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Theoretical and Applied Foundations of Minimizing Systemic Criminogenic Risks Associated with Release of Convicted Foreign Citizens from Russian Penitentiary Institutions

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Abstract

Introduction: the article analyzes systemic criminogenic risks associated with the release of convicted foreign citizens from Russian penitentiary institutions and proposes measures for their minimization. *Purpose:* to identify key problems and propose a set of practical measures to optimize the process of releasing convicted foreign citizens, reduce recidivism and strengthen prison security. *Methods:* general and private scientific. The systematic approach allowed us to consider penitentiary security as an integral phenomenon formed under the influence of interrelated threat-forming factors. Empirical data was collected and analyzed using the methods of statistical analysis of departmental reporting and the method of sociological questioning. The data obtained were processed and interpreted using comparative legal and formal legal methods. The theoretical analysis was based on the methods of induction, deduction and synthesis, which ensured the transition from stating specific problems to formulating systemic recommendations. *Results:* we identified persistent problems, such as ethno-religious consolidation of convicts, spread of radical ideologies, high recidivism rates and weak inter-agency cooperation. The release of convicted foreign citizens is characterized by weak social integration, economic maladaptation and a lack of well-established deportation procedures. A survey of the clergy showed a lack of their involvement in the educational process and a lack of resources to work with foreign convicts. *Conclusions:* a proactive inter-agency approach is needed to minimize risks. The proposed package of measures includes standardization and early release planning; digitalization of agency interaction; simplification of migration procedures; creation of a system of post-retirement support; development of international cooperation. Special importance is attached to the integration of spiritual and educational capacities through legislative consolidation of the status of the clergy, creation of a religious literature fund and inclusion of clergymen in working groups to prepare for release.

Keywords: penal system; places of imprisonment; convicted foreign citizens; criminogenic risks; recidivism; radical ideology; penitentiary security; deportation; extremism; terrorism.

5.1.4. Criminal law sciences.

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Introduction

The analysis of the current situation in the Russian penal system based on statistical data provided by the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia [1], the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia [2], the Judicial Department at the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation [3], the Federal State Statistics Service of the Russian Federation [4], and the results of surveys of practitioners, convicted foreign citizens and stateless persons [5] reveals systemic threats related to the concentration of foreign citizens in places of detention and their subsequent re-socialization. The relevance of the study is due to the steady trend towards consolidation of convicted foreign citizens serving sentences in Russian penitentiary institutions on national, state and religious grounds, which can create a favorable environment for the spread of radical ideologies, as well as negatively affect the criminogenic situation in correctional institutions and create prerequisites for recidivism after release.

The purpose of this study is to develop and theoretically substantiate the concept of proactive interdepartmental management of the process of release of convicted foreign citizens aimed at minimizing criminogenic and ideological risks through the integration of administrative, digital, spiritual, and educational tools.

The methodological basis of the work is made up of general (analysis, synthesis, induction, deduction, systematic approach) and private scientific methods (formal legal, comparative legal, legal modeling method and statistical analysis).

Research

According to statistics, convicted foreign citizens make up from 9 to 10% of the total mass of convicts in penitentiary institutions, 17–25% in pre-trial detention centers and prisons, while most of them are citizens of Central Asian countries (60-65%), which indicates the stability of migration flows and the complication of the operational criminogenic situation.

