

## ECONOMIC AND LEGAL FOUNDATIONS FOR DETERMINING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CRIMINAL AND SPECIAL POLICE UNITS UNDER MARTIAL LAW

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**Abstract.** The *subject* of the present study is the conceptual, theoretical, empirical, and methodological foundations of the legal and economic principles of determining the effectiveness of criminal and special police units under martial law. *Methodology.* Both general and special methods of cognition were employed in the study. The dialectical method was employed to grade the effectiveness of criminal and special police units under martial law in legal and economic terms according to a wide range of parameters. This analysis enabled a multifaceted study of all the characteristic features of police performance indicators and the relevant services provided by these units in legal and economic terms. The synthesis created the prerequisites for generalising the characteristic features of the activities of criminal and special police units. The formal-legal method enabled the correct interpretation of the content of normative legal acts determining the general and special legal regime of the activities of criminal and special police units under martial law. The *objective* of the present article is to ascertain the economic and legal foundations that inform the assessment of the effectiveness of criminal and special police units operating within a martial law context. The *findings* of the study demonstrated that under martial law, the economic and legal foundations for evaluating the effectiveness of the operations of criminal and special police units are intricate in nature, as evidenced by several indicators, among which the level of public trust and the provision of effective protection and security of public and legitimate interests are paramount. The methodology for enhancing the operational effectiveness of criminal and special police units to achieve the established objective has been delineated. *Conclusion.* The present study seeks to establish a direct positive or negative relationship between the effectiveness of police services and relevant micro- and macroeconomic indicators of social development. It has been proven that the structure of the relationship between the activities of criminal and special police units and economic indicators manifests itself in several dimensions. Police activities aimed at preventing crime, in terms of their structure, detection and suppression of relevant offences, affect the main micro- and macroeconomic indicators of social development. This is reflected in parameters such as per capita income (economic opportunities), the number of police officers per capita, conviction rates and political instability. The financial and material support provided to police officers has a direct impact on the effectiveness of police work, which has corresponding economic foundations. The legal basis for determining the effectiveness of criminal and special police units in general, and under martial law in particular, is formed taking into account the general and special legal status of these law enforcement (police) entities. In the context of martial law, the remit of criminal police units is expanded to encompass a range of issues pertaining to the prevention, detection, disclosure, or investigation of crimes that are exacerbated by such circumstances. Consequently, the indicators of the effectiveness of the police service provided must be aligned with the pertinent parameters. The competence of the special police is characterised by a more militarised nature of powers, which correlates with the relevant parameters for assessing the corresponding police activities. The scientific position that is supported by the evidence is that the assessment activity under consideration has a positive impact on law enforcement (police) activity. This is achieved through the improvement of internal processes in the law enforcement system in general and the National Police in particular. The result of this is organisational development and growth

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in public effectiveness of its activities. A systematic approach to the structuring of the criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of police activities has enabled the identification of relevant indicators. Among these, the level of public trust, which is complex in nature and can be measured both quantitatively and qualitatively, occupies a privileged place. In the context of martial law, it is imperative to establish the criteria for evaluating the efficacy of special police forces, particularly in light of the extraordinary circumstances, compounded by the prevailing legal regime. This necessitates a meticulous examination of the outcomes of special operations.

**Keywords:** criminal and special police units, economic foundations, legal foundations, macroeconomic indicators, microeconomic indicators, effectiveness, crime, shadow economy, economic security, martial law.

**JEL Classification:** D74, F15, H56, K42

## 1. Introduction

In the contemporary era, matters pertaining to the maintenance of public order, the identification of a particular ethnic group, its integration into modern human society, the delineation of national interests, and the protection and safeguarding of private rights are being regarded from a novel perspective. This shift in perspective is attributable to a multitude of geopolitical, regional, and national circumstances. Among these are intensifying contradictions within the economic, social, legal and cultural aspects of a particular social group's existence, and of humanity's existence as a whole. This results in one state manifesting aggression towards another, which the latter sees as an existential threat to its national interests and main priorities for ensuring sovereignty and independence.

It is evident that even in the absence of such a threat in everyday life, society faces threats to national security of a lesser degree on the corresponding rating scale. The responsibility for preventing and overcoming these real and potential threats falls to law enforcement agencies, with criminal and special police units playing a special role in this regard. However, it should be noted that the functions of these units are changing under martial law.

