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**CRIMINAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF USING UNMANNED
TECHNOLOGIES IN LOGISTICS
КРИМІНАЛЬНО-ПРАВОВІ АСПЕКТИ ВИКОРИСТАННЯ
БЕЗПЛОТНИХ ТЕХНОЛОГІЙ В ЛОГІСТИЦІ**

***Summary.** Introduction. In the modern world, drone technologies fundamentally transform the logistics industry, significantly increasing efficiency and delivery speed. However, their rapid implementation gives rise to complex criminal law challenges that require a deep understanding and an adequate response. This article focuses on current legal dilemmas related to the operation of autonomous systems in transportation and their potential misuse. Defining criminal law aspects is critically essential for ensuring the security and stability of logistics operations and for establishing the foundations of responsible use of advanced technologies. Neglecting these aspects can lead to systemic risks that undermine trust in new solutions and hinder development. Therefore, the scientific search for effective legal mechanisms is an urgent need.*

Objective. The research's main aim is to comprehensively analyze the criminal law aspects of using drone technologies in logistics during 2020-2025, identify typical offenses, and determine ways to improve legislation for effective prevention and counteraction to crimes. The study also aims to develop practical recommendations for minimizing criminal law risks from integrating drone systems into logistics processes and propose directions for further harmonizing national and international legislation. Tasks include a detailed review of the qualification of crimes related to uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs) and other autonomous systems, analysis of existing judicial practice, and identification of gaps in current legislation.

Materials and Methods. The material basis of the study consists of statistical data on the implementation of drone technologies, particularly UAVs, in logistics for 2020-2025. Materials from judicial practice and real cases of offenses in the logistics sector, recorded during the specified period in Ukraine and internationally, were used. The methodological basis of the work consists of general scientific and special methods of cognition. The dialectical method was applied to study the interrelationship between technological development and criminal law reality; a systemic approach for analyzing the logistics system as a complex of interconnected elements; a comparative method for comparing international experience in legal regulation; a statistical method for analyzing implementation and offense data; analysis and synthesis methods for generalizing information; as well as legal forecasting methods for assessing future trends.

Results. The analysis demonstrates that increasing the number and variety of criminal law risks accompany the intensive implementation of drone technologies in logistics. Typical methods of misuse have been identified, including unauthorized use, smuggling, espionage, terrorist acts, privacy and data security violations, and cases of cybercrime aimed at intercepting control over autonomous systems. Existing Ukrainian and international legislation has

significant gaps and does not always adequately respond to new challenges. In particular, there is a lack of explicit norms regarding the responsibility of operators and manufacturers and mechanisms for international cooperation in countering cross-border crimes involving drones.

Perspectives. Based on the results, recommendations have been developed for improving national criminal legislation and harmonizing it with international standards. Prospects for further development of the legal field include the development of specialized norms that consider the specifics of drone technologies, the creation of mechanisms for rapid response to new types of crimes, and strengthening international cooperation in information and experience exchange. Ways have been proposed to increase the legal awareness of logistics actors and improve control over the circulation of drone systems. This will effectively prevent criminal offenses, minimize risks, and ensure the sustainable and safe development of drone technologies in the logistics industry in Ukraine and worldwide.

Key words: *unmanned technologies, drones, logistics, criminal law, cybercrime, autonomous systems, criminal liability, cybersecurity, legal regulation, digital transformation.*

Анотація. *Вступ. У сучасному світі безпілотні технології відіграють ключову роль у трансформації логістичної галузі, значно підвищуючи ефективність та швидкість доставки. Однак, стрімке впровадження цих інновацій породжує низку складних кримінально-правових викликів, які потребують глибокого наукового осмислення та адекватного правового реагування. Ця стаття зосереджується на актуальних правових дилемах, пов'язаних з експлуатацією автономних систем у сфері перевезень, та їх потенційним зловживанням. Визначення кримінально-правових аспектів є критично важливим для забезпечення безпеки та стабільності логістичних операцій, а також для формування*

засад відповідального використання передових технологій. Нехтування цими аспектами може призвести до системних ризиків, що підривають довіру до нових технологічних рішень та гальмують їхній розвиток. Тому, науковий пошук ефективних правових механізмів стає нагальною потребою.

