SCIENTIFIC FUNDAMENTALS OF THE THEORY OF PROTECTION OF THE STATE BORDER OF UKRAINE AS A SPECIALIZED BRANCH OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

Ukraine's European integration aspirations and worldwide globalization processes affect the border guard policy, and that requires finding ways to increase the level of security of the state border as a key attribute of its sovereignty, territorial integrity and an important component of Ukraine's national security. The objective need to systematize knowledge about the state border protection in the form of fundamental scientific work has been caused by the fact that until now the theory problems solving was carried out on separate topics and issues that were not linked to a holistic and logical system.

The protection and guarding of the state border as one of the key areas of ensuring national security is also the subject of research by such scholars as O. S. Androschuk, V. I.Baratiuk, O. A. Binkovsky, O. V. Borovyk, I. S. Katerynchuk, V.A. Kyrylenko, O. M. Shynkaruk and others. In addition, considerable potential for adaptation to the border guard scientific sphere has certain provisions of the theory of national (including military) security that have been developed by well-known scientists V. Yu. Bogdanovych, V.P. Gorbulin, Yu. A. Husak, Yu. G. Danyk, S. P. Yarosh and others.

The purpose of the research is to substantiate the scientific fundamentals of the theory of the protection of the state border of Ukraine as an independent branch of knowledge. In today's conditions, the important task of the SBGSU is to ensure the effective implementation of the policy in the sphere of the protection of the state border as well as the protection of the sovereign rights of Ukraine in its exclusive (marine) economic zone.

The results of the practical activity of the SBGSU, the analysis of fundamental scientific works and regulatory documents have made it possible to
identify contradictions in the pragmatic, organizational, legal and scientific spheres that make it impossible to further develop the SBGSU and to effectively implement the policy in the field of the state border protection, as well as the protection of the sovereign rights of Ukraine in its exclusive (marine) economic zone.

Elimination of these contradictions is a necessity for ensuring the effective implementation of the policy in the field of the state border protection, as well as the protection of the sovereign rights of Ukraine in its exclusive (marine) economic zone. In turn, this necessitates the formulation and solution of an important scientific problem, which is the development of methodological bases (scientific theories, concepts, methods, methodology) for the protection of the state border by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine in modern conditions. This work will determine the place and role of the theory of the protection of the state border in the system of scientific knowledge to establish its relative autonomy as a branch of knowledge. To do this, it is necessary to realize that the protection of the state border is a complex socio-political phenomenon, and how it differs from other activities, to find out the relationship between theory and practice, to deal with the structure of scientific knowledge and the criteria for the formation of scientific theory and special branches of knowledge.

The presence of its object and subject of research is the first critical criterion for the formation of the theory. The protection of the state border of the state is an objective reality, which is caused, firstly, by the fact that the state border exists objectively; it has been and will be an attribute of the state as long as it exists; and secondly, by the fact that the protection of the interests directly on the state border is an objective need of Ukrainian statehood. Taking into account its specific orientation, protection of the state border is objectively different from other activities of the state border of Ukraine protection. Taking into account the foregoing, one can conclude that the object of the theory of protection of the state border, which is subject to theoretical and practical study, is the protection of the state border of Ukraine as a social and political phenomenon. The second criterion
for the formation of the theory is the presence of a conceptual apparatus. The third criterion for the formation of a theory is the establishment of a fundamental law inherent in its subject. The fourth criterion for the formation of the theory of the protection of the state border is the existence of basic principles.

Thus, the theory of protection of the state border of Ukraine is a system of views on the nature, patterns of protection of the state border of Ukraine, ways to increase its efficiency, features of the development of the SBGSU, as well as on the forms and methods of operational and service activities of the SBGSU bodies. It is a specialized, separate branch of scientific knowledge, which is in close dialectical unity with other branches and the theory of national security.

Prospects for further research encompass the structure, scientific problems, research methods and tasks of the theory of protection of the state border of Ukraine. Formation of theoretical bases of the theory of protection of the state border of Ukraine at the present stage.