Peculiarities of Interpersonal Communicative Interaction of Police Officers

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ABSTRACT

The article highlights the research results of the peculiarities of interpersonal communicative interaction of police officers. It is noted that it is the patrol force police units, which in the process of their service activities on ensuring public safety and providing police services, are most in contact with citizens and the success of law enforcement functions largely depends on their communicative potential. Knowledge of the peculiarities of police communication will help psychologists and personnel officers to carry out professional selection of police officers properly and reasonably appoint persons to positions within police units. This research was based on the use of sufficiently reliable and valid psychodiagnostic methods, which allowed identifying professionally-oriented peculiarities of police communication within the vectors of dominance and benevolence, as well as extroversion and introversion, benevolence and aggression. Bipolar indicators of communication were qualitatively and quantitatively assessed during the research, compared with the assessments of experts, on the basis of which a conclusion was made about the communicative capabilities of the police officer. It is shown that the use of these methods gives a very objective and comprehensive description of the style of interpersonal behaviour of police officers, which is manifested during the interaction within the unit’s team, as well as in the process of communication between law enforcement officers and citizens. The communicative mechanisms underlying the relationship between police officers and colleagues as well as citizens are illustrated, and the correlations between the scales of psychodiagnostic techniques are presented. It is concluded that the study of communicative peculiarities of police officers will help to properly form a team of police units, help law enforcement employees to understand their strengths and weaknesses in the process of communication, promote self-study and self-development of subjects of communication, as well as improve the whole system of psychological support and psychological follow-up of police officers during their service activities.

Keywords: Communication, Interpersonal Interaction, Police Officer, Service Activities, Professional Selection, Professional Self-actualization.

1. Introduction

The effective performance of the National Police involves close interaction and communication between police officers within units, as well as communication with various groups of citizens. The organization of successful group communication is an important task of the patrol force police units, which is the most numerous component of police bodies and units that constantly interacts and cooperates with citizens in the process of service tasks performance. The daily activities of the patrol police take place in front of the public.
Therefore the authority of the police largely depends on the behaviour of its employees in communicating with people.

Group internal (corporate) and external communications are an integral part of a police unit functioning. Successful professional activities of police officers are impossible without awareness of the psychological patterns of formation, development and functioning of the group by each police officer, and especially police manager. Police officers combined in units can successfully solve the tasks assigned to them only on the basis of successful group communication.

Psychological aspects of the organization of group activities are very important for the professional activities of police officers. Scientists have established that a group is a human community that stands out on the basis of certain features in a single space and time; it is an association of people that exists and interacts in a joint activity, where participants enter into business and interpersonal relationships. A small group is traditionally considered as a holistic system, which consists of a set of relatively independent elements i.e. people; the properties of the group as a system are not reduced to a simple sum of the properties of the persons composing it, and it has a “group face” within its activity; the interaction of people is the main analysis object in the study of small groups. To solve specific tasks of police activities, a small contact group of 5-9 people is considered optimal, where real interaction of all members and direct management is possible.

The patrol force police units belong to high-level groups, or teams – groups with a positive social orientation, common value orientations, high level of cohesion and psychological compatibility of its participants.

The diagnostic method of T. Leary based on the theoretical ideas of H. Sullivan has been widely used since the 70s of the last century in order to study the features of interpersonal relationships in groups. According to Sullivan, the process of socialization of the individual compatibility involves his identification with the expectations of people from the immediate environment. The individual forms a certain style of interpersonal behaviour in the process of interaction with society. Realizing the need for communication, the individual accommodates his behaviour with the assessments of significant others, both consciously and unconsciously, on the basis of identification mechanisms. T. Leary systematized the empirical material in the form of eight general variants of interpersonal behaviour on the basis of this conceptual approach. Graphically, they are presented in the form of a closed continuum with the characteristics of different types of interpersonal behaviour around its perimeter. This model is orthogonal, because the essentially opposite options are located at diametrically opposite points of the circle. A questionnaire was developed according to different types of interpersonal behaviour, which is a set of short personal characteristics (128 items in total) – Leary’s Interpersonal Behaviour Circle (LIBC) (Halyan, 2011; Sobchik, 2003). The Big Five Inventory (BFI) has also been widely used to reveal psychodiagnostical peculiarities of interpersonal interaction for the past decade and a half. In 2008, John O.P., Naumann L. P., & Soto C. J. developed an abbreviated version of the questionnaire, which consists of 44 personal characteristics and allows you to assess the personality based on five polar factors (Extraversion vs Introversion; Neuroticism vs Emotional Stability; Agreeableness vs Antagonism; Conscientiousness vs Lack of Direction; Openness vs Closedness to Experience). The practical use of the BFI by psychologists does not require any permitting procedures (John, Naumann, & Soto, 2008).

