

Role of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in the formation of a system of forensic science support for justice (*Review Article*)

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Leading role of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in forensic science management is analyzed, with emphasis on the features of coordination, subordination, planning and information mechanisms, as well as ability to respond to pressing issues and challenges of the present time. It is determined that this activity has a scientific and practical orientation and depends on the departmental affiliation of forensic expertise institutions of Ukraine. A wide range of functional capabilities of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, which vary in form and content, is outlined, in particular, it is noted that expert support of justice is one of its main legislatively enshrined tasks. The purpose of the article is to examine the role of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine as a central coordinating body in the formation of an effective system of forensic support of justice. The main challenges and prospects for improving forensic support of justice in the context of reforming the judicial system and ensuring compliance with international standards in this area are outlined. To achieve the set goal, a set of methods (logical analysis, comparative law, system, statistical analysis, content analysis, etc.) was used. The main areas of activity of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine as a management and coordination body in the field of criminal activity of forensic institutions were identified, in particular: development and implementation of effective state

policy in the field of management of forensic activities; optimization of management methods of state forensic institutions and non-state expert organizations; increasing the requirements for judicial activity and its organization; increasing efficiency of activities of judicial institutions of Ukraine, etc.

Keywords: Ministry of Justice of Ukraine; forensic expert activity; justice; State policy; international experience; integration of expert structures; legislative regulation; interaction.

Research Problem Formulation

Rapid changes, covering all spheres of public life in Ukraine and the world, necessitate deep transformations in the functioning of state institutions (in particular, the criminal justice system). Ongoing judicial reform in Ukraine is a response to these challenges and is aimed at creating a transparent, effective and fair justice system. In this context, forensic examination (as integral part of the judicial system) is of particular importance. The increase in the number of requests for expert research actualizes the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of forensic institutions, since high-quality, independent and objective expertise is an important factor in ensuring justice.

In the context of Russian aggression against Ukraine, the issue of conducting professional and impartial expert research becomes particularly acute. The need for accurate and objective analysis, the urgency of which is growing day by day, covers such important areas as the study of war crimes, documentation of human rights violations and the collection of evidence for future trials. High-quality forensic examination is the main prerequisite for bringing the perpetrators to justice and ensuring justice, while at the same time it plays an

important role in restoring confidence in the legal system.

In addition, independent forensic examinations contribute to the formation of truthful information for international community, governments and non-governmental organizations, which makes it possible to develop effective mechanisms to support Ukraine and increase diplomatic pressure on the aggressor state. Objective expert research is also the basis for the development of strategies for the protection of civilians and critical infrastructure, which are daily and nightly victims of Russian terrorist attacks. Thus, introduction of modern methods of forensic examinations and the expansion of international cooperation in this area is a necessary step to increase the level of trust in the legal system of Ukraine and strengthen its ability to withstand the legal challenges of our time.

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, in accordance with the Regulation on the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine № 228 ¹ dated on 02.07.2014 (hereinafter referred to as Regulation on the Ministry of Justice), acting as a coordinating body of executive power in the field of forensic expert activity, aims to consolidate the efforts of all entities involved in the justice process. Such coordination

1 Положення про Міністерство юстиції України : затв. постанов. КМУ від 02.07.2014 р. № 228 (зі змін. та допов.). URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/228-2014-%D0%BF#Text> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

allows not only to optimize management decisions but also to effectively use the human resources of experts and the material and technical resources necessary to conduct high-level forensic examinations.

Ensuring proper functioning of forensic science institutions is critical for law enforcement practice, since qualitative examinations affect the adoption of sound procedural decisions. Ministry of Justice of Ukraine implements this function through strategic planning, introduction of modern methods of forensic research, raising standards of professional training of experts and improving mechanisms of information interaction between State and independent forensic science structures.

