

## Public Control as a Tool for Combating Crime

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### Abstract

*The article is devoted to the analysis of the place and role of the institution of public control in the system of tools to combat crime. This institution of civil society is analyzed as the most important legal guarantee for the implementation, protection and defense of the system of constitutional principles in Russia, as well as the system of human and civil rights and freedoms, the rights and legitimate interests of numerous public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations. The authors substantiate the importance of the institution of public control in the Russian Federation as a tool for the prevention and suppression of crimes. At the same time, the role of this institution of civil society is particularly highlighted as a tool in the fight against corruption and other crimes committed by officials of public authorities, state and municipal organizations, and other bodies and organizations that exercise certain public powers on the basis of federal laws. The article formalizes and explores the main problems that impede the use of the institution of public control in the fight against crime in the Russian Federation, in particular due to: the lack of mention of this institution of civil society in the Basic Law of Russia; imperfect legislation on public control; weak powers of its subjects; removing from the scope of the Federal Law of dated of 21.06.2014 № 212-FL, "On the Fundamentals of Public Control in the Russian Federation" the activities, acts and decisions of the majority of Russian law enforcement agencies, as well as types of public relations where there is a high crime rate; weak funding from the budgets of all levels of activities of subjects of public control; weak use of positive foreign experience of civil society institutions in the fight against crime; insufficient use of modern information and communication technologies. The authors have developed and justified a system of measures to resolve these problems, including by: incorporating public control into the Constitution of Russia; developing a system of federal laws devoted to the organization and implementation of public control in relation to the activities, acts and decisions of the country's law enforcement agencies; expanding the powers of subjects of public control; active use of foreign positive experience of civil society participation in the fight against crime; development of a system of federal programs for organizational, legal, financial, technical support for the institution of public control in Russia.*

**Keywords:** Public Control, Democracy, Russian Federation, Struggle, Crime, Corruption, Public Councils, Execution of Punishment, Prevention, Suppression.

## INTRODUCTION

The issues of organization and implementation of public control in the Russian Federation are widely studied in the works of T. Abramova, [1, pp. 9-14] V. Anikienko, [2, pp. 32-37] I. O. Antroptseva, [3, pp. 3-6] N. Beleshev, [5, pp. 12-13] E. Berdnikova, [6, pp. 320-324] A. V. Bezrukov, [8, pp. 77-88] E. Burizoda, [11, pp. 104-110] S. Glushkova, [16, pp. 85-97] G. Vasilevich, [21, p. 1] M. Gorny, [27, pp. 54-75] N. Khrulev, [30, pp. 1252-1254] A. Kiryanov, [31, pp. 3-6] V. Kikavets, [32, pp. 3-11] N. Lyakhov, [38, pp. 51-52] N. Maloletkina, [40, pp. 403-406] M. Melnikova, [41, pp. 9-12] D. Mikheev, [42, pp. 176-182] E. Moros, [43, pp. 114-128] E. I. Petrovsky, [44, pp. 465-466] A. Prudnikov, [47, pp. 50-53] I. Pryadkina, [48, pp. 28-30] Yu. Shilov, [51, pp. 40-49] N. Skripnikov, [53, pp. 65-69] A. A. Spiridonova, [55, pp. 48-58] E. Svinin, [56, pp. 41-44] I. Teplyashin, [57, pp. 119-125] I. Teplyashin, [58, pp. 77-82] J. Zalesny, [61, p. 1; 62, p. 1] as well as a number of other authors. At the same time, the research of E. V. Bakhanova, [4, pp. 23-30] A. A. Bezhentseva, [7, pp. 23-30] M. Bondarenko, [9, pp. 111-116] R. Burimov, [10, pp. 103-111] N. Demidov, [12, pp. 325-327] E. N. Dronova, [13, pp. 173-176] V. Egorov, [14, pp. 25-30] I. I. Gerbekov, [15, pp. 376-378] G. Goncharenko, [17, pp. 104-109] M. M. Gorbunova, [26, pp. 124-128] D. E. Gulyaev, [28, pp. 28-34] A. Kankulov, [29, pp. 162-166] N. A.

