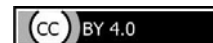


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## THE LAW ENFORCEMENT BY THE BODIES OF PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AND INQUIRY

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DOI 10.52468/2542-1514.2025.9(2).67-76



### SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES AND THE COST OF CRIME

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#### Article info

Received –

2024 September 21

Accepted –

2025 March 20

Available online –

2025 June 20

#### Keywords

Crime, social consequences, the cost of crime, types of consequences of crime, criminalization

The subject. The social consequences and the price of crime are a little-studied problem in the domestic science of criminology. Meanwhile, her research is of great theoretical and practical importance. From a theoretical point of view, it is important to identify and characterize possible types of harm in all spheres of public relations without exception. This will expand the scientific boundaries of criminology. In practical terms, a description of the economic parameters of the consequences of crime is necessary to determine the real budget of the bodies directly and indirectly involved in countering criminal activity.

The purpose of the article is to outline the contours of a monographic in-depth study of the social consequences and the price of crime.

Methodology. Dialectical and systematic approaches, analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, sociological, statistical and comparative methods are used.

Main results and conclusions. It is advisable to consider the social consequences of crime in two aspects: static and dynamic. They stand out statically, medical, demographic, socio-psychological, environmental, biological, cultural, legal, political and economic consequences of crime. Economic consequences have a value expression, so they are the price of crime. The dynamic aspect of the social consequences of crime is recognized through the phenomenon of criminalization of public relations, the final result of which is the total destruction of the state. It is concluded that currently the most relevant is the study of the economic consequences of crime, which is its measurable price. Artificial intelligence and Big Data should be used for this.

**1. Introduction.** The social consequences and cost of crime are a poorly studied problem in Russian criminology. Evidence of this is the small number of publications on this topic over a 50-year period [1- 13]. Meanwhile, its study is of great theoretical and practical importance. From a theoretical point of view, it is important to carry out a kind of cataloguing - to establish and characterize possible types of harm in all spheres of social relations without exception. This will allow us to expand the scientific boundaries of criminology. In practical terms, a description of the economic parameters of the consequences of crime is necessary to determine the real budget of agencies directly and indirectly involved in combating criminal activity.

**2. Methodology:** dialectical and systemic approaches, analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, sociological and comparative methods were used.

The social consequences of crime are the cumulative harm that it causes to social relations [14, p. 735]. It is advisable to consider them in two aspects: static and dynamic.

**3.** The static aspect is genetically linked to the consequences of the crime. The content of the social consequences of crime is a cumulative generalized negative result formed as a result of the commission of many specific crimes. At the same time, the presence of features of the consequences of the crime and the consequences of criminality is stated [15]. The consequences of crime are not only larger in scale, but also, in accordance with the law of the transition of quantity into quality, they often change their nature: for example, psychological consequences become socio-psychological. In addition, the consequences of crime include the harm that is partially covered by the spheres of other branches of law: administrative, civil, environmental, financial, land, labor, environmental, land, etc. In this case, we are talking about those gaps in these branches of law that are insufficiently or ineffectively regulated, which is what criminals take advantage of. They habitually violate not only the norms of criminal law. For members of a criminal community, it does not matter which legislation to violate, as long as they get benefits.

Finally, the social consequences of crime relate to various aspects of public life. The consequences of crime are therefore called social, because they manifest themselves not only in the spheres of law, but also in any area of existing social relations.

In static terms, the social consequences of crime are usually differentiated by its types: the consequences of violent, selfish, official, corrupt, economic, organized crime, etc. It should be noted that only the social consequences of violent crime have been subjected to careful analysis [16]. The social consequences of other types of crime have been examined in the relevant studies in a fragmentary manner and, by and large, still await their special study [17; 18; 19; 20]. L.V. Kondratyuk and V.S. Ovchinsky examine the social consequences of crime from the standpoint of the concept of the type of criminal behavior they developed: criminal aggression, expansion, and deception [21, pp. 228-256]. Differentiation of the social consequences of crime can also be carried out on other grounds, for example, by their severity or degree of irreversibility. Given the nature of criminal consequences, it is logical to consider them in the context of various social relations, highlighting the following types.