The topicality of the outlined issues is enhanced by the fact that these tools are rarely used for the purpose of psychological diagnosis of interpersonal relations among the personnel of police units. In our opinion, these techniques are very informative for researching the peculiarities of interpersonal communication. For example, the LIBC allows you to study the dominant types of interpersonal behaviour of the patrol force officers in your unit, as well as to establish the leading options for interpersonal relationships in communication with citizens. The BFI significantly complements the data obtained on the basis of the LIBC use, as it informs the psychologist about the degree of sociability of the police officer, his openness in communication, ability to stand his ground, influence people and so on. The research of the peculiarities of interpersonal relations is important for improving effective group interaction and the effectiveness of the patrol force in general. Also, a clear understanding of the nature of interpersonal interaction within the team of the police unit provides its leader with additional opportunities for the formation of an effective team, the correct definition of the policeman role in the patrol team, the implementation of corrective psychological influence on employees as service circumstances may require.

Many researchers note that employees of the National Police solve their service missions in the process of communicating with various categories of the population. It is quite natural that the overall effectiveness of their activities depends on their ability to communicate with people, establish psychological contact, listen to people, answer their questions and obtain the necessary information. This gives reason to believe that communicative qualities are the most important element in the structure of professional skills of police officers. The analysis of recent research and publications on the subject shows that scientists have paid some attention to these issues.

Considering changes in education, special attention should be paid to the influence of the educational interaction and communication because it helps the people “to successfully implement their expertise both in the changing conditions of the modern world and in future professional activities” (Melnychuk, Rebukha, Zavgorodnia, Bloshchynskyi, 2018). Of a particular interest are the studies of (Zdaneyvch, Kruty, 2019; Bloshchynskyi, 2017).
Different aspects of communicative and personality-oriented approaches in the formation of pedagogical professionalism in higher educational institutions and overcoming communicative de-adaptation are revealed. I. Melnychuk, I. Drozdova, I. Savchak, I. Bloshchynskyi concluded that higher school instructors’ pedagogical skills need certain improvement and become a “basis of the educational strategy for the development of students’ professional training” (Melnychuk, Drozdova, Savchak, Bloshchynskyi, 2019). The communicative approach of fostering foreign language performance in a particular English class based on quasi-professional communication was substantiated by (Karpushyna, Bloshchynskyi, Zheliaskov, Chymshyr, Kolmykova, Tymofieieva, 2019).

The issues of police communication have been studied in various contexts in the field of legal psychology, in particular: in connection with the establishment of psychological contact between people in extreme communication (Alekseyev, Okhrimenko, & Drozd, 2017; Ostapovich, et., 2020); when communicating with minors and other categories of citizens (Kazmirenko, & Moiseyev, 2007; Kryvolapchuk, Kulyk, Barko, Kalynovskiy, & Kosiak, 2020; Yevdokimova, & Okhrimenko, 2020); to increase the efficiency of service communication (Barrett, Miguel, Hurd, Lueke, & Tan, 2003; Barko, Zelenyi, & Irkhin, 2009; Barko, Okhrimenko, Medvediev, Vagina, & Okhrimenko, 2020); in resolving conflicts in the professional activities of police officers (Beck, Barko, Tatarenko, 2002; Bondarenko, et., 2020; Mannapova, et., 2020); in operational and investigative activities (Fedorenko, Dotsenko, Okhrimenko, Radchenko, & Gorbienko, 2020); in the implementation of management activities, the organization of group communication (Barko, Okhrimenko, Ostapovich, Medvediev, & Sprychuk, 2020); training police officers in effective communication (Bjerregaard, & Lord, 2004; Bondarenko, Okhrimenko, Tverdokhvalova, Mannapova, & Prontenco, 2020); and (Okhrimenko, Yevdokimova, Shvets, Pakhomova, & Fediy, 2020).

