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POLICE ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT, REVEAL AND SUPPRESS EXTREMIST ACTIVITIES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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On the basis of analysis of the current legislation in this area is noted that the mechanism for bringing to juridical responsibility persons, who preach extremist ideas or commit any actions of an extremist nature, needs to be improved. In order to increase the efficiency of counteraction against extremist activities the article offers a list of institutional arrangements.

Keywords: duties of the police, extremist activity, state security, public safety, extremist materials, offences of extremist orientation (hate crimes).

Federal Law "On the Police" [2] defined a new police duty, which is expressed in the prevention, revealing and suppression of extremist activities of public associations, religious and other organizations, and citizens.

In accordance with the National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation until 2020, approved by the Decree of the President of the RF No. 537 from May 12, 2009 [3], extremism is recognized as one of the main sources of threats to state and public security. The document notes, that the main direction of state policy in this area for the long term should be the improvement of the normative legal regulation of the prevention and combating against terrorism and extremism.

For carrying out extremist activity the citizens of the Russian Federation, foreign citizens and stateless persons bear criminal, administrative and civil-law responsibility in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. According to part 1 article 1 of the Federal Law No. 114-FL from July 25, 2002 (as amended on April 29, 2008, No. 54-FL) "On the Counteraction of Extremist Activity", [1] extremist activity (extremism) is determined as: forcible change of the foundations of the constitutional system and the violation of the integrity of the Russian Federation; public justification of terrorism and another terrorist activity; excitation of racial, national or religious strife; propaganda of the exclusiveness, superiority or deficiency of individuals on the basis of their attitude to religion, social, racial, national, religious or linguistic identity; violation of rights, freedoms and lawful interests of individuals and citizens, depending on their attitude to religion, social, racial, national, religious or linguistic identity; obstructing the free exercise by a citizen of its election rights or the right to participate in a referendum or breaking the secrecy of ballot associated with violence or threat of violence; impeding lawful activities of state bodies, local self-government bodies, election commissions, public and religious associations or other organizations associated with violence or threat of violence; commission of crimes under motives specified in clause "f" part 1 article 63 of the Criminal Code of the RF (clause "f" part 1 article 63 of the Criminal Code of the RF provides for circumstances aggravating criminal responsibility for crimes of extremism. They include: commission of an offence for reasons of political, ideological, racial, national or religious hatred or enmity or for reasons of hatred or hostility toward any social group); propaganda and public show of nazi attributes or symbolics, or the attributes or symbolics similar to nazi attributes or symbolics to the extent of blending; public calls for the said activity or mass distribution of obviously extremist materials, as well as their manufacture or storage for mass distribution; public and knowingly false accusation of a person holding public office of the Russian Federation or a public office of a subject of the Russian Federation, of committing deeds mentioned in the current article, which constitute a crime, during the performance of their official duties; organization and preparation of the above actions, as well as incitement to their implementation; financing of the above actions or any other promotion of their organization, preparation and implementation, including by providing training, printing and material-technical base, telephone and other means of communication or providing information services.

Extremism should be distinguished from radicalism, which is "the ideology of the radical changes in society". Extreme form of radicalism is the advocacy of

war against other states or genocide of any cultural minority within the state. Radicalism lays in demand of a certain positive result, which is a goal. Extremism, in contrast to the radicalism, is a means to achieve the goal, does not imply the use of extreme measures, is a concept relating to the methods of achieving the set goal. Most extremists carry out their activities without purpose, the means are important to them, that is, the most aggressive and deadly actions. Radicals strain after a specific goal.

In addition, extremism differs from radicalism in the fact that it is illegal, contrary to not only the law, but also norms of morality. Extremism is formed on the basis of the principle of violent confrontation and represents a kind of “ideology of a crowd”.

An extremist organization is understood as a public or religious association or another organization, in respect of which, on the grounds stipulated by the Federal Law “On the Counteraction of Extremist Activity” [1], the court has taken an entered into legal force decision on liquidation or ban of activities in connection with the implementation of extremist activity.

Extremist organizations in Russia tend to have the following main features:

- often their representatives emphasize the theme of protection the rights of a people or an ethnic group;
- hostility to the Western and Eastern states, as well as to their policies;
- absence of liberal views (often extremists are supporters of a dictatorship, restriction on freedom of speech and democracy in general, political repressions, etc.);
- anti-Semitism.

Under extremist materials shall be understood the documents intended for publication or information on other carriers, which call for extremist activity or substantiate or justify the need for such activity, including the works by the leaders of the National-Socialist Worker’s Party of Germany and the Fascist Party of Italy, publications substantiating or justifying national and/or racial superiority, or justifying the practice of committing military or other crimes aimed at the full or partial destruction of any ethnical, social, national or religious group (see part 3 article 1 of the Federal Law “On the Counteraction of Extremist Activity” [1]).

