

## **Regulation of Human Rights in Times of War and Peace: International Context**

Contemporary times have witnessed numerous military conflicts resulting in immense civilian casualties. Beyond these losses, war crimes which deviated from established war conventions were committed not only against the military personnel, but also against the innocent civilian populace. This can be comprehensively observed during the war between Russia and Ukraine with many instances of criminal activities by the Russian military against the Ukrainian citizenry. However, these documented and verified cases represent merely a fraction of the entire scenario. Consequently, it will necessitate significant efforts from Ukraine and the international community to record and seek justice for all the victims of these transgressions.

Hence, the relevance of this topic necessitates a thorough exploration. As a result, we've amalgamated the contributions from various scholars who have examined war crimes and human rights offenses in depth. The collection is enriched with insightful, high-quality articles rooted in both empirical and theoretical research.

The primary focus of Liana Spytka's work is the exploration of the pressures applied by authoritarian regimes on opposition leaders, employing the instruments of criminal prosecution. This study covers such countries as Hungary, Singapore, Egypt, the Philippines, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, in addition to the Russian Federation, the Republic of Belarus, and the People's Republic of China. Furthermore, the author examines the Ukrainian experience within this context.

In turn, scholars like Sergii Adamovych, Yurii Mykytyn, Lidiya Prystach, Natalia Savetchuk and Ihor Kozychdelve into a thorough analysis of the underlying causes of the Russian Federation's aggressive stance towards Ukraine, and identify the consequences of such actions by studying historical instances of war crimes perpetrated against other nations. The central objective of their article is to review historical perspectives, study official documents, and evaluate potential options for holding accountable those who committed war crimes on behalf of Russia. They also highlight strategies and means of punishing Russian citizens implicated in war crimes against military personnel and civilians.

Moreover, the importance of criminal proceedings, and their provision to the opposing party, warrants attention. Within the work of Yuliia Vakoliuk, Vasyl Popeliushko, Serhii Gongalo and Mariia Matviichuk, the emphasis lies on the necessity to examine the practical conditions for implementing the procedural form of evidence presentation in criminal proceedings. This investigation is crucial to ensure the effectiveness of criminal procedures and to safeguard the rights and

liberties of Ukrainian citizens. It aims to promote the proper conduct of the procedural process and institute a mechanism permitting parties, other than investigative authorities, to acquaint themselves with the case file in the context of criminal proceedings.

Furthermore, a comprehensive coverage of the issue demands an analysis of the implementation of international legal standards pertaining to the prosecutor's office, and the status of prosecutors in Ukraine. Oleksandr Yu. Amelin, Yan V. Streliuk, Sergii V. Podkopaiev, Tetyana V. Yevchuk and Husein Atif ogly Agayev addressed this necessity. The significance of this issue is explained by the critical role prosecutors play in protecting citizens' rights and freedoms. Evaluating the status of prosecutors aids in understanding the effectiveness of the prosecutor's office in this domain and its assurance of citizens' rights to a fair trial and equality before the law.

The issue also underscores the pertinent matter of plastic and electronic documents, including the specifics of their use during warfare. It is important given the heightened risk of fake documents being used for illicit activities, such as terrorism, crimes against humanity, and organized crime during times of war. Forensic examination of plastic identification documents aids in identifying such fraudulent documents, thereby enhancing societal safety. Consequently, investigating this issue during wartime is vital for societal security, citizens' rights protection, national security, crime prevention, and the fortification of justice.

When addressing data security, the subjects of cyber security and cybercrime warrant significant attention. For instance, work by Oleksandr Punda, Mykola Vavrynychuk, Olha Kohut, Stepan Kravchuk, and Mykhailo Prysiazhniuk offers an extensive discourse on this topic. In times of war, the prevalence of cybercrime can escalate as the tumultuous environment becomes conducive to cyberattacks. These attacks can be aimed at debilitating enemy forces, disseminating misinformation, annihilating infrastructure, or executing espionage. Studying cybercrime enables us to identify emerging threats, scrutinize attack techniques, and devise strategies to fortify cyber security during periods of conflict. Cybercrime poses a threat to national security, the economy, and public order. Research into this domain facilitates the identification of culprits, collection of evidence, and prosecution of cybercriminals, thus helping to preempt new attacks, punish offenders, and restore order.

Beyond the previously discussed topics, this comprehensive issue casts a wide net to encompass a diverse range of subjects, each adding profound insights and depth to the central theme. For example, the analysis on the "Assessment of Risk of Committing New Offences as Determinant of Prisoner Classification" provides a

critical look at the metrics and methods employed in prisoner risk assessment. It acknowledges how such evaluations can influence the potential for reoffending, thereby impacting the design of effective rehabilitation programs. Alongside this, the exploration of “Ukraine's Fulfillment of its Obligations to Protect the Rights of Children Victims of International Abduction” delves into the state's legal responsibilities in addressing international child abduction cases. It reviews the efficacy of these commitments in shielding the rights of child victims in complex, cross-border scenarios.

In a different yet equally significant realm, “Functional Purpose of Tactical Operations in the Development of Criminalistic Methodics of Crime Investigation” offers an in-depth look into the strategic use of tactical operations within criminal investigations. Understanding their functional role can pave the way for refined investigation techniques, ensuring a swift and equitable resolution of criminal cases. Furthermore, the analysis of “Aspects of Ensuring Human Dignity” sheds light on the mechanisms safeguarding this basic human right, examining their effectiveness across societal and law enforcement contexts.

Another valuable insight is provided by the discussion on “Special Features of Defence Mechanisms in Persons Deprived of Liberty”, which looks into the psychological coping strategies employed by incarcerated individuals. Meanwhile, the exploration of the “System of Legal Responsibility in the Environment Protection Area” touches upon the role of legal regulations in preserving our natural surroundings. Several papers delve into the nuances of various legal systems, highlighting their impacts on specific populations and the overall societal fabric. A number of them reveal the intricate dynamics between law, warfare, human rights, and international relations. These themes underscore the critical importance of legal frameworks and international cooperation in times of crisis and conflict.

The issue also includes two research papers from Jordan as well. The scholars Ali Al-Hammouri and Tareq Al-Billeh in their paper titled “Specificity of Criminalisation in the Jordanian Environmental Protection Law”, aims to analyze the specificity of criminalisation in the Environmental Protection Law. In another paper from Jordan, titled “Scope of Penalties of Offences in Jordanian Public Office”, the scholars analyze the legal regulation of penal and disciplinary crimes by showing the relationship between them, and their independence from each other in the public office in terms of the legal elements of each crime, and the procedures used to prosecute the public employee.

This comprehensive issue captures a wide range of interrelated topics, from criminal justice and international law to human rights and psychological coping strategies. Each subject underscores different facets of the overarching theme,

shedding light on critical nuances and contributing to a more profound understanding. Through its diverse yet interconnected explorations, the issue strives to stimulate thought, provoke debate, and inspire meaningful action towards a more equitable and just world.

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