Of particular concern is the concentration of convicted foreign citizens in high-security correctional facilities, where the most dangerous category of special agent is held. The ideological basis for subsequent extremist crimes is formed in such conditions. An example was the events of 2024, when four convicts, including foreign citizens who claimed to belong to the Islamic State international terrorist organization banned in Russia, took hostages and killed correctional officers in the correctional facility No. 19 of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in the Volgograd Oblast [6]. A similar incident occurred in the pre-trial detention center No. 1 of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in the Rostov Oblast, where six prisoners convicted of participating in terrorist activities and preparing terrorist attacks took hostages [7]. These facts demonstrate a certain level of self-organization and ideological motivation of convicts, self-determination of the criminal contingent, and also indicate the existing omissions not only in the organization of official activities, but also in the system of interdepartmental interaction between the Federal Penitentiary Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia. This is evidenced by statistics, which indicate, in particular, the uneven procedure for transferring convicts to serve their sentences in the states which citizens they are (in 2021 – 35 people, in 2023 – 17 people). At the same time, there has been an increase in the number of releases from serving sentences due to extradition refusals (in 2020 – 11 people, in the first half of 2024 – 8 people), which indicates problems in procedural matters. Against this background, there is an exponential increase in the volume of escorts (from 448 people in 2020 to 915 in 2023), which creates an additional burden on the Russian penitentiary system.

It should be noted that the lack of a proven mechanism for transferring released foreign citizens to employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for subsequent deportation indicates the problem of violating this procedure

and leads to the fact that a significant number of those released remain in Russia, creating the ground for recidivism. Besides, former convicted foreign citizens return to Russia using forged documents and continue their criminal activities.

The most serious threat to national security and the security of penitentiary institutions is the process of ideological infection of both convicted foreign citizens and other prisoners in places of deprivation of liberty, which is expressed in their contemptuous attitude not only to law enforcement agencies, but also to the state as a whole, and resembles ideological attitudes of radical Islamists [8, p. 90].

Despite the fact that a lot of efforts are currently being made by the services and departments of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia (especially operational staff) to counter extremism and terrorism-related crimes and violations of the detention regime, the current situation requires a radical revision of the approach to working with convicted foreign citizens – from the organization of their detention to the procedure of release and deportation. In this regard, it is necessary to develop a comprehensive system of measures, including strengthening control over the ideological situation in institutions of the penitentiary system, improving interdepartmental cooperation and creating an effective mechanism for post-penitentiary control over released foreign citizens.

The Russian Federation has adopted a number of legislative acts and regulatory documents on countering the ideology of extremism and terrorism, including the National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation approved by the decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 400 of July 2, 2021, the Comprehensive Plan for Countering the Ideology of Terrorism in the Russian Federation for 2024–2028 approved by the decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. Pr-2610 of December 30, 2023, the Strategy for Countering Extremism in the Russian Federation approved by the decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 1124 of December 28, 2024. They recommend that law enforcement agencies and law enforcement agencies, government and public organizations take decisive measures to implement measures to stabilize the situation.

S.S. Oganessian, S.Kh. Shamsunov [9], N.V. Rumyantsev [10] and other researchers point out the need for special attention from the personnel of the relevant penitentiary institutions to persons serving sentences and exposed to criminal subcultures, ideas of movements and communities, destructive ideologies and propensity to violent behavior, as the most dangerous categories of special content. This expert position is especially valuable in terms of preventing the involvement of other convicts in terrorist and extremist activities and the suppression of offenses. The authors rightly point out the need for employees to take preventive measures and possess specific knowledge in the religious and socio-legal spheres. An integrated approach to solving the problem seems to be the most important direction for developing an effective system of measures aimed at countering radicalization in penitentiary institutions and preventing the spread of terrorist ideology after the release of convicted foreign citizens.

As of April 1, 2025, over 30,000 convicts were held in institutions of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, with the great number of convicts being citizens of the republics of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. A high concentration of convicts is observed in institutions of the Southern and North Caucasian Federal Districts (over 2,300 people), which creates an additional burden on regional penitentiary structures.

These facts indicate weakening of the security of institutions and bodies executing criminal penalties, which is a complex, multi-component phenomenon, the state of which is determined by a dynamic balance between measures of control conducted by the administration of institutions and the destructive activity of persons held in penitentiary institutions. The current operational situation is characterized by the presence of stable threat-forming factors, with the key ones being the ethno-religious consolidation of illegal orientation, spread of the radical ideology and organized opposition to the established order of serving sentences.

