

Psychological Aspects of the Problem of Punishment and Correction of Convicts in Modern Realities

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Abstract

This research is designed to explore the psychological aspects of the problem of punishment and to explore the impact of punishment on convicts at the stage of its execution through the prism of penitentiary psychology. The research examined penitentiary psychology as a branch of legal psychology that explores the patterns of personality dynamics in the process of serving a sentence. The author examines the states of convicts at different periods of their stay in penitentiary institutions and their impact on the desire for correction, which is one of the objectives of punishment. The stage of social adaptation and the stage before release are considered separately in terms of psychological aspects of the convict's personality. The author examines the experience of different countries in dealing with the re-socialisation of convicts and provides some improvements that could have a positive impact on the penitentiary system of Ukraine.

Keywords: Resocialisation, Penitentiary System, Criminal Legislation, Execution of Sentences, Social Isolation, Public Administration.

Introduction

For many decades, scholars and legislators have been trying to find the ideal model of criminal punishment that would both ensure the protection of the most important human rights and interests, property, public safety and order, and contribute to the real rehabilitation of the offender, i.e. develop their behaviour that does not pose a threat to the interests protected by law, and helps prevent the commission of new crimes by both the convicted and other persons. The need to look at the essence and purposes of punishment in a new light is not only a question of the present. The so-called "crisis of the rehabilitative ideal" has existed for quite a long time, and the rising crime rate, especially recidivism, only confirms the need to reconsider the problem of rehabilitation and re-education of convicts (Shynkariuk, 2022). The majority of scholars are all inclined to the idea that rehabilitation through incarceration alone is an illusion (Duguid, 2001; White, 2023). The conditions of detention of prisoners are inconsistent with the principles of humaneness, and humanity, and frequently violate the basic human rights and

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freedoms enshrined in international regulations, which contradicts the purpose of penal legislation on correction and re-socialisation of criminals (Surzik, 2022).

Ukraine is no exception, especially considering the existence of entrenched Soviet mechanisms that are at odds with the concepts of humanism, resocialisation and social adaptation. Thus, the purpose of the national penal policy is to reformat the penitentiary system and implement a progressive penitentiary idea, the essence of which is to establish a qualitatively new system of penal institutions, and to ensure the effective operation of a social and psychological service aimed at providing psychological support to each convict, and their penitentiary and post-prison resocialisation (Barash, 2022; Levchenko & Vasylevych, 2022). According to statistical data, since the beginning of the reforms, there has been a downward trend in the number of prisoners in Ukraine, with an average reduction rate of 4% between 2018 and 2021 but there are still a large number of gaps in legal regulation and a significant number of problems in reality (Office of the Council, 2023). The issue is the lack of proper conditions in penitentiary institutions and the lack of effectiveness of social and psychological work with prisoners. It includes psycho-correctional programmes, pedagogical influence on convicts, the low level of secrecy of penitentiary institutions, and the lack of effectiveness of mechanisms for reintegration and prisoner resocialisation.

A special contribution to the study of the process of resocialisation of convicts was made by O.H. Humeniuk (2013), exploring the psychological basis of resocialisation of convicted and released persons. Thus, in his works, he says that it is re-socialisation that should be the ultimate purpose of the penitentiary system, as serving the sentence is only one of the tasks, not the only one. Moreover, in his opinion, it is possible only with the active social support of persons sentenced to punishment through social adaptation, participation in religious organisations, cultural life and education (Lepeyko & Jianping, 2022; Barkova & Melnik, 2023). The same opinion is held by Y.M. Krasilova (2017), who talks about the development of a set of measures and techniques for the maladaptation of convicts. In addition, she pays considerable attention to the examination of the motivational sphere of juvenile convicts, and the development of a typology of adolescent offenders with their value orientations. The issues of psychological mechanisms of resocialisation were explored by N. Maksimova (2018), in particular in the context of resocialisation of persons with deviant behaviour, exploring their reflections, motivations, and types of social maladaptation.

