

## Economic crime and mechanisms to combat it in Algerian legislation

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**Abstract---**Economic crime represents one of the most significant challenges confronting national economies, exerting a direct and adverse impact on their stability and security. These crimes are characterized by their complexity, adaptability, and the evolving methods by which they are perpetrated, particularly in the context of scientific advancement and technological development. Consequently, many countries—especially those in the Global South—struggle considerably to combat such crimes due to the intricate interplay of legal, economic, and social dimensions. Nonetheless, this should by no means preclude the possibility of successfully addressing or at least mitigating these crimes through the adoption of a well-formulated policy and strategy. Such a strategy should focus on the development of relevant legal frameworks and the reinforcement of financial oversight mechanisms, both at the national and international levels.

**Keywords---**economic crime, transparency, financial oversight, combating crime.

### Introduction

Economic crime is a serious phenomenon that threatens the pillars of the national economy and the stability of modern societies, as it leads to serious damage to the economic and social fabric. It is characterized by complexity and continuous development, as it takes multiple and renewed forms, including financial fraud, embezzlement, market manipulation, corruption, money laundering, and other acts that affect the economic security of the state. The seriousness of these crimes stems from their ability to penetrate official institutions and the private sector, which undermines trust between different economic actors and hinders sustainable development efforts.

Recent decades have witnessed tremendous economic and technological developments, which have had a significant impact on changing the nature of economic crime, as these crimes have become the use of

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modern technologies, and rely on innovative means of camouflage and concealment, which makes it difficult to detect and prosecute them. Economic globalization and market liberalization have also increased cross-border financial mobility, posing additional challenges for national authorities, given the complexity of coordination between States in combating economic crime.

### **Importance of the study:**

The importance of this study is reflected in the urgent need to understand this phenomenon from a comprehensive perspective that addresses its legal, economic and social dimensions, with the aim of developing effective strategies to combat it and limit its spread. It is not enough to rely on traditional laws or penal procedures only, but an integrated approach must be adopted that includes legislative, regulatory, and economic mechanisms, as well as enhancing community awareness and supporting financial transparency. The study is also of particular importance in the context of the Arab reality, where the need to update legislative and institutional frameworks in line with the challenges of the times is increasing.

### **Study Objectives:**

The study aims to achieve a set of main objectives, starting with defining economic crime from a legal and economic perspective, focusing on its characteristics and distinguishing it from traditional crimes. It also seeks to classify the types of these crimes according to the nature of the acts and the actors involved, which facilitates understanding of their dynamics and complexities. In addition, the study addresses the mechanisms available to combat economic crime, whether at the legal level through legislation and judicial systems, or through economic and preventive mechanisms such as financial control, transparency and corporate governance. It also reviews the challenges facing the application of these mechanisms, such as the lack of legislation, poor coordination between the competent authorities, and the impact of economic and social factors on the spread of the phenomenon.

### **The problem of the study:**

The subject of economic crime poses a fundamental problem such as: How effective are the legal texts in reducing the various forms and manifestations of economic crime, especially the new ones?

### **Method of the Study:**

To answer the problem of the study, we decided to adopt the descriptive approach, which we saw as the most appropriate to provide a comprehensive and accurate description of the concept of economic crime, by reviewing its nature and different forms. We also used the analytical approach to examine and analyze the legal texts governing and regulating these crimes, and try to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of these texts in the face of the seriousness of economic crime.

### **Study Plan:**

To study the subject of economic crime, we decided to divide the work into two main topics: The first topic dealt with the concept of economic crime and its types, where it highlights the legal definition, the economic and social characteristics of these crimes, and their classification according to the nature of the acts and actors. As for the second topic, we discussed the mechanisms of combating economic crime, whether legal or even regulatory.

### **The first topic: The conceptual framework of economic crime**

Economic crime is a complex phenomenon that combines legal, economic and social dimensions, making it a real challenge to traditional laws and existing criminal systems. It is not limited to a mere legislative violation, but extends to acts that negatively affect the national economy, affect confidence in financial and administrative institutions, and lead to the loss of public and private resources (Mohammed Abdullah, *Economic Crime and Criminal Justice*, Dar Al-Fikr, Cairo, Second Edition, 2020, p. 15).

These crimes are usually difficult to detect and prove, due to their reliance on financial means of camouflage and the tight complexity of the economic processes involved. Thus, they represent a double threat to the economic and social structure, leading to financial instability, undermining economic growth, and increasing poverty and unemployment rates (Sami Al-Tayeb, *Economic and Social Dimensions of Economic Crime*, Journal of Social Sciences, No. 34, 2021, p. 92).

Therefore, understanding economic crime in all its aspects and characteristics is an urgent necessity, because of its direct impact on the development of criminal policies, and the effectiveness of legal and economic control mechanisms, in order to achieve a sound economic environment protected from all forms of corruption and crimes.

