowed considerable business experience from the private sector (Bauernebel Herbert), including corrupt practices. One can agree with the conclusion about the existence of a global world network of criminal forces (Bauernebel Herbert). Today, more than ever, corporations



can be compared to governments in terms of their impact on the state's economy and decision-making. TNCs are always involved in local political processes and their representatives join national associations of industrialists, so they have the opportunity to get an access to the leaders. Thus, TNCs are quite capable of influencing the internal policy of the state, and up to the implementation of coups d'etat and the inspiration of border conflicts. The TNCs possess quite a decent intelligence and counterintelligence, which is also engaged in espionage, neutralization and physical elimination of competitors (O. Chystyakov).

Transnational Organized Criminal Groups, in turn, support partnerships with TNCs in which they have invested and also with banks into which illegally acquired money has been put. Of course, transnational criminal groups bribe some politicians who are able to maintain a system favorable for them (O. Chystyakov), or to direct the situation in the right direction for them.

One of the characteristic features of modern TNCs is their huge expenditures on research and development. For example, TNCs make a significant contribution to the development of advanced technology through cooperation with universities and research centers. Such centers are created, as a rule, at universities, and they are actively financed by leading industrial corporations (V. Samofalov), which clearly implies undisguised corruption risks.

Transnational criminal organizations can differ significantly from other types of criminal organizations in their structure, capacity, size and geographical scale of activity, or the degree of diversification of their operations. Their common features are participation in legally prohibited forms of business activity, including the sale of illegal goods and services, smuggling of legally produced goods, theft of such goods, or all three types of the above mentioned transactions at the same time. The subjects of organized transnational crime operate in different regions of the world; they have their own specific specialization; they use different methods, techniques, tactics; they have different quantitative and ethnic composition, which is although very often built on a family principle. TNCs have long been very flexible, mobile and able to quickly correct their illegal activities in response to the prevention of criminal actions taken by law enforcement agencies. However, all of them are united by a common goal, i.e. to obtain extremely high profits from the criminal industry, which can be combined with the conduct of formally legal activities (E.D. Skulysh, V.O. Glushkov, 2012), which is carried out in a corrupt way. Thus, corrupt connections in law enforcement and other public authorities are the main characteristic element of the system on the basis of which TNCG operate.

It should be noted that the measures taken by individual states to resist the pressure of powerful TNCs have so far led to the achievement of these goals. Financial and industrial elites, in turn, with the help of TNCG, try to impose their order on societies that are not yet ready due to differences in cultures, history, laws, social order, mentality, etc. We believe that the level of transnational organized crime and corruption cannot yet be significantly reduced in local societies due to the fact that the goals of elites and certain states simply do not coincide.



4. Symptoms of a crisis of social order

Annual reports and analysis of the results of FRONTEX, EUROPOL, EUROJUST confirm the following general trend: the emergence of new or changing the nature of existing challenges, threats and risks of a cross-border nature, the diversification of their global geography (S.O. Filippov, 2019). The central problem of the modern world order is that innovations and creativity of the information society create a new environment in which time and space are not fragmented by enclaves of legal families and state borders, but are subject to new, unknown "waves" of energy impact of funds, images, capital, people, being connected (selectively, but in general) by information memes that organize and direct this movement. Before this phenomenon, the states and the world as a whole proved to be powerless... (V.O. Tulyakov, 2016).

The funds that were obtained by criminal means and then legalized, due to the use of various financial schemes have formed an oligarchic class in Ukraine and people close to it, who actually run the state. The rest of the population has become a sort of donor to transnational criminal organizations, since huge amounts of financial resources are not used for social needs and economic development, but they overpass the state budget and flow directly to the accounts of the criminal-political elite (Zharovska G.P., 2013).

So, nowadays there are several symptoms, in particular - the existence of such a phenomenon as transnational corruption, that indicate we have a crisis of social order in the world. Social arbitrariness and social illusions, which are based on ignoring the natural laws of social life, lead to a crisis in any sphere of social life (political, economic, legal, moral, religious, spiritual, scientific, artistic, etc.). In this context, the special role of the social sciences in ensuring social progress is becoming increasingly apparent, since without the development of the social sciences that shape people's social culture, no any development of the physical and biological sciences could ensure social progress, security and prosperity. In turn, the development of the social sciences can take place on the basis of social naturalism, i.e. the worldview according to which the social is natural. Here, for comparison, it is necessary to cite the postulates of American criminology, which is characterized by the application of sociological theories to explain the causes of crime. Their feature is the view of criminalization as a process of degradation, while the theoretical justification is based on the concept of social disorganization and anomie. For example, according to R.K. Merton's theory of anomie, the means of social culture exaggerate the importance of the goal, and social organization restricts possible access to legitimate means of achieving it. This theory only confirms the fact that the increase in opportunities, such as visa-free travel, affects the increase in volume of cross-border crimes (S.O. Filippov, 2019). However, this is one of the symptoms of the crisis of the social order.