T.B. Nikolaienko (2021) thoroughly explored the impact of prisoners' work on them as a way of rehabilitation, focusing on the experience of international states, with the main idea being the involvement of the private sector in the employment of prisoners, and the opportunity for prisoners to study and improve their skills. A

significant contribution to the research of this subject was made by Y. Orel (2023), exploring the issue of resocialisation of convicts. In his research he advocated a special experiment and the establishment of a new experimental colony with conditions as close to the usual life as possible, and the involvement of public and religious organisations in their resocialisation. The works of L. Shevchenko and D. Shevchenko (2022) on the issue of women's resocialisation are important. The authors (Blahuta & Basysta, 2022; Dobroskok, 2022; Melnyk, 2022; Tymoshenko, 2022) thoroughly explore the issue of involving women convicts in work, and its impact on their correction, and pay special attention to education as a way to prevent recidivism based on international experience. In addition, considerable attention is paid to the international experience and the issue of implementing provisions and mechanisms in national legislation.

Considering this, the purpose of this research is to explore the psychological aspects of punishment and correction of convictions and develop effective mechanisms in this area for comprehensive reform of the system.

Materials and Methods

To conduct the research, the author used a number of the following general and specific methods of scientific knowledge, the main ones being the dialectical method and the method of comparison. In addition, the method of synthesis and analysis, the statistical method, the formal-legal method, and the hermeneutic method were applied. This research is a detailed analysis of the psychological aspects of the problem of punishment and correction of convicts, in particular, the study of psychological aspects of the personality of a convict while serving a sentence and directly on the way to their correction and resocialisation. Using the dialectical method as one of the main methods of scientific cognition, the author examines the essence of the purpose of punishment, and the essence of resocialisation and correction of convicts, which are the main issues of this research. The dialectical method allowed exploring these areas in depth, and identifying their interaction and examining the influence of the psychological characteristics of the individual on the outcome of their correction and resocialisation.

The comparative legal method allowed exploring the international practice of other states regarding the process of correction and resocialisation and exploring the similarities and differences in Ukrainian and international legislation. In addition, the comparative analysis was used to compare the typology of convicts according to the conventional scheme and the research of some scholars (B. Evert and G. Khokhriakov). In addition, the research used the method of hermeneutics, which allowed for a detailed analysis and examination of such categories as penitentiary

psychology, resocialisation of the convicted person, and correction of the convicted person, and highlighted the differences between the latter.

The method of synthesis and analysis allowed analysing thoroughly the state of the penitentiary system in the field of correction of convicts while serving their sentences and identifying all the gaps in detail, considering the psychological characteristics of their personality. The systematic analysis of the typology of convicts and their conditions during different stages of serving their sentences allowed identifying clearly and in detail the problems of serving sentences in the modern penal system and highlighting issues that are not being properly addressed. The statistical method was used in the analysis of international experience, in particular about the US penitentiary system, in particular in the research on the growth of recidivism. Using these methods of scientific cognition allowed exploring in detail the psychological characteristics of the personality of a convict while serving a sentence, their ability to reform depending on using various methods and mechanisms of the penitentiary system, and exploring the impact of external factors on convicts while serving a sentence on the way to their resocialisation, in particular, religious organisations, NGOs, the impact of educational and professional factors, the impact of psychological services for their healing. In conducting this research, the authors used the works of scholars from both Europe and America, and Ukraine. In addition, regulations of national legislation, in particular the Criminal Code of Ukraine (2001) and Criminal and Executive Code (2004), were used.