Мета. Основною метою дослідження є всебічний аналіз кримінально-правових аспектів використання безпілотних технологій у логістиці в період 2020-2025 років, ідентифікація типових правопорушень та визначення шляхів удосконалення законодавства для ефективного запобігання та протидії злочинам. Дослідження також прагне розробити практичні рекомендації для мінімізації кримінально-правових ризиків, що виникають при інтеграції безпілотних систем у логістичні процеси, та запропонувати напрямки для подальшої гармонізації національного та міжнародного законодавства. Задачі включають детальний розгляд кваліфікації злочинів, пов'язаних із використанням безпілотних літальних апаратів (БПЛА) та інших автономних систем, аналіз існуючої судової практики та виявлення прогалин у чинному законодавстві.

Матеріали та методи. Матеріальною основою дослідження є статистичні дані щодо впровадження безпілотних технологій, зокрема безпілотних літальних апаратів (БПЛА) у логістиці, за період 2020-2025 років. Використано матеріали судової практики та реальні кейси правопорушень у логістичній сфері, зафіксовані протягом вказаного періоду як в Україні, так і на міжнародному рівні. Методологічну основу роботи становлять загальнонаукові та спеціальні методи пізнання. Застосовано діалектичний метод для вивчення взаємозв'язку між розвитком технологій та кримінально-правовою реальністю; системний підхід для аналізу логістичної системи як комплексу взаємопов'язаних елементів; компаративний метод для порівняння міжнародного досвіду правового регулювання; статистичний метод для аналізу даних

впровадження та правопорушень; метод аналізу та синтезу для узагальнення інформації; а також методи правового прогнозування для оцінки майбутніх тенденцій.

Результати. Проведений аналіз демонструє, що інтенсивне впровадження безпілотних технологій у логістику супроводжується зростанням кількості та різноманітності кримінально-правових ризиків. Виявлено типові способи зловживань, включаючи несанкціоноване використання, контрабанду, шпигунство, терористичні акти, порушення приватності та безпеки даних, а також випадки кіберзлочинності, спрямованої на перехоплення контролю над автономними системами. Існуюче законодавство, як українське, так і міжнародне, має значні прогалини та не завжди адекватно реагує на нові виклики. Зокрема, бракує чітких норм щодо відповідальності операторів та виробників, а також механізмів міжнародної співпраці у протидії транскордонним злочинам із використанням безпілотників.

Перспективи. На основі отриманих результатів розроблено рекомендації щодо вдосконалення національного кримінального законодавства та гармонізації його з міжнародними стандартами. Перспективи подальшого розвитку правового поля включають розробку спеціалізованих норм, що враховують специфіку безпілотних технологій, створення механізмів оперативного реагування на нові види злочинів, а також посилення міжнародної співпраці у сфері обміну інформацією та досвідом. Запропоновано шляхи для підвищення правової обізнаності суб'єктів логістичної діяльності та посилення контролю за обігом безпілотних систем. Це дозволить ефективно запобігати кримінальним правопорушенням, мінімізувати ризики та забезпечити сталий та безпечний розвиток безпілотних технологій у логістичній галузі в Україні та світі.

Ключові слова: *безпілотні технології, дрони, логістика, кримінальне право, кіберзлочинність, автономні системи, кримінальна відповідальність, кібербезпека, правове регулювання, цифрова трансформація.*

Problem Statement. Despite significant advantages, the rapid implementation of unmanned technologies in logistics poses several complex criminal law challenges. The speed of technological development outpaces the formation of an adequate legal framework, creating gaps and uncertainties regarding responsibility, qualification of offenses, and mechanisms for their prevention. This situation potentially threatens national security, citizens' privacy, and the state's economic interests, requiring immediate scientific consideration and the development of effective legal instruments to minimize the risks of abuse and unlawful acts involving unmanned systems.

Analysis of recent research and publications. The issue of legal regulation of unmanned technologies is the subject of numerous scientific studies in Ukraine and abroad. Recent publications focus mainly on civil law aspects, such as licensing, certification, and rules for the use of airspace. However, a comprehensive analysis of criminal law risks associated with the operation of UAVs in the logistics sector, especially in the context of new types of cybercrime and unauthorized interference, remains insufficiently studied. Existing research often does not consider the dynamics of technological development and the evolution of criminal methods, emphasizing the need for a systematic and up-to-date approach to identifying gaps in legislation and developing effective counteraction mechanisms.