In the context of a nation aspiring to cultivate a civil society, a pivotal element in the quotidian life, including in the mitigation of threats to national security, pertains to the formulation of criteria for the evaluation of the performance of all community institutions, with a particular emphasis on public administration bodies. These entities are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring law and order, and the establishment of civilised and secure conditions for the existence of both the community as a whole and individuals as constituent members. Of particular note is the process of determining the place of criminal and special police units, which are vested with special powers within the structure of the National Police.

In the contemporary context, marked by a pervasive commercialisation of all social processes, the issue of the impact of the effectiveness of the activities of criminal and special police units on the macro- and microeconomic indicators of the socio-economic

development of a particular country is of considerable importance.

General approaches to determining the criteria for evaluating police unit performance have been examined by a range of scholars. TCC Nepomuceno, C. Daraio and APCS Costa (Nepomuceno et al., 2021) analysed the formation of a multi-criteria rating for assessing the effectiveness of police units in Brazil. Ben A. Vollaard (2006) focused on measuring police performance and identifying tools to stimulate its improvement. Shyshkarova O. (2024) proposed a comprehensive classification of police performance evaluation types, while Korniyakova T. (2023) examined the effectiveness of police responses to public safety offences.

The impact of police activities on the economic indicators of society and state functioning has been examined by researchers in several dimensions: the economic effectiveness of preventive police activities in the field of drug trafficking (Shanahan et al., 2017); the development of economic instruments in police work aimed at combating crime (Suleiman, 2015); the identification of economic determinants of crime dynamics and preventive measures, assessed through quantitative and qualitative indicators of police performance (Luiz, 2001); the economic outcomes of law enforcement agencies, including the police, in combating corruption (Matović, 2021; Korniienko et al., 2020); and state measures to counter the shadow economy through the activities of law enforcement bodies under modern conditions (Svirko, Suprunova, 2020).

The legal principles for determining the effectiveness of police units, including criminal and special units, both in general and under martial law, have been studied by various scholars. In particular, the following issues have been examined in more detail: the effectiveness of countering cybercrime (Faqr, 2013); the impact of criminal police effectiveness on the prevention of domestic crime (Saxton, 2019); the development of performance indicators for police activity and the criteria for effective police service (Nebeska, 2019); the identification of problematic aspects in assessing police effectiveness (Okhrimenko, 2016); the legal aspects of assessing police performance under martial

law (Katerynychuk, Troianovskiy, 2024); and the specific features of police units' activities during the introduction of martial law (Polivanyuk, Korol, 2022).

The scientific research presented here forms the theoretical basis for studying the economic and legal principles involved in determining the effectiveness of criminal and special police units' activities under martial law. This will be the focus of the study within the framework of this work.

## **2. Economic Foundations for Determining the Effectiveness of Police Units under Martial Law**

Law enforcement, as a component of the economy, can be considered as a manifestation of social existence. Within this sphere, the processes of production, consumption, distribution, and exchange of relevant goods take place. These processes are designed to satisfy the private and public interests of the relevant subjects, from individuals to the state and territorial communities within a particular administrative unit. Concurrently, the economic indicators resulting from the activities of law enforcement agencies are directly determined by the provision of relevant law enforcement services, taking into account their quantitative and qualitative indicators in terms of the essence of the service as a whole within the private law nature of such a concept, as well as its definition as a sphere of implementation of the competence of public administration, such as law enforcement agencies for the protection of human rights and freedoms, their restoration, the cessation of relevant offences, and the application of certain administrative procedures. In addition, the impact of law enforcement agencies on the economy is projected onto other components of the economy. This results in the formation of micro- and macroeconomic indicators, which testify to the complex nature of law enforcement agencies' impact on the economy.

In this context, it is appropriate to study statistical data that demonstrate the qualitative and quantitative indicators of the impact of police departments and agencies on the economy. Thus, the report on the results of the audit of the effectiveness of the use of budget funds allocated to ensure the activities of National Police of Ukraine units, institutions and establishments contains an analysis of indicators demonstrating the rationality and effectiveness with which state budget funds are used to implement the competence of police units in areas such as management decision-making, the use of material resources and information support for relevant procedures (Report of the Accounting Chamber on the use of budget funds by the National Police, 2018).