Results

The purpose of the penitentiary service is to reform a convicted person for a criminal offence to protect the interests of the individual, society and the state, and to develop lawful behaviour in the convicted person and prevent them from reoffending. This idea is enshrined in Article 50 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (2001), which states that punishment is intended both to punish and to reform convicts and to prevent the commission of new criminal offences. Therewith, the Criminal and Executive Code (2004) enshrines the very purpose of penal legislation as regulation of the procedure, conditions of execution and serving of sentences to protect the interests protected by law by creating conditions for the correction and resocialisation of convicts. The legislator distinguishes between correction and resocialisation as two different concepts, stating that a necessary condition for resocialisation is the correction of the convict, and interprets resocialisation itself as the return of the convict to a generally accepted social and normative life and restoration of their social status. However, despite this legislative fixation, there is still the issue of achieving this purpose in the form of simultaneous punishment,

correction and resocialisation in the process of serving a sentence (Kovach et al., 2022). The fact is that forced isolation of a convict, restriction of a large number of their rights, the requirement to perform the duties of the regime, and a radical change in the legal status of a citizen affect the change in their worldview, and therefore, with an inadequate correctional system in penal institutions, ineffective social and psychological work with the convict or its absence, the resocialisation of the offender is almost impossible (Kachur, 2022).

Penitentiary psychology explores the psychological patterns of design and development of a convict's personality while serving a sentence (Spytska, 2023a; 2023b). Penitentiary psychology is a branch of legal psychology that explores the patterns of personality dynamics in the process of punishment, and the specifics of the process of correction of convicts. The objective of penitentiary psychology is to explore the personality of convicted persons, the dynamics of their personality and psyche in conditions of imprisonment; to explore the process of establishing and operating groups of convicts in prisons, their structure and activities, and the impact on the participants; to explore the mechanisms of psychological influence on convicts to correct their behaviour and develop legal behaviour (Humeniuk, 2013).

Any person who enters a penal institution already has their own established opinions, skills and habits. Consequently, the methods of psychological and pedagogical influence that should be applied to them should be transformed according to the characteristics inherent in the offender. Absolutely all psychologists and lawyers come to the conclusion that as a result of isolated existence, interpersonal conflicts begin to actively aggravate, aggression and hostility occur, and frustration arises (Orel, 2023). By radically changing the usual way of life, correctional institutions leave their mark on the offender's personality through the strict regime of the institution, the system of prohibitions and restrictions, the influence of criminal subculture, informal rules of behaviour in prisons and arbitrariness of interpersonal communication.

In order to understand the personality of an offender, it is necessary to consider the typology of convicts. Conventionally, penitentiary psychology distinguishes between four groups of prisoners, which include:

1. Asset group – socially active convicts who are firmly committed to the vector of correction and actively participate in socially useful activities and contribute to the active re-education of their personality and the personality of other convicts.
2. Reserve group – convicts who have embarked on the path of their own correction, but do not contribute to the correction of other prisoners.

3. The passive group – a group of convicts who do not yet have a clear understanding of the situation and have not yet decided on their behavioural strategy and adjust their actions depending on the prevailing conditions.
4. The group of hard-to-rehabilitate prisoners – antisocial individuals who have not started and do not want to start on the path of correction, and who openly establish confrontations with the administration of correctional institutions, the correctional system itself and the asset group (Hula, 2016).

This typology is ideological and rather conditional, as it does not include details of the macro- and micro-environment of prisoners, the specifics of their psychotypes and several other factors, and therefore does not always effectively help in the correct selection of a correctional programme for each prisoner. However, despite the conventional structure, there are opinions of other scholars on the personality types of prisoners. Thus, correctional specialist B. Evert (2011) provides a different classification of prisoners, focusing more on their personal psychological qualities. Thus, he identifies:

“The entitled personality” – characterised by narcissism and selfishness. Such individuals believe that they are entitled to better treatment regardless of their contribution to society. Such individuals see their role in society as a priority, regardless of the benefits they bring to society. If considered in the context of a convicted offender, such criminals usually confess to their crimes but justify their actions by the necessity of their actions.

