

## MODERNIZATION OF THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PREVENTION OF YOUTH OFFENSES IS A REQUIREMENT OF THE PERIOD

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**Annotation:** *the thesis covers the theoretical–practical basis for transferring the Prevention of youth offenses from the traditional "reactive" model (punishment after an incident) to the proactive, risk-based and "scientific conclusion—recommendation—result" logic within the framework of resolution PD-1 of January 5, 2026. Social Prevention, which relies on digital transformation and community-family-education, as well as restorative mechanisms, are justified as tools to increase institutional efficiency.*

**Keywords:** *youth offenses; social prevention; PD-1; proactive approach; risk-factors; "e-social Prevention"; "e-conflict Family"; evidence-based analysis; restorative justice; diversion; social rehabilitation.*

The decision of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan "on additional measures aimed at introducing a holistic system of work in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic", adopted on January 5, 2026 at a new stage of Youth Policy and strategy for ensuring public safety in the Republic of Uzbekistan, PD-1. The decision sets the tasks of drastically reducing crime through targeted preventive measures as the central focus of prevention, as well as analyzing the "original factors" of crimes committed by young people on the basis of a scientific approach and establishing mechanisms for premature prevention.

An important methodological innovation of this document is that it creates a normative "framework" for transferring preventive activities from a traditional "reactive" (application of measures of influence after the event) model to a proactive (early prevention, risk-based intervention, prognosis) model. This transition is first institutionalized through the "scientific conclusion — recommendation — result" principle enshrined in the decision. Also, in crimes committed by women and young people, a targeted scientific and practical study should be carried out on the crime scene, followed by effective organizational and legal measures.[1]

At the same time, it is not a secret that in the context of globalization and digital transformation, the determinants of youth offenses become multifaceted. In particular, along with traditional factors such as family environment dysfunction, interruptions in education and employment trajectories, risks in the digital environment (online manipulation, cybersecurity's "victim-performer" chain, deviant online behavior models, information Impact) are increasing in importance. This trend indicates the need to organize youth work not only within the framework of a criminal justice reaction, but also in the logic of premature intervention and multi-sector (multisectoral) prevention. The global relevance of such an approach is also reflected, in particular, in the data of the World Health Organization. According to this information, the scale of annual murders among 15-29 years old is high globally, making the issue of the safety of this age category one of the objects of complex prevention.

Also, the institutional-practical mechanism of the PD-1 decision" on additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic is also characterized by the establishment of a diagnostic-intervention-assessment cycle in prevention. In accordance with the resolution, in 2026, the territories will be nominally attached to responsible leaders and institutions; in particular, it is established that neighborhoods that remain in the "red" category for three years will be attached to educational and scientific organizations of law enforcement agencies. This norm aims to reduce the break between theory and practice by shaping preventive decisions on the basis of analysis and empirical data that rely on evidence (evidence-based) rather than on "intuitive" or purely administrative management instruments.

This mechanism can also be assessed as scientifically-theoretically consistent with a "problem-oriented approach". The SARA (Scanning-Analysis-Response-Assessment) model, widely used within Problem-Oriented Policing in foreign practice, defines problem identification, causal factor analysis, application of targeted measures, and outcome assessment as a systematic management cycle. The principle of this decision "scientific conclusion — recommendation — result" is close to this logic:

1. scientific conclusion-opening of the criminogenic profile and risk Factors of the neighborhood on the basis of evidence;
2. recommendation-roadmaps for preventive subjects, standard operation algorithms, addressable interventions;
3. the result is an assessment of efficiency not only by the "volume of work", but also by a decrease in risk factors and changes in the dynamics of crime.

The decision is also methodologically significant in that the direction of digital transformation is set separately: the introduction of modern information and communication and artificial intelligence technologies to the premature prevention of violations in the neighborhoods, as well as the widespread introduction of an electronic control system over the effectiveness of measures taken by the subjects of social prevention. This, in turn, enhances the possibility of finding a decision on the principle of "unified information — unified analysis — unified accountability" in preventive management, reducing subjectivity in decision-making and measuring the consequentiality of interventions.