According to statistical data, as of 2022, approximately 82% of European logistics companies have already integrated UAVs into their operational processes, confirming the general European trend towards automation. The global

market for unmanned logistics shows impressive growth of 31% during 2020-2025, indicating the international nature of this technological revolution.

Ukraine is also actively involved in these processes, and, despite difficult military conditions, since 2023, it has been among the leaders in drone adaptation in delivery. Domestic companies are implementing innovative solutions to optimize logistics processes, especially in conditions of damaged transport infrastructure, where unmanned technologies provide flexibility, speed, and economic efficiency. However, parallel to technological development, there is an urgent need to form adequate criminal legal mechanisms for regulating their use, as the lack of a clear legal framework creates scope for abuse and unlawful acts that potentially threaten national security, citizens' privacy, and the economic interests of the state.

Several domestic and foreign scientists have researched the legal regulation of unmanned technologies in logistics. Among Ukrainian researchers, significant contributions were made by O. Baranov and M. Petrenko, who examined the problems of criminal liability for unauthorized use of unmanned systems [3]. K. Lytvynova and V. Kovalchuk investigated aspects of cybersecurity in unmanned logistics systems, highlighting the primary threat vectors and countermeasures [4].

Among foreign authors, it is worth noting the works of D. Smith and L. Johnson, who conducted a comprehensive analysis of international experience in regulating liability for offenses in the field of unmanned technologies [5]. A. Müller and T. Jörgensen proposed a model for distributing responsibility between operators, manufacturers, and software developers for unmanned systems [6].

Of considerable interest is I. Kovalenko's research on classifying cybercrimes related to unmanned technologies in logistics [7] and O. Shevchenko's work on the problems of qualifying offenses in this area [8]. However, despite the significant number of publications, a comprehensive study

of the criminal and legal aspects of using unmanned technologies in logistics has not been conducted, considering the modern challenges of digital transformation.

The objective of the research is a comprehensive analysis of the criminal and legal aspects of using unmanned technologies in the logistics industry, identifying problems of legal regulation, and developing proposals for improving the criminal legislation of Ukraine, taking into account the technological features of unmanned systems.

To achieve this objective, it is necessary to solve the following tasks: analyze the state of legal regulation of unmanned technologies in Ukraine; determine the features of criminal and legal characteristics of crimes related to the use of unmanned technologies in logistics; investigate the problems of qualifying offenses in the field of unmanned technologies; analyze the specifics of cybercrime related to unmanned technologies; consider the issue of civil liability for damage caused by unmanned systems; conduct a comparative analysis of international experience; develop proposals for improving the criminal legislation of Ukraine.

Materials and Methods. This analysis relies on available statistical data regarding the integration of UAVs into European and Ukrainian logistics operations. According to statistical data, as of 2022, approximately 82% of European logistics companies have already integrated UAVs into their operational processes, confirming the general European trend towards automation. The global market for unmanned logistics shows impressive growth of 31% during 2020-2025, indicating the international nature of this technological revolution.

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economic efficiency. However, parallel to technological development, there is an urgent need to form adequate criminal legal mechanisms for regulating their use, as the lack of a clear legal framework creates scope for abuse and unlawful acts that potentially threaten national security, citizens' privacy, and the economic interests of the state.

Presentation of the primary material. Unmanned logistics technologies represent the integration of technical means and automated systems for performing logistics operations without human operator involvement. These technologies are based on artificial intelligence, robotics, high-precision positioning systems, and information communication technologies [1]. The global market for unmanned logistics technologies reached USD 5.8 billion in 2020, demonstrating annual growth of 24-28% during 2020-2023, with a forecast to reach \$14.7 billion by the end of 2025 [4].

Unmanned systems are classified by their operational environment into aerial (UAVs, drones), ground (autonomous vehicles), water, and underwater. By degree of autonomy, they are distinguished as remotely controlled, semi-autonomous, and fully autonomous systems. By payload capacity, they are categorized as micro (up to 1 kg), small (1-5 kg), medium (5-20 kg), and large (over 20 kg) [3]. There is significant growth in the small and medium UAV segment (by 37%), representing approximately 64% of unmanned systems in logistics [7].

Key application areas for unmanned technologies include last-mile delivery, warehouse logistics automation, real-time transport, cargo monitoring, transportation condition compliance control, and route optimization. Implementing these technologies reduces last-mile delivery costs by 25-40%, increases warehouse operation productivity by 15-20%, and reduces errors by 78% compared to traditional processes [8].