The monitoring of the report, which is based on the results of an analytical study of the prospects for

improving personnel policy and changing the terms of remuneration for police officers with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the police service in the labour market, indicates the design of the personnel policy of the National Police of Ukraine. This is aimed at increasing the competitiveness of the police service in the labour market, defining the material and legal basis for determining police salaries, as well as taking other measures aimed at providing police officers with adequate economic incentives to provide high-quality and effective law enforcement services within the scope of the relevant public administration function (Report on the Results of an Analytical Study of the Prospects for Improving Personnel Policy and Changing the Terms of Remuneration for Police Officers, 2024). This correlation is further substantiated by extant literature, which draws attention to the interconnection between economic incentives for police work, such as reasonable salaries, housing, medical care, and pensions, and the risks of professional activity, as well as the high probability of committing a corruption offense in the absence of such incentives, or where the incentives are inadequate in either their quality or quantity. In such circumstances, it is appropriate to establish functional links between the above economic incentives in the professional activities of police officers and the corresponding indicators of the law enforcement (police) services they provide (Suleiman, 2015).

The Report of the National Police of Ukraine on the results of its work in 2024 differentiates the areas of influence of police activities on the relevant spheres of public life and types of offenses that directly or indirectly affected the relevant segments of the economy. In the conditions of an existential threat to society and the state stemming from the open armed aggression of the Russian Federation, the functional priorities of police activity have significantly changed. The primary areas of police engagement include:

- Repelling and deterring armed aggression;
- fulfilling territorial defence tasks;
- implementing measures required by the legal regime of martial law;
- documenting war crimes;
- conducting operational demining;
- organising police work in de-occupied territories;
- participating in the elimination of the consequences of enemy shelling;
- providing humanitarian assistance and evacuating the population from areas close to the combat zone;
- responding to citizens' reports of offences and other incidents;
- supporting the security capacities of territorial communities to ensure the availability of police services throughout Ukraine.

In addition, the police have intensified efforts to combat criminal offences that are particularly relevant

under martial law, including: serious and especially serious crimes against life, health and property; intentional destruction or damage to property by arson, explosion or other generally dangerous means; corruption schemes aimed at evading mobilisation; illegal smuggling of persons across the state border; organised crime; illegal trafficking in weapons; distribution of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogues and precursors; and fraud, especially aggravated forms exploiting citizens' emotional vulnerability during the period of military aggression.

Moreover, an analysis of this report reveals that particular emphasis was placed on specific police functions during the specified period. These functions include the following: the search for missing persons under specific circumstances; the conduct of criminal proceedings against military personnel of the aggressor country and their accomplices; the detection and investigation of a number of sabotage-related crimes; the detection and documentation of offences related to the illegal circulation of weapons and explosives; the provision of population evacuation services; the exercise of powers within the framework of the "Community Police Officer" project; and the implementation of the functions of the Educational Security Service. An equally important component of law enforcement services during this period was the exercise of traditional powers to prevent, detect and investigate offences such as grievous bodily harm, rape, robbery, assault, extortion, the illegal seizure of vehicles, and traffic accidents, including those with fatal consequences. This also covered illegal drug and psychotropic substance trafficking, high-tech crime, fraud, organised crime and economic crime, and so forth (Report of the National Police of Ukraine on the Results of Work in 2024, 2024).

A review of the statistical reports presented indicates a multidimensional approach to characterising the impact of police or law enforcement activities on the economic indicators of societal development. It is worth highlighting that significant resources are allocated from the state budget to maintain public order, some of which goes towards providing material support and creating economic instruments for developing the professional capabilities of the police. Concurrently, within the ambit of police activities, there is a process of elimination of destructive phenomena of an illegal and antisocial nature, which have a negative impact on the formation of macro- and microeconomic indicators of the development of society and the state. This underscores the necessity to ascertain the economic foundation for the efficacy of police units, particularly the criminal and special police, especially in conditions of martial law.

These considerations are particularly relevant in view of the provisions of regulatory enactments in

the field of national security, in particular within its components. Thus, Part 4 of Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On National Security of Ukraine" (The Law of Ukraine "On National Security of Ukraine" of June 21, 2018, No. 2469-VIII) interpolates national security into a number of its components, where economic security occupies a separate place. Clearly, threats to the economy are neutralised within the framework of measures to ensure the security of other components, such as information security, environmental security and cybersecurity.

In this regard, V. Terekhov's reasoning is relevant, as he aptly interpreted the law enforcement activities of the Economic Security Bureau from the perspective of ensuring economic security as part of national security as a complex phenomenon. In particular, he noted the widespread use of information, analytical and legal tools in law enforcement to identify risks and threats to the economy and finance as interrelated categories in the state (Terekhov, 2022). It is evident that these considerations should also be applicable to police units whose functions are related to the aforementioned area of law enforcement.

