

THE IMPACT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES ON ENSURING NATIONAL ECONOMIC SECURITY WITHIN THE SYSTEM OF STATE FINANCIAL CONTROL (THE SSU AND SBI CASE STUDY)

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Abstract. This article uses the examples of the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) and the State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) to examine the role and significance of law enforcement agencies in the exercise of state financial control for ensuring the economic security of the state. This research employs an interdisciplinary *methodology* that integrates economic and legal analysis to ensure the reliability of its findings. The evolving role of law enforcement in maintaining national economic security through financial control was examined using the dialectical method. The systemic-structural method enabled the conceptualisation of state financial control as a vital component of the country's economic architecture. A comparative analysis was conducted to evaluate the functional economic impact of the SSU and SBI within the oversight system. The dogmatic method was employed to evaluate the regulatory framework in terms of financial stability and fiscal discipline. Statistical analysis played a key role in quantifying the economic outcomes of financial crime investigations in 2025, with a particular focus on asset recovery and mitigating budgetary losses. Finally, the analytical method synthesised the findings into strategic recommendations for improving the economic efficiency of state control mechanisms. *Results.* Theoretical and legal approaches to defining financial control were summarised and a definition of state financial control was provided. The tasks and entities involved in the latter were also identified. The system of bodies exercising state financial control in Ukraine was visualised. The role of law enforcement agencies in its implementation was also established. *Practical implications.* The role of the Security Service of Ukraine as a key institution in ensuring state security, including economic security, was analysed. Although the State Bureau of Investigation does not directly belong to the system of state financial control bodies, it was demonstrated that it nevertheless acts as a key entity in jurisdictional activities in this sphere. *Value / Originality.* The results of this study deepen the understanding of the institutional role of law enforcement agencies in the State financial control system, which enhances Ukraine's economic efficiency. The study also paves the way for improvements to the regulatory framework in this area.

Keywords: national economic security, state financial control, law enforcement agencies, Security Service of Ukraine (SSU), State Bureau of Investigation (SBI).

JEL Classification: F52, H83, K42

1. Introduction

Financial resources are the material foundation for implementing the state's domestic and foreign policies. The effective functioning of the national economy depends directly on the quality of public finance

management, which highlights the important role of state financial control (SFC). The modern approach to such control is shifting from formal oversight to promoting the rational, effective and transparent use of budgetary assets.

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The modernisation of ongoing management methods and the intensified fight against financial offences are responses to the current challenges of nation-building. These processes are particularly important during a period of martial law, when financial security forms the basis of the country's defence. During this time, the SFC plays a pivotal role in safeguarding against the misuse of resources and acts as the primary guarantor of the state's financial interests in its assets and property.

State financial control is a strategically important mechanism of public administration whose significance is constantly growing. When applied effectively, it enables the development of effective economic policy and ensures the rational management of public resources. The creation of a comprehensive SFC system is a necessary step for the stable operation of government bodies, a topic of significant interest to legal theorists and administrative practitioners alike.

The role of financial control is determined by the state's strategic goals and the social orientation of its financial policy, which requires significant capital investment. The rational use of limited public resources requires systematic oversight to ensure compliance with the law, financial discipline and expediency at all stages of the movement of funds. Effective control measures ensure the efficiency of the budgetary process, facilitate the identification of internal reserves, and help eliminate structural imbalances in the distribution of funds. In this way, financial control becomes an important management function and a driving force for developing market relations. It acts as a guarantor of entrepreneurial autonomy, limiting unjustified state intervention while ensuring accountability for offences committed.

Law enforcement agencies are responsible for enforcing financial controls, which are imperative and punitive in nature. These agencies are responsible for the procedural documentation, investigation and neutralisation of financial offences, including corruption, embezzlement and tax manipulation. In this context, the key task of law enforcement agencies is to ensure the inevitability of punishment and implement restitution mechanisms to provide full compensation for financial losses to the state budget.

The purpose of this article is therefore to examine the role and significance of law enforcement agencies in the exercise of state financial control, using the examples of the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) and the State Bureau of Investigations (SBI).

2. Literature Review

Economic security is the foundation for protecting national interests and achieving long-term strategic goals. As a primary instrument for managing economic cycles, it provides a robust mechanism for defending national economic interests against

internal and external threats. By mitigating these risks, economic security ensures sustainable, balanced growth and enhances the national economy's overall global competitiveness (Kadala, Guzenko & Bondarenko, 2023).

