

INTERPOL ISSUES DEBATED IN THE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

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Abstract: *The activity of International Criminal Police Organization – Interpol, reflects itself poorly in the scientific literature of the Russian Federation. In the former URSS, crime issues were exclusively of state internal competence, with a negative opinion regarding the possibility of participation in Interpol activities. That’s why the Interpol issue was never granted a full reevaluation during the soviet period. Only after the URSS’s fall and the enhancement of international contacts, the interest for the Interpol topic began to rise in the scientific field.*

Key words: *Interpol, Ministry of Internal Affairs, organization, terrorism.*

1. Introduction

The activity of International Criminal Police Organization – Interpol, reflects itself poorly in the scientific literature of the Russian Federation. As an explanation for that we can mention the secured character of the institution and the rigid filtration of the worldwide delivered information. At international level, information can be accessed on the websites www.interpol.int or www.interpol.com, but at the local level the information becomes concise with only general aspects on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation (www.mvd.ru).

The posted information include the personality of the Interpol NCB Chief, the collaboration with Europol, official logos of NCB Interpol of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, the ordinance on NCB Interpol of the Ministry

of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and Interpol alerts.

In the former URSS, crime issues were exclusively of state internal competence, with a negative opinion regarding the possibility of participation in Interpol activities. That’s why the Interpol issue was never granted a full reevaluation during the soviet period. Only after the URSS’s fall and the enhancement of international contacts, the interest for the Interpol topic began to rise in the scientific field.

The scientific publications that appeared in the Russian Federation and submitted for analysis carry a predominant international legal character, practically excluding the Interpol topic discussion from the view of other scientific fields due to the specificity of the organization. The carried out activity is based on Criminal Law, Criminal Procedural Law and forensics.

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However, the first scientific information about Interpol appeared during the soviet period being approached fragmentary in the context of International Law studies. The evolution synthesis of the publishing during the former soviet period highlights a range of authors in the field of law like: Karpets I.I., BelsonYa. M., Galenskaya L.I., RodionovK.S.. The emphasis on the publications of these authors is focused on detailed history of the organization, normative acts which regulate its activity and carried out activities. The publications until the 1990's had an informative and didactic character, without any appraisals or analyses.

Professor Karpets I.I., a well known Russian criminologist for several scientific directions grounded on juridical science regarding crime prevention and crime fighting. He is the author of more than 200 scientific works. Those which are in liaison with the discussed topic are: Present issues of Criminal Law and Criminology (1976), Crimes with an international character (1979), International criminal activity (1988), International Criminal Law (1995).

The historian BelsonYa.M. publishes the work: Interpol fighting criminal activity in 1989, when, at international level, substantial transformations and reconfigurations of political forces were happening. During the soviet period, Interpol had to bear unfriendly epithets, and then a new mission was developed by BelsonYa.M. on Interpol image integration into a changing social and scientific reality. This monograph represents a complex and balanced research which has the purpose of covering the gap of information about Interpol.

Professor Galenskaya L.I., from the Chair of International Law of the State University of Sankt-Petersburg treats the issue from the point of view of International Law in the monographs:

Fighting International Crime (1972) and Juridical Issues of Collaboration between States Fighting Criminal Activity (1978). She is an author of several sections in many university volumes and scientific articles in specialized journals.

Professor Rodionov K.S., a collaborator of the State and Law Institute of the Academy of Sciences of Russia, is the author of the first works directly based on the Interpol theme in former URSS like: International Criminal Police Organization – Interpol (1972); Interpol – myth and reality (1982 – first edition, 1986 – second edition), both editions being translated into Bulgarian and published at Sofia in 1984 and 1987, and also in Czech, being published at Prague in 1985; Interpol of yesterday, today and tomorrow (1990). Also he is the author of the chapter Interpol Activity, Fighting International Crimes within the monograph Criminal Justice: International Collaboration Issues (1989) and the co-author on the didactical work International search within the Interpol Database (2000). The latest published works are: section Interpol – the year of our inclusion at the jubilee edition of the book Russian Interpol Shield, published on the 20th anniversary of the creation of NBC Interpol in Russia (2010); a range of articles in specialized journals; the monograph entitled Europol (2011).

