

Social Potential of Citizens' Participation in the Activities of People's Teams: Regional Aspect

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Abstract. *The article was written in order to identify the key areas for expanding participation of the citizens in the activities of people's squads at the regional level: in the Khabarovsk territory. Empirical basis of the presented analysis was the mass and expert sociological surveys, individual expert interviews. The student community of the region acted as the main object of the study. The author found that the social potential of the student community of the Khabarovsk territory to participate in the people's squads is extensive, as evidenced by the consistently high level of trust in the police, as well as the degree of willingness of young people to come to the aid of people whose rights are violated in public places. A change in this potential can occur under the influence of a number of identified factors. These include ways of participation of potential members of the people's squads in the prevention and suppression of an illegal act, the form of assistance to the police, the gender of the respondents, the specialty (field of training) of students, the nature and channels of coverage of the activities of police officers. Basic condition for increasing the number of people wishing to join the ranks of people's squads should be an increase in the level of confidence in the police. The key to such growth, according to the students surveyed, is to increase the efficiency and quality of work of police officers, which is achieved, among other things, through the development of skills of respectful, correct communication with citizens. In turn, the law enforcement officers who took part in the study indicate that the effectiveness of their activities, first of all, depends on the degree of staffing of the departments of the internal affairs bodies with personnel.*

Keywords: *people's squads, social potential, student community, police*

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