As a corollary to the aforementioned considerations, it is worthwhile to take into account the views that law enforcement activities within the powers of public administration bodies should be viewed from the perspective of preventing and combating the shadow economy as a negative social phenomenon that threatens budgetary security. As budget security is a component of economic (financial) security, measures to ensure it have a significant impact on the economic indicators of society, creating relevant links between the performance indicators of law enforcement agencies and the economic development of the state (Svirko, Suprunova, 2020).

Concurrently, the configuration of criminal activity suggests a pervasive categorisation of the repercussions of police operations, notably those undertaken by the criminal and special police units, on all domains of public life and pertinent segments of the national economy. Consequently, researchers analysed the economic efficiency and feasibility of the Australian police's utilisation of educational and training programmes and treatment in lieu of arrest and prosecution of minors in cases pertaining to the use of soft drugs, with cannabis serving as a case in point. The subsequent economic indicators were identified as being pertinent to the costs incurred: law enforcement, court proceedings, fines, assessment, treatment, and the introduction of relevant educational and training programmes. As a result of the research, it was determined that the financial implications of implementing the conventional system of punishment were almost double those of the alternative system (Shanahan et al., 2017). The validity of utilising an economic assessment scale to evaluate the efficacy of the criminal police in the



context of implementing a corresponding list of sanctions for committed offences, which serve as an alternative to the conventional punitive system, is indicated by such conclusions.

In the context of law enforcement (police) activities, it is appropriate to study the economic determinants of the following phenomena: per capita income of the population (economic opportunities), number of police officers per capita, level of convictions, and political instability. Concurrently, a correlation has been identified between the number of police officers per capita and the conviction rate, which serve as indirect indicators of the probability of criminal success. Furthermore, the conviction rate has been found to be a direct indicator of institutional effectiveness, while political instability has been demonstrated to be a significant predictor of the crime rate per capita. The aforementioned findings enabled the establishment of an inverse relationship between the level of economic activity (per capita income) and registered crime, that is, that which has passed the stage of processing in police activities with the corresponding decisions made (Luiz, 2001).

In assessing the impact of corruption on economic processes, a number of hypotheses have been confirmed that clarify the role and significance of law enforcement agencies, particularly the police, in shaping a system for preventing this destructive and socially harmful phenomenon. The research demonstrates a strong correlation between anti-corruption activities carried out by law enforcement agencies and the level of public trust in administrative institutions, as well as the relevance of police performance indicators to the overall crime rate. It also establishes a direct relationship between indirect public perceptions of corruption and its actual level and scale. Furthermore, the study confirms that the introduction of innovation, wider institutional participation, and the transfer of new knowledge have a directly proportional impact on the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures. Concurrently, correlation series were constructed for the purpose of investigating the dependence of corruption and the effectiveness of public administration bodies, as well as the comparability of economic approaches to modelling the development of society and forecasting corruption processes (Matović, 2021).

Another study constructed an economic model of crime based on an analysis of several types of offences – specifically murder, theft, robbery and fraud – which fall within the competence of the police and generate specific legal and economic outcomes. The findings indicate that a number of variables influence participation in illegal activities, including the level of unemployment, the cost of public works initiated by public administration, and the proportion of individuals employed in the service sector.

The study also identifies a relationship between the structure of crime and the level of economic development in society. Moreover, the effectiveness of police powers is shown to be directly related to the likelihood of punishment for an offence, while the research further concludes that increasing the likelihood of punishment is a more effective deterrent than imposing more severe penalties (Marselli & Vannini, 1997).

Thus, the economic foundations for determining the effectiveness of police units, particularly criminal and specialist units, have an impact on all areas of society, from law enforcement to various industries. The structure, detection and suppression of crime by the police affects basic micro- and macroeconomic indicators of societal development, as reflected in parameters such as per capita income (economic opportunities), the number of police officers per capita, conviction rates and political instability, etc. The financial and material support provided to police officers has a direct impact on the effectiveness of police work, which has corresponding economic foundations. The economic indicators of a society's existence form the preconditions for the development of a particular type of crime and determine the relevant measures for its prevention, which is reflected in the indicators of the effectiveness of law enforcement agencies.