A sociological survey of 478 convicted foreign citizens confirmed these facts [5]. S.A. Bazhanova and I.N. Medvedeva analyzed key features influencing release of such convicts. Socio-demographic characteristics, criminal history,

motivation for criminal activity and post-release plans of the respondents were considered. The results obtained indicate a high proportion of recidivism among this category of people after arrival in the Russian Federation and their poor social adaptation.

Release of convicted foreign citizens from serving their sentences is associated with a number of specific problems related to administrative expulsion, deportation, transfer to serve their sentences in the country of citizenship, as well as recidivism risks in Russia.

The conducted research helps get a portrait of a convicted foreign citizen, which should be taken into account in the process of release from serving a sentence of the studied category of persons.

Considering socio-demographic characteristics of convicted foreign citizens, it was found that most respondents (85.14%) were citizens of the CIS countries (Uzbekistan – 17.57%, Azerbaijan and Tajikistan – 14.02% each, Ukraine – 12.13%). A significant part of the convicts (64.44%) served their sentences in high-security correctional facilities, since they had committed serious and especially serious crimes. People aged 30–39 years old (36.19%) were the most criminally active.

Successful re-socialization after release is known to have social connections. However, the survey data shows their instability: 39.75% of the respondents were not married, 11.3% of the family broke up after the conviction. Only 30.75% were able to save their family. A lack of strong family ties on the territory of the Russian Federation reduces the likelihood of successful integration and increases risks of returning to criminal activity after release.

An equally important component is the level of education of the studied category of people. Only 12.76% of the respondents had higher or incomplete higher education. It narrows legal opportunities for employment and adaptation after release.

The main motive for committing a crime is criminal acquisition of funds (43.72%). At the same time, 69.04% of the respondents initially arrived in Russia as labor migrants, but 21.34% could not find a source of income. It indicates problems of legal economic adaptation.

The recidivism dynamics is the most alarming: more than 76% of the respondents had

no problems with the law before arriving in the Russian Federation, while upon arrival the proportion of people convicted 1–3 times was 97.28%. The sharp increase in criminal activity indicates that for a significant part of convicted foreign citizens, staying in Russia is associated with criminal behavior and directly affects the decision on their continued stay in the country after their release.

High recidivism risks predetermine the need to apply harsh administrative measures after serving a criminal sentence, which will lead to the breakdown of the socially dangerous phenomenon of “migration – crime – release – recidivism”.

The analysis of the sociological survey data revealed the specifics of release of convicted foreign citizens. It made it possible to formulate a set of practical recommendations aimed at systematic optimization of the process of releasing convicted foreign citizens and stateless persons:

1. Standardization and early planning. It is necessary to introduce a mandatory legal categorization of convicted foreigners immediately after admission to a correctional facility and develop individual roadmaps for the preparation of for release with a clear list of actions and deadlines for each category. It is advisable to increase the time for the start of comprehensive preparation for release from serving a sentence.

2. Digitalization and optimization of inter-agency cooperation. It is crucial to create a single interdepartmental electronic platform (Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Main Directorate for Migration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia) for the exchange of information and documents, which will automate notifications, eliminate duplication and shorten the processing time. We consider it advisable to legislate the rules of irrevocable electronic exchange with a reduction in the time for sending decisions to 24 hours.

3. Simplification and unification of migration procedures. It is recommended to eliminate the duplicate institution of undesirability of stay in favor of a unified application of non-admission. We consider it expedient to legislate the impossibility of establishing administrative supervi-

sion over the released convicted foreign citizens who are subject to expulsion.

4. Creation of a post-release support and control system. To ensure continuous monitoring, it is proposed to organize a step-by-step support system, which provides for the transfer of a released person to the migration service staff immediately on the day of release and the use of temporary reception centers as points of comprehensive assistance. It is advisable to initiate amendments to the federal law No. 10-FZ of February 6, 2023 "On probation in the Russian Federation" separately highlighting its effect on foreigners legally residing in Russia.