The scientific works of Hays, K., Regoli, R., Hewitt, J. (2007) are also devoted to the psychological aspects of communication between managers and police officers. Police relations with citizens (Hudson, 2014; Krylov, & Manichev, 2013; Pašničuc, 2017; Valiieev, Tohchynskyi, Pekarchuk, Sobakar, & Iermakov, 2019), as well as with socionomic specialists (Sheremet, Suprun, M., Suprun, D., Okhrimenko, & Sprychuk, 2020) were also studied.

In addition, some scientists note that a police officer must have communicative qualities, namely: the ability to establish psychological contact with strangers and prepossess them quickly; the ability to listen to other people; the ability to exert psychological influence on people in the implementation of operational and service activities; the ability to overcome psychological barriers in communication; the ability to reincarnate in order to implement role-playing behaviour (Shapar, Timchenko, & Shvydkchenko, 2002; Shvets et al., 2020; Zhuravlev, 1993).

Thus, the diagnosis of the peculiarities of interpersonal interaction, communication skills of police officers is an important theoretical and applied task, the solution of which will improve the quality of professional selection of police officers. Currently, there is a lack of research in this area; as a rule, psychologists pay attention to the study of psychophysiological characteristics of candidates, general and special abilities of police officers, their motives, temperament and character, etc., using numerous objective tests and subjective questionnaires. Research methods of interpersonal interaction peculiarities of police officers are almost not used.

Given the above, the purpose of the research is to establish the peculiarities of interpersonal interaction of police officers based on the implementation of psychodiagnostic capabilities of the LIBC and the BFI questionnaires.

The results of the author’s research significantly complement the existing publications on the outlined issues, as they present first qualitative and quantitative characteristics of interpersonal communicative interaction of police officers, which are important for the organization of teamwork of a unit and successful interaction of law enforcement officers with citizens.

2. Methodology

We have used Leary’s Interpersonal Behaviour Circle method and the Big Five Inventory questionnaire as the main methods for achieving the purpose of the research. These are known tools for diagnosing the peculiarities of interpersonal interaction, which have satisfactory indicators of validity and reliability.

The LIBC is a questionnaire that consists of a set of brief personal characteristics (it contains 128 items) according to different types of interpersonal behaviour. The subject of interest assesses himself on each item of the questionnaire, marking only those communicative characteristics on the form that he finds to be suitable for him. The psychologist assesses the answers with the help of the “key” and calculates points according to eight variants of interpersonal interaction (octants) — 1- authoritative-led managed; 2-independent-dominant; 3-foreright-aggressive; 4-distrustful-skeptical; 5-submissive-dependent; 6-dependent-obedient; 7-cooperating-conventional; 8-responsible-generous.

The first four octants are characterized by the predominance of nonconformist tendencies, independence, self-sufficiency, leadership. The other four octants represent the opposite picture, i.e. conformity, uncertainty, dependence, tendency to compromise in interpersonal behaviour. It is believed that characteristics not exceeding 8 points are characteristic of individuals who have a harmonious relationship with the environment (Sobchik, 2003).

The BFI is a questionnaire developed by O. John, L. Naumann and S. Soto in 2008, which contains 44 personal characteristics and allows you to assess personality based on five polar factors (Extraversion vs Introversion;
Neuroticism vs Emotional Stability; Agreeableness vs Antagonism; Conscientiousness vs Lack of Direction; Openness vs Closedness to Experience) (John, Naumann, & Soto, 2008).

Extraversion is a factor that manifests itself in focus on the outside or inner world. Extroverts are sociable, active, impulsive, looking for a new powerful external stimulation. The introvert is characterized by a tendency to independence, self-sufficiency, individualism. An ambivert is between the two described poles, a person capable of both living in isolation and being active in society.

