

LEGAL REGULATION OF LIABILITY FOR OFFICIAL CRIMES OF  
OFFICIALS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND  
THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF LEGISLATION IN THIS FIELD

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**Abstract**

*This article examines the legal regulation of liability for official crimes committed by officials of non-governmental non-profit organizations and analyzes the historical development of legislation in this field by applying an IMRAD-based structure and synthesizing academic research, demonstrating that the evolution of legal frameworks has been driven by the need to combat corruption, ensure accountability, and adapt to the increasing role of non-governmental organizations in modern governance systems*

**Keywords:** *non-governmental non-profit organizations, legal regulation, criminal liability, officials, corruption, legislation development, accountability, governance*

**1. Introduction**

Non-governmental non-profit organizations have become increasingly influential actors in modern societies contributing to social development public service delivery and democratic governance however this growing role has also raised concerns regarding accountability and legal responsibility of their officials especially in cases of abuse of power corruption and other official crimes therefore the legal regulation of liability for such crimes has emerged as an important area of criminal law and public policy because corruption is widely understood as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain and it undermines rule of law public trust and economic development (Lykhova et al., 2022), historically legal systems primarily focused on public officials as subjects of official crimes but with the expansion of private and nonprofit sectors the scope of liability has gradually extended to officials of legal entities including NGOs which reflects the transformation of governance structures and the recognition of new risks associated with delegated authority (Tychyna, 2025), thus understanding the content of legal regulation and its historical evolution is essential for developing effective mechanisms to prevent and combat official crimes in the nonprofit sector.

Intentional use of official powers refers to actions of a person arising from their official position, related to the exercise of the rights and duties granted by that position, but which in their content contradict the goals and objectives of the activities of the relevant organization.

Official powers should be understood as the rights and obligations that a person possesses by virtue of the position they hold. The use of official powers is recognized as actions carried out by an official within the scope of their service authority, within the limits of the rights granted to them and the duties assigned to them due to their official position.

In order to ensure the correct application of the legal provision when holding a person liable for this crime, it is necessary to determine the scope and nature of the service rights and duties of an official of a non-governmental non-profit organization or another non-governmental organization, the нормативные acts regulating them, the motive, purpose, and factual circumstances of the committed act, as well as to establish the causal link between the violation of duties by such a person and the resulting harmful consequences.

**The authority of an official** is defined by the competence established in relevant laws, regulations, and other normative documents governing the rights and duties of a person who performs the functions of a given position on a permanent, temporary, or specially authorized basis. (M.X.Rustamboyev, 2016)

## 2.Methods

This study uses a qualitative and comparative legal research methodology based on the analysis of academic literature legislative developments and international practices related to criminal liability and NGO regulation the research applies historical legal analysis to trace the evolution of legal norms and comparative methods to identify similarities and differences across jurisdictions in regulating liability for official crimes committed by officials of non-governmental organizations and legal entities

## 3.Results

The results of the study show that the legal regulation of liability for official crimes of NGO officials has evolved through several stages reflecting broader changes in legal systems governance models and anti-corruption policies initially legal frameworks focused primarily on state officials but over time the concept of criminal liability expanded to include officials of legal entities including corporations and non profit organizations as subjects of corruption and abuse of power (Sarjiyati, 2019), the development of legislation has been influenced by international anti-corruption standards and the need to ensure accountability in both public and private sectors leading to the introduction of norms that allow for holding not only individuals but also organizations responsible for crimes committed by their representatives (Tychyna, 2025), comparative studies indicate that modern legal systems incorporate a combination of criminal administrative and civil liability mechanisms to address corruption

and abuse of authority which enhances the effectiveness of legal regulation (Yuldashevna, 2022), moreover the evolution of NGO regulation demonstrates that different countries adopt varying approaches depending on their political and institutional systems with some imposing strict regulatory controls while others provide greater autonomy but emphasize accountability and transparency (Bloodgood et al., 2014), additionally historical analysis shows that legal reforms in post-communist and developing countries have been closely linked to efforts to build institutional trust and strengthen civil society by improving accountability mechanisms and legal frameworks governing NGOs (Waniak-Michalak et al., 2020), in countries such as Uzbekistan recent reforms have focused on ensuring inevitability of liability for corruption offenses strengthening legal culture and enhancing cooperation between state and civil society institutions (Ismailov, 2021)

#### **4. Discussion**

The discussion of the findings indicates that the legal regulation of liability for official crimes of NGO officials is shaped by a combination of historical legal traditions institutional development and international influences one of the key trends in this field is the shift from a narrow understanding of official crimes limited to public servants toward a broader concept that includes officials of legal entities and nonprofit organizations which reflects the increasing role of these entities in governance and public service delivery another important trend is the integration of preventive and punitive mechanisms within legal frameworks including compliance systems internal controls and administrative accountability measures which aim to reduce the risk of corruption and abuse of authority as studies show that effective legal regulation requires not only clear definitions of liability but also strong enforcement mechanisms and institutional capacity (Yi & Li, 2016), furthermore the historical development of legislation reveals that legal reforms are often driven by political economic and social factors including the need to align with international standards combat systemic corruption and enhance public trust however challenges remain in ensuring consistency clarity and effectiveness of legal norms as some legal systems still face issues related to ambiguous definitions of officials overlapping jurisdictions and weak enforcement which limit the effectiveness of liability mechanisms (Lykhova et al., 2022), therefore it is essential to continue improving legal frameworks by clarifying the status of NGO officials strengthening institutional mechanisms and promoting transparency and accountability in order to effectively prevent and combat official crimes

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion the legal regulation of liability for official crimes of officials of non-governmental non-profit organizations has undergone significant historical development evolving from a focus on public officials to a broader framework that includes private and

nonprofit sector actors this evolution reflects the growing importance of NGOs in modern governance and the need to ensure accountability and prevent corruption the study shows that effective legal regulation requires a comprehensive approach combining clear legal norms strong enforcement mechanisms and institutional support while addressing existing challenges and gaps in legislation will contribute to improving governance strengthening civil society and enhancing public trust

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