5. Development of international cooperation. It is necessary to step up work on concluding bilateral agreements with the CIS countries regulating simplified procedures for the transfer of convicts, as well as the procedure for providing short-term visits to resolve issues of labor and domestic arrangements at home.

It should be noted that release of convicted foreign citizens should not be limited only to the termination of penal relations. An integrated, interagency, and proactive approach is needed to ensure public safety, reduce recidivism, and respect human rights. The implementation of the proposed recommendations will make it possible to transform the existing system from a reactive one that focuses on solving short-term problems during release into a strategic one that works proactively and ensures legal certainty, effective administrative procedures and successful reintegration or controlled expulsion of this category of persons.

During comprehensive analysis, systemic criminogenic risks associated with the release of convicted foreign citizens from institutions of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia are identified. Key problems are the following: stable ethno-religious consolidation, spread of radical ideologies, high recidivism rates and shortcomings in interdepartmental cooperation. To solve them, we propose a set of measures, such as standardization of procedures, digitalization of interaction, simplification of migration procedures and legislative consolidation of punishment in the form of forced expulsion.

This conclusion serves as a starting point for a more detailed study of the problem, and therefore we consider it advisable to shift the

focus from the macro (systemic deficiencies and general areas of optimization) to the micro level (specific practical mechanisms for implementing these proposals with regard to the ethno-religious factor). We consider it necessary to focus on two interrelated aspects of the problem under study:

- the role and potential of spiritual and educational work as a tool of preventive influence on convicted foreign citizens at the stage of preparation for release;
- optimization of professional competencies and interdepartmental communications as a key condition for minimizing risks at the stage of release and post-retirement support.

In accordance with the provisions of the Concept for the Development of the Penal System of the Russian Federation for the Period up to 2030 approved by the decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1138-r of April 29, 2021, the development of cooperation between the Federal Penitentiary Service and civil society institutions involves strengthening cooperation and expanding the participation of religious organizations belonging to the main traditional religions in spiritual and moral education education of convicts and persons in custody, as well as employees of the penal system.

According to the Fundamentals of State Policy for the Preservation and Strengthening of Traditional Russian Spiritual and Moral Values approved by the decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 809 of November 9, 2022, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism and other religions, which are an integral part of the Russian historical and spiritual heritage, have had a significant impact on the formation of traditional values common to believers and non-believers.

In accordance with the provisions of Article 14 of the Penal Code of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, agreements have been concluded on cooperation with the Russian Orthodox Church, the Federation of Jewish Communities of Russia, the Congress of Jewish Religious Organizations and Associations in Russia, and the spiritual administrations of Muslims.

Based on federal cooperation agreements, 196 cooperation agreements were concluded in 2024 between territorial bodies of the Fed-

eral Penitentiary Service of Russia and centralized religious organizations. At the same time, in 2024, the submissions of the prosecutor's office indicated the absence of agreements on cooperation with Muslim religious organizations in certain territorial bodies of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia.

In turn, the presence of established clerics from among the Muslim clergy has a positive effect on the realization of the right of suspected, accused and convicted persons who profess Islam to freedom of religion, the quality of spiritual and moral work, as well as preventive work with people who adhere to radical ideology.

In the context of these tasks, the clergy of the metropolitans of the Russian Orthodox Church from among the assistants to the heads of correctional facilities for working with believers were surveyed. The sample of respondents was formed from among those who completed advanced training at the University of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia as part of the annual educational seminar on the program "Specifics of religious and educational activities in Russian penitentiary institutions". This methodology allowed us to obtain representative information from key subjects of spiritual and educational activities who directly interact with the target group and have unique experience working in specific conditions of the penitentiary system. These materials allow us to move from identifying problems to assessing the real opportunities and barriers existing in the activities of penitentiary institutions.