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Kolomotseva, [33, pp. 39-46] M. Kosyan, [35, pp. 208-211] E. A. Kravtsova, [36, pp. 21-24] A. S. Lampezhva, [37, pp. 321-325] A.V. Malko, [39, pp. 447-459] A. Plotnikov, [45, pp. 62-65] A. Polishchuk, [46, pp. 144-146] Yu. I. Shestak, [50, pp. 240-245] E. Yu. Shushalykova, [52, pp. 57-59] Yu. Sosnovskaya, [54, pp. 61-66] I. G. Timoshenko, [59, pp. 102-109] V. Volkova, [60, pp. 73-78] M. A. Zheludkova, [64, pp. 63-70] and some other scientists are devoted to the analysis of the role of this institution of civil society in the processes related to the prevention and fight against offenses and crimes.

However, the proportion of works devoted to the study of modern problems that hinder the use of the institution of public control as a tool to combat crime, as well as the development of a system of measures to resolve these problems, seems insufficient, which led to the choice of the topic of this scientific research. The main tasks of this scientific work include: a) analysis of the role and place of the institution of public control in the system of legal guarantees for the implementation, protection and defense of both the system of constitutional principles (first of all, democracy and public participation in the management of state affairs) and the entire system of human and civil rights and freedoms, rights and legitimate interests of public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations; b) studying the significance of the above-mentioned institution of civil society as an instrument for the prevention and suppression of crimes; c) analyzing the role of the institution of public control as an instrument to combat corruption and other crimes committed by officials of public authorities, state and municipal organizations, other bodies and organizations that exercise certain public powers on the basis of federal laws; d) formalization and research of the main problems hindering the use of the institution of public control in the fight against crime in the Russian Federation; e) development and justification of a system of measures to resolve these problems.

## **METHODS AND METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF THE RESEARCH**

The methodological basis of the research is a number of scientific methods, in particular: formal-logical; historical-legal; comparative-legal; statistical; sociological; method of studying specific legal situations. The empirical basis of the research was: The Constitution of Russia; norms of international and national legislation; materials of judicial practice; sources of scientific legal doctrine devoted to the analysis of the influence of the institution of public control on the prevention and suppression of crimes.

### **Main Text**

The existence and development of any modern democratic state is largely determined by the degree of efficiency and effectiveness of the processes of organization and activities of public administration bodies and the level of support for their functioning from the country's civil society.

The Constitution of the Russian Federation has enshrined a person, his rights and freedoms as the highest value in the state, which, as we have already noted in previous researches, corresponds to global trends in the world aimed at recognizing, consolidating, observing and protecting human rights and freedoms. [12, pp. 78-90; 13, pp. 93-106] At the same time, the multinational people of Russia have been given the legal status of the bearer of sovereignty and the only source of power in the country, exercising their powers through a system of direct and indirect forms of democracy (tab. 1).

**Table 1. The mechanism of implementation and distribution of power in Russia.**

Multinational people of the Russian Federation:
- he has supreme sovereignty;
- he has full power in the country;
- his decisions are acts of direct action;
- his decisions cannot be appealed to international governmental organizations,
- including the United Nations;
- his decisions cannot be noted in court.

<p>The people can exercise their powers directly, including in such forms as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- elections;</li> <li>- referendum;</li> <li>- territorial public self-government;</li> <li>- voting on the recall of deputies;</li> <li>- voting on the recall of a member of an elected local government body;</li> <li>- voting on the recall of an elected official of local self-government;</li> <li>- voting on changing the boundaries of a municipality;</li> <li>- voting on the transformation of a municipality;</li> <li>- gathering of citizens;</li> <li>- gathering of citizens performing the functions of a representative body of local self-government;</li> <li>- law-making initiative of citizens;</li> <li>- initiative project;</li> <li>- public hearings;</li> <li>- public discussions;</li> <li>- citizens' conference;</li> <li>- conference (meeting) of delegates;</li> <li>- village headman;</li> <li>- citizens' survey;</li> <li>- appeal to public authorities (for example, to local governments).</li> </ul>	<p>The people have the right to delegate their powers to those elected by public authorities.</p> <p>Public authorities elected by the people form other public authorities and delegate some of their powers to them.</p> <p>Public authorities may create State and municipal organizations, delegating to them the right to exercise certain public powers.</p> <p>Public authorities have the right to transfer the right to exercise certain public powers to private business entities (for example, the right to levy fines for stowaway travel may be transferred to transport companies).</p>
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However, the constitutional principles (first of all, democracy and participation of citizens of the Russian Federation in the management of state affairs), as well as the entire system of human and civil rights and freedoms, rights and legitimate interests of public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations, need a system of legal guarantees ensuring their implementation, protection and defense.

