



ACTIVITIES OF PERSONAL SECURITY UNITS IN ENSURING THE RULE OF LAW IN THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COOPERATION STRUCTURES OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS BODIES: EXPERIENCE OF THE USA AND ISRAEL

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Abstract

This article focuses on the role of personal security units (internal affairs divisions) in ensuring the rule of law within the interdepartmental cooperation structures of internal affairs bodies and includes an analysis based on the experiences of the USA and Israel. The article examines the organizational and legal foundations of these divisions, mechanisms of interdepartmental cooperation, and their impact on the rule of law. In the USA, the Internal Affairs Division operates within the department, while in Israel, Machash reports to the Ministry of Justice and specializes in conducting independent investigations. Drawing on scientific analyses by foreign scholars and practical examples, the differences and similarities between the two countries' systems are comparatively studied. The research findings will contribute to developing practical recommendations for improving the activities of personal security units in Uzbekistan's internal affairs bodies. The article is intended for specialists interested in the rule of law, accountability in the police system, and the development of interdepartmental cooperation.

Keywords: Rule of law, internal affairs divisions, interdepartmental cooperation, US experience, Israeli experience, police system, personal security.

Internal affairs bodies (IAO) play an important role in ensuring public safety and public order, and the rule of law in their activities is the main factor in forming an atmosphere of trust and justice in society. In modern states, internal affairs units within the police system serve to strengthen the rule of law by preventing law violations by officers, investigating committed illegal acts, and monitoring compliance with professional standards within the system. Internal police service systems in the USA and Israel are distinguished by unique organizational models and mechanisms of departmental cooperation, which makes the study of their experience an important source for improving the activities of the personal security service in the Internal Affairs Bodies of Uzbekistan[1]. This study analyzes the organizational and legal foundations and practical effectiveness of the activities of internal police service units in these countries and proposes proposals for reforms aimed at ensuring the rule of law in Uzbekistan.

In assessing the role of internal service units in the police, the scientific analysis of foreign scientists is of great importance. For example, Julian Röppke considers the internal service a "guarantee of internal democracy in the police system," emphasizing that its activities are important in increasing the level of law-abidingness of employees, and believes that the internal service is actively involved not only in identifying violations, but also in improving police culture[2]. Maria Haberfeld also states that the effectiveness of internal service units depends on their level of independence and departmental cooperation[3]. The

analysis of these scientists creates a theoretical basis for studying the experience of the USA and Israel, since the internal service systems in these countries have different organizational approaches: in the USA, control within the department is given priority, and in Israel, external independence.

The practical significance of the activities of the internal service in the USA and Israel is also illustrated by real examples. For example, in 2019, the Los Angeles Police Department's internal service reviewed more than 300 complaints related to the illegal use of force by employees and dismissed 15 employees[4]. While this case demonstrates the role of the internal service in protecting citizens' rights, the effectiveness of an independent investigation is proven by the fact that in Israel in 2021, Machash investigated the violence committed by a police officer against a citizen in Jerusalem, and a criminal case was initiated against the officer [5]. These examples reveal the specific approaches of internal service systems to ensuring the rule of law.

Internal Affairs Units are special structures established to ensure internal control and accountability within the police system, whose activities are aimed at strengthening the rule of law and monitoring employees' compliance with professional standards. The theoretical foundations of these subdivisions are based on the concepts of bureaucratic responsibility, the rule of law, and internal justice in public administration. According to the analysis of foreign scientists, the internal service plays an important role in the formation of a police culture, along with the suppression of illegal behavior within the system. For example, Robert Reiner assessed the internal service as "an important institution in the police system that maintains internal order and ensures the lawful work of employees"[6]. In his opinion, internal service activities serve not only to identify violations, but also to strengthen the observance of employees' professional ethical norms.

The concept of the rule of law plays an important role in the analysis of the theoretical foundations of internal service units. According to this concept, all activities in the police system should be carried out within the framework of the law, and internal service serves as a practical guarantee of this principle. Scholar Barry Friedman defines internal service as "an internal expression of the rule of law within the police system," emphasizing its importance in ensuring employees' observance of citizens' rights [7]. According to his analysis, the internal service serves to increase public trust in the police while reducing corruption and violations within the system. The role of the internal service in departmental cooperation is also noteworthy. For example, integration with external supervisory bodies (prosecutor's office, civil councils) increases the effectiveness of the internal service and ensures its independence [8].

The concept of "internal justice" can be considered as another theoretical basis for the activities of the internal service. According to this concept, police officers should be treated fairly, which increases their motivation to comply with the law. Scholar Tom Tyler argues that the internal service strengthens employees' trust in the system through fair investigation processes [9]. In his opinion, the internal service should be considered not only as a punitive body, but also as a structure that helps improve the behavior of employees. Thus, the theoretical foundations of the activities of internal service units are based on the principles of the rule of law, responsibility, and departmental cooperation, which creates a solid foundation for analyzing their practical activities.



