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PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AND HOOLIGAN BEHAVIOR OF AUDIENCE ON SPORTS ARENAS

In the early 1980s of XXth century, a wave of tragic events caused by the inappropriate behavior of fans erupted across the European stadiums. Between 1980s and 1990s, more than ten large-scale football tragedies occurred, in which 268 people were killed and several hundreds were seriously injured. The rise of football hooliganism, stadium violence, to which racism and nazism were involved, required an adequate response from the European states. Throughout the last quarter of the twentieth century, as a result of widespread public discussion of the problem, its scientific study, national governments of Western Europe have introduced a variety of measures that have formed a coherent system and provided an adequate level of security at football matches. However, with globalization of economic, social and information processes, football hooliganism, aggression and racism at the stadiums began to spread rapidly throughout the football environment of Central and Eastern Europe countries, Russia, Turkey, etc. These challenges prompted the governments of these countries to study international experience, develop effective national legislative, organizational, information and other tools to counteract violence and racism in football. The situation is also exacerbated in the context of the general tendency of recent years to increase violence and extremism in the context of economic and social instability, which can be greatly exacerbated by the current global crisis. For Ukraine, the relevance of this problem was exemplified by holding matches of the European Football Championship in 2012. Guarantees for the safety of the participants and guests of the Continental Forum were a basic requirement of UEFA for granting the right to host championship events.

Summarizing the results of the first steps in the creation of a security system at football events, it should be noted that in the future there will be inevitably raised a question of the dominant option choice: either to strengthen the force, to take pre-emptive security measures, which will require to maintain the role of law enforcement agencies, or building partnership mechanisms and responsibilities of government, football organizations, other stakeholders and concerned. International experience in conducting similar events demonstrates the need for a holistic security system for the preparation and conduct of large-scale football events, where police monitoring and force control are important but not decisive.

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