### **The first requirement: What is economic crime?**

The precise definition of economic crime is an important basis for building an effective criminal and legal strategy, because of the impact of this definition in determining the nature of penalties and directing judicial proceedings. It is not possible to limit the definition of economic crime to a narrow scope limited to legal aspects only, but it is necessary to take into account the economic and social dimensions that determine its features and affect the behavior of its perpetrators (Muhammad Abdullah, *ibid.*, p. 22).

Some define it as “any act involving a legal violation aimed at achieving financial or economic gains at the expense of the state or individuals, including acts that violate the economic and financial standards framed for the market and the financial system” (Ahmed bin Zaidan, *Economic Crime in Modern Legislation*, Dar Al-Nahda, Algeria, Third Edition, 2019, p. 37).

### **Section I: The Concept of Economic Crime**

Economic crime is a complex legal phenomenon with multiple dimensions, and its understanding requires a precise definition that reflects its legal, economic and social essence. In this regard, it defines economic crime as: “Every wrongful act committed with the aim of harming the economic system of the state, whether through fraud, embezzlement, forgery or financial and administrative corruption” (Muhammad Abdul, *op. cit.*, p. 45).

This definition represents the central legal aspect of economic crime, which is based on the violation of economic and criminal laws that regulate financial and commercial activity within the State. This explains that economic crime is not just a minor legal infraction, but an act that disrupts the economic system and leads to significant financial and social damage.

Prof. Dr. Ahmed bin Zaidan also emphasizes in his book “*Economic Crime in Modern Legislation*” that: “Economic crime is characterized by complexity and overlap between legal and economic dimensions, which poses a great challenge for legislators and regulators, especially with the continuous development of methods of committing it” (Ahmed bin Zaidan, *op. cit.*, P. 53). Through this definition, the writer pointed out the importance of legislative and regulatory development in keeping with these modern crimes in which sophisticated tools are used that enable them to camouflage and hide behind complex economic processes.

At the national level, Algerian Law No. 09-04 of 5 August 2009 stipulates that: “Economic crime includes any act contrary to the economic system aimed at achieving illicit gains, and includes market manipulation, financial fraud, administrative corruption, and forgery” (Law No. 09-04 of 5 August 2009, which includes the special rules for the prevention and combating of crimes related to information and communication technologies, *Official Gazette* 2009, p. 19). This legal provision reflects the national interest in combating economic crime through a clear and comprehensive definition, which defines its various manifestations within the criminal law.

In an authentic academic study, researcher Muhammad Al-Taher explains in his book “Financial and Administrative Corruption” that: “Economic crime is not limited to legal aspects only, but also includes all behaviors that involve financial and administrative violations that negatively affect the public interest and the national economy in general” (Muhammad Al-Taher Abdullah, Financial and Administrative Corruption, Dar Al-Huda, Tunisia, First Edition, 2018, p. 67). This description refers to the close relationship between economic crime and administrative corruption, which complicates the nature of crimes and reflects their multifaceted nature.

On the other hand, Prof. Dr. Sami Al-Sharif, in his book “Economic Crime and Corruption: An Analytical Study”, stresses the importance of deep understanding of the relationship between economic crime and corruption, as actors systematically use financial and administrative tools to commit these crimes, taking advantage of weak control and weaknesses in administrative systems ” (Sami Al-Sharif, Economic Crime and Corruption: An Analytical Study, Dar Al-Amal, Algeria, Second Edition, 2021, p. 79). Through the above, it is shown that economic crime is not separate from corruption, but is sometimes a reflection of it or one of its tools, which requires an integrated approach in combating this phenomenon.

## **Section Two: Characteristics of Economic Crime**

Economic crime has a set of characteristics that make it different from other crimes, and make combating it a multidimensional challenge that requires comprehensive and integrated strategies.

### **1. Legal and Economic Complexity**

Economic crime is one of the most complex crimes due to the overlapping legal and economic aspects of FIFA and the use of complex financial and technical tools to commit it. This makes the detection of these crimes require specialized expertise that combines law, economics and accountability.

“The complexity of economic crime makes it difficult for security and judicial agencies to detect and analyze these crimes,” says Mohammed Abdullah in his book “Economic Crime and Criminal Justice” (Mohammed Abdullah, op. cit., p. 58).

Abdel Rahman Bouzidi adds that this complexity expands to include social and economic dimensions, where interests and individuals are intertwined, which complicates the prosecution of those involved (Abdel Rahman Bouzidi, A Social Study on Economic Crime, Journal of Social Sciences, 2020, p. 74).

### **2. Abuse of authority and position**

Economic crimes often emerge by exploiting positions of power and public functions, with some individuals using their influence for ill-gotten gains.