Such measures are aimed at meeting the needs of investigative bodies and courts

in conducting accurate, rapid and impartial forensic researches that meet international standards and ensure objectivity of judicial procedure. Introduction of innovative approaches in the field of forensic science contributes to the development of the legal system of Ukraine and strengthening its ability to ensure effective justice.

Analysis of Essential Researches and Publications

General aspects of management in the field of forensic activity were analyzed by both Ukrainian scientists (in particular: O. Agapova², L. Holovchenko³, V. Honcharenko⁴, I. Petrova and Ha. Spitsyna⁵, I. Pyrih⁶, M. Sehai⁷, E. Simakova-Yefremian⁸, N. Tkachenko⁹, N. Filipenko¹⁰,

- 2 Агапова О. В. Адміністративно-правове регулювання публічного адміністрування у сфері юстиції України в умовах європейської інтеграції : автореф. дис. ... д-ра юрид. наук. Запоріжжя, 2024. 38 с. URL: http://phd.znu.edu.ua/page/Doc/2024/agapova/Agapova_referat-1.pdf (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 3 Головченко Л. М. Проблемні питання законодавчого регулювання судово-експертної діяльності. *Бюлетень Міністерства юстиції України*. 2013. № 1. С. 8—10. URL: http://nbuv.gov.ua/UJRN/bmju_2013_1_4 (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 4 Експертизи у судовій практиці / за заг. ред. В. Г. Гончаренка. Київ, 2005. 386 с.
- 5 Петрова І. А., Спіцина Г. О. До питання поняття та класифікації висновку експерта. *Судово-експертна діяльність: збереження наукового та кадрового потенціалу в умовах воєнного стану* : IV Всеукр. форум суд. експерт. (Львів, 07.06.2024). Одеса, 2024. С. 302—306. URL: <http://ndekc.lviv.ua/pdf/law.pdf> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 6 Пиріг І. В. Теоретико-прикладні проблеми експертного забезпечення досудового розслідування : монографія. Дніпропетровськ, 2015. 432 с. URL: <https://surl.li/exvexy> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 7 Сегай М. Я. Судова експертологія — наука про судово-експертну діяльність. *Вісник Академії правових наук України*. 2003. № 2 (33)—3 (34). С. 740—764. URL: <https://dspace.nlu.edu.ua/handle/123456789/694> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 8 Сімакова-Єфремян Е. Б. Теоретико-правові та методологічні засади комплексних судово-експертних досліджень : дис. ... д-ра юрид. наук. Харків, 2017. 503 с.
- 9 Ткаченко Н. М. Особливості державного управління в сфері судово-експертної діяльності (на прикладі Міністерства юстиції України). *Теорія та практика судової експертизи і криміналістики*. 2019. № 20 (2). С. 121—138. DOI: [10.32353/khrife.2.2019.09](https://doi.org/10.32353/khrife.2.2019.09) (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 10 Філіпенко Н. Є. Координація кримінологічної діяльності судово-експертних установ України. *Міжнародний науковий журнал "Верховенство права"*. 2016. № 3. С. 236—241. URL: https://sd-vp.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/vp_2016_3-2.pdf (date accessed: 03.05.2025) ;
Її ж. Сутність та особливості координаційної діяльності Міністерства юстиції України в сфері експертного забезпечення правосуддя. *Там само*. 2017. № 1. С. 196—201. URL: https://sd-vp.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/vp_2017_1-6.pdf (date accessed: 03.05.2025) ;

V. Shepitko¹¹, M. Shcherbakovskyi¹² et al.) and well-known foreign researchers (for example: O. Cataraga and R. Petcovići¹³, S. D. Andrić and A. B. Ivanović¹⁴, et al.).

Their best practices contributed to formation of conceptual approaches to organization of forensic science activity in Ukraine and laid foundation for further improvement of management mechanisms.

