

The criminological characteristics of crimes against public order

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Abstract: This article discusses the criminological characteristics of crimes classified as offenses against public order under Uzbekistan's criminal legislation, specifically hooliganism and the organization and conduct of gambling and other games based on risk. Such crimes not only pose a threat to public safety but also undermine social stability. For this reason, preventing these offenses remains a key focus of law enforcement agencies.

The study examines the legal and regulatory foundations of these crimes, their causes, and preventive measures. It analyzes the contributing factors behind such offenses, including socio-economic conditions, the level of legal culture, and other aspects influencing public order. Additionally, the article evaluates the measures taken within Uzbekistan's legal framework to combat these crimes and assesses their effectiveness.

Keywords: Public order, hooliganism, gambling, criminological analysis, crime prevention, law enforcement agencies, legal culture, civil society, preventive measures, international experience.

Introduction: Hooliganism disrupts social order and discipline, fostering an environment of lawlessness, while the organization of gambling and other risk-based games not only leads to economic losses but also creates conditions for the growth of crimes such as fraud and theft.

Criminology examines all crimes from social, economic, and psychological perspectives. However, determining which acts qualify as crimes requires a legal foundation. In Uzbekistan's legal system, crimes against public order are interpreted as offenses aimed at disrupting public security and social stability. According to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan, these crimes are defined in Chapter XX and are categorized into two main types. Therefore, it is appropriate to conduct a criminological analysis within the scope of these two types of crimes.

Hooliganism is a crime committed based on the deliberate disregard for social norms of conduct, often involving harm to individuals or property. This offense is classified as a particularly serious crime within the legal system, with significant attention given to its prevention. Hooliganism can manifest through physical

aggression against individuals, damage to property, or other violations of public order.

The unlawful organization and conduct of gambling and other risk-based games constitute illegal economic activities. These offenses include organizing gambling operations, opening or maintaining gambling establishments, and other related activities. Such crimes undermine the financial stability of society and encourage the development of other forms of criminal activity.

Chapter XX of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan contains provisions related to crimes against public order. The legal framework for these offenses is regulated by the following normative documents:

- **Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan** – defines, classifies, and establishes penalties for crimes against public order.
- **Code of Administrative Liability of the Republic of Uzbekistan** – provides for administrative

liability for offenses such as petty hooliganism and illegal gambling.

- **Law on Internal Affairs Bodies of the Republic of Uzbekistan** – outlines the powers of law enforcement agencies in maintaining public order and preventing criminal offenses.
- **Laws on Mass Media of the Republic of Uzbekistan** – include provisions restricting the promotion and organization of illegal gambling through media channels.

Additionally, the prosecution authorities, law enforcement officers, and the judiciary play a crucial role in combating these crimes. The legislation in Uzbekistan aims to reduce the occurrence of such offenses and mitigate their consequences, ensuring strict measures against any crime that threatens public order.

By studying the criminological characteristics and features of crimes against public order, it is possible to identify the causes of crime, the extent of its spread, and effective ways to combat it. Hooliganism and the organization and conduct of gambling and other risk-based games have distinct criminological features, with varying causes, forms of commission, and societal impacts.

In criminology, crimes against public order are considered highly socially dangerous offenses because they pose a threat to overall public security and contribute to the decline of legal culture. Their main criminological characteristics include the following:

1. Creating an environment of disorder and lawlessness
2. Violence against victims and causing economic harm
3. Age composition of offenders
4. Recidivism (repetition of crimes)
5. Creating a burden on public security and law enforcement agencies

Currently, there is a need to systematize scientific hypotheses regarding the criminological significance of crimes against public order. This knowledge serves as the basis for conclusions, proposals, and recommendations related to these crimes, enabling the planning of future measures to combat them.

This crime is distinguished by the following criminological characteristics:

- ❖ **Violence and Aggression** – Hooliganism crimes often involve aggression, the use of force, or threats.
- ❖ **Spontaneous and Planned Forms** – Hooliganism may sometimes be premeditated, such as in cases of group hooliganism.
- ❖ **Creating a Culture of Lawlessness** – This crime can become widespread among youth and contribute to an overall increase in criminal activity.
- ❖ **Influence of Family and Social Environment** – Factors such as family instability, lack of supervision, and negative social influences can contribute to hooligan behavior.

Thus, the main factors influencing hooliganism include lack of parental supervision and weak upbringing, the effects of alcohol and drug abuse, socio-economic problems, and low levels of legal awareness and culture.

The illegal organization of gambling is one of the crimes that undermine the economic stability of society. This offense directly harms the national economy, as illegal gambling activities reduce tax revenues to the state budget and create uncontrolled financial flows. Moreover, this crime is often linked to fraud and corruption, promoting other forms of criminal activity through illicit financial schemes.

Individuals addicted to gambling frequently fall into excessive debt, lose their property, and ultimately face social instability. Additionally, illegal gambling is often associated with organized crime, serving as a financial source for criminal groups and creating additional challenges for law enforcement agencies.

The key factors driving this crime include the desire for quick wealth, weak government control and monitoring, and the expansion of illegal online gambling. Therefore, the illegal organization of gambling is a factor that intensifies the criminal environment and exacerbates economic problems, necessitating effective legal and institutional measures to combat it.

The effectiveness of preventive measures plays a crucial role in crime prevention. In the prevention of crimes such as hooliganism and the illegal organization of gambling, the following approaches are of particular importance:

- **Legal Awareness and Education** – Enhancing legal culture among youth and other social groups,

increasing awareness of the legal consequences of crimes.

- **Improving the Social Environment** – Engaging young people in productive work and social activities, promoting a healthy lifestyle.
- **Rehabilitation of Offenders** – Reintegration of individuals involved in hooliganism or gambling-related crimes into society, providing them with psychological and social support.

Preventive measures not only reduce the burden on the legal system but also contribute to strengthening societal stability.

Crimes against public order pose a serious threat to the stability of any society. In the criminal legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, these crimes are classified as hooliganism and the organization and conduct of gambling and other risk-based games. Studying their causes, legal and criminological characteristics, and measures to combat them is of great importance. Criminological analyses indicate that the primary factors contributing to crimes against public order include lack of supervision over youth, socio-economic difficulties, low levels of legal awareness, and the growth of illegal economic activities.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it is necessary to develop effective legal and social mechanisms to combat and prevent crimes against public order. Strengthening public order, reducing crime, and enhancing legal culture can be achieved through the joint efforts of state institutions, civil society, and educational institutions. Therefore, continuously improving the legal framework, expanding preventive measures, and fostering legal awareness in society remain key priorities in ensuring public order.

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