Finally, the logic of this modernization is also consistent with international standards. The UN Guidelines for the Prevention of juvenile delinquency define prevention as an integral part of the Prevention of general crime in society, noting that the participation of the whole society, especially those programs that rely on education, family and community, is a priority. It is also argued that formal social control institutions should be used as a "last resort". Therefore, the practice of attaching scientific organizations to "red" neighborhoods of the PD-1 decision "on additional measures aimed at introducing a holistic system of targeted work in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic" can be assessed at the national level as a systemic step based on evidence, aimed at institutional strengthening of complex and collective preventive culture.[2]

Indeed, today it is difficult to imagine the Prevention of youth offenses in the XXI century outside of digital technologies. Because some of the youth criminogenic risks have shifted from the traditional social environment (family, education, employment) to the digital environment (online deviations, cybermanipulation, threatening effects on the internet), and the prevention mechanism should also be based on scientific-analytical and digital monitoring in accordance with this transform. In this regard, the decision of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan PD-1 of January 5, 2026 established as a priority the task of strengthening preventive activities through modern information and communication and artificial intelligence technologies, as well as electronic control tools, along with the institutional reconfiguration of the system of ensuring a safe environment in the neighborhoods. Also, by this decision, the requirement to "set quarterly address measures in the section of neighborhoods" and to attach the leaders responsible for their implementation serves to exclude prevention from the general propaganda format and transfer it to the address (targeted) management model .

Also, one of the important innovations of this decision is the task of introducing the Information System "e — social prevention", capable of collecting, analyzing and monitoring information about "conflict families" in order to prematurely prevent crimes committed within the framework of family-marriage relations. This norm strengthens the principle of taking preventive decisions not on the basis of intuitive-administrative decisions, but on the basis of data and analysis.

From a scientific point of view, this approach is in harmony with the ideas of "data-driven policing/ data-driven decision making", which are widely discussed in international practice. And the identification of these risk factors becomes the main decision-making infrastructure of the database and analytical tools in the correct allocation of resources and targeted planning of intervention. In this sense, the "e-social prevention" system shapes the digital outline of prevention in national practice, giving impetus to the prioritization of evidence-based criteria in the decision-making process. In fact, today the family environment occupies a special place in the determinants of youth offenses. In particular, in the first section of the decision "On additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic", called "goals and priorities", the task of "analyzing the original factors of crimes committed by women and young people in the framework of Family-Life relations and on the basis of scientific logics of this modernization is also consistent with international standards. The UN Guidelines for the Prevention of juvenile delinquency define prevention as an integral part of the Prevention of general crime in society, noting that the participation of the whole society, especially those programs that rely on education, family and community, is a priority. It is also argued that formal social control institutions should be used as a "last resort". Therefore, the practice of attaching scientific organizations to "red" neighborhoods of the PD-1 decision "On additional measures aimed at introducing a holistic system of targeted work in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic" can be assessed at the national level as a systemic step based on evidence, aimed at institutional strengthening of complex and collective preventive culture.

The same task is also decided as a means of practical provision

It is not a secret that in the system "e-social prevention" measures were established to introduce the module "e-disputed family", as well as to directly integrate the module in question with the courts. This means, on the one hand, the systematic collection and monitoring of information on conflict families, and on the other hand, the institutionalization of interagency information exchange. As a result, the subject of

prevention (for example, the preventive inspector, the responsible in the neighborhood) will be able to prematurely see the risk group and apply a targeted intervention plan with the family and children.

Scientific-methodologically, there is a potential that brings this mechanism closer to "Early warning" Systems. This makes it possible to anticipate recurrent conflict and escalation indicators by regularly collecting data, analyzing them in a risk-factor cross section (of course, at this stage, personal data protection, legal framework and ethical restrictions must be strictly ensured). The neighborhood also clearly defines the task of creating a digital communication infrastructure between the preventive inspector and the population. This indicates the need to develop and popularize the mobile application "my Inspector", which by November 1, 2026 allows citizens to communicate with the preventive inspector online, send photo-audio-video and "messages of concern", as well as evaluate the activities of the inspector.[3]

With this decision, the use of the mobile application is seen as a practical digital platform of the principle of Police (community policing), which relies not only on information exchange, but also on cooperation with the team. This serves to increase the accountability of the subjects of prevention, the speed of the appeal of the population, the possibility of fixing facts and the mechanism for assessing activities. It also sets as a priority the widespread implementation of ICT and artificial intelligence technologies, as well as an electronic control system over the effectiveness of measures taken in prevention, in order to prevent violations in public places in Mahalla areas prematurely. At the same time, the implementation of Territorial "Road Maps" is provided for continuous "strict control", including through an electronic control platform.

