

**ON THE ISSUE OF THE ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF UKRAINE
IN ESTABLISHING COOPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION
ADVISORY MISSION TO UKRAINE**

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Higher education institutions with specific training conditions, which fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, in conditions of martial law, ensure not only the continuity and content of the process of training specialists for the security and defense sector in extremely difficult security conditions, taking into account the current requests of practical units to increase the combat component in the process of training future specialists, but also continue to maintain leadership within the state in the field of scientific activity and international cooperation aimed at reforming the civil security sector.

Considering the above-mentioned, at the level of the Higher Educational Institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, constant and painstaking work is being carried out to establish relations with new international partners, a special category of which in the field of civil security reform are experts from the European Union Advisory Mission to Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the EUAM to Ukraine).

It should be noted that "after the Revolution of Dignity in 2013-2014 and the signing of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, the issue of reform has become the first item on the agenda for the government and the society of Ukraine, EU partners, and other countries. In this context, reforming the civil security sector was recognized as a top priority. Ukrainian citizens need comprehensive and systemic reforms. The government of the country has already taken several steps towards reforms and has clearly outlined its priorities, in particular regarding the fight against corruption, the activities of the police and the judiciary. However, the low level of public trust in the political, law enforcement and judicial systems is a sign of the need to carry out a lot of work to justify the expectations of the Ukrainian population. Reforming the civil security sector is also impossible without resolving related problems, in particular the fight against corruption, ensuring good governance, respect for human rights and gender equality" [1].

According to foreign researchers, civil security sector reform is an important element of the EU's external intervention toolkit. In an increasingly uncertain global security environment, the EU has now stepped up its efforts to reform the civil security sector. However, the success of these efforts largely depends on the EU's ability to overcome complex, context-specific challenges. In particular, the EU must be able to simultaneously address the functional and normative-social imperatives that underlie civil security sector reform [2, p. 453].

In the context of a broader understanding of the context in which EUAM operates in Ukraine, it should be noted that in December 2014 the European Union launched its civilian mission in Ukraine, the EU Advisory Mission (EUAM). While the mission's primary objective is to mentor and advise Ukrainian officials on civilian security sector reform, the deployment of EUAM was driven by a broader geopolitical logic. Following Russia's annexation of Crimea in March 2014, international perceptions of Moscow's intentions have become increasingly ambiguous. Given the divergent interests of EU member states regarding Russia and the EU's lack of hard balancing capabilities, the only possible means available to the EU to address the situation in Ukraine has been diplomatic and economic pressure, i.e. sanctions. However, the EU has also been taking soft balancing measures that allow it to undermine Russia's interests in Ukraine without directly confronting it. Firstly, it improves the resilience of the Ukrainian state against Russian influence and pressure; and secondly, it is seen as strong political support for the Ukrainian government and the people of Ukraine [3, p. 244].

At the same time, in order to fully implement the areas of activity of the EUAM in Ukraine, a partnership with the Higher Educational Institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine plays an important role, the personnel, material and technical, scientific (intellectual) potential of which allows for the successful implementation of a wide range of initiatives involving practical workers in the security and defense sector, because the activities of this category of higher education institutions achieve maximum involvement of practitioners during permanent binary classes, field trips to practical units, etc.

Thus, the Higher Educational Institutions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine provide significant assistance to the EUAM in Ukraine in organizing and conducting various types of training, in particular during the training on the investigation of international/war crimes in April 2023. It is worth noting that "the program and training materials for the training on the investigation of international/war crimes have been developed by the staff of the European Union Advisory Mission to Ukraine. Lectures and practical classes have been conducted by EUAM representatives. In particular, Mark Rorda focused his report on the norms of international humanitarian law and their application, focusing on a detailed consideration of examples of court decisions in individual cases on international crimes at the International Criminal Court. Joseph Clemmensen familiarized the audience with the essence and features of recording sexual violence committed during armed conflict, as well as gender-based violence" [4].

It should also be emphasized that the knowledge and skills acquired during such events are organically implemented into the educational process at the Higher Educational Institution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine. For example, according to the results of the training mentioned above, "the knowledge obtained will be used to update educational materials in the following disciplines: "Forensic Science", "Methodology of Investigation of Certain Types of Crimes", "Operational and Detective Activities", "Criminal Process", "Pre-trial Investigation", "Actions of the Investigation and Operational Groups of the National Police to Document Crimes Related to Armed Aggression against Ukraine", "International Protection of Human Rights", "International Law", "Current Problems of Protec-

tion and Observance of Human Rights and Freedoms in Law Enforcement Activities”, etc.” [4].

The role of the Higher Education Institution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine in establishing cooperation with the EUAM in Ukraine also boils down to maximum assistance and assistance in conducting online events. In this context, it should be noted that “the completion of training modules on the CEPOL online educational platform within the framework of the Eastern Partnership Cooperation in Combating Organized Crime project, organized by the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training with the assistance of the European Union Advisory Mission to Ukraine” [5]. At the award ceremony for the training participants, the Deputy Head of the Science and Innovation Department of the Department of Education, Science and Sports of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, Eduard Kysilyuk, “stressed the importance of cooperation between the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the European Union Advisory Mission to Ukraine and the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training, which contributes to the use of foreign experience in the educational process and practical work of the police, in particular during the legal regime of martial law” [5].

Thus, the Higher Educational Institution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, given the significant human, logistical, and organizational capabilities available, plays an important role in establishing cooperation with EUAM in Ukraine. The available locations of the Higher Educational Institution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, which, taking into account the specifics of law enforcement activities under martial law in the educational process, as well as a high level of logistical support, allow international experts to carry out productive educational activities on topical issues of combating organized crime, interaction with the public, criminal analysis, etc.

References:

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