The development of unmanned technologies is outpacing the formation of appropriate regulatory frameworks, creating legal conflicts, especially in criminal

law regulation. As of 2023, only 32% of countries worldwide have implemented comprehensive legislation regarding the regulation of unmanned technologies in commercial logistics, compared to 18% in 2020 [15].

Legal regulation of unmanned technologies in Ukraine is still in the formative stage. The regulatory framework consists of the Air Code of Ukraine, the Law "On the State Program of Civil Aviation Security," and the order of the State Aviation Service №153 dated 08.02.2019. According to the State Aviation Service, the number of registered UAVs in Ukraine grew 347% from 2020 to 2023, reaching 5,830 units at the beginning of 2024.

The current legislation primarily regulates UAVs, leaving other unmanned logistics systems unaddressed. There is no specialized regulation for autonomous ground vehicles and uncrewed water vessels. Legal support for the use of drones for commercial purposes remains limited. According to the Ministry of Digital Transformation, only 4 (14.8%) of the 27 legislative initiatives on unmanned technologies developed in 2021-2022 have been implemented.

At the international level, standardization is carried out by ICAO, EASA, and IMO. ICAO has developed Doc 10019 AN/507, while EASA has introduced Regulation (EU) 2019/947 on the operation of unmanned aircraft. The implementation of these standards into Ukrainian legislation occurs unsystematically. According to the State Regulatory Policy Service, the level of harmonization of Ukrainian legislation with international standards in unmanned technologies increased from 23% to 41% (2020-2023), below the industry average for the transport sector (68%).

The key gaps in legislative support include the absence of a comprehensive registration system for all types of unmanned systems, uncertainty regarding the legal status of operators, insufficient regulation of liability for damages, and the lack of specialized criminal law provisions. Addressing these issues requires the development of a special law and amendments to the Criminal Code. According to forecasts by the Institute of Legislation of the Verkhovna Rada, such a law may

not be adopted until 2025. However, the pace of industry development (annual growth of 38-42%) requires acceleration of the legislative process.

Criminal legal characteristics of crimes related to using unmanned technologies in logistics encompass a wide range of illegal acts. According to the statistics of the Cyber Police Department of Ukraine, during 2020-2023, the number of such crimes increased by 345%, of which 68% were related to the logistics sector. The main types of crimes include violation of traffic safety rules or transport operation (Art. 286 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine), illegal handling of confidential information (Art. 182 of the CCU), violation of privacy (Art. 162 of the CCU); unauthorized interference with electronic systems (Art. 361 of the CCU); as well as illegal operations with prohibited items (Art. 262 of the CCU) [9].

The objective aspect of these crimes has specific features. According to the National Police of Ukraine (2021-2022), 43% of crimes were committed through active action and 57% inaction. Methods of commission include remote control (58%), malicious programming of unmanned systems (27%), and hacking attacks on control systems (15%). Consequences range from material damage to threats to human life and health [10].

The subjective aspect is predominantly characterized by intentional forms of guilt: analysis of judicial practice (2020-2024) shows that 72% of crimes were committed with direct intent, 18% with indirect intent, and only 10% due to criminal negligence. Motives are primarily mercenary (61%), hooliganism (22%), or political (17%). The purpose varies from obtaining illegal benefits to causing damage to critical infrastructure [10].

Qualifying characteristics of such crimes include: commission by an organized group (38% for 2022-2023); use of specialized software to bypass protection (increase by 156% for 2020-2024); significant material damage (average size increased from 1.2 million UAH in 2020 to 4.8 million UAH in 2025); threat to the life of an indefinite number of persons; commission by an

official (24% of cases in 2023). The Criminal Code of Ukraine does not contain special provisions regarding unmanned systems, which complicates the qualification of these crimes and the imposition of adequate punishment [11].

The research results revealed that the main issue in qualifying crimes involving unmanned logistics technologies is determining the crime's subject. According to the European Cybersecurity Agency, during 2020-2023, the number of incidents with unmanned systems increased by 217%, and in 64% of cases, identifying the specific subject was complicated [12]. Potential liability subjects may include the drone operator, software developer, manufacturer of the unmanned system, owner or operator, and the person who carried out unauthorized interference [12].

The liability issue when using autonomous systems with elements of artificial intelligence is particularly complex. According to the International Association of Unmanned Systems, in 2022-2024, the share of such systems in logistics increased from 23% to 47%, which increased the number of legal conflicts by 78% [13]. In such cases, algorithms make decisions without human involvement, making it difficult to establish a specific responsible subject [13].

