to complete statutory instruments of Ukraine will considerably improve the activity of organs of pre-trial investigation, prevent violations of the norms of Criminal Code of Ukraine and provide functioning of the real mechanism of the guaranteeing human rights by the state, and also increase responsibility of the subjects, authorized to make decision in relation to a necessity of the conduction of the investigative (detective) actions, provide their legality and application during investigation of criminal actions.

Serdiuk P.,

Doctor of Law Sciences, Associate Professor, Professor at the Department of Criminology and Penitentiary Law, National Academy of Prosecution of Ukraine

TRUST TO CRIMINAL STATISTICS: NECESSITY OR FICTION?

The article is devoted to quite painful problem of statistics in criminological research. The article notes that the distrust to official statistics is not absurd, because the ability of the society to record all crimes is limited by objective and subjective factors. However, the use of cumulative measures, which have now become ubiquitous in the world, factually leads to the dominant sociological ways of measuring the criminality. The results of verification while using these methods demonstrates that criminal victimization data are extremely overpriced and can not be true in the present state of civilization.

The article notes that in most cases we can use the statistics as a kind of extraction from the real picture of crime, which is still unattainable, except, of course, those systems where excessive recording of reported crimes as of really existing offences is a norm. The principle of extraction when significant errors of registering serve as rotten apple in a barrel remains indispensable to make correlation and apply statistical and mathematical techniques for errors smoothing.

My experience of researches shows that in many cases the indicators of all recorded crimes in investigated countries are quite suitable for the establishment of correlations. Unfortunately, this is not always possible to apply to the particular kinds of crime. Considerable controversies and inconsistencies can be noted there.

The article notes that in many states takes place the process of criminalization of the behavior which has broken the threshold of saturation. In Ukraine, for example, it is particularly tax evasion and in Florida (USA) it is sexual relations outside of mar-

riage. The article suggests that if the official statistics do not rank these crimes with first place, though they are the most prevalent among others, than registration does not perform its functions there. However, in this case the situation is different. When some practice becomes common in society, the criminalization, strange though it might sound, no longer reflects the possible deviant behavior.

The article provides evidence as to why the results of victimization surveys are to be trusted even less than the official statistics. I emphasize that in our hands lies the ability to use proportionate approach in comparison of the number of crimes by regions. It equips us with the new opportunities to identify "dark figures" of crime, without neglecting the natural influence of the number of population on social phenomena, without going into the use of artificial analytical units for comparison. However, all this would have been impossible if we had not got extractions as official statistics in the hands.