This system is represented by: a) a constitutional prohibition to seize power or misappropriate authority under threat of legal liability; b) a mechanism of checks and balances covering the entire system of public authorities, which does not allow the usurpation or concentration of power in the hands of any public authority or its official; c) bodies of constitutional control and supervision, the most important of which are the institution of the President of the Russian Federation (who is the guarantor of the Constitution of Russia, the rights and freedoms of man and citizen) and the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation (which, after the abolition in 2022 of the institution of constitutional (statutory) courts of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation acts as the highest and only body of constitutional justice in the country); d) the system of civil society institutions (tab. 2).

**Table 2. The system of civil society institutions in the Russian Federation.**

1. Political sphere	2. Legal protection of the population	3. Socio-economic sphere	4. Cultural sphere	5. Religious sphere
Political parties	Human rights organizations	Self-regulating organizations	Creative unions	Religious organizations
Situational protest institutions	Trade unions	Other public associations and organizations in the socio-economic sphere	Mass media	Other public associations and organizations in the religious sphere
Institutions of civil initiative	Institute of advocacy		Other public associations and organizations in the cultural sphere	
Territorial public self-government				
Socio-political organizations (except political parties)				

Rallies, marches, demonstrations and other forms of situational constructive socio-political protest Subjects of public control
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The most important institution of civil society in Russia is public control, through which citizens of the Russian Federation and public associations (other non-governmental non-profit organizations) can participate in monitoring the activities, acts and decisions of state authorities, local governments, state and municipal organizations, other bodies and organizations exercising certain public powers on the basis of federal laws (tab. 3).

**Table 3. The system of subjects of public control in the Russian Federation (for 2024).**

1. Subjects of public control acting on a permanent basis			
The Public Chamber of the Russian Federation	Public Chambers of the subjects of the Russian Federation		Public chambers (councils) of municipalities
Public councils under the federal executive authorities	Public councils under the executive bodies of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation		
Public councils attached to territorial divisions of federal executive authorities	Public councils under the legislative (representative) bodies of state power of the subjects of the Russian Federation		
2. Subjects of public control of a situational nature that can be created in accordance with the legislation on public control (including those for whom public control is not the main activity)			
Public monitoring commissions	Public inspections	Public control groups	Other organizational structures of public control (for example, primary trade union organizations)

This institution of civil society is important as a tool for the prevention and suppression of crimes for a number of reasons.

Firstly, the institution of public control in Russia was initially conceived as one of the tools for the prevention and suppression of crimes in public authorities, as well as bodies and organizations authorized to exercise certain public powers. In particular, legislation on public control, for example, Federal Law dated 21.06.2014 № 212-FL “On the Fundamentals of Public Control in the Russian Federation,” among the main tasks of this institution of civil society, has consolidated the formation in society of an intolerant attitude towards corrupt behavior as a type of illegal behavior (crime or offenses). This attitude of society is achieved: a) full coverage of all its objects by public control measures, which makes it possible to identify most violations of the law, as well as the rights and freedoms of person and citizen, the rights and legitimate interests of public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations; b) involving in the organization and implementation of public control measures as many citizens of the country and the above-mentioned types of legal entities as possible; c) propaganda of constitutional values and lawful behavior among the broad masses of the population (tab. 4). [25, pp. 63-64]

**Table 4. The number of crimes (by the most common groups of crimes in their % ratio to their total number) identified in the Russian Federation by subjects of public control in 2015-2023.**

Name of the crime group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Crimes against the person	11,3	10,71	10,5	12	11,7	12,3	12,61	13,01	11,9
Crimes in the field of economics	10,7	11,3	11,91	11,22	11,1	12,1	12,4	12,1	11,9
Crimes against public safety and public order	30	31,51	30,61	31	31,41	29,89	30,41	31,21	31,21
Crimes against state power	46,5	45,1	45,8	45	44,4	44,2	43,6	43	44,5
Crimes against military service	1,4	1,3	1,1	1,21	1,3	1,4	0,91	0,7	0,41
Crimes against the peace and security of mankind	0,1	0,08	0,08	0,07	0,09	0,11	0,07	0,08	0,08

Secondly, public control measures can cover the activities, acts and decisions of any state and local government bodies, state and municipal organizations, other bodies and organizations that exercise certain public powers on the basis of federal laws. А на долю должностных преступлений в России приходится значительный процент в общей численности преступлений. At the same time, these crimes are the most difficult to investigate, find and bring the perpetrators to criminal responsibility.

