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EUAM calls for radical improvement in criminal investigations in Ukraine

"In January 2017, EUAM and the National Police of Ukraine launched a joint pilot project in Boryspil police station, merging the activities of operatives and investigators under one chain of command. This model has already proven successful in EU countries such as the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland and Romania.

The expected results are a reduction in bureaucracy and an increase in efficiency



The Fourth meeting of the Parliament-Civil Society Platform — a joint initiative of the European Union Advisory Mission (EUAM) and OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine (OSCE PCU) — brought together 180 senior law enforcement

as operatives and investigators will no longer be under different chains of command and will operate as one team. The 'merger' reform is a first step towards creating an Institute of Detectives in Ukraine"

officials, parliamentarians, experts and civil society activists in Kyiv to elaborate concrete steps aimed at boosting the effectiveness of criminal investigations in Ukraine and improving coordination within and between law enforcement agencies.

According to analyses, carried out by EUAM with other international organisations since 2015, the criminal investigation system in Ukraine lacks effectiveness when compared to other European countries due to outdated, post-Soviet criminal investigation structures and a complicated Criminal Procedure Code.

In January 2017, EUAM and the National Police of Ukraine (NPU) launched a joint pilot project in Boryspil police station, merging the activities of operatives and investigators under one chain of command. This model has already proven successful in EU countries such as the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland and Romania. Currently, this project is being implemented in eight regions of Ukraine – Kyiv, Kharkiv, Khmelnitsky, Lviv, Odesa, Poltava, Sumy and Zaporizhe.

Read more

Modern e-case management system will have radical impact on criminal investigation in Ukraine

A study visit that the European Union Advisory Mission carried out in the Czech Republic on the Czech experience with its Electronic Case Management System (eCMS) inspired the Chief Prosecutor of Kyiv Regional Public Prosecutor's Office to develop the pilot project 'Concept on online electronic supervisory proceedings' in Kyiv region. Here, EUAM's Lead Advisor on Criminal Investigation, Zbynek Vanicek, and Kyiv region's Chief Prosecutor, Dmytro Chibisov, elaborate on what benefits an eCMS may have for Ukraine's investigators and prosecutors.

What exactly is an e-case management system?

Zbynek Vanicek: Electronic Case Management System (eCMS) is an electronic system that converts physical documentation into digitised format, so that criminal-case files can be shared electronically between staff and departments. It makes the work flow easier for all parties involved in criminal investigation, but in particular for police, prosecutors, and judges. It is therefore an administrative and management tool for handling the electronic version of criminal-case files, which are then accessible online to parties involved in pre-trial investigations, with each



Lead Advisor on Criminal Investigation Zbynek VANICEK

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Documents such as

being granted a different level of access and editing rights.

An e-case management system improves the coordination and supervision of pre-trial investigations, which is so important for police and prosecutors. Documents such as plans for criminal investigation, evidence, interviews, orders from prosecutors, approvals, and reports become available online immediately. This saves huge amounts of time and money.

An eCMS ideally should be integrated with other databases, for instance with the judicial system and registers (ownership rights to property, land, transport, etc). Such systems might also be able to analyse performance evaluation of prosecutors and be used as an analytical tool.

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Read the full interview

Activities on the horizon

- 3-14 July: EUAM will deliver human rights training for the employees of the State Security Service of Ukraine in Odessa
- 4 July: A Senior Leadership and Change Management Seminar will be delivered by EUAM for the top management of the police in Khmelnitsky
- 6 July: Mission will organize a workshop on public communications in Kharkiv
- 27-28 July: EUAM will deliver communication training for the regional press-secretaries of the National Police of Ukraine







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