At the same time, Vasylytsiv et al. (2021) emphasise that financial policy is a key component of macroeconomic regulation. The stability of key economic indicators, such as price levels, the national currency and business credit accessibility, depends directly on the strategic planning and responsiveness of this policy. Conversely, volatility within the monetary-financial sector poses threats to national financial security. This instability can manifest as systemic risks, including budget revenue shortfalls, payment crises and the erosion of household purchasing power.

Unfortunately, the Russian invasion has turned the financial sector into a key battleground in the ongoing hybrid warfare. Beyond destroying physical infrastructure, the aggressor is seeking to destabilise the national economy by using sophisticated money laundering systems and cyber-enabled financial crimes. At the same time, virtual assets and cryptocurrencies have emerged as key tools for funding illegal activities and bypassing international sanctions. Within this framework, law enforcement agencies are implementing rigorous countermeasures to disrupt the financing of terrorism and collaborationist activities. They are mandated to identify financial transactions tied to military aggression, attempts to subvert the constitutional order or any efforts to forcibly alter Ukraine's territorial sovereignty (Kononenko et al., 2026).

This article therefore aims to analyse the functional role of the Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) and the State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) within the state financial control system. It explores how these agencies contribute to safeguarding national economic resilience and maintaining fiscal stability, even under the exceptional pressures of wartime.

3. Methodology

This research employs an interdisciplinary methodology that integrates economic and legal analysis to ensure the reliability of its findings. The evolving role of law enforcement in maintaining national economic security through financial control was examined using the dialectical method. The systemic-structural method enabled the conceptualisation of state financial control as a vital part of a country's economic structure. A comparative analysis was used to evaluate the functional economic impact of the SSU and SBI within the oversight system. The dogmatic method was employed to evaluate the regulatory framework in terms of financial stability and fiscal discipline. Statistical analysis was crucial in quantifying the economic outcomes of financial

crime investigations in 2025, with a particular focus on asset recovery and mitigating budgetary losses. Finally, the analytical method synthesised the findings into strategic recommendations for improving the economic efficiency of state control mechanisms.

4. Results and Discussion

Financial control is a comprehensive and targeted financial and legal activity carried out by financial control bodies, their divisions, representatives or persons authorised to exercise control, in accordance with current legislation. Financial control involves establishing the actual state of affairs regarding the financial and economic activities of the controlled entity, with the aim of ensuring legality, financial discipline and rationality in the formation, distribution, ownership, use and disposal of assets, for the purpose of the effective socio-economic development of all participants in financial legal relations. Financial control involves verifying the accuracy, legality, expediency, and effectiveness of economic and financial transactions (Hutsalenko, Derii, & Kotsupatrii, 2009, p. 6).

Synthesising theoretical and legal approaches allows for the consideration of financial control in two dimensions:

1) As a specialised activity, it is the legal form through which control bodies and authorised persons exercise their powers, based on the norms of national legislation. Its aim is to verify the actual state of an entity's financial and economic processes. The main objectives are to ensure financial discipline and the legality and appropriateness of asset management, and to verify that each transaction complies with applicable legal norms.

2) As a management and regulatory system, it covers the normatively regulated activities of a wide range of entities, including state and regional bodies, sectoral bodies, self-regulatory organisations, and civil society institutions. The focus here is on monitoring financial planning to ensure funding is complete and timely, and on assessing the effectiveness and legality of the use of public and private resources.

The relevant Law of 1993 does not provide a definition of state financial control. Instead, it states that state financial control is exercised by a central executive body with special status. This body is authorised by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to implement state policy in this area by conducting state financial audits, inspections, procurement reviews and monitoring (The Law of Ukraine "On State Control Auditing Service in Ukraine" of 14.06.2025, No. 2939-XII).

State financial control is a form of financial control carried out by relevant state bodies. Its purpose is to establish the actual state of affairs regarding compliance with current legislation at the controlled entity.

This ensures legality, financial discipline and rationality in the formation, distribution, ownership, use and disposal of state assets, as well as the use of funds remaining with the subject of financial legal relations in connection with exemptions granted from budgetary payments, state extrabudgetary funds and loans received under the guarantees of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (Hutsalenko, Derii, & Kotsupatrii, 2009, p. 6).