In accordance with the letter of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia No. ex-04-14310 of February 22, 2025, it should be noted that the institutions have created necessary conditions for the realization of the right of convicts and persons in custody to freedom of conscience and religion. Currently, there are 1,673 facilities (buildings, structures, and premises) in penitentiary institutions for religious rituals and ceremonies, including 1,160 buildings and premises for Orthodox believers (detached and house temples, chapels, prayer rooms), and 444 for Islamic believers (mosques, prayer rooms), 12 – for persons professing Judaism (synagogues, prayer rooms), 36 – for persons professing Buddhism (dugans, huruli, datsans, prayer rooms), as well as 21 religious sites for persons representing other religious move-

ments. The number of believers convicted and detained in 2024 amounted to 212,206 people, of whom 175,391 were Orthodox believers (82.7% of the total number of believers), 32,293 – Muslims (15.2%), 2,676 – Buddhists (1.2%), Jews – 432 people (0.2%), representatives of other religious movements – 1,414 people (0.7%).

As it is rightly noted, the release of convicted foreign citizens should not be limited to formal termination of penal relations. This process should include elements of resocialization aimed at forming attitudes towards law-abiding behavior. In conditions of cultural and linguistic isolation of foreign convicts, traditional educational methods may be less effective. In this regard, the spiritual and moral impact carried out through the institution of prison clergy is of particular importance.

The survey of the clergy demonstrates that their potential contribution to the prevention of recidivism and radicalization among foreign convicts is systematically limited. The analysis of the respondents' responses makes it possible to specify the identified systemic problems in relation to this area of work.

The clergy consider difficulties in obtaining authentic religious texts and objects of worship in the convicts' native languages to be a key obstacle (73%). This conclusion directly correlates with the thesis about economic and social maladaptation of this category of persons. The lack of legal channels to meet spiritual needs not only provokes discontent, but also creates a vacuum that is actively filled by informal leaders, often with radical views. Thus, the shortage of legitimate religious resources becomes a factor that increases criminogenic risks, promotes consolidation around destructive ideologues and reduces the possibility of positive influence from official denominations. The number of religious literature in the library collections of institutions in 2024 amounted to 686,975 copies. At the same time, during visits to territorial bodies, employees of the Department of Educational, Social and Pedagogical Work of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in certain institutions revealed violations of the instructions of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia on the procedure for conducting inspections of the book fund, such as the presence of religious literature in a foreign language among

suspected, accused and convicted persons without the seal of a religious organization and the stamp of the relevant commission. Similar violations in 2024 were reflected in the submissions of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation.

The clergy note a lack of in-depth cultural and religious studies knowledge in specific regions (the Caucasus, Central Asia), as well as a lack of methodological manuals from the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia for working with foreign convicts (66%). This problem is reflected in the conclusion about insufficient competence of the staff in religious matters. In the context of preparing for release, this gap becomes critical. An employee who does not understand cultural and religious traditions of a convicted person is unable to establish effective communication, assess true motives of his/her behavior, or identify signs of ideological indoctrination. As a result, preventive work loses its focus and becomes a formality, which reduces the overall effectiveness of the release preparation system.

The majority of the clergy surveyed indicates that their interaction with operational and educational services is sporadic and initiated at the request of the administration (65%). This fact confirms the thesis about the passive-permissive nature of the clergy's involvement enshrined in Article 14 of the Penal Code of the Russian Federation. This model contradicts the idea of early planning and standardization. If the preparation for release begins 12 months in advance and include an individual roadmap, then the clergyman's participation in its preparation and implementation should not be situational, but systematic and planned. His monitoring of the dynamics of the convict's spiritual state can serve as a valuable information source for educators and psychologists working on post-penitentiary plans.