**3.1. Medical consequences of crime.** First of all, they are related to the life and health of the population of Russia. According to statistics from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, in 2023, 7446 murders (with attempts), 16685 cases of causing serious harm to health, 3096 rapes were committed. 14504 people died in road accidents, 166500 were injured. It is also worth keeping in mind the statistics of industrial accidents, since most often they are associated with violations of safety regulations. In 2023, «Rostrud» (the Federal Service for Labor and Employment) recorded 5982 such cases, resulting in the deaths of 1609 workers. The number of medical consequences is increased by situations of the spread of infectious diseases, epidemics, pandemics and epizootics. In the context of medical consequences, one should also take into account the psychiatric consequences of crime, which are especially characteristic of previously convicted participants in the Special Military Operation. According to the Russian Ministry of Health, a total of 3.9 million Russians

with mental illnesses were registered in the country in 2023. The medical consequences of crime also include drug addiction of the population. According to experts, the number of drug addicts in the country is about six million people. At the same time, there is a tendency for the consumption of narcotic drugs to increase. The number of suicides has an indirect relation to the medical consequences of crime; according to the World Health Organization's data for 2021, Russia ranks twelfth in the world in terms of the intensity of the commission of these suicides.

**3.2. Demographic consequences.** Crime makes a current contribution to the demographic problems of the country: birth and death rates, population aging, life expectancy. This contribution largely determines corruption and economic crime, which negatively affects the state of social policy, as well as the observation of the life development of citizens.

"The sparse population of the Far East and Siberia is of particular concern... The US State Department leaders have repeatedly spoken out about the injustice of the fact that 42% of all natural resources belong to Russia alone. The only way to preserve its integrity and strengthen its global position is to preserve and increase the country's labor, military and human resources. Therefore, improving the demographic situation is a priority for the Russian Federation. It is impossible to ensure the country's national security without taking into account its main component - demographic security" [22, c. 22].

The state of the migration situation is of high relevance here. In recent years, there has been a negative trend in the number of crimes related to foreign citizens and stateless persons (Table 1).

Table 1

Number of crimes related to foreigners and stateless persons in 2019-2023

<i>Crimes committed</i>	<i>Years</i>				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
by foreigners	34 917	34 400	36 420	40 154	38 936
by citizens of the CIS	31 010	30 835	28 520	32 937	32 508
against foreigners	16 810	15 981	15 961	16 082	14 090

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, statistics and analytics.

The information provided, of course, cannot show all the consequences of crime in the migration sphere: it is only a symptom of the tension of the migration situation, which is noticeably increasing, as evidenced by the terrorist act in Crocus City Hall. In particular, cases of aggression by migrants towards the settled population are increasingly being recorded. Such aggression is usually observed in group manifestations. This indicates a criminal herd instinct among migrants, who flock together according to ethnicity and claim to form territorial enclaves and monopolize certain markets.

It is clear that the demographic consequences of crime are not limited to this. One can also name the change in the structure of offenders by gender, the increase in criminal motivation among minors and young people, and the marginalization of the population.

**3.3. Socio-psychological consequences.** These include, firstly, the stratification of the population based on the attitude towards the possibility of enrichment by any means into unequal groups: "winners and losers" with the openly dismissive attitude of the former towards the latter. Secondly, intergroup consolidation in the ethnic environment and social networks is noticeably increasing. Thirdly, based on manipulative technologies, false ideas and goals are introduced into the population's consciousness, making them victims. White-collar criminals actively use Western technologies to introduce a corporate culture in which managers are called "leaders" and subordinates are called "tribes". The "tribe" is obliged to be obedient and not object to the abuses of the "leaders". Fourthly, there is an imposition of negative behavioral stereotypes based on the ideology of total tolerance.

The socio-psychological consequences of

crime include citizens' fears of becoming victims of crime. The materials of our panel online victimological surveys show the ranking of the most common fears of citizens to suffer from various types of criminal attacks in the following order::

- a) corruption; -
- b) fraud;
- c) juvenile delinquency;
- d) sexual crimes;
- e) embezzlement of budget funds;
- e) robberies and robberies;
- g) burglaries;
- h) migrant crime;
- i) money laundering;
- k) extortion, racketeering.

In recent years, the victimization risks associated with online fraud have grown to such enormous values that they have become a factor in the activities of banks and insurance companies. Insurance of accounts, cards and loans against fraudulent activities has appeared.

**3.4. Environmental consequences** are expressed in pollution, poisoning or contamination of the environment: pollution of water, land, atmosphere, marine environment, damage to land by harmful products of economic or other activities, disruption of natural biological chains, destruction of fish, marine and forest resources and plantings, birds and animals, especially valuable wild animals and aquatic biological resources belonging to species listed in the Red Book of the Russian Federation and (or) protected by international treaties of the Russian Federation.

**3.5. Biological consequences** are characterized by the spread of epidemics or epizootics, mass death of animals; the introduction of artificial changes into the gene pool of plants, animals and humans; formation of a population gene pool of viruses with respiratory transmission capable of developing pandemics; creation of situations threatening human life or health; false dissemination of information about viral epidemics of poultry and animals in the interests of structures monopolizing the agricultural market.