The main objectives of state financial control are as follows:

1) Monitoring the compliance of government and public administration bodies, as well as other entities involved in financial legal relations, with regulations governing the management of public finances, and notifying these bodies of significant deviations from such regulations; 2) assessing the effectiveness, economy and efficiency with which financial and material resources, as well as monetary funds belonging to the state or held by entities engaged in financial relations, are used when performing functional duties connected to granted tax incentives, the receipt of state credits or loans backed by government guarantees; 3) preventing deviations from the normative indicators of public financial management that hinder the effective, lawful and efficient management of finances at state level by enterprises, institutions, organisations and other entities involved in financial relations; 4) rectifying the consequences of violations or errors in the operations of financial entities, and implementing and monitoring the execution of decisions regarding the results of assessments and oversight; 5) assessing the quality of administrative services provided by state bodies and public administration bodies, as well as other entities involved in financial relations, and carrying out control and supervisory functions regarding the progress of task implementation in accordance with current legislation; 6) identifying ways to optimise public finance management standards and developing uniform standards for the public finance control system (Petrychuk, 2022, p. 479).

The entities involved in public finance control are public authorities and their officials who are vested with regulatory and legal powers to monitor, analyse, and verify the legality and effectiveness of the management of public financial resources. The system of entities is classified by functional purpose and can be represented as follows (Table 1).

Thus, the role of law enforcement agencies in implementing state financial control is to detect, prevent and investigate economic crimes, bring perpetrators to justice and ensure compensation for losses incurred by the state.

The SSU is a pivotal institution within the system of ensuring State security, combining the functions of counter-intelligence and law enforcement. The agency plays an important role in monitoring the foreign

Table 1

System of bodies exercising financial control in Ukraine

Type of control	Key bodies	Scope of authority
Supreme audit	Accounting Chamber, Verkhovna Rada	External audit of the budget, exercise of parliamentary oversight functions.
Executive oversight	State Audit Service, State Tax Service, State Customs Service, State Treasury Service	Oversight of resource use, administration of taxes and customs duties, oversight of settlement and payment transactions.
Specialised monitoring	State Financial Monitoring Service, National Bank of Ukraine, National Securities and Stock Market Commission	Countering ML/TF/PWMD, identification and freezing of foreign assets of sanctioned individuals, ensuring the stability of the banking system.
Law enforcement oversight	Security Service of Ukraine, National Police, Economic Security Bureau, State Bureau of Investigations, prosecutorial authorities, judicial system	Investigation of economic crimes, conducting operational and investigative activities, and ensuring justice in the financial sector.

Source: created by the authors based on the Ukrainian legislation

economic sector, preventing illegal foreign economic transactions, and ensuring systematic counteraction to cross-border crime. The following priority areas of work have been identified: the combating of the illicit trafficking of weapons and narcotics, human trafficking, and the disruption of criminal schemes in the land relations sector that pose a threat to national security. The Security Service of Ukraine is charged with the prevention, detection, suppression, and investigation of crimes against peace and the security of humanity, terrorism, corruption, and organised criminal activity in the spheres of governance and the economy. The Service is also responsible for addressing other unlawful acts that directly threaten Ukraine's vital interests.

This is confirmed by the list of the SSU's powers set forth in the relevant law. Specifically, this law enforcement agency is required to:

1) To carry out information and analytical work with a view to ensuring the effective conduct of the internal and external activities of Ukraine's state and administrative bodies, and to address issues relating to defence, socio-economic development, scientific and technological progress, environmental protection and other matters concerning Ukraine's national security.

2) To detect, prevent and investigate criminal offences which, by law, fall within the remit of the Security Service of Ukraine, and to conduct pre-trial investigations into such offences; to track down persons who are in hiding in connection with the commission of such criminal offences.

3) To carry out counter-intelligence measures with a view to preventing, detecting, stopping and uncovering any form of intelligence or subversive activity directed against Ukraine.

4) participate in the development and implementation of measures to ensure the protection of State secrets and to monitor compliance with procedures for the accounting, storage, and use of documents and other physical media containing classified information;

5) To take measures, in accordance with the law, to prevent offences relating to national security (The Law of Ukraine "On Security Service of Ukraine" of 13.12.2025, No. 2229-XII).

