

Artículo de investigación

Ways of prevention of funding for youth informal groups of extremist orientation

Шляхи запобігання фінансування молодіжних неформальних груп екстремістської спрямованості

Recibido: 12 de agosto del 2019

Aceptado: 4 de octubre del 2019

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The relevance of the article. The article explores ways of financing youth informal groups (associations) of the extremist. It is proposed to divide all youth informal groups (associations) that commit crimes of extremist nature into two types: 1) formed by its leader(s); 2) acting as the youth part of international extremist organizations, radical movements, and political parties. The process of financing an extremist association depends on how it was created.

The methodology of the research. The scientific literature on youth informal groups (associations), the fight against extremism, the investigation of group crimes, etc. have been analyzed for writing the article. Besides, theoretical methods such as analysis method, synthesis method, comparison method, and classification method were used during the study. An empirical basis for the study was the investigation of crimes committed by members of youth informal groups (associations) of extremist orientation.

Research results. In conclusions, the authors emphasize that identifying sources of funding is an essential condition for the process of the

Анотація

Актуальність. У статті розглядаються шляхи фінансування молодіжних неформальних груп (об'єднань) екстремістської спрямованості. Пропонується всі молодіжні неформальні групи (об'єднання), що вчиняють злочини екстремістського характеру, розділити на два види: 1) такі, що утворюються самостійно її лідером (лідерами); 2) такі, що виступають як «молодіжне крило» міжнародних екстремістських організацій, радикальних рухів, політичних партій. Саме від того, яким чином було утворено екстремістське об'єднання, залежить, багато в чому, процес його фінансування.

Методологія дослідження. У процесі роботи над статтею була проаналізована наукова література, присвячена молодіжним неформальним групам (об'єднанням), боротьбі з екстремізмом, розслідуванню групових злочинів тощо. Крім того, були використані такі теоретичні методи, як: аналіз, синтез, порівняння, класифікація. Емпіричною основою дослідження стали матеріали розслідування злочинів, які

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detection and investigation of crimes committed by members of extremist youth groups (unions). Identifying sources of funding and overlapping funding channels for youth extremist associations is a promising area of applied research.

Keywords: Crime, extremism, financing, funding channels, informal group, sources of funding, youth.

вчиняються членами молодіжних неформальних груп (об'єднань) екстремістської спрямованості.

Результати дослідження. У висновках автори підкреслюють, що невід'ємною умовою процесу розкриття та розслідування злочинів, що вчиняються членами молодіжних неформальних груп (об'єднань) екстремістської спрямованості, є виявлення джерел їх фінансування.

Перспективним напрямком науково-прикладних досліджень заявленої проблематики є розроблення методик виявлення джерел фінансування та перекриття каналів фінансування молодіжних екстремістських об'єднань.

Ключові слова: злочин, екстремізм, фінансування, шляхи фінансування, неформальна група, джерела фінансування, молодь.

Introduction

Recently, modern youth informal groups (associations), as a complex product of modern social and legal realities, are attracting more and more attention. This is especially true of their business component (Kolomoets, Liutikov, & Larkin, 2017).

The basis of civil society is law-conscious citizens and their voluntary associations, the existence of which is regulated not by political power, but by self-government, free expression of citizens and legal law (Kharytonov, Kharytonova, Tolmachevska, Fasii, & Tkalych, 2019).

The crisis of family values, the changing paradigm of upbringing, the world politics of conformism, the crisis phenomena in the world economy – this is not a complete list of reasons that produce the emergence of youth informal groups, that are ready to propagate ideas, theories, political preferences, etc. by committing crimes of extremist orientation.

The latter include:

- 1) Criminal acts that violate the foundations and security of the political system;
- 2) Crimes of a terrorist nature;
- 3) Crimes committed on grounds of hatred or animosity against persons belonging to a particular ethnic, racial,

religious, political or another social group (Boyarov, 2015).

Extremism becomes a tool that minors use to be heard (Sartre, 2017), and this is alarming. Such realities require an appropriate change in legal priorities and values, and, at the same time, a sense of justice that should be given spiritual and cultural significance (Kharytonov, Kharytonova, O., Kharytonova, T., Kolodin, & Tolmachevska, 2019).

In this regard, the system of measures to combat extremist activities of members of youth informal groups (associations) is of particular importance. One of the most effective means of combating group crime of informal youth is to identify and overlap the channels of funding for criminal activity, since such activity can only be effective if it has such a compulsory element to ensure its proper functioning, as during the formation and formation of a group, grouping, and during the preparation and commission of specific, mostly mass, criminal acts; and in crisis situations for grouping). It should be added that it is attractive for young people who do not have a permanent source of income to join an extremist group where there is money.

Methodology

The scientific literature on youth informal groups (associations), the fight against extremism, the

investigation of group crimes, etc. have been analyzed for writing the article. Besides, theoretical methods such as analysis method, synthesis method, comparison method, and classification method were used during the study. An empirical basis for the study was the investigation of crimes committed by members of youth informal groups (associations) of extremist orientation.

In the context of the outlined issues, the process of forming (emergence) of the youth informal group of extremist orientation becomes important. The process of financing an extremist association depends on how it was created.

As a result, the study suggests that all youth informal groups (associations) that commit extremist crimes are divided into two types: 1) formed by its leader(s); 2) acting as the youth part of international extremist organizations, radical movements, and political parties. The process of financing an extremist association depends on how it was created.