Thirdly, subjects of public control during public control activities, if they find that officials of public control facilities have committed actions (inaction) containing signs of administrative offenses and criminal offenses, they are obliged to reflect this information in the final documents (acts) compiled based on the results of public control activities. In addition, subjects of public control provide this information and documents in a timely manner to law enforcement agencies and the court in order for these public authorities to take measures to curb these offenses and crimes, to bring perpetrators to criminal and administrative responsibility established by law.

Fourthly, if, during the conduct of public control events, representatives of public control objects (or third parties) exert pressure on these representatives in order to prevent the conduct of these events, or so that certain information is not reflected in the documents drawn up based on the results of these events, then representatives of public control subjects in accordance with the Federal Law dated of 21.06. 2014 № 212-FL “On the Basics of Public Control in the Russian Federation” is obliged to notify the above-mentioned facts of pressure (for example, threats to life and health against them and their family members) to the subjects of public control who appointed these public control measures. Also, information about this pressure, which may contain signs of a crime (for example, a threat to kill), should be sent to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. If representatives of subjects of public control have not brought the above-mentioned information to the attention of law enforcement agencies and subjects of public control, who sent them to conduct public control events, then these representatives of subjects of public control will be barred from conducting these public control events, as well as from conducting public control events of this form in the future. At the same time, the legislation does not indicate the period for which the above-mentioned representatives lose the opportunity to participate in public control activities. In our opinion, they lose these powers for life.

The institution of public control also plays an important role in the fight against corruption and other crimes committed by officials of public authorities and other objects of public control.

Firstly, among all the institutions of Russian civil society, only subjects of public control are authorized to carry out control measures in relation to the above-mentioned objects.

Secondly, as we noted earlier, the task of public control is to create intolerance towards corrupt behavior in society. Citizens of the country, having discovered facts of corruption, must contact either law enforcement agencies or subjects of public control, who, having received such information, can either go to court to protect the rights and freedoms of citizens that were violated by this corrupt behavior, or to law enforcement agencies, if this corrupt behavior contains signs of a crime or administrative offense.

Thirdly, subjects of public control in Russia, although they do not form a unified system throughout the country, are represented at the federal, regional, and municipal levels. That is, they permeate all levels of the administrative-territorial structure of the state, which allows them to comprehensively combat corruption in public authorities and other structures vested with the right to exercise certain public powers.

Fourthly, the effectiveness of subjects of public control in the fight against corruption is based, among other things, on the ability to involve an unlimited number of citizens of the country, as well as representatives of public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations, in public control activities, forming a barrier to corruption in power.

Fifthly, the subjects of public control include highly qualified specialists, experts in various fields and spheres of public life, including lawyers, economists, political scientists, specialists in the field of state and municipal administration. Many of them have significant experience in the fight against corruption and other types of crimes committed by officials of objects of public control (tab. 5). [25, pp. 50-51]

**Table 5. The level of education of representatives of subjects of public control in Russia for 2023 (in %).**

Group of subjects of public control	Persons with primary school education	People with secondary education	Persons with secondary vocational education	Persons with higher education	Persons with postgraduate education (with academic degrees)
Permanently active	0,02	0,98	5,1	75,4	18,5
Subjects of public control of a situational nature that can be created in accordance with the legislation on public control (including those for whom public control is not the main activity)	0,03	1,17	8,8	81	9

However, the use of the institution of public control as a tool to combat crime is complicated by a number of problems, including the following:

Firstly, a major problem is the fact that the institution of public control is not enshrined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation, which significantly reduces its authority and significance both in the eyes of ordinary citizens and numerous officials of state authorities and local governments. The solution to this problem is seen in the formalization of this institution of civil society in the Basic Law of the country, detailing in it the concept, principles, methods, forms and types of public control measures, a list of its objects and subjects, or an exhaustive list of identifying features, the mechanism of interaction between subjects of public control and public authorities. It seems necessary, among the goals of public control, to enshrine in the Constitution of the country the participation of subjects of public control in the system of measures to combat crime. In addition, in our opinion, the Basic Law should consolidate the fight against crime as one of the ideological foundations of Russian statehood, [20, p. 1] since this will additionally ensure the realization of human and civil rights and freedoms. In this regard, it seems justified to move away from the existing principle that no ideology can be enshrined in Russia as a state or mandatory one.