However, the rapid transformation of social conditions in our country, caused by complex domestic political and security challenges, has significantly affected the dynamics of crime. Negative changes in the quantitative and qualitative indicators of offenses, as well as the reform of the main state institutions, including the judicial system, necessitate the modernization of management processes in the field of forensic expertise in providing justice. This, in turn, requires increasing the efficiency of forensic expertise institutions, expanding their analytical capabilities, strengthening interaction with justice bodies, and introducing innovative methods of expert research. In view of these changes, ensuring an adequate level of management of expert activities remains a priority task of the state. Creating an effective system of coordination between state and non-state ex-

pert structures, improving personnel training mechanisms, expanding information interaction, and integrating international experience are necessary steps to ensure a high level of forensic science support for justice in Ukraine.

Article Purpose

Study the role of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine as a central coordinating body in the formation of an effective system of forensic science support of justice. Analyze the management mechanisms that ensure the quality of forensic activity, including regulation, coordination and integration of expert structures. Focus on legal aspects, organizational approaches and scientific and practical principles of forensic science functioning. Outline the main challenges and prospects for improving the expert support of justice in the context of reforming the judicial system and ensuring compliance with international standards in this area.

Research Methods

Comprehensive approach was applied to the study of the role of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in formation of the system of

Філіпенко Н. Є., Лукашевич С. Ю. Діяльність судово-експертних установ щодо запобігання злочинності з використанням прогресивних інформаційних методик та технологій. *Наукові інновації та передові технології. Серія "Право"*. 2023. № 14 (28). С. 487—495. DOI: 10.52058/2786-5274-2023-14(28)-487-495 (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

- 11 Шепітько В. Судова експертиза та судово-експертна діяльність: погляд крізь призму думок експертів. *Теорія та практика судової експертизи і криміналістики*. 2023. Вип. 1 (30). С. 12—22. DOI: 10.32353/khrife.1.2023.02 (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 12 Щербаківський М. Г. Проведення та використання судових експертиз у кримінальному провадженні : монографія. Харків, 2015. 560 с.
- 13 Cataraga O., Petcovići P. Modern Aspects of Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence in Judicial Expertise. *Діджиталізація судово-експертної науки в умовах воєнного стану* : зб. мат-лів Міжнар. наук.-практ. конф. (Харків, 08.11.2024). Харків, 2024. С. 18—23. URL: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cDRJ14KDOGLXe5Y6HdNVBzqAS7gbR-ML/view> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).
- 14 Andrić S. D., Ivanović A. B. Forenzičke nauke i etika u eri primjene vještačke inteligencije. *Kriminalističke Teme*. 2023. God. XXIII. Br. 3—4. Str. 95—102. DOI: 10.51235/kt.2023.23.3-4.95 (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

forensic support for justice. The analysis of regulatory acts makes it possible to assess the legislative and regulatory mechanisms that determine the functioning of forensic expertise and the competence of this ministry. The comparative legal method helped in the study of international experience in organizing forensic expertise with the aim of implementing best practices in the legal system of Ukraine. The systemic approach made it possible to consider forensic expertise as an integral structure that functions in interaction with other state and non-state organizations. The methods of logical analysis contributed to the generalization of scientific concepts and the formulation of conclusions regarding the effectiveness of expert activity management. Empirical methods, in particular statistical analysis, were used to evaluate the activities of forensic institutions, and content analysis made it possible to thoroughly examine scientific works, reports and official documents that highlight the role of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in this area. Integrated use of these methods provided a comprehensive study of the mechanisms for managing forensic activities and contributed to identifying prospects for its improvement in accordance with modern law enforcement requirements.

Main Content Presentation

Forensic science institutions of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine play a crucial role in ensuring justice by promoting compliance with the principles of independence, objectivity and high professional competence of expert research. Their activities are an integral part of the law enforcement system, which requires clearly structured management and effective coordination at the state level to ensure timely and

high-quality forensic science support for investigative bodies and courts.

