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#### CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS WITH THE INVOLVEMENT OF MINORS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

Children who are in conflict or in contact with the law equally need special treatment, taking into account the peculiarities of psychophysical conditions inherent in their age, social status and so on. First of all, the world attention was drawn to the issues of an observance of the rights of minors who came into conflict with the law. The UN Minimum Standard Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice, the so-called “Beijing Rules”, the UN Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of Freedom, the so-called “Havana Rules”, the UN Guiding Principles for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency, the so-called “Riyadh Guidelines: have been considered.

Attention has also been paid to the specific status of child victims and child witnesses to crime and their protection (UN Guiding Principles on the Judiciary in Child Victims and Child Witnesses to Crime, Council of Europe Convention on the

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Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, the so-called Lanzarote Convention).

Later, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe developed the Guiding Principles on Child-Friendly Justice, with an emphasis on the specifics of interviewing children involved in the process. Among them: appropriate specialization of police officials, specialization of courts, creation and use of special premises, special methods with the involvement of individual specialists, minimization of interrogations, etc.

Following the ratification of the above-mentioned conventions, our state has undertaken a number of commitments to protect the rights of children, in particular children involved in criminal proceedings. Thus, Ukrainian legislators should take into account international standards when developing new norms in this area or when improving existing norms. And the executive, in particular the police and the judiciary, are obliged to adhere to these standards at all stages of criminal proceedings.

**Keywords:** criminal proceedings, juveniles, international standards, child-friendly proceedings.

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