

Prophylaxis and Prevention of Extremist Activity of Informal Youth Organizations

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Abstract: Modern extremism has become a multifaceted socially negative phenomenon that threatens the security of mankind. In this regard, the issues of prophylaxis and prevention of extremist activity are constantly being improved at the legislative level. It is the existence of the legislative framework that covers all illegal actions related to extremist activity that makes it possible to prevent the emergence and development of extremism in Russia and abroad. Preventive anti-extremist measures can only be successful if they are carried out within the framework of state policy. The purpose of this article is to identify problems in the prevention, detection, suppression and solution of extremist offenses committed by minors. The state is especially concerned about informal youth groups of extremist orientation. A successful fight against them presupposes the involvement of the entire population, the institutions of civil society. On this account, the propaganda of the ideology of extremism counteraction is of a great importance. In the article, the authors, on the basis of the analysis, considered the types of measures aimed at preventing, detecting and suppressing extremist activity, as well as the institutions of the extremism prevention on the territory of the Russian Federation. The authors identify the reasons and conditions supporting the formation of informal youth organizations, and announce a number of factors that are necessary, in our opinion, for work organization in order to prevent the illegal activity of extremist youth formations. During writing the article, the methods of materialistic dialectics, legal hermeneutics, special legal, comparative legal methods, a sociological approach and a forecasting method were used.

1 INTRODUCTION

Extremism has become one of the most pronounced threats to modern Russia. Expressed in terrorist acts, state power defamation, xenophobic sentiments formation, it assumes an ever-larger scale.

Attention is drawn to the strategic approach of extremists, which, among other things, consists in the involvement of minors in the formation of corresponding orientation. Young people are attracted because of their immaturity and inability in the background of unresolved social issues and national hostility.

All these issues make the problem of preventing juvenile extremist offenses especially urgent. And the internal affairs bodies play an important role here.

2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

The materials for the preparation of this article were the works of representatives of the sciences of criminal law and criminology, as well as the current legislation on extremism counteraction. During the research, both general scientific and specific scientific methods of cognition were used. In particular, the methods of materialist dialectics, comparative legal methods, a sociological approach and a forecasting method were applied.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In our opinion, the main reasons for the formation of extremist-minded youth organizations include:

- insufficient individual prophylaxis;
- shortcomings in the systematic identification of groups;

- limited methods of treatment of the group;
- insufficient attention to the adolescent violator at the place of residence, study, work, leisure, strengthening of his ties in aspirational groups;
- and others.

The social disorder, as well as the low level of economic development of the country are significant factors for the entry of young people into various formations of extremist orientation. At the territorial level, the involvement of minors in the organizations of extremist orientation, in addition to this, is facilitated by spending leisure time outside cultural and educational institutions, the activation of religious and other extremist organizations, the influence of modern communication capabilities and other reasons (Zykov, Lekomtsev, Samoshin, 2015).

The law quite broadly defines the range of organizations of extremist activity counteraction: federal government bodies, government bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, local government bodies within their competence.

In particular, the police are obliged to take, in accordance with federal law, measures aimed at preventing, detecting and suppressing the extremist activities of public associations, religious and other organizations, and citizens. The measures specified in the law include:

- adoption of prophylaxis measures aimed at preventing extremist activities, including the identification and subsequent elimination of the reasons and conditions facilitating the implementation of extremist activity;
- identification, prevention and suppression of extremist activity of public and religious associations, other organizations, and individuals.

Speaking directly about the organization of the prevention of extremist targeted activity of youth formations, a number of features should be emphasized. Firstly, one should take into account the specifics of offenses of extremist nature. They are unlawful acts that threaten the interests of individuals, society and a state. Therefore, it is extremely important to carry out work to prevent the formation of such groups, the removal of minors from their followers and the suppression of their functioning (Khodusov, Khodusov, Zhabskiy, 2020). After all, this activity is primarily characterized by a certain established ideology, caused by obvious discomfort and supported by necessary propaganda. It is quite difficult for a minor to become captivated by extremist sentiments and even more harder to realize them in specific illegal actions. Thus, during work organization in order to prevent the illegal activity of

extremist youth formations, the following factors should also be taken into account:

- the presence of dissatisfaction with external conditions and constantly encouraged motivation;
- the presence of like-minded people and constant communication with them;
- information and organizational support, which includes a base for forming a group, a meeting place, technical means of informing or providing events, transport, etc.;
- the presence of ideological or spiritual leaders, usually adults;
- access of group members to weapons or explosives and devices, and in some cases the presence of special, tactical and physical training.