The survey results show an ambiguous assessment of the role of religion by the clergy. Half of the respondents consider it a dominant but often instrumental factor (54%), while the other half see it as important but intertwined with cultural and everyday causes (46%). This ambivalence indicates the complexity of the phenomenon. On the one hand, ethno-religious consolidation creates an environment for the spread of radical ideologies, on the other

hand, religiosity itself is not a criminogenic factor, it becomes such only under certain conditions, such as presence of active extremism ideologists, weak integration, and absence of legitimate spiritual leadership. Therefore, the penitentiary system should not restrict religious freedom, but create conditions for the exercise of this right through legal, constructive channels, which at the same time will deprive the ground for radical preachers' activities.

The results of situational questions in the clergy questionnaire make it possible to assess not only the state of affairs, but also the behavioral algorithms formed by practitioners, which is extremely important for developing specific recommendations for improving their training.

In the situation where a closed group is discovered under the leadership of a self-appointed leader, the absolute majority of clergy (as the first step) chooses to notify the management of a correctional institution (73%). This reflects their understanding of their own status and boundaries of competence in the absence of clear legislative powers. This algorithm is correct from the point of view of regime security, however, it is exclusively signaling in nature. It does not involve the clergyman's own preventive actions (for example, attempts to establish contact with the group to clarify the nature of its activities from a spiritual perspective). This confirms the conclusion that the clergyman is perceived today as an external informant rather than as a preventive agent integrated into the correction process.

When ethnic tensions arise, clergymen primarily consider turning to external religious communities (diasporas) for advice (76%). This choice indicates limited internal resources of correctional institutions and the search for external expert and mediation opportunities. However, this practice is not properly regulated and depends on the personal initiative and connections of a particular clergyman. Its institutionalization may become a practical embodiment of a proposal to develop international cooperation and attract external resources at the level of a specific correctional institution and a specific conflict.

The structure of the penitentiary society includes those convicted of extremism and terrorism-related crimes. They are ideologically motivated, have conspiracy skills, and

often view prison as a platform for disseminating ideas and recruiting new supporters [11, p. 43]. Convicted foreign citizens, mainly from CIS countries, who often serve sentences for serious crimes, pose a significant threat. Their concentration in correctional facilities, linguistic and cultural isolation contribute to the creation of closed ethnic groups susceptible to radical narratives [12, p. 125; 13, p. 147]. As M.M. Postnikov notes, "terrorist recruitment" is widespread in this category, i.e. the supply of human resources to radical formations [14, p. 123].

In the case of a sudden change in the behavior of a convicted person (refusal of rituals, apathy), the opinions of the clergy were divided: some consider it a personal matter (36%), others – a sign of a personal crisis requiring contact (52%). This discrepancy reflects a lack of common methodological guidelines. Meanwhile, such behavioral shifts can be a marker of pressure from a radical group, recruitment, or internal conflict. The neutral or passive position of the clergyman in such a situation misses the opportunity for early intervention. This highlights the need to include modules on penitentiary psychology and the basics of identifying signs of destructive influence in clergy training programs.

It is at the quarantine stage that it is necessary to collect information about new convicts, especially those who profess Islam, as efficiently as possible. Operative officers conduct conversations to identify radical views and determine social connections and plans of the convict. Based on this information, a decision is made on keeping a convict in ordinary conditions, under increased surveillance, or in strict isolation. However, the effectiveness of this work directly depends on the competence of the employee, his/her ability to ask the right questions based on knowledge of religion, which, as already noted, causes a number of difficulties [14, p. 148].

Based on the analysis carried out, results of the survey and conclusions of the study on radicalization, a number of specific proposals can be formulated to integrate the potential of spiritual and educational work into a single process of minimizing criminal risks upon release.

As a follow-up to the standardization proposal, it is necessary to legislate the status of the clergyman as a full-fledged subject of the

educational process in the penal system. This should include the right to scheduled preventive interviews (not only on request), participation in commissions on issues related to preparation for release, and the submission of reasoned petitions for encouragement or changes in the conditions of serving sentences for convicts who demonstrate positive dynamics.