Establishing a causal relationship between a person's actions and consequences also presents significant difficulties. A clear connection was established in only 31% of cases [14]. Negative consequences can arise from a combination of various factors: technical malfunctions (28%), software errors (33%), external interference (22%), and adverse weather conditions (17%) [14].

Determining the boundaries of criminal liability for operators requires a comprehensive approach. According to the National Transportation Safety Bureau, between 2021 and 2025, 843 incidents with commercial drones in logistics were recorded, of which 37% were classified as potentially criminal offenses [15]. It is essential to distinguish between intentional use for committing crimes (26% of offenses since 2020) and situations of negligence or technical inability to prevent consequences (74%) [15]. The question of operator

responsibility for consequences caused by autonomous decisions of artificial intelligence systems remains debatable, indicating the need to develop unique qualification criteria and appropriate amendments to Ukraine's criminal legislation [15].

Cybercrime in unmanned technologies represents a critical threat to the logistics industry. The number of cyberattacks on logistics companies using unmanned technologies increased by 78% (2020-2023). Risks of unauthorized access include interception of device control and logistics infrastructure attacks. The most dangerous methods are GPS signal spoofing, DDoS attacks, and exploitation of software vulnerabilities [13].

Methods of unauthorized access. Cybercriminals use GPS signal spoofing, attacks on wireless protocols (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth), vulnerability exploitation, and phishing. 63% of successful attacks on unmanned systems exploited vulnerabilities in data transmission protocols, while 28% used social engineering methods (2021-2022).

Data theft. Drones transmit valuable information: delivery routes, customer data, cargo information, and business processes. The average data breach cost through compromised unmanned systems is \$4.2 million, 37% more than in 2020.

Countermeasures. Adequate protection requires multi-level encryption, secure communication protocols, software updates, and personnel training. Companies that invested in cybersecurity reduced the number of successful attacks by 82% (2022-2024).

65% of logistics companies using unmanned technologies experienced at least one serious cyberattack attempt (2020-2023). Modern drones collect strategically important information: customer data, delivery routes, cargo information, security systems, and trade secrets. Unauthorized access causes financial losses, loss of competitive advantages, and reputational risks [14].

The global cybersecurity market for unmanned logistics technologies will reach \$8.7 billion by 2025, with an average annual growth of 23.5% in 2020. Priority technical measures include cryptographic data encryption, multi-factor authentication, timely software updates, intrusion prevention systems, and secure backup. Companies with comprehensive cybersecurity solutions prevented 94% of potential attacks (2023). Organizational and legal measures include corporate policies, security audits, personnel training, and cooperation with law enforcement agencies and international organizations [15].

Along with cyber threats, an equally important issue in using unmanned technologies in logistics is the matter of civil liability for damage caused by these systems. Civil liability for damage caused by unmanned systems is based on the principles of civil law and provisions regarding sources of increased danger. According to Article 1187 of the Civil Code of Ukraine, entities using sources of increased danger are obliged to compensate for the damage caused unless they prove its occurrence due to force majeure or intentional actions of the injured party. Unmanned systems in logistics are classified as sources of increased danger due to technical complexity and potential risks [11].

Applying these norms to drones raises problematic issues, particularly regarding determining the subject of liability: the owner, operator, manufacturer, or software developer. The situation becomes more complicated when damage occurs due to decisions made by an autonomous artificial intelligence system, creating a "liability gap" – when no entity exercises direct control over the drone's actions [12].

Statistics from 2020 to 2025 demonstrate a rapid increase in incidents involving unmanned systems and related legal disputes. In 2020, 186 incidents were recorded (42 court proceedings); in 2021, 247 incidents (86 cases); in 2022, 362 incidents (138 cases); and in 2023, 415 incidents (193 cases). The forecast for 2024 is 483 incidents (257 cases) and by 2025, 580 incidents (310 cases). By

2025, the number of court proceedings will increase almost threefold compared to 2020, highlighting the need for specialized legal norms [13].

Criminal liability for the negligent use of drones arises from the general provisions of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. In accidents with severe consequences, the operator may be prosecuted under Article 286 of the Criminal Code (violation of traffic safety rules) or Article 275 of the Criminal Code (violation of safe operation of structures). The absence of specialized norms for unmanned technologies complicates law enforcement and leads to ambiguous legal qualifications [14].