Neuroticism is manifested in the sensitivity of the individual to stressful situations. Reactive individuals are at one pole of this factor, which is characterized by the ease of negative emotions. Individuals who tend to treat life more rationally and calmly than most people are at the other pole. A large average range of expressiveness of this factor is between these poles.

Openness to experience is a factor that is manifested in openness, receptivity to any kind of knowledge. They are open to new approaches, ways to solve problems, have a tendency to introspection and reflection. Closed-minded individuals are the opposite of these people. They are distinguished by limited interests; such persons are perceived as ordinary, conservative ones.

Agreeableness is a measure of sociocentrism (altruism) as the opposite of egocentrism. A “conformist” who tends to subordinate personal needs to the needs of the group is at one end of this continuum. The other end of the continuum is represented by an unyielding, persistent person who “challenges” and cares about personal principles and needs.

Conscientiousness is a factor that expresses the degree of conscious control by the subject over his behaviour and activities. One of its poles is represented by such qualities as high self-control, scrupulousness, perseverance, organized nature, discipline, responsibility, diligence. The other pole is represented by a changeable person who is easily distracted, is disorganized, spontaneous, and has little focus on the goal.

Methods of comparison, systematization and generalization of scientific research data on the outlined issues, induction and deduction, methods of mathematical statistics were also used. The survey was conducted on the basis of the patrol force police units in twelve oblasts of Ukraine. The psychodiagnostic procedure covered 320 police officers aged 22 to 35. The sample of the research is representative. The obtained results fully reflect the properties of the general population of the patrol force police officers and allow to draw reliable conclusions at the level of significance of \( p = 0.01 \).

The research was performed according to the requirements of the Regulations on Academic Honesty at the National Academy of Internal Affairs, which were developed on the basis of Ukrainian and world experience of ethical rulemaking. This document was approved by the Academic Council of the National Academy of Internal Affairs (Protocol No. 5 of 27.03.2018 and implemented by the order of the Rector of the Academy (Order No. 422 of 30.03.2018. According to its provisions, the members of the scientific community are guided by the rules of ethical conduct and professional communication; respect the principles, values, norms, rules, and conditions of academic honesty in their activities. The consent to participate in the study was obtained from all subjects.

3. Results

The analysis of the results of the survey using the specified psychodiagnostic tools showed that professional activities of the patrol force police officer requires developed communication skills. In particular, the survey using the Leary test showed that the average profile of a police officer is dominated by the following octants: 1 (authoritative-led managed) – 8.33 points, 7 (cooperating-conventional) – 7.60 points, 8 (responsible-generous) – 6.90 points, 2 (independent-dominant) – 6.78 points. Decreased indicators were recorded for octants 4 (distrustful-skeptical) – 3.37 points and 5 (submissive-dependent) – 4.19 points (Table 1).

Thus, high indices of the 1st octant indicate that the patrol force police officer is characterized in his interpersonal relationships as a man of activity, with a tendency to dominance, increased level of demands, ease and speed in decision-making, self-orientation and little dependence on external factors, extroversion. He is persistent and convincing in communication, is able to diagnose a person visually and his behaviour, give an objective assessment of the actions and deeds of others, can successfully influence the interlocutor, attract attention and arouse people’s interest, inspire confidence in them; to quickly establish contacts with new people; to find the necessary tone of the conversation, persuade, define individual features of the interlocutor, reach the set purpose in the course of communication, defend own opinion.

The athenic characteristics of the 1st octant are partially offset by the increased values of the 7th and the 8th octant, which indicates the ability of police officers to control aggression, to show sensitivity to environmental influences, to listen to other people’s opinions, willingness to cooperate and readiness to meet group expectations. Quite high indices of the 8th octant allow us to conclude that police officers have the ability to meet social norms of behaviour, tendency to harmonize interpersonal relationships, emotional manifestations, ease of learning social roles, the presence of such traits as friendliness, willingness to help, flexibility in communication.
Moderately high indices of the 2nd octant complement the profile of the patrol force officer with such sphenic features as a certain distance from others, egocentrism, a sense of rivalry, individualism, nonconformity, emotional coldness.