“The bully personality” – the key idea of this type of prisoner is to achieve the desired results exclusively through violence. These prisoners are characterised by low self-esteem, hostility and confrontation. They believe that they are entitled to everything and otherwise achieve results through violence. There are two opinions on how to work with this group of prisoners. The first is a straight confrontation with their personality, which should result in a psychological victory over them, and the second is ignoring their aggressive behaviour, which will result in their weaknesses being exposed through powerlessness. This type of prisoner – the most common in prisons. By the way, it would be logical to correlate it with the conventional category of “hard-to-rehabilitate prisoners”, who are characterised by hostility, conflict and violence (Harguindéguy & Cervi, 2022; Kakeshov & Adilov, 2023).

“The self-righteous personality” – a type of personality that is not able to objectively assess their actions, and even if they are illegal, they assess them as lawful. In other words, they cannot do anything illegal or antisocial in their minds. Even when committing a crime, they believe that such actions were committed for the betterment of society and that others are to blame for the negative consequences of the crime.

“The sheep personality” – a type of prisoner who is ready to do anything to become part of a group. It is the most dangerous group of prisoners, as they are capable of doing absolutely anything for the love and recognition of their friends or other prisoners in the institutions. They always feel “unloved”, and therefore the obsession to be loved by committing some actions, usually illegal, is a common feature of their type. As a rule, these are not leaders, but those who follow them in organised crime groups or gangs.

Based on the above classifications, it can be concluded that in their general structure, they partially coincide and share common characteristics. However, the classification of B. Evert (2011) is more complete and can be used as a basis for developing strategies for social, educational and psychological work aimed at the correction and resocialisation of prisoners.

The issue is that after being sentenced and placed in a penal institution, a person is placed in conditions of so-called social isolation, which often causes maladjustment. It is the initial period that is defined as the most difficult in terms of adaptation, as at this time, the person begins to develop defects in the psychological structure of their personality. The author is talking about the emergence of negative character traits that, for example, were not characteristic of the offender before imprisonment. In addition, certain emotional states are developed, including the state of expectation of change, impatience, depression, anxiety, self-image, and aggression. As a result of these states, one can observe disruptions in the behaviour of convicts, unwillingness to embark on the path of correction, lack of self-confidence, and irritability. In addition, a constant stay in any of the states can develop passivity and a desire to avoid any changes, which forms the so-called “chronic internal tension”, which can later lead to an emotional explosion depending on the situation (Krasilova, 2017). As a general rule, psychological states change according to the periods of stay in correctional institutions and therefore are conditionally divided into the stage after arrest, after sentencing, after arrival at the penal institution, after staying in the PI for 3 to 8 months, and the period before release from the PI.

Nowadays, more and more psychologists and scientists are concluding that imprisonment damages mental health and does not correct prisoners. Some even distinguish the so-called “post-prison syndrome”, similar to “post-traumatic stress disorder” (Quandt & Jones, 2021). The reason for this is an extremely atypical model of life, namely the separation of people from their social networks (Ellis, 2021). In addition, it is a break from the family, which is most painful in the context of separation from children, which causes depression, feelings of suffering and guilt and, as a result, leads to both reluctance to embark on the path of correction and even suicide. Prisoners do not have control over their lives, which leads to feelings

of helplessness and dependence, and a lack of stimulation. In other words, getting used to the strict regime, monotony, limited access to education, vocational training, and leisure – convicts see no point in moving forward with re-education.

The elements of atypical life include constant observation of violence both by other convicts and by prison staff, stress caused by solitary confinement, and overcrowding. Such problems are an issue for the Ukrainian penal system and the leading countries of the world. For example, the problem of serving a sentence is most widespread in the United States; according to statistics, the US imprisons more citizens for a crime than any other country in the world, except Russia. Therewith, the majority of prisoners are imprisoned for non-violent crimes that are punishable by community service or fines in other countries. Moreover, the US has an extremely high recidivism rate. An analysis of statistics from 30 states demonstrated that 70 per cent of convicted felons released in 2005 were re-arrested for a new offence within 3 years, and about 75 per cent were re-arrested for a new criminal offence within 5 years (Durose et al., 2014). The outcome of correction depends not only on the will or personality of the convicted person. The absence or presence of an offender's desire to embark on the path of correction is key in the process of punishment and correction, but the state itself, represented by the administration of correctional institutions, plays a leading role in this process.

