



BEST PRACTICE IN THE PREVENTION OF JUNEARY CRIMES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

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Annotation: This article analyzes advanced prevention models aimed at preventing juvenile delinquency in the European Union and several European countries (Germany, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden). The study highlights the effectiveness of an individual approach, restorative justice, sabotage, socio-psychological support, preventive mechanisms with the participation of the school and the community, as well as early prevention and integrated interdepartmental cooperation. Based on the European experience, scientific and practical proposals adapted for Uzbekistan - educational and rehabilitation programs, community-based preventive infrastructure, digital monitoring technologies, recommendations for improving legal culture and developing the juvenile justice system have been developed.

Keywords: juveniles, prevention, European experience, juvenile justice, restorative justice, sabotage, Germany, France, Great Britain, Netherlands, Norway, legal culture.

Current global changes, the rapid development of information technologies, and the socio-economic complexities arising in society make the issue of juvenile delinquency one of the pressing problems for all states. World experience shows that offenses can be effectively solved not by punishing them after the commission of the crime, but by preventing them, that is, by early and thorough implementation of preventive measures. From this point of view, systematic cooperation between the state, society, family, education, and law enforcement agencies, socio-pedagogical support, and raising legal awareness are of particular importance in reducing juvenile delinquency.

In the countries of the European Union, the development of juvenile justice and prevention systems, their comprehensive model of individual prevention, restorative justice, sabotage, school-oriented programs, and the effective integration of psychological and social assistance services are yielding high results in reducing offenses. Germany's Jugendgerichtsgesetz, Great Britain's Whole System Approach concept, France's Protection Judiciaire de la Jeunesse system, Norway's Olweus program, the Halt model in the Netherlands, and Sweden's social service capabilities demonstrate important directions of European preventive infrastructure.

The study scientifically examines best practices in the prevention of juvenile delinquency in European countries, analyzes their legal basis, practical mechanisms, and effectiveness. Opportunities for adapting European models to the conditions of Uzbekistan and practical recommendations for the development of the juvenile justice system will also be developed. The significance of this research lies in the fact that it serves to modernize the national prevention system and introduce humane, modern, and scientifically based approaches to crime prevention.

The article is aimed at a systematic study and analysis of best practices in the prevention of juvenile delinquency in the countries of the European Union, providing for a scientific study of legal guarantees, socio-educational mechanisms, and effective models of preventive infrastructure specific to this region.

1) In the member states of the European Union, in particular in Germany, a special law "On Youth Courts" (Jugendgerichtsgesetz) is in effect, which establishes legal measures against minors, providing for an individual approach aimed at the correction and re-education of young people[1]. For example, if it is proven that a minor is guilty of committing a crime, the court has the right to place him under supervision without imposing punishment for the act committed[2]. In Germany, measures aimed at psychodiagnostics, socio-psychological counseling, family mediation, and social adaptation of juvenile offenders are considered priority. Also, in order to reduce delinquency among minors and youth, a system of "Socio-pedagogical support" ("Sotsialno-pedagogicheskoye soprovojdenniye") and preventive centers have been created, which work in cooperation with educational institutions and local authorities[3].

2) In Great Britain, the concept of the "Whole System Approach" (WSA) is in effect, which relies on close cooperation between state, educational, family, and community institutions in the prevention of juvenile delinquency. According to this approach, young people at risk of committing crimes are identified in advance, and individual preventive programs, rehabilitation centers, and measures for the re-adaptation of young people to social life are implemented for them. In the experience of Great Britain, "Youth Offending Teams" have been formed with the participation of teachers and psychologists, and these groups are the main linking structure between school, mahalla, and the law enforcement system.

3) In France, the "Protection Judiciaire de la Jeunesse" system is effectively functioning in the prevention of juvenile delinquency, which is carried out on the basis of cooperation between the government, local authorities, and public organizations[4]. Through this system, a program aimed at extrajudicial diversion, family mediation, psychological therapy, and social activity ("second chance programs") has been introduced for minors and young people who have committed offenses.