Secondly, a significant problem preventing the effective participation of subjects of public control in the fight against crime and delinquency is the imperfection of legislation on public control in this area. In particular, even Federal Law dated of 23.06. 2016 № 182-FL “On the Basics of the crime prevention system in the Russian Federation”, listing in Article 5 the subjects who are authorized to participate in crime prevention activities, does not mention subjects of public control (in connection with which, it seems necessary to supplement the list of mentioned subjects of crime prevention by subjects of public control). As the experience of combating the COVID-19 pandemic has shown, the participation of subjects of public control in the prevention of illegal behavior was justified. [49, p. 1] For example, in the People's Republic of China, the people's control authorities have ensured the most effective implementation of quarantine measures, helping law enforcement agencies and medical organizations in this. Moreover, any possibility of participation of subjects of public control (as well as public associations) in measures to combat crime was gradually excluded from federal legislation. Thus, the previously existing Criminal Law Code of the RSFSR dated of 27.10.1960 contained the institution of public prosecutors and public defenders (representatives of public associations) who could participate in criminal proceedings along with state prosecutors and lawyers.

In this regard, it seems necessary to restore the institution of public prosecutors and public defenders (in whose roles representatives of subjects of public control will act), enshrining provisions on this in the Criminal Procedure Code of the Russian Federation and the Federal Law dated of 21.07. 2014 № 212-FL “Basics of Public Control in the Russian Federation”.

Thirdly, the above-mentioned problem is connected with the problem of removing a huge number of objects of public control from the subject of its jurisdiction by the above-mentioned Federal Law (under the pretext that public control over these objects will be regulated by separate federal laws, most of which have not been adopted to date). The situation is dangerous because of exactly which objects were excluded from the scope of this Federal Law! These objects include, in particular: activities in the field of ensuring national defense and state security, public safety and law and order; activities of the police, investigative bodies, prosecutors and courts; activities related to control over the circulation of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. That is, the activities, acts and decisions of almost all law enforcement agencies that fight crime turned out to be outside the scope of legislation on public control. These objects are beyond any control of civil society! We see a solution to this problem in the order to the Public Chamber of the country to develop draft federal laws that

will establish the possibility of exercising public control in relation to the above-mentioned objects. The Public Chamber must send these projects to the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and demand the adoption of these federal laws as soon as possible. As an alternative option, as we have already noted in previously published works [19, p. 1; 22, p. 1], it is possible to restructure the current legislation that establishes the legal foundations of executive authorities that fight crime, as well as prosecutor's offices and courts (by adding provisions on public control to it). This will eliminate these gaps in the legal regulation of public control in relation to its specified objects.

Fourthly, a significant problem is the lack of any real powers among subjects of public control in Russia. Most of their powers are of an informational, auxiliary, advisory nature, which does not allow subjects of public control to effectively combat crime and create intolerance towards corrupt behavior in society. The solution to this problem is seen in providing subjects of public control with a number of real powers, for example, the right to impose administrative penalties on officials of objects of public control (if, during public control activities, signs of an administrative offense are revealed in their actions), the right to suspend the public procurement procedure (if during the ongoing public control activities violations of the procedure for its implementation are established, and also signs of an administrative offense or crime are identified in the activities of participants in these public procurements), the right to temporarily suspend the above-mentioned officials from the performance of official duties (until this issue is resolved on the merits by the court or other law enforcement agency). In addition, it is necessary to enshrine in the criminal and administrative legislation of the country measures of increased criminal liability for opposing the legitimate activities of representatives of subjects of public control.

Fifthly, a significant problem hindering the effective participation of subjects of public control in the fight against crime and offenses is the weak material and technical base of subjects of public control, their insufficient financing from budgets of all levels. The solution to this problem is seen, on the one hand, in the development and implementation by the Government of the Russian Federation of a system of federal programs aimed at developing a system of public control in Russia, and on the other hand, in the development and implementation of mechanisms to improve the effectiveness of the subjects of public control.

Sixth, a major problem is that the subjects of public control poorly use modern digital technologies in their work. Many subjects of public control do not have their own websites on the Internet. The information protection system of the existing sites of subjects of public control also leaves the best. The solution to this problem is seen in the coordination of the processes of introducing digital technologies into the work of subjects of public control under the leadership of the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation at the expense of the federal budget.

Seventh, a certain problem also lies in the weak use by subjects of public control of the positive foreign experience of civil society institutions in the field of combating crime, in connection with which, as we noted earlier, Russia lags behind in the pace of development of civil society institutions and their impact on ensuring legality and law and order from developed foreign countries. [18, p. 1; 34, pp. 313-320; 62, pp. 51-61] Civil society institutions have accumulated particularly rich experience in this area in Switzerland, the countries of the European Union and the United States (for example, in terms of using information and communication platforms for public control, online interaction with law enforcement agencies in order to quickly identify and suppress corruption among government officials public authorities, etc.).