Criminal legislation distinguishes the following types of crimes of extremist nature:

- 1) public appeals for a forcible change of the constitutional system of the Russian Federation (article 280 of the Criminal Code of the RF);
- 2) organization of an extremist community (article 282.1 of the Criminal Code of the RF);

3) arrangement of the activities of extremist organizations (article 282.2 of the Criminal Code of the RF);

For these crimes provides for penalties such as fines, arrest, deprivation of right to hold certain posts or engage in certain activities, deprivation of freedom.

Code on Administrative Offences of the Russian Federation in article 20.3 provides for administrative responsibility for propaganda and public demonstration of Nazi attributes or symbolics.

Countering extremist activities is based on the following principles: recognition, observance and protection of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, as well as the legitimate interests of organizations; legality; publicity; priority of ensuring security of the Russian Federation; priority of measures aimed at prevention of extremist activity; partnership of the state with public and religious associations, other organizations and citizens in countering extremist activity; inevitability of punishment for extremist activities .

Presidential Decree No. 1316 from September 06, 2008 (as reworded by the Presidential Decree No. 254 from March 01, 2011) "On Some Issues of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation" [4] in the system of internal affairs of the Russian Federation has formed special units to combat extremism with assignment to them functions to counter extremist activity.

Their competence includes: organization and direct carrying out of special investigative activities and preventive events to detect, prevent, suppress and reveal crimes and offences of extremist nature; revealing and identification of persons who are preparing, committing or have committed crimes of an extremist nature; collection, compilation and analysis of operational information of those involved in the activities of extremist organizations (communities); providing practical assistance to departments of internal affairs bodies in the realization of operational information on cases of high-profile crimes of an extremist nature, as well as providing methodological assistance to the territorial bodies of internal affairs in organizing of prevention crimes of extremist nature; study of social, economic and other factors , causes and conditions conducive to the commission of crimes and offenses of extremist nature, predicting of criminal situation in the Russian Federation; informing the leadership of the internal affairs bodies about the state of counteraction extremism and making suggestions for its improvement.

Joint order of the Ministry of Justice of the RF, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RF, the Federal Security Service of the RF No 362/810/584 from November 25, 2010 "On the Interaction of the Ministry of Justice of the RF, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RF, the Federal Security Service of the RF to Improve the

Effectiveness of Institutions (departments) that Carry out Research and Expertise on Matters Related to the Manifestation of Extremism” [5] approved a List of measures to improve the effectiveness of institutions (departments) that carry out research and expertise on cases related to the manifestation of extremism.

This document prescribes the leaders of forensic units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation to ensure the priority of conducting researches for the departments of internal affairs bodies of the Russian Federation on combating extremism. In addition, the Ministry of Justice of the RF, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RF and the Federal Security Service of the RF are prescribed: to elaborate software and information support for institutions (departments) that perform research and expertise on cases related to the manifestation of extremism; to organize scientific-methodological and technical support of conducting research and expertise on cases related to the manifestation of extremism; to take measures to increase the level of experts’ training.

Police officers are involved in the fight against extremism through conducting of pre-investigation check of applications and reports of citizens, through prevention of administrative offences in the field of ensuring public order in mass events. Their activity, ultimately, determines proper registration of applications, conducting of a qualified check, timely transfer of materials under investigative jurisdiction. At the same time, despite the efforts made, it should be noted that the mechanisms of bringing to legal responsibility of persons, who advocate ideas of extremism or commit any deeds of extremist nature, need to be improved. In this regard the following events of institutional nature should be carried out:

- implementation of interdepartmental interaction (the Ministry of Justice of the RF, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RF and the Federal Security Service of the RF) in order to coordinate joint actions aimed at preventing and combating crimes of extremist nature;
- ensuring among structural units of the police within the framework of service training the study of normative legal acts regulating the activities of public authorities in the issues of fighting against extremism;
- timely revealing of the locations of possible illegal extremism manifestations (unauthorized meetings, demonstrations, processions, pickets, etc.);
- collection and systematization of information about activity of public associations of extremist nature;
- taking into account the information received to undertake measures of individual preventive effect against the leaders and active members of extremist groups;

- revealing of criminal gangs and their leaders engaged in inciting interethnic, ethnic conflicts and conflicts in order to cover up their illegal activity;
- systematical monitoring of the MEDIA in order to identify the spread of extremist materials;
- suppression of manifestations of extremist activity in cases of conducting mass events through bringing offenders to legal responsibility.

Implementation of these events in the activity of the Russian police will lead the fight against extremism to a higher qualitative level, and will allow effective prevention, revealing and suppression of offences of extremist nature.

References:

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5. Order of the Ministry of Justice of the RF, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RF and the Federal Security Service of the RF No. 362/810/584 from November 25, 2010 "On the interaction of the Ministry of Justice of the RF, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RF and the Federal Security Service of the RF in order to improve the effectiveness of institutions (units) engaged in conducting of research and expertise on the cases related to the manifestation of extremism" [Prikaz Ministerstva yustitsii Rossiiskoi Federatsii, Ministerstva vnutrennikh del Rossiiskoi Federatsii, Federal'noi sluzhby bezopasnosti Rossiiskoi Federatsii ot 25

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