The main challenges that are still on the agenda and have not been resolved in the area of reforming the penal system are the lack of effectiveness and inefficiency of individual programmes of psycho-correctional and pedagogical influence on convicts, in part due to the lack of staff in the PIs; ineffective performance of social functions of the organisational and administrative activities of the bodies and institutions of the penal system; low level of openness of prison institutions and low level of cooperation with other parts of the social and educational system. According to C. Garcia (2021), who explored the penitentiary problem in the United States, the solution may be to establish rehabilitation programmes that would consist of various steps to combat existing problems. For example, she focuses on post-penitentiary resocialisation, in particular, the establishment of cash assistance programmes and employment programmes that can be provided to those released. Today, in Ukraine, there are programmes of differentiated educational influence on convicts both during their stay in PIs and in preparation for release (Order of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, 2021). Although the possibility of involving religious and public organisations, and other institutions of any form of ownership, is enshrined in law, in practice such involvement is rather “unpopular”.

As already mentioned, the penitentiary problem in the United States is quite urgent, thus, the government is trying to stimulate the correction of convicts in every

possible way by establishing rehabilitation programmes. The essence of such programmes is to establish an atmosphere of trust, openness, and friendliness by changing the mind of the convict. One of the ways to change the mind-set is through work. In this regard, international experience should be consulted, for example, the employment of convicts in the United States has a slightly different form than in Ukraine (Dzhulai, 2022). Depending on whether the convicts are in a state or private prison, the form of work varies. In state prisons, inmates can get jobs in private companies for which they receive a fee (Nikolaenko, 2021).

The experience of Norway is particularly interesting, as the Norwegian penitentiary system itself is considered to be almost perfect in the world in terms of humanity and the resocialisation of convicts. “The Bastøy Island Prison” pilot project has become an innovation in the field of criminal executive law. This prison has no fences or barriers, and its structure is similar to an island settlement. The convicts serving their sentences in this prison live in cottage houses and have access to work of their choice. They can be engaged in fishing, hunting, forestry and woodworking. In addition, they receive money for their work without any deductions from their earnings. Thus, the convicts support themselves, and the prison provides them only with lunch. Any other necessities, such as clothing, necessities, breakfast and dinner, are provided at the expense of the convicts themselves. Such an experiment demonstrated positive results in terms of prisoner rehabilitation and reduced the cost of detention by 2.5 times and reduced the crime rate, including recidivism (Nikolaenko, 2021; Pohranychna. 2023). In addition to work, prisoners in Norway have normal access to social contacts, can freely manage their free time, move freely around the island, engage in leisure activities at their discretion, receive education, and read books and the press. Thus, they do not develop a sense of the “atypical model of life” mentioned earlier, and thus they are on the path of correction from the very beginning, without going through the stages of various adverse emotional states.

The experience of correction in the UK, Sweden and France is interesting. For example, Swedish penitentiaries are as close as possible to ordinary living rooms, which are equipped with everything necessary for a normal life. Offenders have a variety of equipment, including access to the Internet and the ability to use a mobile phone. In addition, gyms are provided to help inmates maintain their daily routines. In addition, it is typical for Swedish prisons to allow inmates to prepare their meals from food provided by the administration or purchased at their own expense in shops. Thus, despite the restriction of several rights and freedom of movement and liberty, Swedish prisoners do not lose touch with real life and do not experience a tough adaptation to new living conditions. Meanwhile, Ukrainian penitentiary institutions are characterised by barracks-style dormitories with about