## **CONCLUSION**

As a result of the scientific research we carried out, we made a number of conclusions, the most important of which are the following:

1. Public control in Russia is the most important legal guarantee for the implementation, protection and defense of both the system of constitutional principles (first of all, democracy and public participation in the management of state affairs) and the entire system of human and civil rights and freedoms, as well as the rights and legitimate interests of public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations.

2. This institution of civil society is important as a tool for the prevention and suppression of crimes, since: a) as one of the tasks of public control, Federal Law dated of 21.07.2014 № 212-FL “On the Basics of Public Control in the Russian Federation” defines the formation of intolerance in society to corrupt behavior as a kind of illegal behaviors (crimes and offenses); b) its activities cover all bodies of state power and local self-government, state and municipal organizations, as well as bodies and organizations exercising certain public powers on the basis of federal laws; c) if representatives of its subjects discover signs of a crime or an administrative offense during public control activities, they are obliged to apply with the final materials and documents drawn up based on the results of public control measures, to the relevant law enforcement agencies; d) if, during public control events in various forms, pressure is exerted on representatives of subjects of public control (for example, in the form of a threat of murder), they are obliged to inform the subject of public control who initiated the inspection, as well as law enforcement agencies about the pressure exerted (otherwise, these representatives will be deprived of the right to further participate in carrying out public control measures of this form).

3. The Institute of Public Control acts as the most important tool of civil society in combating corruption and other crimes committed by officials of public authorities, state and municipal organizations, other bodies and organizations that exercise certain public powers on the basis of federal laws, due to the fact that: a) it is the only institution of civil society the company authorized to carry out control measures in relation to public authorities and other bodies and organizations with public powers; b) as we noted earlier, it is public control that is entrusted with coordinating the efforts of civil society in the formation of intolerance among the population to corrupt behavior; c) subjects of public control, although they do not constitute a single system, but cover the federal, regional and local levels of government, penetrating the entire territory of the country; d) any citizens of the country and public associations (other non-governmental non-profit organizations) can take part in public control events; e) as a rule, professional specialists, including in the field of combating corruption and other types of crimes committed by officials of public control objects, are part of the subjects of public control.

4. The use of the institute of public control in the fight against crime in the Russian Federation is hampered by a number of problems, among which the following can be distinguished: a) the lack of mention of this institution of civil society in the Basic Law of Russia; b) imperfection of legislation on public control; c) weak powers of its subjects; d) removing from the scope of the Federal Law dated of 21.07. 2014 № 212-FL “On the Fundamentals of Public Control in the Russian Federation” the activities, acts and decisions of the majority of Russian law enforcement agencies, as well as types of public relations where there is a high crime rate; e) weak funding from the budgets of all levels of activities of subjects of public control; f) weak use of positive foreign experience of civil society institutions in the field of combating crime; g) insufficient use of modern information and communication technologies.

5. The resolution of these problems requires the development of a system of measures, among which the most important are: a) incorporation of public control into the Constitution of Russia; b) development of a system of federal laws devoted to the organization and implementation of public control over the activities, acts and decisions of law enforcement agencies of the country, as well as other objects removed from the subject matter of Federal Law dated of 21.07.2014 № 212-FL “On the Basics of Public Control in the Russian Federation”; c) expanding the powers of subjects of public control (for example, granting them the right to bring officials of public control objects to administrative responsibility if, during its activities, there are signs of an administrative offense in their activities, as well as the right to temporarily remove these officials from office, suspend public procurement in violation of public procurement legislation etc.); d) active use of foreign positive experience of civil society participation in the fight against crime (for example, in terms of using information and communication platforms for public control, online interaction with law enforcement agencies in order to promptly identify and suppress corruption among officials of public authorities, etc.); e) instructing the Government of the Russian Federation to develop a system of federal programs for organizational, legal, financial, and technical support for the Institute of Public Control in Russia (after consultations with the Public Chamber of the country); f) development and implementation in the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation and the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation of criminal law and administrative law



provisions, providing for various measures of criminal and administrative law liability for officials of public authorities, as well as other objects of public control, for actions aimed at counteracting the legitimate activities of subjects of public control (up to life imprisonment).

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