Among European countries, a unique system for raising the legal awareness and legal culture of minors who have committed crimes has been formed in France. The French municipal police, fully funded by the local budget, maintain public order in cities and other settlements and deal with minors[5]. In this regard, they work in close cooperation with the National Police.

The French National Police is entrusted with all police functions, including issues of legal awareness and legal culture of minors, and for their effective provision, about twenty main departments, directorates, centers, institutions, and services operate within its structure.

The main task of the Youth Affairs Department within the National Police is to directly address issues of raising the legal awareness and legal culture of minors. The activities of the Main Directorate are aimed at implementing the following main tasks:

- provision of social and legal assistance;
- increasing legal literacy;
- control over their compliance with the norms of law established in the country;
- provision of assistance to the population;
- implementation of crime prevention;



inquiry and investigation of crimes related to law enforcement, including the infliction of minor damage;

maintenance and restoration of public order.

4) In the experience of Norway, the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (BPP), a multi-component program aimed at reducing and preventing cases of violence in the school environment, has been developed, which manifests itself mainly as a comprehensive system aimed at preventing violence among middle and high school students and eliminating its negative socio-psychological consequences.

5) In the Netherlands, the "Prevention Through Responsibility" (Preventie met Gezag) program has been launched, which focuses on crime-prone areas (neighborhoods, schools, online) in the 8-27 age group. In this program, regional groups (municipalities), the youth service, public organizations, and the probation service work together. The "Halt" program is used as a diversionary measure for young people. This program allows young people who have committed crimes for the first time or less often to give educational and socially useful assignments instead of punishment. Scientific research has shown that it is possible to reduce the recurrence of crime among Halt program participants, as well as improve educational outcomes. The juvenile justice chain and ground-based pilot projects (for example, the Youth and Safety Program) contribute to the formation of sustainable preventive structures on the ground.

6) In the Dutch model, great importance is attached to integration (by combining various organizations) and early intervention in prevention. This will yield acceptable results in providing opportunities for youth instead of punishment and promoting social reintegration. However, when implementing this model in our country, it is necessary to take into account local capabilities, the level of inter-organizational cooperation, and the financing mechanism.

7) Three aspects of Swedish prosperity should be implemented in Uzbekistan. Social services are available to clients. In Sweden, clients do not have to make excessive efforts to receive social assistance, which is available to every Swedish citizen. In some cases, social workers even try their best to provide social assistance to clients without the client being concerned about it. Problem-solving perspectives view social work as an aspect of well-being services for individuals in societies aimed at satisfying people's needs and improving the services provided to them. Secondly, social workers work in cooperation with some specialists to determine the real reasons for the resolution of the case. For example, in cases of children at risk, doctors, social workers, psychologists, investigators, the police, and even society work together. Thirdly, the Swedish welfare model assumes not only financial support, but also moral support. For example, the goal of some NGOs is to prevent people from feeling lonely, FH can express my opinion. In FH, power dependence cannot be seen, since each member is equal in decision-making. Each member has its own voice, where there is no member-working department[6].

8) In Russia, various social and state measures are used to prevent youth crime. Preventive measures based on psychological and pedagogical technologies, including school education, labor and social support, and cooperation with society and family, are important. Scientific research also shows trends in juvenile delinquency (e.g., Internet-related crimes) and suggests competitive pathways.

In the Russian experience, social and non-material measures (school, psychological support) have been added to prevention, but these measures are still fully integrated and there

are limitations on their equal accessibility to all young people. Also, online crimes and modern electronic threats should be taken into account more deeply in the prevention strategy.