5-10 people in one cell and unbearable living conditions. Such problems can only be solved with the active involvement of the Ministry of Justice and the development of new standards for the accommodation of convicts. On 22 April 2020, a pilot project of paid cells in a pre-trial detention centre was launched, with funds used to repair other non-paid cells. However, proper living conditions should be provided regardless of the financial capabilities of the convicts, and the task of the PIs is to reform convicts, not to make a profit. Therefore, such an initiative should be transformed in a slightly different direction. It should be a total reform of penitentiary institutions and their reformatting to be more like European ones, closer to the realities of ordinary life (Voyvoda, 2022). It should be remembered that the everyday life and regime of an institution have a huge impact on the correction of a convict and the promotion of his resocialisation.

The influence of religious and civic organisations on the correction of convicts should be mentioned separately. For example, in the United States, several public associations are financially independent and whose purpose is to cooperate with the penitentiary system. One of the most common is the International Religious Mission “World Prison Ministry”, which is the ideologists and organisers of projects designed to promote the spiritual and social rehabilitation of prisoners (Ellis, 2020; Lyovochkin, 2002). In the UK, prisons of all regimes have always had entire religious complexes for all believers, regardless of their faith (Silvestri, 2013; Lanciano et al., 2022). In addition, NGOs in the UK frequently organise distance learning for prisoners at colleges, which allows them to learn professions and, after release, to get a decent job and a path to real re-socialisation. In addition, one of the main purposes of the UK penitentiary system is to engage prisoners in useful work and to develop new good and healthy habits (Schevchenko & Schevchenko, 2022; Halleck, 1967). One of the main purposes of the UK penitentiary system is to engage prisoners in useful work and to develop new good and healthy habits. International practice suggests that it is advisable to introduce similar mechanisms in Ukraine. For example, cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine could be considered to provide education and vocational training in penal institutions. Currently, there is an opportunity to obtain secondary and higher education in Ukraine, but there are obstacles to this process, such as lack of transparency and complexity of the procedure, and possible obstacles and negligence on the part of the penitentiary staff in submitting documents and obtaining education in general (Law of Ukraine, 2015).

In addition, cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to develop leisure and sports activities for prisoners should be considered. It can contribute to maintaining a healthy lifestyle, and socialisation and has a positive impact on the psychological state of prisoners (Lola & Poliakova, 2022). In addition, it is essential

to cooperate with religious and community organisations to organise various trainings, conferences and roundtables. These events can facilitate communication, exchange of experience and the acquisition of new knowledge and skills, which will help prisoners to integrate more successfully into society after release. As for the involvement of civic or religious organisations, they could contribute to the organisation of leisure activities for prisoners and their ethical and religious education. Effective mechanisms could include the organisation of roundtables, conferences, training, and various interest courses, which prisoners could choose to participate in at their discretion.

Psychological support within the framework of pedagogical and educational work plays a key role at all stages of a prisoner's stay in a PI, but it is not only about developing individual programmes and conversations. In the penitentiary system, cooperation between a psychologist and a prisoner requires the establishment of mutual trust, as the psychologist acts as a collaborator in the process of adaptation and, subsequently, resocialisation of the prisoner. However, the key aspect is that psychotherapeutic and psycho prophylactic activities should be perceived by prisoners as a voluntary choice, not as a forced initiative by the state. It will help to establish a positive perception and cooperation between psychologists and prisoners, which will contribute to achieving more significant results in the process of rehabilitation and resocialisation of prisoners.

Discussion

In recent years, the idea of punishment and deterrence, which was dominant in the penitentiary system of most countries, has gradually been receding into the background and is being replaced by humanism, human healing and the development of a new full-fledged member of society with legal behaviour (Borko & Vilks, 2023). These purposes can be achieved only if the person is fully reformed with further resocialisation in society. C. Garcia (2021) in his research provides several arguments for the need to move away from the idea of "prison as a home for world outcasts and criminals" to the idea of helping prisoners, teaching them to live anew and providing them with the necessary resources for life. It should be agreed that harsh treatment and strict regime, inhumane living conditions, and a complete lack of contact with the real world only distort the real purposes of punishment, while contributing to an increase in crime, including recidivism.

