

TELEGRAM AS A THREAT TO THE INFORMATION SECURITY OF UKRAINE: CHALLENGES AND WAYS TO COUNTER

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The issue of Telegram's security for Ukrainians has been repeatedly raised by both politicians and the media. On September 19, 2024, the National Cyber Security Coordination Center and the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine adopted a decision to ban this platform for officials and the military [2]. Increasingly, the information space is discussing the possibility of a complete ban on Telegram for the entire population of Ukraine, which is an important step in solving this problem.

In this study I seek to analyze the threats associated with the use of this social network, as well as consider strategies for their neutralization.

According to the results of the sociological survey "Media Consumption of Ukrainians: The Third Year of Full-Scale War," conducted with the support of USAID and commissioned by the civic network OPORA, 73.4% of Ukrainians use social networks as a source of news. Of these, 78.1% are Telegram channels [1]. Our population does not support a complete ban on this social network, because it does not require a high-quality Internet connection, and it is also possible to easily and quickly obtain information.

The analysis revealed a number of threats associated with the use of Telegram in Ukraine. On March 31, 2023, the Law of Ukraine "On Media" came into force. Although its adoption was a long-awaited step, the document has certain shortcomings. In particular, it does not regulate the activities of social networks since they are not Ukrainian. This means that the state does not have the authority to ban Telegram channels but can only contact the platform's technical support, which often ignores such requests. Distrust of Telegram is caused by its owner, businessman Pavel Durov, who was arrested in France. This calls into question the security of the platform, since there are no guarantees that Durov is not cooperating with Moscow and that user data is fully protected.

In addition to official media, there are numerous unofficial channels on Telegram. Due to the insufficient level of media literacy, many Ukrainians do not know how to distinguish fake from reliable information [4]. Some such sources promptly report missile threats, even giving the exact coordinates of the threats, which could pose a risk. They regularly publish photos of places hit by Russian missiles, which is prohibited by law and could help the enemy.

At the moment, officials and the military use WhatsApp, which can almost completely replace Telegram [2]. The most optimal solution could be the creation of a Ukrainian messenger that would provide reliable protection against Russian ISPs and fake information. In addition, its activities could be controlled by the

National Council, which would allow for the prompt blocking of dangerous channels.

Obviously, the world is changing, and forcing people to receive news exclusively through websites or television is impractical if they are more comfortable using social networks. It is important to find an effective mechanism for controlling such sources of information and, at the same time, increase the level of media literacy of the population.

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PUBLIC CONTRACT

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Problem Statement. Public contracts are one of the most important instruments of modern civil law, guaranteeing equal access to goods and services for all members of society. The importance of studying public contracts lies in their wide practical application in the field of consumer relations, public services and commercial activities, where businesses interact with an unlimited number of consumers. In today's market economy, public contracts serve as an important mechanism for balancing the interests of service providers and consumers, in particular, to protect the latter, who are traditionally in a weaker position in contractual relations. As commercial entities become increasingly active in the market for mass services, proper legal regulation of public contracts becomes increasingly important to maintain market fairness and social justice.

Scientists have studied the peculiarities of public contracts, their relationship with other forms of contracts and the specific protection they provide to consumers. Despite the research, questions remain unanswered regarding the optimal balance between mandatory regulation and freedom of contract, the scope of obligations of the parties, and the effectiveness of consumer protection