Ministry of Justice of Ukraine is authorized to perform the function of organizing and regulating expert support of justice in accordance with the legal requirements stipulated by the applicable regulations. In accordance with the Regulation on the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Justice ensures the implementation of state policy, in particular in the field of forensic science, coordinating the activities of relevant institutions and promoting the improvement of mechanisms for conducting forensic examinations¹⁵.

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine performs an important function of coordination and organization of expert support of legal proceedings, ensuring effective interaction between forensic institutions and State bodies. Its activities cover a number of main tasks aimed at improving the processes of conducting forensic examinations, improving skills of experts and developing research activities, in particular:

1. Forensic science support of justice and scientific activity

Expert provision of justice and scientific activity *are* important components of the functioning of the system, aimed at ensuring the objectivity, reliability and scientific validity of court decisions. Ministry of Justice of Ukraine plays a leading role in the regulation and organization of these procedures, ensuring the conduct of forensic examinations and promoting research activities in the field of forensic science.

Organization components of forensic examinations are formation of a regulatory framework, the management of expert institutions, the provision of methodological support and the introduction of modern technologies in research. The Ministry of

15 Положення про Міністерство юстиції України URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/228-2014-%D0%BF#Text> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

Justice coordinates the work of forensic science institutions, directing their activities to improve quality of forensic expert conclusions and implementation of international standards in this area.

Research activities in the field of forensic science are of strategic importance, as they contribute to the development of new methods, improvement of expert analysis procedures and increasing the level of training of specialists. Conducting scientific research makes possible to integrate best practices into the work of forensic institutions, which ensures the accuracy and reliability of forensic expert conclusions.

2. Work of central commissions

Functioning of central commissions is an important element in ensuring high-quality and objective forensic expert activity in Ukraine. Ministry of Justice of Ukraine coordinates the work of the Central Expert Qualification Commission that is responsible for defining professional standards for forensic experts, certifying specialists and assessing their competence. This commission plays a leading role in the formation of requirements for the qualification of experts that contributes to increasing the level of reliability and validity of expert opinions in the trial.

In addition, Coordination Council for Forensic Examination Problems under the Ministry of Justice¹⁶ develops methodological recommendations, improves expert methods and integrates advanced scientific achievements into the practical activities of expert institutions. It provides regulatory and methodological support to the forensic system, contributing to its compliance with international standards and modern requirements of justice.

3. Qualification of forensic experts

Qualification of forensic experts is important mechanism for ensuring the objectivity and professional competence of forensic research, which directly affects the quality of justice. The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine plays a leading role in this procedure carrying out certification of specialists, defining professional standards and monitoring activities.

Qualification of forensic experts involves a rigorous assessment process, which includes a test of knowledge, practical skills and compliance with regulatory requirements. Experts who successfully pass certification receive official confirmation of their competence and the right to conduct forensic researches.

Ministry of Justice pays special attention to monitoring the activities of experts working outside state institutions, in independent or private forensic science structures. Maintaining the State Register of Certified Forensic Experts ensures the transparency of this process, allowing to monitor qualification level of specialists and guarantee the compliance of this level with the requirements of forensic science activity.

In addition, the Ministry ensures development and updating of methodological recommendations for experts, promotes professional trainings and advanced training courses, which helps to adapt expert methods to modern standards of justice and integrate the best international experience in this field into the activities of Ukrainian forensic science institutions.

This approach is a guarantee of a high level of professional competence of forensic experts ensuring reliability of their conclusions and strengthening legal system of Ukraine.

16 Положення про Координаційну раду з проблем судової експертизи при Міністерстві юстиції України : затв. постанов. КМУ від 16.11.1994 р. № 778 (зі змін. та допов.). URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/778-94-%D0%BF#Text> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

4. Registers of experts and methods

Maintaining registers of experts and methods is an important element of the organization of forensic expert activity, which contributes to standardization of expert research, increasing the transparency of their conduct and ensuring a high level of competence of specialists. The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine plays a leading role in this process by administering the State Register of Certified Forensic Experts and the Register of Forensic Examination methods.