Instead, police officers do not have the traits of submissive-dependant and distrustful-sceptical types of interpersonal interaction that characterize people who are shut-in, rigid, passive, anxious, overly introverted and modest, prone to reflection, with low motivation to achievements.

Thus, the profile of the patrol force police officers combines sphenic and hyposthenic characteristics, which allows them to combine strict, masculine traits and patterns of behaviour with softer, emotionally rich benevolent manifestations in their interpersonal relationships.

The analysis of the peculiarities of individual profiles according to the LIBC method allowed distinguishing several of their variations from the sample:

- The most numerous group (36%) was formed by spontaneously impulsive people with the octants’ code of “1-2” (leadership-dominance), i.e. individuals who have such features of interpersonal interaction as organizational potential, proactive attitude and optimism, courage and determination in communication, speed of decision-making in conflict situations. The level of success and professionalism of such police officers is characterized as medium and high.

- It is possible to single out a group of people with a predominance of the 1st and the 8th octants (leadership-responsibility; 20%). Such police officers are characterized by a tendency to leadership, persistence, diligence, rationality in their interpersonal relations; they are consistent and purposeful, seek to help others, show compassion and understanding for others.

- The next group (19%) consists of those with the psychological code of octants of “4-3” (rigidity-aggression). This group includes individuals prone to risk, active and decisive actions, irritability, aggression in situations of interpersonal interaction. They are also characterized by the opposition of their interests to the environment, individualism, rationalism, self-sufficiency. The professional level is assessed as high and medium.

- Some police officers (15%) are characterized by a combination of rises according to the 6-5-4th octants (introvertively-rigid type), which is characterized by multidirectional tendencies of interpersonal interaction: on the one hand – introvertively-sensitive, on the other – rigid, mixed type of response. The professionalism of employees with a psychological code profile of “6-4-3” is also assessed as medium and high.

- Next, we can distinguish a group of police officers (9%) who have an increased 1st octant (dominance-leadership) and decreased 5th octant (dependence-obedience) in the LIBC profile. Such police officers are characterized by a high level of zest for life and optimism, a large number of acquaintances, extroversion, which is often accompanied by incomprehensibility in social contacts. The level of success is medium.

- Finally, another insignificant group (7%) consists of individuals with increased octants in the psychological profile: 5 (dependence-obedience) and 7 (cooperation-conventionality). Such persons are characterized by somewhat low self-esteem, pessimism, loss of self-confidence, increased anxiety and feelings of dissatisfaction in their interpersonal interaction. They experience difficulties in the process of communication, prefer contacts with familiar surroundings. They are also characterized by excessive conformity, normativeness and obedience. The level of professionalism is medium.

The research of personality characteristics using the adapted Big Five Questionnaire generally confirmed the trend of police officers to a mixed type of response. It can be concluded that the patrol force police officers have such interpersonal characteristics as conscientiousness (39.91 points); extroversion (37.55 points), moderate agreeableness (35.97 points) and openness to new experiences (33.0 points); low level of neuroticism (19.45 points) (Table 2).

This means that police officers are characterized by controlled behaviour and activities, self-control, persistence, studiousness, accuracy in work, diligence, responsibility, organized nature, disciplined approach. They are also characterized by impartiality, concernment, receptivity to new information and knowledge, broad interests, developed imagination, flexible mind, independence and non-standard thinking, focus on finding new approaches, solutions, propensity for introspection and reflection, originality of perception.

Police officers are characterized by a focus on the outside world, companionship, sociability, desire for leadership, vitality, proactive attitude, impulsiveness, optimism. Moderate agreeableness indicates sensitivity, friendliness, trust, conformity, a tendency to subordinate personal interests to the needs of the group, a focus on cooperation. There are also tendencies to rationalism, stress resistance, endurance, calm reaction and attitude to events and others.
Table 1. The results of the police officers survey on the LIBC questionnaire (n = 320)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical indicators</th>
<th>Options for interpersonal interaction of police officers (octants)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average value</td>
<td>8.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard error</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard deviation</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 1-authoritative-led managed; 2-independent-dominant; 3-foreright-aggressive; 4-distrustful-skeptical; 5-submissive-dependent; 6-dependent-obedient; 7-cooperating-conventional; 8-responsible-generous.