In addition, according to Article 5 of the Law "On the Fundamentals of the System for the Prevention of Neglect and Crime among Minors," adopted in Russia, bodies and institutions of the system for the prevention of neglect and delinquency among minors carry out individual preventive work with the following categories of minors:

- 1) Unattended;
- 2) those who engaged in begging;
- 3) minors living in social rehabilitation centers for minors, social shelters, centers for assisting children left without parental care who have been in special educational and upbringing institutions for minors in need of social assistance or rehabilitation;
- 4) consume narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances without a doctor's prescription or intoxicating substances, alcoholic beverages and alcoholic products;
- 5) committed an offense that entailed the application of administrative liability measures;
- 6) committed an offense before reaching the age of administrative responsibility;
- 7) in cases of release from criminal liability on the basis of an amnesty act or in connection with a change in circumstances, as well as in cases where it is recognized that the development of correctional educational influence on a minor is possible through the application of coercive measures;
- 8) who have committed a socially dangerous act and are not subject to criminal liability due to mental retardation not related to a mental disorder or having not reached the age at which criminal liability arises;
- 9) persons accused or suspected of committing crimes, for whom preventive measures provided for by the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian Federation have been chosen;
- 10) who have served a sentence in the form of imprisonment in educational colonies;
- 11) conditionally released from serving their sentence, released from punishment in connection with pardon under the amnesty act[7].

Also, for violating the established procedure for the detention of minors in need of social rehabilitation in specialized institutions, special educational and upbringing institutions of open and closed types, as well as in temporary detention centers for juvenile offenders of internal affairs bodies, such punishments as warnings, reprimands, and severe reprimands are applied to minors, as well as disciplinary sanctions such as notification of parents or legal representatives to minors in special educational and upbringing institutions of open and closed types.

Taking into account European and other Western-Northern experiences (German, British, French, Dutch, Norwegian, and Swedish models), scientific and practical recommendations for adaptation to the conditions of Uzbekistan have been developed. Specifically:

- 1) Creation of a system for the prevention of juvenile delinquency in Uzbekistan: a) widespread introduction of educational, rehabilitation, and restorative mechanisms instead of punishment; b) strengthening of preventive infrastructure based on schools and communities; c) interdepartmental integration and provision of "one-sided" programs at the local level;
- 2) the formation of a system of youth support services, including open and closed rehabilitation, psychotherapy, and family mediation, based on the example of the Protection Judiciaire de la Jeunesse (PJJ) in France, which is connected with the state, but in cooperation with local partners;

3) analysis of children's internet activity, behavior on social networks, school attendance, grades, and behavior using Big Data, AI (artificial intelligence), and Machine Learning technologies;

4) Online psychological counseling systems for young people who have problems with their place of residence, school, or family (e-Mediation, e-Counseling). (Smart chatbot-psychologist services operating 24/7, based on the experience of Estonia, Singapore, and Japan ("AI Youth Support Chatbot" is available);

5) Ensuring reconciliation through online meetings of the victim with young people who have committed crimes, apologizing, with the participation of the family, community, and psychologist. (Germany and France use electronic mediation platforms (e-restorative platforms);

6) Promoting legal culture among young people through mobile games and interactive simulators related to legal literacy. (Law for Life Kids in Great Britain, Youth Law Simulator in Korea);

7) Cameras, sensors, AI monitoring that automatically detect cases of violence, aggression, and bullying in schools. (Smart Anti-Bullying Detector technologies in Norway and Finland);

8) Creation of online observation groups ("Digital Mahalla Patrol") in cooperation between the community and the police. (Formation of a public monitoring and prevention map of areas with a high risk of children).

Analysis of the experience of European countries shows that preventive measures to reduce the inclination of minors to crime are effective in such areas as: a) early prevention - involvement of children in the social protection system at preschool and school age; b) observance of the law in educational institutions, increasing legal literacy; c) introduction of restorative justice, diversion, and rehabilitation mechanisms for young people who have committed crimes; d) ensuring the active participation of the local community and family; e) implementation of comprehensive preventive programs in cooperation with state and non-state structures.

Based on the above experience, it is advisable to gradually develop the juvenile justice system in Uzbekistan, expand rehabilitation centers and psychological support services, strengthen the institutional role and responsibility of the mahalla, family, and educational institutions, as well as provide practical mechanisms for the cooperation format "school - family - mahalla - internal affairs bodies."

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