State Register of Certified Forensic Experts¹⁷ contains information on specialists who have officially qualified and have the right to conduct forensic researches. This helps to ensure control over their professional activities, ensure compliance with the standards provided for by law and the reliability of expert opinions. The register is also an important tool for investigators, judges and lawyers, who have the opportunity to use information from it to check the status of the expert and his compliance with qualification requirements.

The register of methods of conducting forensic examinations¹⁸ contains officially approved methods of expert research, which are mandatory for use during forensic examination. Its conduct guarantees uniform standards for conducting expert research, promotes the introduction of scientifically sound methods and prevents possible errors or subjective interpretations during expert research. Updating of this Register makes possible to integrate modern scientific achievements and international experience into the forensic expert practice of Ukraine.

5. Control over activities of forensic science institutions

This area of activity is an important element of functioning of the justice system, as it ensures the quality, reliability and compliance of forensic expert conclusions with legislative and professional standards. The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine directs, coordinates and controls activities of research institutions conducting forensic examinations, providing their regulatory and methodological guidance.

6. Coordination of interdepartmental interaction

Coordination of interdepartmental interaction is an important element in ensuring effective functioning forensic examination system. The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine plays a strategic role in organizing interaction between ministries, state institutions and other executive bodies with the aim of developing forensic science, increasing its efficiency and harmonizing regulatory and methodological approaches.

One of the main aspects of interdepartmental coordination is the development and implementation of state policy in the field of forensic science which involves harmonizing activities of justice bodies, investigative structures and scientific research institutions. The components of this process are the integration of modern expert methods, implementation of international standards of forensic expertise and development of mechanisms for monitoring their application.

Use of a systematic approach in forensic activities contributes to the rational use of

17 Порядок ведення державного Реєстру атестованих судових експертів : затв. наказ. Мін'юсту України від 29.03.2012 р. № 492/5 (зі змін. та допов.). URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0484-12#Text> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

18 Порядок атестації та державної реєстрації методик проведення судових експертиз : затв. постанов. КМУ від 02.07.2008 р. № 595 (зі змін. та допов.). URL: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0484-12#Text> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

the intellectual potential of specialists and material and technical resources, which ensures a high level of objectivity, accuracy and reliability of expert research. The introduction of effective mechanisms for coordination, standardization of methods and quality control of expertise allows you to reduce the time for conducting research and increase their compliance with international standards. This, in turn, ensures the timely adoption of reasoned court decisions, contributes to the strengthening of interaction between law enforcement agencies and forensic institutions, and also forms a stable system of evidence in criminal and civil proceedings.

7. Adaptation of international experience

Adaptation of international experience in the field of forensic expertise is one of leading areas of activity of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, aimed at improving the methodological, organizational and regulatory and legal foundations of expert activity. Application of advanced practices of other countries allows integrating modern technologies, improving quality of forensic expert conclusions and increasing the level of trust in forensic science. In this context, the Ministry actively cooperates with international organizations and specialized institutions specializing in forensic expertise, exchanges scientific developments and experience in using specific legal mechanisms to regulate expert activity. One of the main aspects is the implementation of international standards in conduct-

ing forensic expertise, which contributes to the harmonization of the Ukrainian expert process with established world standards.

Particular attention in the field of forensic science is also paid to the introduction of *modern technological solutions*, including digital methods of analysis, automated research systems and the latest achievements in the field of forensic science and artificial intelligence, which helps in performing complex tasks of forensic science¹⁹. The issues of improving legislation, unifying expert methods and adapting legal procedures that meet European and international standards remain relevant.

Functions of public administration determine the leading areas of activity of state bodies aimed at implementing the tasks of administrative activity and ensuring the effective functioning of the state apparatus. In domestic scientific literature, they are traditionally classified into general, special and auxiliary²⁰.