To summarise the analysis, it can be stated that the SSU's role in ensuring the stability of the State's financial system is to implement a comprehensive set of preventive, information-analytical, operational-investigative, and counter-intelligence measures. The Service's activities are aimed at the proactive identification of threats to economic security, as well as the detection and investigation of criminal offences defined by law that infringe upon Ukraine's strategic financial interests.

For instance, the number of aggregated cases forwarded to the SSU last year was 107 (i.e., information on financial transactions that had been subject to financial monitoring and, following analysis, had raised suspicions of money laundering, proceeds of crime or the financing of terrorism, or a socially dangerous act preceding the legalisation (laundering) of proceeds of crime). Following their examination, one criminal proceeding was initiated. Meanwhile, the number of proceedings referred to court during the reporting period in which such materials were used, or which were initiated as a result of their examination, stands at 79 (State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine, 2026).

In accordance with its assigned duties, and as an entity responsible for protecting the state's financial system, the SSU may conduct pre-trial investigations under the following articles of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. Art. 201 (smuggling of cultural property and weapons); Art. 328 (disclosure of state secrets) and Art. 329 (loss of documents containing state secrets) (The Criminal Code of Ukraine).

The SSU may also conduct a pre-trial investigation under Article 209 (wilful violation of legislation on the prevention and combating of the legalisation (laundering) of proceeds of crime or the financing

of terrorism) and Article 209-1 of the Criminal Code (legalisation (laundering) of proceeds of crime), as Article 216 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of Ukraine stipulates that criminal proceedings in respect of the aforementioned criminal offences are conducted by an investigator from the authority which initiated the pre-trial investigation or which has jurisdiction over it (The Criminal Procedural Code of Ukraine).

The Security Service of Ukraine is a specially authorised state authority in the field of counter-intelligence activities. The grounds for conducting such activities include, in particular, the performance of tasks defined by law regarding counter-intelligence support for the state's economic potential, the protection of state secrets, and the vetting and screening of individuals applying for access to such secrets. The Security Service of Ukraine also provides information and analytical support to state authorities regarding threats to Ukraine's national security (The Law of Ukraine "On Counter-Intelligence Activities" of 31.03.2023, No. 374-IV).

Through its counter-intelligence activities, the SSU safeguards the state's financial system by:

- identifying, warning of and preventing threats to Ukraine's financial system;
- identifying and apprehending individuals who pose a threat to Ukraine's financial system, and suppressing their illegal activities;
- obtaining information about events or actions (or inaction) that pose a threat to Ukraine's financial system (Riezniak, 2016, p. 78).

In addition, the relevant legislation grants the SSU the right to carry out operational and investigative activities, which involve overt and covert searches, intelligence gathering and counter-intelligence measures performed using operational and technical means.

Operational and investigative activities are primarily conducted by the following operational units of the Security Service: counter-intelligence, special units for combating corruption and organised crime, combating terrorism and protecting participants in criminal proceedings and law enforcement officers, and units for counter-intelligence protection of the State economy.

The grounds for carrying out operational and investigative measures include, in particular:

- 1) The existence of sufficient information, which requires verification through investigative measures and means, concerning: crimes at the planning stage; persons who are preparing to commit a crime or who may be involved in the commission of a serious or particularly serious crime, the time and place of which are unknown; persons who are in hiding from the pre-trial investigation authorities, an investigating judge or a court, or who are evading the serving of a criminal sentence.

- 2) The need to gather intelligence in the interests of public and national security.

- 3) The availability of summary reports from the central executive body responsible for implementing state policy on the prevention and combating of the legalisation (laundering) of proceeds of crime or the financing of terrorism, obtained in accordance with the procedure laid down by law.

- 4) The need to obtain information for the purpose of detecting, preventing and putting an end to corruption offences (The Law of Ukraine "On Operative Investigation Activity" of 09.08.2024, No. 2135-XII).

The establishment of the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) was a significant step towards modernising Ukraine's law enforcement system and establishing an effective anti-corruption framework. The Bureau's primary focus is identifying and investigating crimes committed by individuals in positions of high political office, including judges and law enforcement officials.

