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## MASTERING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES BY POLICE OFFICERS

In the last few years the modern world has become more multinational and multilingual. In our country there are constant changes of political and socio-economic nature, because Ukraine has a great desire to cooperate with Western partners to become part of the European family in the future. Therefore, every educated citizen understands that knowledge of a foreign language gives a real opportunity, first of all, to build a successful career in order to receive a decent salary in the future and communicate freely with the peoples of other countries.

Due to the reform of the law enforcement system, knowledge of foreign languages has become especially important for the police. After all, a modern law enforcement officer must not only be physically well-fit, but also he must be well-educated and skilled person. To do this, of course, he needs to speak his native language perfectly, but for the most efficient and productive work it is desirable to know at least one foreign language.

Probably most often the necessity to know a foreign language arises in the patrol police. According to statistics, less than 10 per cent of patrol officers are fluent in a foreign language, about 15 per cent can communicate with foreigners, but do not have regular communication practices.

In November 2016, ahead of the 2017 Eurovision Song Contest in Kyiv, the British Council in Ukraine, the US Embassy in Ukraine and the NGO Capital English launched a project called English for Patrol Police, which employs 600 police officers. In the central districts of Kyiv they had the opportunity to take a free English language course according to international standards. Within the framework of this project, all its participants received knowledge from experienced teachers of the British Council in Ukraine during 5000 teaching hours [1].

Thanks to this project, the capital patrols have significantly improved their level of English language skills, which in turn has allowed them to apply confidently the acquired knowledge while performing their official duties.

In 2017 the project expanded to another 100 "leaders" of the metropolitan police. Battalion commanders, personnel reserve received certificates of completion of a free English language course. It was then emphasized that learning English would be a mandatory element of professional training for leaders, as the knowledge that police officers acquire during training significantly helps them to communicate with foreign guests during mass events and in general in various unforeseen situations in real life. It is worth noting that the project started within the framework of the Year of the English Language in Ukraine announced by the then President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, perhaps that is why it lasted only for a year and had no further support. But in our opinion, such ideas and programs are useful and effective for the work of law enforcement agencies and they should be implemented not only in Kyiv and large cities, but throughout the country.

Although in small towns of Ukraine there are also volunteers who help law enforcement to learn a foreign language. An example is the Vinnytsia patrol, who studied English with its native speakers, namely activists from the Source of Hope organization, Ken and Andre. The boys conducted classes in small groups for the effectiveness of training, because this way the information is absorbed better. The training was conducted primarily so that in the case of foreign police officers, the latter could get answers to their questions without inconvenience. As a result, everyone was able to gain new knowledge in a comfortable atmosphere, despite the fact that each of those present had their own level of language proficiency [2].

Some examples are trainings in such cities as Khmelnytsky, Cherkasy, Ternopil, where during a certain period of time police officers disseminated their knowledge of foreign language proficiency.

It should be added that knowledge of a foreign language opens a wide space for law enforcement officers in terms of exchanging experience with colleagues from foreign countries in the field of combating crime. Therefore, each person must have an intrinsic motivation to acquire new knowledge in a particular field.

Thus, as we see, conducting specialized courses and trainings on learning English for law enforcement officers helps to increase the efficiency and quality of police work and its service component in particular. In particular, already now a significant part of the police of different cities and towns of our country can communicate at least at a basic level in English with foreign citizens, which makes us one step closer to the European family.

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### **COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE IN LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE FOR PROFESSIONAL PURPOSES**

In modern Ukrainian society, which seeks to join the community of European countries with developed economies and public institutions, with an effective democratic political system to protect the rights and freedoms of every citizen, the police must perform primarily a service function, actually providing comprehensive social services.

Modernization of law enforcement in accordance with European and world standards in the context of changing the priorities of the police with the state-oriented to socially-oriented, taking into account new approaches to relations with the population requires the formation of a conscious national-linguistic personality. The high level of formation of both native and foreign language communicative competence is especially important for law enforcement officers, which is due to several factors.

The formation of communicative competence is the primary goal of learning a foreign language for professional purposes in higher education. Today, the issue of creating an educational environment for the formation and development of communicative competence of future professionals needs special attention. Since the developed communicative competence should be the end result of learning, there is a need for purposeful activities for its formation [1].

Professional language and communication competence of a law enforcement officer is defined as an integrated personal education - a set of knowledge, skills, abilities, personal qualities that allow a specialist to effectively use the language in professional activities to ensure effective communication with citizens and foreigners, official documents, interpersonal professional communication, constructive mediation in extreme situations. In the structure of professional language and communication competence of a law enforcement officer as a consequence of his professionally-oriented language training there are motivational, cognitive, emotional, volitional and communicative components [2].