### **3. Legal Basis for Determining the Effectiveness of Criminal and Special Police Units Under Martial Law**

The aforementioned considerations form the prerequisites for analysing the legal basis for determining the effectiveness of criminal and special police units in general and under martial law in particular, taking into account the general and special legal status of these law enforcement (police) entities.

Article 13 of the Ukrainian Law on the National Police clearly distinguishes between criminal and special police units. It reveals the general structure of the police as the central executive body responsible for ensuring the protection of human rights and freedoms, combating crime, and maintaining public safety and order (The Law of Ukraine "On National Police" of July 2, 2015, No. 580-VIII.).

The approach developed in the literature is common to criminal police units, who share the goal of fighting crime. This is achieved through organisational, operational, analytical and preventive measures, which result in the effective implementation of law enforcement functions by public administration. This ensures the rule of law and order, economic stability and public safety (Yatskovina, 2022).

An analysis of the structure of the National Police shows that the Criminal Investigation Department,

the Migration Police Department, the Operational Service Department, the Operational and Technical Measures Department, the Department for Ensuring Activities Related to Hazardous Materials, the Department for Combating Drug Crime, and the Criminal Analysis Department are part of the criminal police (Structure of the National Police).

Special police units are defined as part of the police force in the context of Article 13 of the Law of Ukraine "On National Police". The name itself indicates certain special powers of the above category of subdivisions, the regulatory and legal basis of which is not defined in the specified law, but is determined in subordinate regulatory and legal acts, including the Regulations on special purpose police units (The Order of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine "On Approval of the Regulations on Special Purpose Police Units", 2017), the Regulations on special police units "Rapid Response Corps" (The Order of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine "On Approval of the Regulations on Special Purpose Police Units 'Rapid Response Corps'", 2018). Within the framework of the first regulatory legal act, the objective was defined as the direct conduct of special police operations aimed at stopping crimes associated with a high degree of public danger and armed resistance. It also included the performance of combat (special) tasks during the repulsion of armed aggression against Ukraine or the resolution of an armed conflict, as well as the implementation, within the limits of police competence, of measures to combat crime that pose an increased threat to the life and health of police officers. Such activities require officers to possess a high level of physical and professional training and the ability to act confidently under extreme conditions. Whilst an additional provision is in place to grant special police powers to implement measures to combat crime, it must be noted that these are associated with an increased threat to the life and health of police officers. In addition, a high probability of armed resistance is also imposed, as well as additional requirements on police officers regarding professional skills and the ability to act confidently in extreme conditions.

The question of evaluating the efficacy of criminal and special police forces is intrinsically linked to the delineation of performance indicators for the police as a whole, within which the additional responsibilities of these units are delineated. It is therefore vital to emphasise the importance of a fair, non-compensatory assessment of police unit effectiveness based on the application of multiple decision-making criteria, with particular emphasis on efficiency and effectiveness. At the same time, a multi-criteria approach was applied as a general method for studying social phenomena in order to determine the effectiveness of one of three models: the appointment and redistribution of police positions in the field of public safety; the projection

of their decisions; and the verification of the latter's reliability (Nepomuceno et al., 2021).

Another approach involves assessing police activities in the context of achieving certain economic and social indicators, based on their impact on relevant social processes. The results of the econometric analysis showed that the police had a negative impact on a number of crimes against persons and property, as well as offences relating to public safety. A direct link has been established between the discretionary powers of the police and the economic incentives corresponding to the results of their activities (Vollaard, 2006).

Given their multifunctional nature, which includes various aspects of police functions, both general and specific, the differentiation of criteria for evaluating police activities is justified. While general criteria are usually covered by immediate, intermediate or final results, special criteria cover various aspects of activities relating to crime prevention, detection or investigation. Particular attention is paid to identifying a set of parameters for assessing the effectiveness of police activities, taking into account the entity conducting the assessment, as this has an impact on the design of the corresponding outcome. Consequently, it is imperative to acknowledge that the primary criterion for evaluating the efficacy of police operations is the established metric of public trust in this public administration institution. This encompasses not only objective dimensions of security and the interaction between the population and the police, but also a comprehensive socio-political and value context (Korniyakova, 2023).

