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ATTITUDE OF THE POPULATION OF UKRAINE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE POLICE: THE FIRST RESULTS OF THE REFORM

The publication presents the main results of public opinion polls conducted in Ukraine by a number of sociological agencies – the Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation, Social Monitoring Center and the Ukrainian Social Science Research Institute named after Alexander Yaremenko, together with the Department of Monitoring Studies of Socio-Economic Transformations at the Institute of Economics and Forecasting of NAS of Ukraine, Razumkov Center, Kyiv International Institute of Sociology, Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kharkiv Ins. the title of social research during 2005-2017, Kantar TNS in relation to the population's attitude to the police (police), in particular, indicators of trust in the police, subjective evaluation of the activities of this law enforcement agency, satisfaction with its work, including when applying to police officers. The paper notes that the data of various sociological surveys do not coincide with the indicators of Ukrainian population's trust in the police as a whole and in the police patrol unit. Changes in the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine were started with the creation of a police patrol service and a wide coverage of this event in the media, which probably contributed to increasing the level of public confidence in this police unit at the beginning of the law enforcement reform.

Based on data from the public opinion poll conducted by the Razumkov Center in May 2016 in all regions of Ukraine, with the exception of the Crimea and the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (2019 respondents were interviewed), differences were found in the assessment of the work of city (district) police among various socio-demographic groups. The lower points of the police work tend to be provided by respondents living in the east of the country, persons belonging to the oldest age group, and more are young people, persons with higher education or with a higher material level.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the competence of the subject of evaluation and the specificity and complexity of the object of evaluation plays an important role in the process of assessing the activity of the police. In the sociological survey of the population of the country, only general representations of respondents regarding the activities of the police in ensuring public order, disclosure and prevention of crimes, etc. are recorded. In order to assess the activities of the police, it is proposed to conduct selective or continuous polls of persons directly using the services of the police in the areas of ensuring the protection of human rights and freedoms, the interests of society and the state, and combating crime.

Keywords: police, police activity estimation, trust to the police, sociological survey.

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