Analysis of recent research

The financial support of informal youth groups has been the subject of research by many domestic and foreign scholars. In the preparation of this study, the scientific literature on youth informal groups (associations), the fight against extremism, the investigation of group crimes etc. were analyzed. Particular attention was paid to the analysis of scientific research on the system of measures to combat extremist activities of members of youth informal groups.

In writing this scientific study, works of the following scientists were used: Boyarov, V.I. (2015, 2017); Kolomoets, T., Liutikov, P., & Larkin, M. (2017); Sartre, J.P. (2017); Sundiev, I.Yu. (2011, 2018); Vakhrushev, G.E. (2013); Yablokov, N.P. (2002).

Presentation of key research findings

I. Youth informal groups (associations) formed independently by its leaders

Quite often, the fact of spending time together, supporting the same views (ideas, beliefs), cheering for one football club, etc. contributes to the emergence of youth informal associations that aim to promote their own beliefs by committing crimes of extremist orientation. The quantitative composition of such informal entities may range from two to several dozen

persons (most are male), have a simplified structure (leader(s), members), and, often, all members of such an informal association are involved in the perpetration of criminal activity. The functioning of these informal associations is essentially "primitive". Their participants are going to spend their free time together, which can turn into an extremist action or commit crimes of extremist orientation, both on specific persons and on an indefinite number of persons may be planned.

The financial support of the so-called "independent" youth informal groups (associations) is carried out by:

- 1) Self-financing (when there is a joint "fund" to which contributions from members of the group are regularly received);
- 2) Committing crimes that do not have an extremist component or other ideological orientation ("basic" crimes) but are solely aimed at organizing the financing of an extremist association (theft, robbery, assault, robbery, etc.). Besides, members of youth informal groups may be commissioned to commit criminal acts.

II. Youth informal groups (associations) that act as the youth component of international extremist organizations, radical movements, and political parties

A completely different situation with the second type of youth informal groups. Such groups are formed not spontaneously, but through the dedicated work (recruitment) of senior members to accomplish specific tasks pursued by an international extremist organization, a radical movement, and a political party. I.Yu. Sundiev, considering the main essential features of modern extremism, points to such a feature as the low cost and high efficiency of extremism as a political weapon (Sundiev, 2011). At the same time, he stated that these criminal organizations (terrorist or extremist) "... can not do without financial resources ..." But the identification of (legal, "gray", "black") channels of financing means to control and neutralization of the possibilities of using new recruiting technologies (Sundiev, 2018).

The main purpose of creating such youth informal groups (associations) of extremist orientation is to involve them in activities related to political, ideological struggle.

Youth informal groups (associations) of the second kind are characterized by "division into components (groups, units) with a strict hierarchy of construction, with a clear separation of functions between their members" (Yablokov, 2002). Their numbers can reach up to several thousand people. Subsequently, they may be transformed into criminal organizations or part of an informal group that will join such an organization. Also, activities of informal associations may have a transnational extremist orientation (Larkin, 2017).

As for the financing of these groups, it also has significant differences compared to the first version. The issues which is need to be resolved are: formation of groupings; training (for example, training) of its participants; leasing of premises, preparation (including accumulation of large sums of money) and holding mass speeches: riots, rallies, committing attacks on citizens, destruction of property, terrorist acts, holding flash mobs, producing printed materials of an extremist nature; in situations involving the involvement of members of the group in criminal liability (defense funding, media), etc.

Financing can be understood not only as providing financial services, but also as providing equipment, communications, weapons, and more. These can be both systematic deductions and a one-time contribution to the common fund, the purchase of real estate or the payment of its rent, the provision of funds intended for bribery of officials, etc. (Boyarov, 2017).

The mechanism of "holding" the youth informal group (association) is:

1. Direct reception of funding from an international extremist organization, a radical movement, a political party.

The financing scheme may consist of:

- 1) The implementation of the financing process through traditional financial institutions (commercial banks, credit unions, pension and investment funds, financial and insurance companies);
- 2) Attracting funds and placing them in non-traditional financial institutions (currency exchanges, casinos, postal services, conversion centers, etc.);
- 3) Involvement of the non-financial sector (informal cash transfer systems, the so-called "hiding" system, etc.);

- 4) The use of illegal mechanisms and latent schemes of legal (donations of believers) (Vakhrushev, 2013);
 - 5) Financing by foreign institutions (including in the form of grants);
 - 6) Cash transfers.
2. Self-financing through the commission of crimes (raider attacks, extortion, trafficking in human beings, drug distribution, etc.). As a rule, such crimes are not committed at the proper professional level, and therefore can be quickly uncovered, and the perpetrators are prosecuted. In the course of their investigation, the investigation may obtain information regarding the extremist manifestations of members of the youth informal group (association).

In most cases, these two types of financial security are combined, which can lead to internal conflicts.

Conclusions

An indispensable condition of the process of detection and investigation of crimes committed by members of youth informal groups (associations) of extremist orientation is the identification of sources of their financing. In this regard, all youth informal groups (associations) that commit extremist crimes should be divided into two types:

- 1) Formed by its leader (s);
- 2) Acting as the "youth wing" of international extremist organizations, radical movements, political parties.

It is the kind of youth informal grouping that determines the ways in which funding is received. A promising area of applied research is the development of techniques for identifying sources of funding and overlapping funding channels for youth extremist groups.

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