The classification of criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of police activities enables determination of its content and legal nature, thereby creating the conditions for obtaining a complete, comprehensive assessment of the activities of the police in general and of a specific structural unit, given the special legal status of the latter. Concurrently, it is noteworthy to observe the perspective on the extension of the general methodology for evaluating the activities of any entity in a specific sector of the economy to the law enforcement sphere. It has been observed that the evaluation of police effectiveness is not confined to the indicator of public trust; rather, it encompasses a range of additional criteria. These criteria, when taken together, determine the ratio of resources of various origins that have been expended in relation to the results obtained. Furthermore, this assessment activity has been shown to have a positive impact on law enforcement activities, including the improvement of internal processes in the law enforcement system in general and the National Police in particular, as well as organisational development and the growth of the public effectiveness of its activities (Shyshkarova, 2024).

In assessing the effectiveness of the cyber police as part of the criminal police system, research conducted on the example of Jordan proposes taking into account factors related to the level of information and technical preparedness of police officers to perform their professional duties. The study also established a correlation between the effectiveness of combating offences involving information technology and the functional tools used by police officers to prevent, detect, solve and investigate such crimes (Faqr, 2013).

A particular focus of this study is the examination of the police's role in assessing the effectiveness of their activities. This is achieved by analysing the police's response to domestic violence, with a particular emphasis on the risk of the most severe consequences, including harm to the life and health of victims. It has been observed that police intervention at specific junctures, absent the requisite administrative procedures, was more prone to culminate in domestic violence inflicting harm to life and health. A significant component of police activity pertains to the assessment of the risk factor associated with domestic violence, which can have existential consequences for victims. A range of factors have been identified as contributing to the effectiveness of police work in this area. These include systemic, organisational and professional obstacles. A distinct domain in ascertaining the performance indicators of law enforcement in this jurisdiction pertains to the training of police officers in professional interactions with children within the delineated category of offences. In such circumstances, it is important to select the tools for the implementation of police services that correspond to the most optimal and high-quality results in the prevention, detection, disclosure, and investigation of offences in the category under consideration (Saxton, 2019).

The Chinese police force's accomplishments serve as a pertinent case study. A correlation has been established between the efficacy of law enforcement agencies in maintaining public order and the extent, direction, and content of the implementation of information technologies in the prevention and investigation of offences. This correlation is particularly evident in the dissemination of commercial information, which exerts a substantial influence on economic processes in contemporary social life (Xu, 2011).

According to another scientific perspective, a multidimensional approach is of great importance in the system of evaluating the effectiveness of police activities. This approach takes into account the short-term and final results of the work of a given law enforcement agency in terms of crime prevention, detection and investigation, maintaining order and security, providing effective police services and public assessment of police activities. At the same time,

a system of indicators for evaluating the performance of police units has been developed. It includes: an assessment of the unit's internal policies (unit regulations, training programmes, early-warning systems, transparency, and community engagement); an assessment of the conduct of police officers (behaviour in everyday activities, handling of complaints, and adherence to professional ethics); and an assessment of operational outcomes (community perceptions, crime levels, citizens' interaction with the police, response times, and clearance rates). A significant feature of police performance evaluation is the diversity of its stakeholders, where the range of actors involved is not limited to public administration bodies but also includes various representatives of civil society. It is equally important to assess the effectiveness of police work by conducting various types of surveys among the population, reflecting both victims of offences and offenders themselves. The latter statement rightly emphasises that trust in the police among the population is a key criterion for assessing the effectiveness of their activities, on which the interaction between citizens and the police is based (Nebeska, 2019).

Taking a systematic approach to structuring the criteria for assessing the effectiveness of police activities made it possible to identify the following indicators: the purpose and primary activities of authorised entities; the state of public safety and order; reliability; the professionalism of police personnel; the optimisation of resources used; and the level of public trust in police services. This finding indicates that the effectiveness of the police service is contingent on the design of measures, including the identification of key measures within the relevant police service; the modelling of the characteristics of these measures to ensure proper assessment and control of the law enforcement service provided; the definition of methods for evaluating selected data and results; and the creation and implementation of means of diagnosing the results obtained and monitoring in this area. The aforementioned considerations provide a rational basis for the necessity of regulatory oversight in the evaluation of police services, encompassing the establishment of quantitative and qualitative characteristics, and the delineation of assessment activities (Okhrimenko, 2016).