General functions cover basic management processes specific to all areas of public administration, including forecasting, planning, organization, control and regulation. These functions provide strategic management of state processes, definition of goals and development of mechanisms for their implementation.

Special functions relate to specific areas of public administration, they are implemented in accordance with specific tasks, such as legal regulation, national security, organization of justice, regulation of economic

19 Ivanović A., Filipenko N. Proposal for Introducing the Institution of Forensic Artificial Intelligence. *Актуальні питання судової експертизи і криміналістики* : зб. мат-лів Міжнар. наук.-практ. конф., присвяч. пам'яті видат. вчен. Владислава Федоренка ("Федоренківські читання"; Харків, 15.10.2024). Харків, 2024. С. 16—19. URL: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1C-JSGFYFcKMFu310UeR5dzoPmiMP-C0CP/view> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

20 Е.г.: Рябець К. Система та сутність загальних функцій державного управління у сучасний період. *Науковий вісник: Державне управління*. 2022. № 1 (11). С. 207—221. DOI: 10.33269/2618-0065-2022-1(11)-207-221 (date accessed: 03.05.2025) ; Пашко Л. До проблеми змістового наповнення простору публічного управління. *Публічно-управлінські та цифрові практики*. 2024. Вип. 2. С. 69—75. DOI: 10.31673/2786-7412.2023.022427 (date accessed: 03.05.2025) та ін.

activity or social policy. Their goal is to create conditions for the implementation of state tasks in highly specialized areas.

Support functions contribute to effective performance of general and special functions, in particular, provide information, personnel, logistics and financial management. These include mechanisms for maintaining statistics, resource administration, internal coordination and documentary support of management activities.

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, carrying out management in the field of forensic expert activity, uses general management functions that objectively affect certain processes occurring in forensic expert activity. These functions are basic, characteristic of any management, regardless of at what level and in what areas they are carried out. The general functions of public administration are organization, forecasting, planning, regulation, coordination. This system is built on the basis of the internal technology of management activities. At the same time, Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in its activities exercises power and organizational influence on the management object of special functions²¹.

As N. Tkachenko notes, special functions characterize specifics of a particular subject or object of management. Special powers of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in the field of forensic expert activity are related to the subordinate research institutions of forensic examinations, for which the successful implementation of the state policy on forensic science support of justice is one of the main purposes²².

At the same time, the main goal of the coordination activities of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine is to unite management efforts for better performance of common tasks by all subjects of criminological support of forensic activities in Ukraine. Coordination is a necessary prerequisite for effective implementation of functions assigned to forensic institutions, since the unification of efforts of all expert institutions of the state for the optimal use of the resource base (intellectual (expert personnel) and instrumental), aims at the most complete and effective satisfaction of the needs of investigative and judicial practice in conducting expert studies. In continuation of this thesis, we consider it necessary to regulate social relations regarding the implementation of forensic activities in Ukraine, determine its legal, organizational and financial foundations in the conditions of judicial reform²³.

V. Iemelianov and P. Repeshko note in this regard: since the activities of forensic institutions, services and units have accumulated quite a lot of problems associated with changes in both political courses and economic standards of public life, this has significantly changed the overall picture of internal factors that are effective in the internal systems of institutions, services and units. In addition, there are signs of deepening interdepartmental confrontations, individual attempts to commercialize forensic activities and attempts to redistribute spheres of influence and areas of activity. These and other problems necessitate reorganization taking into account changes in the socio-political system in our country²⁴.

21 Філіпенко Н. Є. Сутність та особливості С. 200. URL: https://sd-vp.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/vp_2017_1-6.pdf (date accessed: 03.05.2025) ; Ткаченко Н. М. Зазнач. твір. С. 121. DOI: 10.32353/khrife.2.2019.09 (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

22 Ткаченко Н. М. Зазнач. твір. С. 123. DOI: 10.32353/khrife.2.2019.09 (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

23 Філіпенко Н. Є. Координація С. 240. URL: https://sd-vp.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/vp_2016_3-2.pdf (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

24 Ємельянов В., Репешко П. Організаційно-правові основи державного управління судово-експертною діяльністю. *Державне управління та місцеве самоврядування*. 2011. Вип. 2 (9). С. 73.