At this point, it is worth considering separately that the effectiveness of the prevention of youth offenses depends on the correct construction of the model of work "with whom" (object) and "in what institutional order" (cooperative of subjects). Today, the issue is approached in two directions in the PD-1 decision "On additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic". These are:

- a) quarter planning of address work with risk-factors;
- b) aimed at the introduction of electronic control and a strict interrogation mechanism over the effectiveness of the activities of preventive subjects.

Also, today, each neighborhood has defined the task of developing and focusing on the implementation of quarterly address measures with "factors negatively affecting the criminogenic situation". This rule scientifically corresponds to the logic of risk

management, in which factors are first determined, then interventions are selected, then the result is evaluated.

At the same time, it is desirable that risk-factors be interpreted in the following blocks. These are:

- family-social factors (disputed family, decreased control, upbringing problems);
- educational-employment trajectory factors (interruption, unemployment);
- space-infrastructure factors (lack of control in public places, "hotspots");
- digital-information factors (deviations in cyberspace, online manipulation), this block can be justified by connecting it with ICT/AI and electronic control tasks in the decision.

The limitation of the reactive approach, in which "punishment" is a priority in the Prevention of youth offenses, is also emphasized in international standards. The UN guidelines for the prevention of violations among minors (Riyadh Guidelines) put forward the idea of organizing prevention in close connection with Community-Family-Educational Institutions, not over-involvement of the child in the criminal justice system and strengthening social prevention.[4]

In this regard, the decision of PD-1 "on additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic"

Paragraph 11.1 defines specific mechanisms for working with young people in the "heavy category". This category includes young people under probationary supervision, with severe upbringing, preventive accounting, and pre-trial. When working with them, the following "five steps" strategy applies. These are:

At this point, it is worth noting for comparative analysis that today in some states (for example, in the Republic of Korea) there are official urban programs and analytical materials that the solutions of "intellectual CCTV" begin to use the functions of detecting abnormal (suspicious) movements in public places and warning the operator. Also discussed in the UK state is the practice of testing AI-analytic CCTV and real-time risk detection systems (including in transport infrastructure). This suggests that there are legal-ethical risks (proportionality, transparency, oversight) along with technical possibilities in digital prevention. Therefore, the introduction of AI and electronic control in the national system should be built in a balance of efficiency + legal guarantees.

1. Vocational training: training of unskilled young people in professions (through "Monocentres") that meet the requirements of the labor market.

2. Teaching foreign languages: preparing young people who want to go to migration for legal and safe migration.
3. Employment provision: placement or subsidization of vacancies through the base "E-social prevention".
4. Meaningful Organization of leisure: involvement in sports, culture and dog clubs.
5. Socio-household assistance: medical examination, provision of material assistance.

Unfortunately, as of January 28, 2025, statistics show that there are still no significant results in these areas. This meant the need to fully implement the system into faster practice and strengthen enforcement discipline.

The effectiveness of these tasks, in turn, the "neighborhood seven" (chairman, assistant governor, youth leader, Women's activist, preventive inspector, taxpayer, social worker) in the neighborhoods is the main driving force of the new system. In particular, the youth leader is assigned the following tasks:

- Formation of youth balance and identification of young people of the "red" category.
- \* Organization of targeted activities within the framework of "social Prevention Week"
- Material incentives for youth leaders at the expense of the local budget in neighborhoods where the criminogenic situation has stabilized. This mechanism serves to increase the productivity of youth leaders .

From the above analyzes, today it is recognized that in the effective organization of the Prevention of youth offenses in New Uzbekistan, the restriction on relying only on a "punishment-oriented reactive" approach is recognized both in international standards and in the logic of national reforms. In this sense, resolution PD-1 of January 5, 2026 sets out mechanisms aimed at the early prevention of violations in neighborhoods, targeted work and the complex organization of social prevention, creating a normative-political framework for strengthening the paradigm of prevention "socialization–rehabilitation–intervention".

Restorative justice theory states that compensation for damages caused by an infraction, restoration of the victim's interest, and ensuring the offender's reintegration into society provide a stable outcome in reducing crime. The basic guidelines in the UN system determine whether restorative programs can be applied at different stages of the criminal justice system (in accordance with national legislation), while ensuring discretion, security, fairness, and procedural guarantees are required.