To overcome the key barrier identified by the survey, the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, together with centralized religious organizations, should establish an expert council and a centralized fund of verified and approved religious texts in the main languages of convicted foreign citizens. This will become a practical measure to control the ideological situation and deprive informal leaders of the monopoly on interpreting sacred texts.

The experience of the clergy in attracting external communities should be institutionalized. The roadmap for preparing for release for foreign citizens should include a clause on the possible involvement (with the consent of the convicted person) of representatives of legitimate national cultural autonomies or consular staff for consultations on reintegration in the homeland, confirmation of documents, and search for legal work.

Specialized training modules should be developed. Joint professional development programs for penal system employees (educators, operative officers, and psychologists) and the clergy are advisable. Their content should include the basics of religious studies and ethnoculturology (regions of Central Asia and the Caucasus), applied conflictology in a multiethnic environment, psychological signs of radicalization and recruitment, and the basics of intercultural communication. This will fill the blanks in practitioners' knowledge.

To prepare a particular foreign convict for release, it is reasonable to create a working group, which should include a clergyman of the relevant denomination (if any). His task is to characterize spiritual and moral development of the convict, assess the degree of his/her involvement in the religious life of the institution, and make recommendations on potential risks or resources for re-socialization related to his/her religion.

The proposed unified interdepartmental electronic platform should contain a module for

spiritual and educational work. In it, the clergy could, in accordance with the established procedure, make their observations on convicted foreigners (without violating the secrecy of confession, in a generalized form), which would become part of their electronic file and be taken into account when making decisions on the conditions of serving their sentences and preparing for release.

Based on sociological data and expert assessments of clergymen, it is possible to determine typical behavioral patterns and risk factors for convicted foreigners from different regions. This will allow interested employees who do not have in-depth specialized knowledge to take a more informed approach to assessing the situation and provide information to specialists in a timely manner.

Conclusion

The comprehensive analysis allows us to formulate a fundamental thesis: the effective neutralization of criminogenic threats, immanently associated with the liberalization of convicted foreign citizens, is a complex management task. Its solution does not lie in the plane of single measures, but requires the synchronized implementation of strategic initiatives, including transformation of the system into a proactive model, deep digitalization of interdepartmental interaction, legislative consolidation of proactive procedures, as well as full-scale institutionalization and operational use of spiritual and educational resources as a key element of value-based and motivational correction and early warning of destructive processes.

The analysis made it possible to establish that the process of releasing convicted foreign citizens from penitentiary institutions is fraught with significant systemic risks that pose a threat to national and penitentiary security. The key ones are the following: stable ethno-religious consolidation of convicts, which contributes to

the spread of radical ideologies; high recidivism rates among this category of people; shortcomings in the interdepartmental cooperation of the Federal Penitentiary Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other structures, leading to failures in the procedures of deportation and post-penitentiary control.

Empirical evidence confirms that the existing reactive model, which focuses on solving immediate problems at the moment of release, is ineffective. The established socio-demographic profile of a typical convicted foreigner, characterized by weak social integration, economic maladjustment and unstable post-penitentiary plans, indicates the need for a proactive and individual approach, starting at the early stages of serving a sentence.

As a strategic solution, it is proposed to transform the system into a proactive one based on the principles of standardization, digitalization and deep interdepartmental integration. A critical element of this transformation is the full-scale involvement of spiritual and educational resources, in particular the institution of prison clergy. Its transition from an episodic role to the status of a full-fledged subject of the educational process and a member of interdisciplinary working groups will allow for a more targeted impact on the value-motivational sphere of convicts and create an additional channel for monitoring the ideological situation.

In this paper, an attempt is made to conceptualize a comprehensive proactive mechanism for interdepartmental management of release of convicted foreign citizens, integrating administrative, legal, digital, and spiritual and educational tools, which is aimed at systematically minimizing criminogenic and ideological risks by transforming the existing reactive model into a strategic one that works ahead of schedule and ensures either controlled re-socialization or expulsion of this category of persons.

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