Table 2. The results of the police officers survey on the BFI questionnaire (n = 320)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical indicators</th>
<th>Psychological factors that characterize the personality of a police officer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average value</td>
<td>37.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard error</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard deviation</td>
<td>5.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 1-extraversion, 2-agreeableness, 3-conscientiousness, 4-neuroticism, 5-openness

We have determined the correlation coefficients between the indicators of the scales of the questionnaires used in order to determine the nature of the relationship between the types of interpersonal interaction and the factors of the Big Five Questionnaire. The obtained results of the correlation analysis indicate the presence of statistically significant relationships between many indicators of types of interpersonal interaction with indices of extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness and neuroticism (Table 3).

Table 3. Correlations between the indicators of the police officers surveyed on the LIBC and the BFI scales (n = 320)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Police officers indicators on the LIBC scale</th>
<th>1-extraversion</th>
<th>2-agreeableness</th>
<th>3-conscientiousness</th>
<th>4-neuroticism</th>
<th>5-openness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-authoritative-led managed</td>
<td>0.65**</td>
<td>-0.27</td>
<td>-0.22</td>
<td>-0.44**</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-independent-dominant</td>
<td>0.45*</td>
<td>-0.35*</td>
<td>-0.25</td>
<td>-0.55**</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-foreright-aggressive</td>
<td>0.51**</td>
<td>-0.40*</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>-0.62**</td>
<td>-0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-distrustful-skeptical</td>
<td>-0.34*</td>
<td>-0.38**</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>-0.18</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-submissive-dependent</td>
<td>-0.64**</td>
<td>0.38*</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>-0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-dependent-obedient</td>
<td>-0.43*</td>
<td>0.40*</td>
<td>0.39*</td>
<td>0.40**</td>
<td>0.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-cooperating-conventional</td>
<td>-0.45**</td>
<td>0.42*</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>0.61**</td>
<td>0.32*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-responsible-generous</td>
<td>0.35*</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.36*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: *p = 0.05; **p = 0.01

Averagely significant positive correlations were found between the indicators of extroversion and authoritative-led managed (0.65), foreright-aggressive (0.51), independent-dominant (0.45) types of interpersonal interaction; the indices of neuroticism and cooperating-conventional (0.61), dependent-obedient (0.40) types of interaction; the indicators of conscientiousness and dependent-obedient (0.39) and cooperating-conventional...
(0.38) types of interaction; the indices of openness and responsible-generous (0.36) and cooperative-conventional types of interaction. Significant negative correlations were found between extroversion and submissive-dependent (-0.64) and dependent-obedient (-0.43) types of interaction; neuroticism and authoritative-led managed, independent-dominant and foright-aggressive types of interaction (0.44; 0.55 and 0.62, respectively).

The obtained data testify to the complementarity of the scales used in the research of diagnostic methods of interpersonal interaction. As correlation coefficients show, the characteristics (sthenic types of interpersonal interaction, extroversion, conscientiousness, openness, emotional stability) important for the professional activities of the patrol force police officers are found together and accompany each other. Negative individual qualities (neuroticism, excessive agreeableness, etc.) are also manifested in parallel with hyposthenic types of interpersonal peculiarities of interaction and are mostly undesirable for the patrol force police officers.

4. Discussion

The issues of interpersonal communication within a team of a police unit are not new, it is to some extent developed in science, but its relevance does not decrease, which intensifies new scientific research in this direction.

The scientists have noted in many papers that a police team must have a clear communication system that ensures the free exchange of information between its members and the community (Hudson, 2014; Krylov, & Manichev, 2013; Pagniciuc, 2017; Valieiev, Tohochynskyi, Pekarchuk, Sobakar, & Iermakov, 2019). The communicative activity of employees is very unique. It has a number of psychological peculiarities that make it specific (Beck, Barko, Tatarenko, 2003; Cochraine, Tett, & VandeCreek, 2003; Dunnette, & Borman, 1979; Okhrimenko, Barko, Boiko-Buzyl, Aleksandrov, Perkati, 2021). That is why it is worth noting that one of the most important psychological peculiarities of communicative interaction of police officers is professional orientation, associated with the need to identify perpetrators, witnesses, victims, etc., i.e. there is a certain procedural setting of communication parameters. On the part of police officers, this may be the settlement of a conflict, the establishment of the truth, and on the part of offenders, the desire to avoid responsibility, to conceal the circumstances of a crime, and to give false information.