It follows from this that the institutional development of elements of a restorative approach in the conditions of Uzbekistan in the following three directions is desirable. These are:

First of all, the strengthening of the institution of reconciliation in the country (CC 661) with restorative content in the section of minors and the widespread introduction of mediation. In this case, the Institute for decriminalization on the basis of reconciliation in national legislation is established by Article 661 of the Criminal Code. From a scientific and practical point of view, it is necessary to enrich it with restorative content so that the work of minors does not remain at the level of "formal reconciliation" of this institution. In this, it is not the reconciliation with the victim itself that should be ensured, but in a comprehensive manner, compensation for the damage caused, apology, a behavior correction plan and orientation to social rehabilitation.

It is proposed to supplement article 661 of CC with new provisions of the following content:

1. "When a reconciliation is applied to a minor, the court (or the body in charge of the proceedings) sets the terms of the reconciliation in relation to the social rehabilitation plan; the rehabilitation plan is approved with the participation of the probationary body and social services."
2. "In cases where reconciliation is used, probationary control and psychological/social corrective measures are intended as mandatory elements in order to reduce the risk of re-infraction of a minor (risk-based approach)."

The execution mechanism of this proposal is carried out as follows. That is, the systematic use of explanations on the procedural standards on reconciliation (application, discretion, victim interest, evidence of damages) in order to uniformize judicial practice in reconciliation cases.

Secondly, the introduction of diversionary (diversionary) measures as a "formal program" on a Republican scale. In this, it is a mechanism aimed at reducing stigmatization and preventing re-infraction by extracting young people from the orbit of formal criminal justice (prosecution-judicial-punishment) at an early stage and applying educational and socio-rehabilitation measures to it. The launch of the innovation project in the Chilanzor District of the city of Tashkent as a pilot practice on diversion and restorative justice in Uzbekistan was noted in the Official Information of Unicef. [5]

- In harmony with the implementation of the PD-1 decision "on additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic "(taking into account the presence

of an interdepartmental coordination architecture), it is proposed to adopt an interagency regulation" on the diversion program for Youth Affairs". The charter requires the following to be strictly defined:

1. cases in which diversion is applied (severity of Act, personality characteristics, victim presence, rhizolocity);
2. "alternative package" content. This includes public affairs, training, psychological correction, work with the family, education and professional orientation;
3. is a" case-management " algorithm, whereby direction → evaluation → intervention → monitoring → conclusion;
4. Child Rights guarantees. In this, the lawyer ensures the participation of the representative, voluntary, security, non-discrimination.

Thirdly, "institutional disconnection" (Education-Labor–family–re–entry into the community) increases the risk of re-infraction in adolescent youth returning from a penal institution or leaving a specialized boarding school. Therefore, the development of social rehabilitation centers as networks, which perform the function of a" bridge", is a strategic link of prevention.

In the system of the Ministry of Health, at the regional or district level, an exemplary regulation "on the Center for social rehabilitation for adolescents" was adopted, in which:

- a) package of services (psychological assistance, return to education, vocational guidance, employment, family counseling);
- B) "prevention–probation–education–social service " integration;
- c) individual rehabilitation plan and monitoring on each case;
- d) indicators of the result (re-infringement, return to education/work, repetition of disputed circumstances) should be established.

From the above scientific analyzes, it can be known that today the general conclusion on improving the Prevention of youth offenses is that the national system is moving from a reactive model relying on "punishment after the incident "based on the PD-1 decision "on additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in Republican neighborhoods" to a proactive model In this model, the priority areas of prevention are early identification of risk factors (family, education-employment, Territorial-Infrastructure, digital environment), decision-making based on information through "e-social prevention", targeted work with "heavy category" youth in case-management procedures, as well as the institutionalization of restorative mechanisms (reconciliation, mediation, diversion) and social rehabilitation. The effect of these measures should not be due to the number

of events, but to a decrease in re-infraction, return to education/employment, and a decrease in the recurrence of family conflicts.

**List of used sources:**

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2. // <https://www.lex.uz/docs/7973611> Subparagraph "B "of the first section" goals and priorities "of the decision" on additional measures aimed at implementing a holistic address system in the direction of creating a safe environment in the neighborhoods of the Republic "
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4. United Nations General Assembly. *United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (The Riyadh Guidelines)*, annex to Resolution 45/112, 14 December 1990, paras. 5–6, 9–13.
5. *Изоҳ: “жазолаш” эмас, қайта ижтимоийлаштириши ва барвақт интервенцияга устуворлик бериб, ишни судгача ёки судсиз ҳал қилиши йўли. Note: it is not "punishing", it is the way to decide a case before or without trial, giving priority to re-socialization and premature intervention.*