In academic circles ²⁵, the issue of advisability of creating a specialized body that would perform the function of a centralized coordinator of forensic science in Ukraine has been repeatedly raised. This need is due to the complex structure of forensic science industry, which includes a significant number of institutions with different profiles of activity, departmental subordination, and a wide range of entities involved in the procedure of forensic science provision of justice.

Extensive system of forensic science institutions creates certain challenges in terms of unification of methodological approaches, harmonization of regulatory and legal regulation, ensuring a single information space and coordination between entities participating in forensic expertise. Lack of a single management center can lead to duplication of functions, inconsistency in decision-making and problems with integration of modern methodologies and international standards into national forensic science practice.

Creation of such a body would allow centralizing management of forensic science institutions, ensuring effective control over the quality of forensic science, standardizing the procedures for certification and qualification of experts, and improving the regulatory and methodological support for forensic science. In addition, it would contribute to optimizing the use of the intellectual potential of experts, simplifying interdepartmental interaction and increasing the level of trust in forensic expert conclusions in legal proceedings.

The idea of creating such a body can be implemented by forming a single center that would combine the functions of regulation, scientific support, control and management of forensic science activities. Its main tasks could be development and implementation of unified standards of forensic expertise, integration of international experience, improvement of mechanisms of information interaction between judicial and investigative bodies, as well as promotion of development of scientific and research work in the field of forensic science.

In this regard, I. Pyrih notes the lack of centralized organizational and managerial support for forensic science institutions that in turn leads to numerous problems related to the coordination of their activities in various areas ²⁶.

E. Simakova-Yefremian believes that the issue of establishing a forensic institution that is truly independent of the ministries and agencies responsible for investigative functions needs to be discussed. It is necessary to create a unified system of state expert institutions that will be responsible for conducting examinations, scientific and methodological work, and educational activities in the field of forensic science and criminalistics. At the same time, the structures whose potential and means are focused on technical and forensic support of inquiry and pre-trial investigation should be retained in departmental subordination: recording traces and collecting evidence, excluding forensic researches ²⁷.

Reforms in economic, social, political and legal fields of the Ukrainian state entail

25 E.g.: Martynenko N. Coordination Council on the Problem of Forensic Expertise under the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine: Composition, Tasks, Authorities, Rights. *Theory and Practice of Public Administration*. 2024. Vol. 1. No. 78. Pp. 20–35. DOI: 10.26565/1727 6667-2024-1-02 (date accessed: 03.05.2025) ; Філіпенко Н. Є., Лукашевич С. Ю. Зазнач. твір. DOI: 10.52058/2786-5274-2023-14(28)-487-495 (date accessed: 03.05.2025) et al.

26 Пиріг І. В. Зазнач. твір. С. 68. URL: <https://surl.li/exvexy> (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

27 Сімакова-Єфремян Е. Б. Зазнач. твір. С. 294.

changes in the organizational and legal foundations of state management of forensic activities. The tasks facing forensic science institutions, services and units in the new conditions require finding and identifying ways to increase the efficiency of the existing system of forensic activities, optimizing its organization and legal support. Currently, courts and law enforcement agencies are putting forward qualitatively new requirements for forensic activities, which is one of the important factors that determine the need to improve the organizational and legal foundations of State management of forensic activities²⁸.

It is the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine that today carries out a coordinating role in implementing state policy in the field of ensuring the criminological activities of forensic institutions, is an organizational core, a management center that guarantees the high-quality performance of its subordinate structures.