Corruption in Ukraine today has quite a unique character, which distinguishes it from corruption in Western countries not only in terms of quantitative characteristics, but also in qualitative ones. The qualitative difference of this corruption is that it, being a crisis-type corruption, is generated by the social crisis in Ukraine, and, in turn, contributes to this crisis itself (Busol O., Kostenko O., Romanyk B., 2022).



5. Progress and transnational organized corruption as a social regress

"Progress and regression (from the Latin *progressus* is a translational motion, *regressus* is a reverse motion) is a quality of real processes, which consists in an upward movement from lower to higher, from less perfect to more perfect progress; in the transition from higher to lower - regress (Philosophical Dictionary, 1986). Under social progress we understand "the ascending development of mankind from the lowest levels of its socio-economic, political and spiritual organization to higher ones; qualitative renewal of public life forms and relations between people; progressive change of general civilization and formational stages of society development" (D.J. Kenney, 1995). We need to note that progressive changes in society, in particular those that can minimize transnational organized corruption, are taking place due to science. The prosperity of nations is ensured by universities, but not by parties, governments or parliaments. As the challenges to humanity become global, social education in universities is doomed to globalization. In our opinion, such globalization of social education is possible only as the convergence of national social education systems based on the approximation of each of them to a "common denominator" - social naturalism, which involves the development of social sciences through convergence with non-social ("natural") sciences.

The social culture of people consists of the following types: political, economic, legal, moral, religious, scientific, technological, rehabilitation, environmental, etc. Crisis-type corruption is also a phenomenon of "crimes caused by a social anomaly". Corruption is a real phenomenon but unnatural one, because it manifests violation of the laws of social nature, with which people's social life should be reconciled.

The dialectic of social development is such that the development of various aspects of social life is very often uneven. Progress in some spheres of public life is carried out against the background of the regression of other spheres (Philosophy, 1985). The life of modern countries testifies to the phenomenon of social progress, as UN research institutions and other research centers have developed a system of development indicators, such as GDP per capita, human development index, living standards, life expectancy and many other social indicators. These indicators characterize the social changes in a particular country, which reflect the progress or regression of social development of this state (Skvoretz V.O., 2011).

Given the characteristics of transnational criminal organizations cited by domestic and foreign scholars, also official statistics and information of competent authorities, as well as media reports and citizens opinion on the Internet, it can be stated that transnational criminal groups' corrupt actions are characterized by quite the systemic nature. Thus, the TOCG corruption should be considered as a mandatory feature that allows, among other features, to distinguish transnational organized crime from other types of criminal activity. We can note such a feature of TOCG as a criminal symbiosis with TNCs, *which can be considered as a violation of public order that leads to the corresponding social instability.*



Conclusions

Such a cursory view of the factors that give rise to corruption (including confusion about the causes and conditions that contribute to it) can lead to rather dramatic errors in anti-corruption policy. The result is a hypertrophy of the applied administrative (repressive) instruments, which is inherent in the "police type of a state".

The main feature of modern transnational crime is its politicization. Having corrupt connections with certain representatives of the state, transnational criminal organizations actually rob the state, which in the current economic situation is a factor that brings Ukraine closer to economic collapse. Global transnational crime deepens the crisis situation in the socio-political and economic life of Ukraine; it forms the vectors of foreign trade and forms the basis for a radical stratification of Ukrainian society on the basis of financial capacity.

Through corrupt interactions, legal institutions can become a chain of criminal organizations. Since relations between states are guided by the bureaucracy, their interaction is inevitable. That is, a state in which corruption is highly developed should most likely bring the "virus" of corrupt practices to any democratic state that declares and adheres to non-corruption norms. This is facilitated by the liberalization of customs and border relations, the creation of unified banking systems, offshore zones, the universalization of national currencies, the formation of global financial networks, global markets, global use of modern information technology, and more.

The internationalization of crime, makes it important to take into account general trends (as well as critically evaluate the national experience of different countries regarding the practice of influencing criminogenic factors):

- 1) The world order is not based on social justice.
- 2) TNCs establish world order on terms favorable for them. In this case, the final incomes are received by the owners of these corporations.
- 3) TNCs are quite capable of influencing the internal policy of the state.
- 4) The level of transnational organized crime and corruption cannot yet be significantly reduced in local societies due to the fact that the goals of elites and certain states simply do not coincide.
- 5) Criminal symbiosis TOCG with TNCs can be considered as a violation of public order that leads to the social instability.

The significance of social naturalism is that it provides a criterion for distinguishing between progress and regress, and it also equips people with the tools suitable for social progress. According to it, if a social phenomenon is natural, i.e. consistent with the laws of social nature, then it is progressive.

Social progress is a phenomenon that directly affects the historical development and destiny of any nation. In the modern world, against the background of progressive changes, namely the development of new information technologies and in the economy,



the tendencies of transnational crime, which includes corruption, continue to deepen, which testifies to the phenomenon that we call *"factor of social instability"*.

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