The SBI's institutional autonomy is intended to ensure the impartiality and high quality of pre-trial investigations. At the same time, the establishment of this institution fulfils Ukraine's international obligations with regard to implementing the European model of justice. This ensures a clear division of powers: the investigative function has been removed from the prosecution authorities, allowing them to focus on procedural oversight and advocacy.

Although the SBI does not directly belong to the State financial control system, it plays a key role in jurisdictional activities in this area. The Bureau is responsible for investigating criminal offences committed by specific individuals within the financial and budgetary systems, including high-ranking officials and law enforcement representatives. As part of its remit, the SBI responds to instances of abuse previously identified by specialised oversight agencies.

Thus, the State Bureau of Investigation is tasked with preventing, detecting, ceasing, uncovering, and investigating criminal offences committed by high-ranking officials (the President, whose powers have been suspended; the Prime Minister; members of the Cabinet of Ministers; ministers and their deputies; members of parliament; the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights; the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, his First Deputy, and Deputy; the Director of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine; the Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine and his deputies; the Head of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption and his deputy; the Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, his First Deputy, and Deputy); judges of the Constitutional Court and courts of general jurisdiction, and law enforcement officials (officials of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine and the Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office, employees of the National Police

of Ukraine), as well as all military criminal offences, except those provided for in Article 422 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (jurisdiction over which belongs to the Security Service of Ukraine) (State Bureau of Investigation, 2026).

The State Bureau of Investigation, in accordance with the tasks assigned to it, prevents and solves criminal offences whose investigation falls within its jurisdiction; conducts operational-investigative activities and pre-trial investigations of criminal offences falling within its jurisdiction, as well as the search for persons who are evading investigation and trial for committing such offences; takes measures to recover losses and damages caused to the State and ensures the possibility of confiscating funds and other property obtained as a result of criminal offences; takes measures to identify unjustified assets and collect evidence of their unjustified nature in accordance with the procedures and within the limits of competence established by law; takes measures to repatriate to Ukraine from abroad funds and other property obtained as a result of criminal offences falling under the jurisdiction of the State Bureau of Investigation (The Law of Ukraine "On State Bureau of Investigations" of 25.10.2024, No. 794-VIII).

When carrying out its duties, the State Bureau of Investigation collaborates with the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine, the Security Service of Ukraine and the Economic Security Bureau of Ukraine. It also works with the central executive authority responsible for implementing state policy in the area of preventing and combating the legalisation (laundering) of funds obtained through criminal activity or the financing of terrorism. For example, Order No. 836/888 sets out the procedure for the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine to provide the State Bureau of Investigations with additional aggregated materials, and for the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine to receive information on the progress of their review. Thus, the State Financial Monitoring Service conducts a comprehensive analysis of information on financial transactions to verify suspicions regarding their connection to the laundering of criminal proceeds, the financing of terrorism (ML/TF/PFI) or the commission of other predicate offences (socially dangerous unlawful acts preceding money laundering). If sufficient grounds are found to confirm the criminal nature of the transactions, financial intelligence compiles and transmits, based on jurisdiction, summarised (additional summarised) materials to the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) (The Order of the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine and the State Bureau of Investigations "On the Approval of the Procedure for the Provision by the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine of Summarised (Additional Summarised) Materials to the State Bureau of Investigations and for

the Receipt by the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine of Information on the Progress of Their Consideration").

Thus, in accordance with this order, 114 case files were transferred to the State Bureau of Investigation in 2025. Of these, 59 were aggregated materials and 55 were additional aggregated materials. Following a review of these files, four criminal proceedings were initiated, and the files were also used in three further cases (State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine, 2026).

The regulatory framework for the SBI's interaction with supervisory authorities is set out in Article 22(6) of the relevant Law. According to these provisions, the National Bank of Ukraine, the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine, the State Property Fund of Ukraine, state financial control bodies and other supervisory agencies must assist in detecting crimes within the State Bureau of Investigation's jurisdiction. In the course of performing their supervisory functions, these bodies are required to identify actions by entities that demonstrate the signs of criminal offences or create conditions for their commission. All identified information and analytical data must be promptly transmitted to the SBI for further use in measures to prevent, detect, and conduct pre-trial investigations of the relevant offences.