**3.6. Cultural consequences.** They are most clearly manifested in the following tendencies in the formation of the cultural space of modern

Russia: a) the implantation of a mixed ideology of hedonism, vulgarity and immorality under the slogan of permissiveness; b) the cultivation of criminal themes [23]; c) imitation of foreign canons of creating soap operas for advertising purposes and glossing over reality; d) the development of budget funds with a claim to creative independence; d) degradation of the quality of works in any sphere of art: cinema, theater, sculpture, painting, music, literature in the interests of falsifying history with the aim of undermining the continuity of generations.

**3.7. Legal consequences** relate to abuse of law, substitution of law with unlaw, lobbying by criminals for bills that create favorable conditions for criminal activity and evasion of criminal liability [24; 25; 26].

**3.8. Political consequences** are expressed in a change in attitude towards the government and its structures in a negative direction, the emergence of its hidden and overt opponents, and participation in extremist and terrorist organizations. Here, in many ways, special operations by Western intelligence agencies are evident, which do not hide their intentions to ensure the “strategic defeat of Russia” and organize a color revolution.

**3.9. Economic consequences** have a monetary expression, therefore they are the price of crime. This price consists, firstly, of the material damage caused as a result of the commission of crimes. Thus, according to statistics from the Prosecutor General's Office, damage from crimes in 2023 amounted to 397 billion rubles. This is, of course, only a small part of the material damage caused. The real size of this damage can be judged by indirect signs, in particular, by the amount of capital transferred from the country abroad.

Secondly, the price of crime includes the cost of fighting it (the budget of law enforcement agencies and courts involved in combating crime, including its prevention and the resocialization of previously convicted individuals. The Secretary of the Massachusetts State Prison Association Warren Spolding wrote about this budget in 1910 [27]. M.M. Babaev and V.E. Kvashis write about the same thing, emphasizing that spending on law enforcement agencies, as well as on the fight against crime in general, should undoubtedly be commensurate with

the objective crime situation in the country, be in reasonable proportion with it and regretfully stating that the expenses in question do not correlate in any way with either the dynamics of crime or the effectiveness of the fight against it and do not directly depend on them [28]. Thus, determining the real cost of crime is not yet a task that is given practical value, which leads to justified spending of budget funds when this should not be done and unnecessary savings in cases where it is not only excessive but also socially harmful.

American criminologists are attempting to establish the real cost of crime. They use various approaches, naming as costs not only the amounts of state budgets allocated for the criminal justice system and law enforcement agencies. Thus, Edwin

W. Zedlewski added up the costs of firearms, guard dogs, casualties, criminal justice, and commercial security associated with crime and came up with a total of \$160 billion per year [29]. Mark A. Cohen, Ted R. Mille and Shelli B. Rossman, estimate that the combined costs of rape, robbery, and assault alone amount to \$182 billion per year. [30]. David A. Anderson claims that the total burden of crime is \$1.705 billion annually [31]. Rizzo According to Mario Rizzo, assessing even one victimological aspect of the cost of crime requires the use of complex mathematical apparatus [32].

A summary of publications that offer specific recommendations on the methodology for determining the cost of crime allows us to compile the following table.

Table 2

Crime Cost Indicators

Indicators for the period					
<i>damage from crimes taking into account their latency</i>	<i>costs of victims of crimes and witnesses</i>	<i>law enforcement budgets</i>	<i>budgets of judicial bodies for consideration of criminal cases</i>	<i>budgets of security companies and corporate security structures</i>	<i>anti-corruption activity costs</i>
against the person	time costs	Ministry of Internal Affairs	justices of the peace	for the protection of life and health	at the federal level
against the property	moving costs	Federal Customs Service	courts of general jurisdiction	for the protection of objects and property	at the level of the constituent entity
in the sphere of economic activity	treatment costs	Federal Penitentiary Service	courts of appeal	for ensuring the regime of commercial secrets	at the municipal level
against the public safety and public order	costs of providing assistance	Federal Service of National Guard	courts of cassation	for ensuring information security	in a budgetary organization
against the order of government	rehabilitation costs	Investigative Committee	military courts	for ensuring anti-terrorist protection	in an autonomous organization
against the justice	funeral costs	Federal Security Service	Supreme Court	for ensuring economic security	in a state corporation
others	others	others	Constitutional Court	others	in other organizations

The table does not exhaust all the indicators that should be analyzed when determining the cost of crime (the most informative indicator in it is "others"). It is designed to show the complexity of the problem of measuring the economic consequences of the aggregate result of criminal acts. This is where the use of artificial intelligence and Big Data is appropriate.