In the USA, Internal Affairs Departments (IAD) operate within police departments, and their main task is to investigate violations committed by employees, as well as to ensure the rule of law in the police system. These divisions operate based on U.S. federal and local legislation and enhance their effectiveness through departmental cooperation.

In the USA, internal service activities are based on federal laws, in particular, the Civil Rights Act (Civil Rights Act, 1964) and special state laws. For example, the Texas Code of Police Conduct regulates internal investigative procedures [10]. The IAD is usually subordinate to the department's leadership, but in some cities, such as Seattle, the practice of cooperating with civil oversight boards has been implemented. This system serves to increase the independence of the internal service [11].

In the USA, internal service units work in close cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the prosecutor's office, and local authorities. For example, in 2022, the internal service of the Philadelphia Police Department, together with the FBI, conducted an investigation into the corrupt activities of employees, as a result of which 10 employees were brought to justice[12]. This departmental cooperation plays an important role in increasing the effectiveness of the internal service and ensuring the rule of law.

In 2021, the Boston Police Department Internal Service investigated a case involving illegal possession of weapons by officers. As a result of the investigation, 5 employees were dismissed, and criminal proceedings were initiated against them[13]. This situation demonstrates the effectiveness of the internal service in combating violations within the system.

Scholar Lawrence Sherman evaluates internal service units in the USA as "a mechanism for correcting errors in the police system," but emphasizes that political pressure within the department creates problems in their activities [14]. Also, Claire Finkelstein (Claire Finkelstein) points out the need to increase the internal service's ability to respond quickly to citizens' complaints, as this strengthens public trust in the police [15]. These analyses reveal the strengths and weaknesses of the domestic service system in the USA.

In Israel, internal service units operate under the name Machash (Department of Investigation of Police), which are subordinate to the Ministry of Justice and operate independently of the police. This system is aimed at investigating violations committed by police officers and ensuring the rule of law.

Machash was founded in 1992, and its activities are based on the "Law on the Police of Israel" (1971) and special regulations[16]. This unit has the right to conduct criminal proceedings against police officers, and their independence is ensured by their subordination to the Ministry of Justice. In 2022, Machash reviewed about 2,100 complaints, which indicates its high activity[17].

Machash works in close cooperation with the prosecutor's office and judicial bodies. For example, in 2023, a corruption case involving a police officer in Haifa was jointly investigated by Machash and the prosecutor's office, and the officer was prosecuted [18]. This cooperation will increase the effectiveness of the internal service in ensuring the rule of law.

In 2022, Machash investigated the illegal use of force by a police officer against a citizen in Netanya. As a result of the investigation, the employee was sentenced to 2 years in prison, which was assessed as a practical result of an independent investigation [19].

Scholar Gideon Fishman (Gideon Fishman) considers the Machash system "an important guarantee of the rule of law in the police system," but argues that the lack of resources and

personnel in its activities is a problem [20]. Ruth Gavison also praised Machash's independence, stating the need to ensure its protection from political pressures[21].

A comparative analysis of the activities of internal service units in the USA and Israel reveals differences in their organizational structure, legal framework, and departmental cooperation. In the USA, the Internal Service (IAD) operates within the department, while in Israel, Machash has external independence and is subordinate to the Ministry of Justice[22]. This difference indicates that the US prioritizes internal control, while Israel prioritizes external accountability.

There are also peculiarities in departmental cooperation: in the USA, the internal service operates in integration with the FBI and civil councils, while in Israel, close contact with the prosecutor's office and the court is a priority [23]. Looking at the practical examples, in 2021, the illegal possession of weapons by employees in Boston was discovered by the internal service[24], while in 2022, violence against a citizen in Netania was investigated by Machash[25]. These circumstances demonstrate the specific approaches of both systems to combating offenses.

According to the analysis of scientists, in the US system, pressure within the department creates problems, while in Israel, despite high independence, the lack of resources affects efficiency. Ensuring the rule of law and increasing the responsibility of employees in both systems serves as a common goal.

Internal service units in the USA and Israel serve as an important tool in ensuring the rule of law. In the US, the internal service is based on control within the department, while in Israel, Machash focuses on external independence. Practical examples (Boston and Netania cases) and analysis by scientists (Fishman, Gavison) show the effectiveness and problems of these systems. For Uzbekistan, based on this experience, it is possible to form the internal service as an independent and effective structure, which will serve to strengthen the rule of law in the police system.

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