As a result, it results in the inability of prisoners to adapt after release, due to the difficulty of finding work, housing and normalising their lives. While agreeing with the opinion about the adverse impact of imprisonment for the sake of punishment alone, the other side of the argument should be highlighted. Punishment for the sake of punishment is a fundamentally wrong idea that cannot exist in any

penal system in the world. But, therewith, the understanding of imprisonment as a form of abuse is incorrect. The penal system must find the perfect balance, in which the offender is held inevitably responsible for the crime and all the consequences it entails, but, therewith, to correct and transform their personality. Ideally, after conviction, the offender should become a new member of society with a high level of legal awareness and exclusively legal behaviour. However, even with the purpose of “correction”, if the offence entails imprisonment, it must be executed properly. It is for this reason that effective mechanisms and programmes of correction and resocialisation are needed to achieve this balance.

Most scholars understand correction as a special pedagogical process that destroys adverse, anti-social and anti-social characteristics in the convicted person and develops new socially useful qualities in them (Schkuta, 2010). Correction is a process on the way to resocialisation. Resocialisation is a complex category that is central to penitentiary psychology and covers various aspects both during and after serving a sentence. However, it is logical to say that resocialisation is the development of new values, attitudes, and standards of behaviour according to the current social, legal and moral provisions during the serving of a sentence, and the restoration of the convict in their social ties after serving a sentence, their return to society as a full-fledged member of society in the appropriate social and legal status.

As noted by Y. Krasilova (2017) notes that the motivational factor plays an important role in resocialisation, particularly in the category of juvenile convicts. The point is that resocialisation is possible if a person is properly motivated, has it and wants to improve. In its absence, the convicted person will be inclined towards adverse guidelines, which will lead to relapse. Resocialisation – is a way of psychological and pedagogical correction of the personality of a convict, which includes psychological, social, educational, medical, health and professional aspects. Only with the right social, educational and psychological approach, and the search for an individual programme, is it possible to develop psychological readiness for life on the outside. It is the ultimate purpose of the functioning of the penal system, as it is a real indicator of the effectiveness of the implementation of punishment.

Conclusions

As a result of this research, the following conclusions can be drawn. The issue of offender correction and resocialisation is one of the tasks of punishment in the modern penal system of Ukraine, but despite the active reform of the penitentiary system, there are still many problems with really effective mechanisms for the correction of convicts. Currently, there is a tendency to disregard the psychological characteristics of the individual and not include all aspects in correctional

programmes. Due to total social isolation, lack of control over their lives, complete dependence on the penitentiary system, in particular on the PIs, distrust of the administration, including the psychological service, lack of proper social, educational and psycho correctional influence on the convict, their correction is transformed in an adverse trend and acquires the features of personality degradation during the execution of their sentence. To stop this process and to avoid establishing even worse personalities of the convicts than they were before they arrived in Pi, several specific actions should be introduced, based on international experience.

Thus, first of all, proper social and educational and high-quality psycho correctional work should be conducted, which would include a number of the following aspects: legal (proper conditions of detention, socialisation, absence of complete isolation, approximation to normal living conditions); psychological (quality psychological assistance, which should be based on mutual trust, not coercion, which can be achieved through psychotherapeutic sessions and conversations); social aspect (restoration of control over their lives by convicts, the possibility to choose food according to the Swedish model, restoration of communication and access to social groups); educational aspect (opportunities to study and acquire professions with the support of NGOs and the Ministry of Education, which will help to develop positive experience among convicts); professional aspect (the opportunity to work not under duress, but by choice, similar to the practice of Norway, which will facilitate socialisation, employment and transformation of the individual, and their path to correction).

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