The synthesis of the works of the above mentioned authors lead us to the conclusion that the Interpol issue starts to be capitalized on at the beginning of the 1990's due to the fact that the former Soviet Union becomes an Interpol member in 1990. On April 7th, 1990 the Decision of the Soviet of Ministers of the former URSS №338 was adopted “On URSS joining the International Criminal Police Organization Interpol”. On September 27th, 1990 at the 57th Session of Interpol General Assembly in Ottawa, Canada, URSS was included as an Interpol

member. Starting with January 1st, 1991, within the structure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, an NCB Interpol began its activity. After the dissolution of the URSS, the NCB Interpol of Russia takes over the attributions of the union bureau. The day of the NCB Interpol formation in Russia is considered to be September 27th, 1990.

The modern authors who tackle this issue are Ovchinskiy V.S. and Samarin V.I. They will be the topic of the following discussion.

Ovchinskiy V.S. is one of the present Russian authors, who managed to publish from the beginning of the 90's until now, several works which directly or tangentially approach the issue: *The Strategy of Fighting with Mafia* (1993), *Organised Crime Fighting Background* (1996), *Interpol: questions and answers* (2000), *21st Century Against Mafia* (2001), *Criminology and Biotechnology* (2005), *Interpol Against Terrorism* (2008). The mentioned author presents in his work *Interpol: questions and answers*, an exhaustive view on history, judicial and organizational bases, including those of the national bureaus; Interpol functions of international search and extradition; The Interpol international search organization in Russia; Interpol's role in accomplishing international queries on criminal investigation; person identification; Interpol fighting organised and economic crime; Geiger project; Interpol combating drug trafficking; Interpol fighting object abstraction with historical, scientific, art or cultural value; Artus project. In this work there all the national and international documents, internal Interpol work blanks were enclosed. Although it has a methodical-didactical character, the work is still of an undeniable value as a modality of the issue exposure and treatment. The clear character of the work is due to the fact that the author during October 1997 –

July 1999, headed the NCB Interpol in Russia. At the same time, the interviews and analyses on security matters of the mentioned author, qualify him as an analyst of global security matters and appraisal of development models of the modern world. The work *Interpol against Terrorism* (2008) represents an anthology of international normative acts on fight against terrorism which represents the background for the Interpol activity on both levels, national and international.

Samarin V.I. is a young author, a docent of the State University of Belarus, who published the work *Interpol* in Russia. At the International Criminal Police Organizationis where he elucidates in a dynamic and modern way the history of creation and development of the international organization Interpol, the structure and activity principles, collaboration with other international organizations, the organization from the perspective of fighting different types of crimes, crime registration, Russia within the Interpol, Interpol NCB in foreign countries, Russian legislation in the field of collaboration with other states on criminal issues. The aim of the work is to present that nowadays Interpol is the most operative and efficient international crime fighting structure.

At the same time, specialized scientific journals reveal works on Interpol activity as the study signed by the authors: Gasymov I.G., Volevodz A.G., Ivantsov S.V. and others.

To conclude, based on the conducted analysis, it can be mentioned that during the last three decades, scientific literature which concerns the Interpol issue has been written in Russia. When initially the works had a descriptive and historical character, the latest published works show an analytical treatment specialized on several activities conducted by the Interpol. The reserved and cautious perception on the

activity of this international institution develops into a new view of collaboration assessment and mutual contribution to combating crime activity phenomena and providing transnational security.

A maturity criterion of the scientific approach represents the issue studied by doctoral theses. The dissertation studies constitute a real indicator of the intensity of the scientific manner of the topic's debate. The doctoral theses on topics connected with Interpol issues are defended mostly in legal specialties. The analysis will concern the studies directly linked to this problem.