An important peculiarity of police officers communication is also its normative nature. Thus, in particular, the procedure for communication between the investigator and the defendants is regulated by the rules of procedural law (Bufkin, 2004).

At the same time, it should be noted that police officers communication is complicated by the presence of psychological barriers due to many factors such as difficulty in contacting certain categories of citizens, misinterpretation of the intentions of the parties, distrust of people, and so on. The barriers can often be created artificially and result in aggravation of relationships, conflicts. In addition, the researchers emphasize the importance of police officers communication taking into account its peculiarities within a criminal environment, i.e. the presence of criminal jargon as a specific means of communication, tattoos, etc., knowledge of the criminal subculture of communication needed by police officers to solve operational and service tasks (Kryvolapchuk, Kulyk, Barko, Kalynovskyi, & Kosiak, 2020; Yevdokimova et al., 2020).

In addition, psychologists have repeatedly compared the results obtained using the LIBC with data obtained from other psychodiagnostic questionnaires and objective tests. Thus, a close correlation between octants of the LIBC method with typological peculiarities diagnosed using the method of Individual-Typological Questionnaire (0.45-0.66) has been revealed in the process of studying the styles of interpersonal interaction within sports teams, production and student groups (Howard, Medina, & Howard, 1996; Pashukova, Dopira, & Dyakonov, 1996; Pervin & John, 2001; Sobchik, 2003).

Thus, our empirical research has broadened understanding of the communicative potential of the patrol force police officer, as well as the peculiarities of its manifestation during interpersonal interaction both within the police organization and with the objects of service activities. The separation of the dominant communicative components of the personality of a police officer makes it possible to qualitatively organize the process of specialists' selection, as well as contributes to the psychological support of their service at different stages of professional self-realization of police officers.

5. Conclusions

Thus, our research allows us to conclude that the chosen methodology for studying the peculiarities of interpersonal interaction is quite effective. The LIBC methodology makes it possible to determine the dominant types of such interaction in a police officer, which allows establishing the candidate's suitability for service in the police at the stage of professional selection, as well as to optimize the appointment of already working police officers. It has been proven that it is important for a successful police officer to have a tendency in the psychological profile to such sthenic types of interpersonal interaction as authoritative-led managed (increased indices of the 1st octant) and independent-dominant (increased indices of the 2nd octant), it is also desirable that these types be
complemented by profiles with increased values for octants of hyposthenic nature i.e. the 7th (cooperating-conventional type) or the 8th (responsible-generous type of interaction).

The parallel use of the BFI questionnaire together with the LIBC method will allow the expert psychologist to significantly supplement the results of the first psychodiagnostic examination by additionally establishing the degree of manifestation of some personal factors that affect (positively or negatively) the nature of interpersonal interaction and communicative potential of the police officer i.e. extroversion, neuroticism, conscientiousness, openness of experience. Significant correlation coefficients between sthenic and hyposthenic types of interpersonal interaction, as well as between personality factors, obtained during the experimental research, convincingly testify to the relationship between communicative characteristics with temperamental features and characterological qualities of a personality diagnosed with the help of the BFI.

Thus, the use of these psychodiagnostic methods allows to correctly determine the communicative potential of the police officer, which is manifested in the process of intergroup interaction within the team of the police unit, as well as in the process of interpersonal interaction of the police officer with citizens. The results of the psychodiagnostic examination provide a basis for the correct placement of police officers within the unit, as well as prompt police chiefs and psychologists to conduct psychological work with police officers in order to improve the forms and means of their interaction with civil society in the performance of their professional duties.

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Competing Interests
The authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

Transparency
The authors confirm that the manuscript is an honest, accurate, and transparent account of the study was reported, that no vital features of the study have been omitted, and that any discrepancies from the study as planned have been explained.

Ethical
This study follows all ethical practices during writing.

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