Conclusions

Successful performance of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in fulfilling its functions largely depends on a whole range of factors, among which the socio-political environment, the level of institutional support and adequate funding play a major role. For effective functioning of the forensic science system, it is necessary to focus on several promising areas of development that require in-depth research, improvement of management mechanisms and integration into practical activities.

Formation of strategic State policy in the field of forensic science. An important task is to develop a comprehensive management approach that will be based on the achievements of various areas of forensic science, ensuring their effective integration into law enforcement practice. A systematic and balanced approach to management policy

will contribute to stability and high quality of forensic expert work.

Optimization of management methods of forensic science institutions. Improving the organizational management of both state forensic institutions and non-state structures will allow to increase the level of coordination between all actors in this field ensuring effective communication and high-quality forensic science support for justice.

Raising standards of certification and professional training of forensic experts. It is necessary to improve mechanisms of certification and retraining of staff, expand the access of experts to the latest scientific developments and methods. This will contribute to formation of a highly qualified expert community capable of providing substantiated and reliable conclusions.

Development of interdepartmental coordination and integration of forensic science institutions. Strengthening interaction between state and independent forensic science institutions, as well as improving information exchange mechanisms will allow harmonizing methods and standards for conducting forensic examinations, eliminating duplication of functions and ensuring effective cooperation between all actors.

Adapting international experience in the field of forensic science. Research and implementation of successful practices of other countries with developed forensic models will help increase the efficiency of the work of Ukrainian forensic science institutions and promote their integration into international legal space.

Comprehensive implementation of these tasks will ensure increased efficiency in the management of forensic activities, high-quality communication between its subjects, and the formation of public trust in the judicial process. Improving the fo-

28 Ткаченко Н. М. Зазнач. твір. С. 132. DOI: [10.32353/khrife.2.2019.09](https://doi.org/10.32353/khrife.2.2019.09) (date accessed: 03.05.2025).

rensic infrastructure in the context of dynamic changes is an important component of the overall reform of the legal system of Ukraine aimed at achieving and maintaining its transparency, efficiency, and compliance with international standards.

**Роль Міністерства юстиції України
у формуванні системи
експертного забезпечення правосуддя
(оглядова стаття)**

**Наталія Філіпенко,
Александр Іванович**

Проведено аналіз провідної ролі Міністерства юстиції України в управлінні судово-експертною діяльністю, акцентовано увагу на особливостях координування, субординації, механізмах планування та інформування, а також здатності реагувати на нагальні питання та виклики сьогодення. Визначено, що ця діяльність має науково-практичне орієнтування й залежить від відомчої належності судово-експертних установ України. Окреслено широкий спектр функційних можливостей Мін'юсту України, які варіюються за формою та змістом (зокрема, зауважено, що експертне забезпечення правосуддя є одним із його основних законодавчо закріплених завдань). Мета статті — дослідити роль Мін'юсту України як центрального координаційного органу у формуванні ефективної системи експертного забезпечення правосуддя. Окреслено основні виклики та перспективи вдосконалення експертного супроводу правосуддя в умовах реформування судової системи й забезпечення дотримання міжнародних стандартів у цій сфері. Для досягнення поставленої мети застосовано комплекс методів (логічного аналізу, порівняльно-правовий, системний, статистичний аналіз і контент-аналіз та ін.). Виокремлено основні напрями діяльності Мін'юсту України як управлінського й коорди-

наційного органу у сфері кримінологічної діяльності судово-експертних установ, зокрема: розроблення та впровадження ефективної державної політики у сфері управління судово-експертною діяльністю; оптимізація методів керівництва державними судово-експертними установами й недержавними експертними організаціями; підвищення вимог до судової діяльності та її організації; підвищення ефективності діяльності судових установ України тощо.

Ключові слова: Міністерство юстиції України; судово-експертна діяльність; правосуддя; державна політика; міжнародний досвід; інтегрування експертних структур; законодавче регулювання; взаємодія.

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