Consequently, financial control authorities are obliged to inform the SBI of any detected violations. Accordingly, the SBI, as the pre-trial investigation authority, is obligated to conduct a pre-trial investigation of the criminal offence, including a financial investigation. It should be noted separately that a financial investigation is generally understood to mean the collection, recording, comprehensive review, and analysis of financial statements, as well as the tracking of financial transactions. The purpose of this is to identify any unlawful acts related to the receipt, use, or distribution of financial resources. Such unlawful acts may include forgery of securities or currency, money laundering, credit card fraud, violations of tax legislation, and so forth (Cherniavskyi et al., 2017, pp. 7–8). Meanwhile, the powers of the State Bureau of Investigation during the conduct of pre-trial investigations of criminal offences in the financial sector in accordance with the CPC of Ukraine are as follows: temporary seizure of property (Chapter 16); seizure of property (Chapter 17); conducting searches (Article 236), etc.

The analysis of the feedback mechanism implemented during the co-operation between pre-trial investigation bodies and financial control institutions warrants special attention. The coordination of actions between the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) and the State Audit Service of Ukraine provides a valuable illustration of the involvement of auditors in the process of building the evidentiary base in criminal proceedings. In particular, to document financial

violations, the SBI initiates unscheduled audits. The procedural order stipulates that the investigator must submit a substantiated motion to the court, delineating the timeframe for the control measure and appending materials that substantiate the legal basis for conducting the audit in accordance with Article 11 of the Law of Ukraine No. 2939-XII (The Law of Ukraine "On State Control Auditing Service in Ukraine" of 14.06.2025, No. 2939-XII).

5. Conclusions

The present stage of the nation's development is characterised by an increasing role for economic instruments in the management of public funds, modernisation of management methods at the national and local levels, and intensified efforts to combat corruption and violations in the budgetary sphere. These factors underline the particular importance of improving the efficiency of financial resource management. In the context of martial law, initiated by the Russian Federation, a pivotal responsibility is to safeguard the nation's economic stability and financial security. The SFC is specifically designed to ensure the protection of the state's financial interests in the use of public funds and property.

State financial control is defined as the legally regulated activity of public authorities aimed at verifying financial discipline, legality, and the effectiveness of the processes of forming and distributing public resources. The objective of such oversight is not solely limited to the direct management of state funds; it also extends to assets held by private entities that have been granted tax incentives, budget loans, or financing under state guarantees.

The role of law enforcement agencies in the implementation of State financial control consists of detecting, preventing and investigating economic crimes, bringing those responsible to justice and ensuring compensation for losses incurred by the state.

The Security Service of Ukraine (SSU) is a special-purpose State agency with law enforcement powers, whose activities are aimed at protecting national sovereignty. Within its jurisdiction, the SSU oversees the legality of foreign economic transactions and

ensures systematic counteraction against cross-border crime. The following areas of work are of particular importance: the illicit trafficking of weapons and narcotics, human trafficking, and the prevention of illegal schemes in the sphere of land relations that pose a threat to state security. It functions as a strategic entity, with the objective of ensuring the security of the financial system. It exercises its powers through information-analytical, preventive, counter-intelligence, and operational-investigative measures.

The Security Service of Ukraine's remit is further delineated by its function as a guarantor of national interests in the sphere of international co-operation, particularly in the area of foreign economic relations. It is evident that the State has been able to minimise financial risks and avoid direct losses to the tune of billions of U.S. dollars on an annual basis, a feat attributable to the Service's systematic efforts to prevent economic threats.

The State Bureau of Investigations, in its capacity as a pre-trial investigative body, is entrusted with the responsibility of conducting criminal proceedings, particularly in the form of specialized financial investigations. The Bureau utilises a range of procedural tools for the detection of financial crimes, including enforcement measures such as searches, temporary seizures, and asset freezes. The responsibility for detecting crimes under the jurisdiction of the SBI falls to the state financial control bodies and other supervisory agencies. In the course of performing their supervisory functions, they are required to identify actions by entities that exhibit signs of criminal offences or create conditions for their commission. All identified information and analytical data must be promptly transmitted to the SBI for further use in measures to prevent, detect, and conduct pre-trial investigations of relevant offences.

An important aspect of how the system operates is the reverse interaction mechanism: the SBI incorporates the capabilities of financial control bodies into the evidentiary process. This is demonstrated by the involvement of regulatory agency specialists in conducting audits and inspections, the results of which form the basis of evidence in criminal proceedings.

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