**4. Dynamic aspect.** Social consequences of crime should be considered not only in statics, but also in dynamics. Reasoning about this, O. R. Afanasyeva characterizes such dynamics as a system of processes. Any changes occurring within each of them transform adjacent processes and, in the order of interaction, are subject to correction on their part. As a result, a continuous chain of negative changes, damage, destruction and other transformations in the violated elements of the mechanism and the social relations, phenomena and processes interconnected with them arises. This is the process of increasing social consequences. The effect of their growth is characterized by heterogeneity, multiplicity, multidirectionality in nature, quality, quantity, and social danger of the transformation of elements that make up the mechanisms of social consequences and external phenomena and systems interacting with them [33 p. 101].

From our point of view, when analyzing social processes of crime, the most productive application is the concept of criminalization of social relations. The criminalization of social relations (criminological criminalization) should be distinguished from criminal law criminalization - the process of identifying socially dangerous forms of behavior, recognizing the admissibility, possibility and expediency of criminal law combating them and recording them in the law as criminal and criminally punishable [34, p. 10-11]. In its most general form, criminological criminalization means the process of penetration of crime into the «fabric» of social relations. The Basic Provisions of the State Strategy for Economic Security of the Russian Federation speak of criminalization as a phenomenon that is expressed in: the merging of some government officials with organized crime; the possibility of criminal

structures gaining access to the management of a certain part of production and their infiltration into various government structures; the expansion of the activities of criminal structures in the domestic financial market, in the sphere of privatization, export-import operations and trade. From a scientific point of view, *criminological criminalization is a socially regressive evolutionary process, controlled by the structures of organized crime, implemented by illegal means, creating many global threats and threats to national security, aimed at obtaining super profits* [35, p. 205].

Criminalization has affected almost all spheres of public life: medicine and health care, religious and interethnic relations, education and sports, economics and finance, etc. The extent of criminalization can be judged, in particular, by visiting a large shopping center, in any of which it is easy to find a "washing machine" for laundering money obtained by criminal means. These are retail outlets that have no customers, but have staff and rent.

Professional sports, for example, have become the object of large-scale criminalization due to the fact that it is: a) an activity for the purpose of making a profit; b) illegal competitions are held; c) there is crime among athletes; d) this area is attractive for corruption, money laundering and, in general, for organized crime; e) this area often sees mass deviations on the part of fans; e) this is the sphere of international politics and here elements of a hybrid war are manifested, the target of which is Russia, and the victims are high-level professional athletes. In the area of sports, criminalization is manifested, in particular, in the prevalence of fixed sports competitions. According to the results of a survey of 410 people we conducted, the following answers were received to the question "How widespread do you think the practice of "fixed matches" is in the Russian top league championships in football or hockey?"

- a) not at all common – 18 people (4.9%)
- b) rather not common than common – 72 people (17.3%);
- c) don't know – 105 people (25.6%);
- d) rather common than not common – 146 people (35.4%)
- d) very common – 69 people (16.8%).

As we can see, the majority of respondents

are inclined to believe that the practice of holding “fixed matches” is quite widespread, which fits into the plot of the criminal act provided for in Article 184 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation, which has never been applied during the entire period of the Code’s operation.

The criminalization of public relations is closely linked to privatization and commercialization. Privatization inevitably leads to the prevalence of private interests over public ones, and commercialization – to the assessment of any projects from the point of view of their profitability.

In both cases, corruption appears: both to create an illusory idea of the implementation of public interests, and to suppress healthy competition. The final result of the criminalization of public relations is the destruction of the state.

The processes of criminalization of social relations are in the area of responsibility of foreign intelligence services, which try to initiate and support them, which is expressed, in particular, in their participation in organizing terrorist acts on the territory of Russia. Therefore, legislative and law enforcement measures aimed at suppressing the activities of foreign agents, extremist organizations and non-traditional movements are relevant.

## **5. Conclusion.**

As we can see, the study of the social consequences of crime is a complex task with many unknowns. Therefore, it is important to determine the priorities of the scientific analysis of the problem. At present, the most relevant is the study of the economic consequences of crime, which is its measurable price.



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Kleymenov M.P., Kleymenov I.M. Social consequences and the cost of crime. *Pravoprimenenie = Law Enforcement Review*, 2025, vol. 9, no. 2, pp. 67–76. DOI: 10.52468/2542-1514.2025.9(2).67-76. (In Russ.).