

Information on measures taken by Ukraine to eliminate international terrorism

To implement the provisions of the Additional Protocol to the Convention of the Council of Europe on the Prevention of Terrorism into national legislation, and to strengthen the state system for combating terrorism, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the following laws:

- No 2589-IX of 20.09.2022 "On the ratification of the Additional Protocol to the Convention of the Council of Europe on the Prevention of Terrorism";

- No 2997-IX of 21.03.2023 "On Amendments to the Criminal and Criminal Procedure Codes of Ukraine in connection with the ratification of the Additional Protocol to the Convention of the Council of Europe on the Prevention of Terrorism, as well as to some legislative acts of Ukraine on improving combating terrorism".

Both laws were elaborated by the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU), the primary agency in the national system for combating terrorist activity.

During 2023-2024, the SSU in the framework of countering international terrorism, including in cooperation with partners, took the following measures:

- 682 foreigners involved in the activities of international terrorist organizations professing the ideology of Islamic fundamentalism were banned from entering Ukraine, 4 persons were departed from Ukraine, 5 persons of the specified category were forcibly returned to their countries of origin or third countries;

- together with foreign partners, a group of persons was exposed, which was preparing for terrorist acts with the help of the Internet. At the same time, a citizen of Ukraine was detained, who, together with a group of supporters of ISIL, was involved in the preparation of a series of acts of a terrorist nature on the territory of European countries. He was charged with suspicion under Part 1 of Article 258-3 and Part 1 of Article 258-4 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine;

- a transnational criminal group was exposed, which specialized in the illegal movement of immigrants from countries with high migration and terrorist risks from the territory of the Russian Federation and Belarus to the EU countries through Poland. 5 foreigners involved in the functioning of the specified channel of illegal migration were detained in the EU countries;

- on the basis of SSU materials, the State Employment Center canceled 3,308 employment permits for foreigners from countries with a high terrorist and migration risk, who tried to use fictitious employment to enter and legalize on the territory of Ukraine;

- in 2023, a pre-trial investigation was carried out in 555 criminal proceedings on the grounds of criminal offenses provided for in Articles 258-258-5 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine against 239 persons (including members of illegal armed formations controlled by the aggressor state). 161 criminal proceedings against 209 persons were referred to the courts. Courts made decisions in 73 criminal proceedings against 73 persons;

- a pre-trial investigation was conducted in 10 criminal proceedings related to ISIL on the suspicion of 7 persons in the commission of crimes provided for by Articles 258, 258-3, 258-4 and 258-5 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. Of these, 5 proceedings against 6 persons were referred to the courts, the courts adopted decisions in 3 proceedings against 4 persons.

In the period of 2023 and the 1st quarter of 2024, the prosecutor's office of Ukraine carried out procedural guidance in 231 criminal proceedings related to terrorist activities or financing terrorism, of which:

- 4 under Article 209-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (deliberate violation of the requirements of the legislation on prevention and countermeasures against the legalization (laundering) of criminal proceeds, the financing of terrorism and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction);

- 19 under Article 258 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (terrorist act);

- 3 under Article 258-2 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (public calls to commit a terrorist act);

- 177 under Article 258-3 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (creation of a terrorist group or terrorist organization);

- 1 under Article 258-4 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (facilitating the commission of a terrorist act, receiving terrorism training);

- 27 under Article 258-5 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (financing of terrorism).

During the specified period, 169 criminal proceedings of the specified category were referred to the court, of which:

- 5 under Article 258 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (terrorist act);

- 2 under Article 258-2 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (public calls to commit a terrorist act);

- 156 under Article 258-3 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (creation of a terrorist group or terrorist organization);

- 1 under Article 258-4 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (facilitating the commission of a terrorist act, receiving terrorism training);

- 5 under Article 258-5 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (financing of terrorism).

In addition, in 2023, the Prosecutor General's Office sent 1 request for international legal assistance within the framework of criminal proceedings under Article 258-5 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. Results of the execution of the request are expected from the competent authorities of a foreign state, while information about the content of the request is not provided taking into account the requirements of Article 222 of the Criminal Procedure Code of Ukraine.

The full-scale invasion by the Russian Federation has become the primary source of terrorism in Ukraine, violating international law and threatening the stability of the entire region.

It has led to a humanitarian crisis and human rights violations in the occupied territories, exacerbating the threat of terrorist acts both in Ukraine and other countries through the proliferation of weapons, the spread of Russian neo-imperial ultranationalist ideas, and the propaganda of violence.

During the period of martial law from February 24, 2022, to April 19, 2024, investigators of the National Police of Ukraine initiated 117,180 criminal proceedings related to crimes committed in Ukraine in connection with the Russian war of aggression.