Fatima Al-Zahra explains in her research “Financial and Administrative Corruption” that: “Exploitation of job position and authority is considered one of the basic factors contributing to the spread of economic crime” (Fatima Al-Zahra, op. Cit., P. 72).

Samia Al-Omari explains in her study that: “This exploitation facilitates the process of concealment and complicates efforts to combat corruption and economic crimes” (Samia Al-Omari, Studies in Combating Corruption, Dar Al-Hikma, Tunis, Second Edition, 2020, p. 89).

### **3. Broad impact on society and the economy**

The effects of economic crime go beyond direct financial losses, to include significant social damage that leads to a decline in community trust in government and private institutions, and an increase in poverty and unemployment rates. According to Mohammed Al-Hamdawi: “Economic crime has negative social and economic effects that extend to development and social stability” (Mohammed Al-Hamdawi, Social Dimensions of Economic Crime, Journal of Social Sciences, No. 12, 2022, p. 101).

Abdul Qadir al-Hajj believes that: “These effects may lead to the disintegration of the social fabric and an increase in the general crime rate, which requires effective preventive policies” (Abdul Qadir al-Hajj, The Impact of Economic Crime on Development, Dar al-Maarefa, Rabat, First Edition, 2021, p. 56).

#### 4. Weak oversight and inadequate legal frameworks

The weakness of financial and administrative control systems, and the lack of legal legislation, facilitate the spread of economic crime. Fouad Said explains in his research: "The absence and irregularity of effective control are among the most prominent causes of the spread of economic crimes" (Fouad Said, Control Systems and Financial Corruption, Dar Al-Nahda, Algeria, First Edition, 2019, p. 44). Bilal Mustafa also believes that: "Inadequate legislation and lack of coordination between judicial and supervisory bodies weakens the state's ability to effectively combat economic crime" (Bilal Mustafa, Legal and Economic Legislation, Journal of Law and Development, Algeria, No. 8, 2020, p. 67).

#### The second requirement: Types of economic traction

The classification of economic crime is an essential step to understanding the nature of these diverse crimes, as it allows to distinguish between their types and develop strategies to combat them according to the nature of the act and the perpetrator. Accurate categorization helps guide judicial and supervisory efforts in a more effective way, and contributes to setting priorities according to the seriousness of each type and the extent of its spread in society (Muhammad Abdullah, *ibid.*, p. 102).

#### Section I: According to the type of act

Economic crimes are divided into several types according to the act committed, the most important of which are:

**1. Financial Fraud:** It is the use of deception or lying to obtain funds illegally. For example, providing incorrect information to obtain a bank loan, or manipulating accounts. Fraud is one of the most common economic crimes, and it has many forms that vary according to circumstances and objectives (Mohammed Abdullah, *ibid.*, p. 102).

#### **2. Embezzlement:**

Is the illegal appropriation of other people's money, often by employees or officials at their places of work.

Embezzlement causes great damage especially if it is linked to public money or the resources of large institutions (Ahmed bin Zaidan, *op. Cit.*, P. 115)

#### **3. Forgery:**

relates to the misrepresentation or alteration of official or commercial documents and papers with the aim of deceiving others or achieving illegal gains. Forgery is a crime that affects trust in financial and legal dealings (Mohammed Al-Taher Abdullah, *op. Cit.*, P. 134).

**4. Money laundering:** The process of converting money resulting from illegal activities into money that appears legitimate, through several stages of complex money transfers. Money laundering negatively affects the financial system and is used to cover other economic crimes (Sami Al-Sharif, *op. Cit.*, P. 140).

**5. Corruption and bribery:** Corruption is the exploitation of influence for personal gain, and bribery is the provision of money or services in exchange for advantages or abuses. These crimes undermine the administrative system and harm the public interest (Rachid Bouskin, Criminal Policy for Combating Economic Crimes, University of Algiers, 2019, p. 120).

Section II: According to the parties involved in the commission of the crime

Actors in the commission of economic crimes are diverse, and understanding the nature of each actor and its position in the structure of crime is essential to developing strategies to combat it effectively. The actors involved in economic crime can be classified into three main types:

#### **Individuals.**

Individuals represent the main element in committing economic crimes, whether they are employees, dealers in financial markets, or even investors.

- **Individuals:** Some individuals commit crimes such as fraud, forgery, or embezzlement on their own, taking advantage of legal loopholes or lack of oversight.

- **Cooperating individuals:** In some cases, a group of individuals work together in a coordinated manner to carry out fraud, money laundering, or financial manipulation, which increases the complexity of the crime and the difficulty of detecting it (Muhammad Abdullah, op. cit., p. 110). Individuals are sometimes small in scale, but their impact can be wide if these crimes accumulate or are exploited in wider networks.

## 2. Companies and institutions

Corporations play a pivotal role in economic crime, as they may exploit their resources and potential for illicit gains at the expense of shareholders, the state, or consumers.