In circumstances where an existential threat to the state and society is identified, particularly in the context of the introduction of martial law, the assessment of the effectiveness of all public administration bodies, especially those related to the security and defence sector, is subject to a complete transformation in terms of eliminating threats to national interests burdened by the aforementioned circumstances. This standpoint is further substantiated by the assertion that, within



the context of martial law, the evaluation of police effectiveness ought to be informed by the imposition of specific characteristics, both within the purview of fundamental and ancillary powers (Katerynychuk, Troianovskyi, 2024). The necessity to establish criteria for evaluating the efficacy of special police units, whose legal status is delineated within the framework of specific legislation, is emphasised. This is particularly salient in the context of an emergency situation, exacerbated by the legal regime of martial law, wherein the outcomes of special operations merit particular consideration.

The following measures must be agreed upon before assessing the effectiveness of the police under martial law: the formation of a unified, comprehensive state policy on crime prevention and counteraction; the improvement of the relevant regulatory and legal framework; the development of an effective system for counteracting the relevant category of crimes; the strengthening of co-operation between various public administration entities and civil society institutions; and the creation of an adequate level of financial, material and other resource support (Savchuk, 2022).

The following considerations regarding the assessment of the effectiveness of police activities under martial law are highly relevant to current events, shaping the approach to the role and importance of this law enforcement agency. The agency is entrusted with a set of powers as part of the security and defence sector and is burdened by the additional circumstance of an existential threat to state independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the democratic constitutional order. In such circumstances, it is appropriate to include in the parameters for assessing police performance issues related to the assessment of police services under martial law, which corresponds to the relevant regulatory changes in the relevant legislation (Polivanyuk, Korol, 2022).

Consequently, the evaluation of the efficacy of law enforcement entities, notably the criminal and special police units, within the context of the martial law regime, necessitates the establishment of a regulatory framework that is commensurate with societal requirements and that ensures the interconnectedness between the fundamental elements of law enforcement services in circumstances of existential threats to society and the state. This regulatory framework must prioritise the needs of the population for protection from armed aggression and its ramifications. In such circumstances, the primary metrics for evaluating the efficacy of police services must be maintained, with the overarching factor being the criterion of public trust in state institutions, particularly the criminal and special police units.

#### 4. Conclusions

To conclude this discussion on the economic and legal basis for evaluating the effectiveness of the operations of criminal and special police units in conditions of martial law, the following conclusions can be drawn.

Firstly, there is a direct positive or negative correlation between the effectiveness of police services and the relevant micro- and macroeconomic indicators of social development. At the same time, the economic indicators resulting from the activities of law enforcement agencies are determined by the provision of relevant law enforcement services. This takes into account the quantitative and qualitative indicators of the competence of public administration, particularly law enforcement agencies, in protecting human rights and freedoms, restoring them, ceasing relevant offences and applying certain administrative procedures.

Secondly, the relationship between the activities of criminal and special police units and economic indicators manifests itself in several dimensions. Police activities aimed at preventing crime, including the detection and cessation of relevant offences, affect the main micro- and macroeconomic indicators of social development. This is reflected in parameters such as per capita income (economic opportunities), the number of police officers per capita, conviction rates and political instability. The financial and material support provided to police officers has a direct impact on the effectiveness of police work, which has corresponding economic foundations. The economic indicators of a society's existence form the preconditions for the development of a particular type of crime and determine the relevant measures for its prevention, which is reflected in the indicators of the effectiveness of law enforcement agencies.

Thirdly, the legal principles for determining the effectiveness of criminal and special police units, both in general and under martial law, are formed by taking into account the general and specific legal status of these law enforcement bodies. In the context of martial law, the powers of criminal police units are further expanded to encompass the prevention, detection, disclosure, or investigation of a range of crimes that are exacerbated by such circumstances. Consequently, the indicators of police service effectiveness should be aligned with the pertinent parameters. The competence of the special police is characterised by a more militarised nature of the powers, which correlates with the relevant parameters for assessing the relevant police activity.

Fourthly, the scientific position is that the considered evaluation activity exerts a positive impact on the sphere of law enforcement (police) activity through the improvement of internal processes



in the law enforcement system in general and the National Police in particular, organisational development and the growth of the overall effectiveness of its activities.

Fifthly, taking a systematic approach to structuring the criteria for assessing the effectiveness of police activities made it possible to identify relevant indicators. Among these, the level of public trust occupies

a privileged place due to its complex quantitative and qualitative nature.

Sixthly, in conditions of martial law, the need to determine the criteria for assessing the effectiveness of special police activities is precisely noted in view of the extraordinary nature of the legal regime in question, which aggravates the situation. It is proposed that the results of special operations be given a separate place.

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