With a pioneer title regarding this issue is the thesis written by Antropov A.G., *The place and role of NCB Interpol into Russian Law Enforcement Agencies* (1996), where aspects linked to national and international forms of collaboration within crime fighting and theoretical-judicial issues of the Russian NBC Interpol activity improvement are debated. Another work on this issue is the one of D.D.Stronskiy's, *The establishment and organizational-judicial development of NCB Interpol in the Russian Federation: general – theoretical and historical – judicial aspects* (2002), where aspects grounded on URSS's joining Interpol are analyzed (the increase of transnational criminal activity in the last years of its existence, the development of the soviet state's international relations in the 1980's); the formation and improvement of the organizational bases of NCB Interpol (basic activity directions, structural reconfiguration, staff supply); the development of a normative platform (the influence of the international legislation on NCB Interpol activity, the regulation of NCB activity by the Russian law). According to the publishing chronology, the following dissertation was devised by Zaitseva E.S. *Interpol activity of countering terrorism as a contribution to*

international legal order consolidation (2008), where aspects of national and international law order were discussed: notions, structure and consolidation modalities; Interpol as an international organization specialized in the international law system consolidation (judicial statute and structure, present basic functions and their importance in the international legal order consolidation); the antiterrorist component in Interpol activity (organizational – judicial activity in fighting terrorism; Interpol collaboration with the UN and other international organizations fighting terrorism). And the last work is the thesis authored by Kalujina M.A. *“Present issues of criminal activity registration in the Russian Federation and the possibility of its interpretation within the Interpol system”* (2001). The content of the thesis tackles theoretical issues of legislation on criminal activity registration, judicial regulation of criminal activity registration; criminal activity registration issues in the Russian Federation and ways of their settlement (present condition of criminal activity registration, organizational peculiarities of records within the Interpol system on several types of transnational crimes, issues concerning databases, files and records used for crime investigation and identification); priority directions for innovative methods' use and high technologies within criminal activity registration in the Russian Federation (national and international experience of identification on genotype: theory and practice, actual issues of global electronic nets used in the process of information exchange within the Interpol system by law enforcement agencies in the Russian Federation; ways of integrating data registration and crime identifications in the line of Federal Service of Penalty).

The analysis of the doctoral theses, directly focused on Interpol activity, reveals the fact that all the authors

activated in this field, being employees of this structure in Russian Federation. To synthesize, the examined material leads to the same trend, stated in the case of the monographs, books and scientific articles: the first theses mainly contained historical – descriptive elements, whereas the last ones tried to find mechanisms and reserves of optimization of activities at a national level and their adjustment to international standards of Interpol operation.

Simultaneously with this category of doctoral theses, the aspects concerning Interpol activity are also reflected in other dissertation studies, which indirectly or tangentially summarize the issue. Classifying the topics and the contents of doctorates, a direct interest for the work methods of the internal bodies of the Russian Federation and the adjustment to Interpol standards can be established, studies being discussed according to the type of crime. Another wide research area are the studies on the experience of other countries, international collaboration between specialized bodies, international support, and co-operation with international organizations maintaining national and international security.

In the context of Slavic research there is the doctoral thesis defended in Ukraine by Smelik V.B., “Judicial international frame of the institutional Interpol system” (2006). Its innovative character consists of the analysis of judicial Interpol system, its actual condition and the trends of the institutional frame concerning the cooperation between the member states in combating transnational organized crime.

Assigning an incontestable value to the study of Interpol issues by scientists from the Slavic investigation area, it can be noticed that although a certain amount of information on this topic has been gathered, however the studies remain behind the events. Interpol is a highly dynamic organization, which quickly

reacts to the changes of the international community. As a consequence, the issued studies already no longer correspond to the present situation and the development trends of the Interpol. Thereby the Interpol topic remains open for new scientific research.

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