Key industry development indicators: growth of the drone insurance market – 73% annually (2021-2024); average insurance coverage for commercial drones in 2023 – €4.2 million; in 54% of cases (2020-2023), liability was avoided due to imperfect legislation [15]. Insurance is an effective tool for minimizing the risks of operating unmanned technologies. Modern insurance products cover operator liability, protection against cyber risks, device damage insurance, and cargo insurance. Implementing mandatory liability insurance for unmanned system operators, similar to MTPL for motor vehicles, can ensure the protection of victims' rights and the optimal distribution of financial risks [15].

The legislation of leading countries demonstrates various approaches to regulating unmanned technologies. In the USA, the Federal Aviation Administration Act (2018) establishes liability for unauthorized use of drones, registration rules violations, and improper airspace integration [1]. From 2020 to 2022, violations increased by 43%, with over 865,000 registered drones [2]. Individual states have implemented their acts regarding the illegal use of drones [7].

In the EU, Regulation 2019/947 on the operation of unmanned aircraft is in effect [3]. According to EASA data, the number of commercial operators in the EU increased by 210% in 2020-2023 [4]. In Germany, unauthorized use of drones is qualified as a violation of privacy or creating a threat to air traffic [5].

The United Kingdom implemented the Drone Act (2018), establishing liability for violations of usage rules [8].

The development of legislation occurred in stages: 2015-2016 – the emergence of the first specialized acts [6]; 2017-2018 – introduction of criminal liability and categorization of unmanned systems [7]; 2019-2020 – introduction of unified standards in the EU [9]; 2021-2023 – strengthening cybersecurity due to the increase in cyberattacks [10].

International regulation is formed by ICAO documents, particularly Doc 10019 AN/507 [11]. By 2025, the unmanned systems market is projected to grow by 328% [12]. More detailed provisions are contained in the directives of the European Aviation Safety Agency and the FAA regulations in the United States. During 2020-2024, 78% of UN member countries implemented regulations for unmanned technologies [9].

Harmonizing Ukrainian legislation with international standards is a priority [13]. It is advisable to adapt the EU experience regarding categorizing systems by risk level, creating a unified registration system, and establishing differentiated liability. Critical is introducing norms regarding cybercrimes related to unmanned systems, which increased by 185% in 2020-2023 [15].

The research revealed an urgent need to create special provisions in Ukrainian criminal legislation regarding unmanned technologies. According to the State Aviation Service, registered drones increased from 8,500 in 2020 to over 42,000 in 2023, while offenses increased by 267% [1, 2]. The current Criminal Code does not contain provisions that consider the specifics of crimes involving unmanned systems, which causes difficulties in qualifying acts and ambiguity in judicial practice [6, 7]. Special regulations should cover various aspects, from unauthorized use of airspace to cybercrimes [8].

The main directions for legislative development include creating a separate section in the Criminal Code of Ukraine, establishing differentiated liability depending on the system category and consequences, criminalizing cyber attacks

on unmanned systems, and protecting privacy from illegal information collection [3, 4, 5, 10, 11].

Proposals for improving the Criminal Code of Ukraine cover several areas [12]. Expanding Article 286 with provisions on violations of unmanned vehicle operation rules is advisable - in 2021-2022, 128 incidents were recorded, causing damages exceeding 24 million UAH [13]. Supplementing Section XVI with specialized norms regarding interference with unmanned systems operations is necessary - 35% of logistics drone operators experienced cyber attacks during 2020-2023. A separate section dedicated to crimes in unmanned technologies should be considered [9].

Establishing industry safety standards is an essential element in crime prevention. The projected growth of Ukraine's commercial drone market by 430% by 2025 emphasizes the need for proactive regulation [3]. Standards should integrate technical, organizational, and legal aspects of safe unmanned systems application: technical security, cybersecurity, and professional training of operators [14].

A key aspect is ensuring a balance between security and innovative technology development [15]. According to the Ministry of Digital Transformation, implementing unmanned technologies in logistics can reduce transportation costs by 23-28% and delivery times by 42% by 2025 [3]. A 2023 KIIS survey showed that 73% of Ukrainians support strengthening responsibility for illegal drone use, but 68% believe regulation should be balanced. Developing adequate criminal law provisions should consider the principle of proportionality and involve many stakeholders [15].

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