In this regard, preventive measures against juvenile members of extremist groups should be carried out in two main stages:

- before joining the group,
- if there is a group.

Prevention should be carried out in a differentiated manner. It should depend on the type of group and the individual characteristics of the participants (their psychological, moral and social state).

In the presence of an already formed group, one should simultaneously carry out preventive measures both in relation to the group as a whole and in relation to its individual members (Lez'er, Sevalnev, Cherepanova, Zhabskiy, 2020; Borshcheniuk, Semeryanova, Filatova, Zhabskiy, 2019): both leaders and young people who are not sufficiently motivated or in doubt.

Such work should be carried out jointly with other bodies. They are, first of all, divisions of the internal affairs authorities formed to combat extremism. Joint activity implies a constant volume of information of interest, its objective analysis and the adoption of the necessary measures within their competence, or the timely transfer of this information to authorized bodies (Boyarinov, 2016).

General preventive work should be carried out in the following directions:

- gathering of information about offenses and events of extremist orientation with the further registration of these persons with a mark of "youth extremism";
- checking of identified persons (including registered ones) for involvement in extremist acts commission in the regions of the Russian Federation;
- identification of leaders, ideologists and active participants of extremist organizations on the territory of the region;

- identification of persons involved in violent manifestations of extremism, including members of an organized criminal group and enjoying authority among young people on the territory of the district;

- monitoring of manifestations of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination. Analysis of offenses that is inherent in such manifestations;

- together with officers of the criminal investigation department, cooperation with religious and other institutions in order to increase the volume and quality of criminal intelligence information on the illegal activities of religious centers and associations of extremist orientation (Mironov, 2011; Shkabin, 2018);

- together with the criminal investigation units, conducting of explanatory conversations with students of schools, lyceums, colleges about the threat of extremism to the interests of people and society, as well as about responsibility for extremist acts commission;

- together with the criminal investigation department, carrying out measures to prevent and suppress terrorist acts in objects of special importance, schools, kindergartens, secondary specialized educational institutions, through the illegal trafficking of weapons, ammunition, explosives and firing devices;

- together with the employees of the divisions of the passport and registration services, conducting inspections of compliance with labor and migration legislation in the enterprises of the region in order to identify conflict situations based on ethnicity, the difference in national customs and lifestyles;

- carrying out complex targeted measures aimed at preventing and suppressing of the extremist offenses commission by minors, both before and during the period of mass events.

Separately, at the regional level, programs are being developed to counter extremism, to strengthen the personal role of senior officials of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation. In order to attract the public to the problems of preventing extremism, xenophobia, and the formation of tolerant behavior, it is necessary to involve religious confessions, to organize work to form citizens' law-abiding behavior, spiritual and moral principles, a healthy lifestyle and consolidation of efforts in the fight against crime (Tyutyunkov, 2014).

In addition, a number of other institutions with authorities in this area can be distinguished. Thus, the committee on legality, law and order, and security regularly sends information to the prosecutor's office about all planned socially significant public events,

the organizers or participants of which are public organizations (associations) of extremist orientation.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The timeliness and promptness of the provision of information allows the prosecutor's office to coordinate the work of all law enforcement agencies to ensure proper protection of public order and safety, as well as to warn potential violators about the inadmissibility of antisocial behavior. In addition to those above mentioned comments, as the main remarks to the work to suppress the commission of offenses of extremist nature by minors, one can point out the lack of a systematic approach to the prevention, detection, and solution of crimes of extremist orientation, the inconsistency of the preventive measures carried out with the field conditions, the absence of any purposeful work to identify the facts of spreading in the media, including the Internet, extremist ideas.

As we can see, extremism is a dangerous and multifaceted phenomenon. In this connection, the problem of fighting with it is acquiring more and more new features. The internal affairs bodies are entrusted with a wide range of responsibilities in this area, including a work with minors. This group of tasks is extremely important. And for their successful implementation, a thorough and comprehensive approach to the problem is required. Correct prophylaxis is the main tool in the fight against the participation of minors in extremist formations and in preventing them from committing crimes in the future. At the same time, the main principle is a work concentration on prevention, that is, on identifying potential participants, preventing the involvement of new members in youth groups, and influencing leaders.

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