- **Embezzlement and manipulation:** Some officials within companies may engage in embezzlement of funds or manipulation of financial statements to hide losses or inflate profits (Fatima Al-Zahra, Financial and Administrative Corruption, Dar Al-Nour, Algeria, First Edition, 2019, p. 78).

- **Institutional fraud and forgery:** Some companies involve the use of sophisticated fraudulent methods; such as contract manipulation or concealing crucial financial information from shareholders or regulators.

- **Circumvention of laws:** Some companies take advantage of legislative loopholes or weak control to avoid taxes or financial obligations, which is a type of organized economic crime (Rashid Buskin, op. cit., p. 110).

These crimes are often primarily directed at profiting at the expense of other parties, and may have a broad impact on the national economy.

## 3. Criminal organizations

Criminal organizations specialized in economic crimes constitute an advanced and complex type of actors, as their activities are highly coordinated and use wide networks at home and abroad, and these organizations are characterized by organization and secrecy, which requires extensive international and local cooperation to combat them effectively

- **Money laundering:** These organizations use advanced methods to launder money derived from illegal activities, making it extremely difficult to track funds

- **Institutional fraud and corruption:** These organizations work to penetrate financial or government institutions for illicit gains through internal and external coordination processes.

- **Smuggling and illicit trade:** The activities of economic criminal organizations include smuggling, illicit trafficking, and the use of funds to expand their economic and social influence. (Abdelrahman Bouzidi, Social Study on Economic Crime, Journal of Social Sciences, University of Algiers, No. 15,2020, p. 80).

## The second topic: Mechanisms to combat economic crime

Mechanisms to combat economic crime are among the main axes that determine the extent to which countries are able to protect their economies from various forms of financial and economic criminality. Economic crimes are not just legal violations, they are practices that threaten the economic and social structure, which requires the development of integrated strategies that combine the legal, economic, administrative and technical aspects. Combating economic crime also faces multiple challenges, including the development and complexity of crime methods, as well as the lack of resources and regulatory and legislative systems in some countries. Therefore, studying these mechanisms in depth is necessary to understand their effectiveness, analyze their strengths and weaknesses, and develop recommendations to strengthen them in line with contemporary developments (Muhammad Abdullah, op. Cit., P. 120).

## The first requirement: Legal and institutional mechanisms

Laws and legislations constitute the legal framework that determines what constitutes an economic crime and establishes the penalties and procedures to be followed in confronting it. These laws serve to ensure that justice is done and rights are protected, and that the necessary legal means are provided for the prosecution of offenders and the confiscation of illegally acquired property. Legislation also plays an

important role in enhancing cooperation between national and international bodies to combat cross-border economic crimes. (Abdelrahman Bouzidi, *Comparative Study on Criminal Legislation*, Dar Alnahda, Algeria, 2021, p. 95).

### **Section I: Penal Laws**

Criminal laws are one of the most important pillars that define the concept of economic crime, impose the necessary penalties for deterrence, and guarantee the rights of victims. In Algeria, Law No. 09-04 of 2009 stands out as a pivotal text dealing with economic crimes, as it defines these crimes and defines their types and the penalties prescribed for them (Law 09-04, op. Cit., p. 22). This law includes explicit provisions on a number of economic crimes such as embezzlement, fraud, forgery, administrative corruption, and money laundering, and regulates investigation and judicial follow-up procedures, providing an integrated legal framework for combating. This law is an important step towards protecting public and private money, and promoting transparency and fairness in economic transactions.

In addition to the above-mentioned law, there are other specialized laws such as the Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism Law No. 05-01 of 2005, which establishes mechanisms to monitor suspicious funds and stop the financing of crimes, and is one of the effective legal tools used by the state to reduce economic crimes (Algerian Ministry of Finance, *Official Gazette*, 2005, p. 30).

It is noteworthy that at the international level, Algeria seeks to comply with international conventions that it has acceded to and ratified, such as the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and judicial and economic cooperation agreements, which provide a framework for the exchange of information and cross-border cooperation, which is necessary in light of the transient nature of modern economic crimes. However, the application of these laws faces several challenges, including the slow pace of judicial proceedings, the lack of technical resources and specialized cadres, and the difficulty of proving some crimes that rely on complex financial and technical evidence. Therefore, the continuous development and updating of laws, while improving the performance of judicial and supervisory bodies, is a paramount necessity for an effective fight (Abdel Rahman Bouzidi, *Comparative Study on Criminal Legislation*, Dar Al-Nahda, Algeria, 2021, p. 97).

### **Section II: Supervisory and Judicial Bodies**

Regulatory bodies and judicial bodies are considered one of the main pillars in the system of combating economic crime, as they play a central role in monitoring financial violations, following up investigations, and achieving justice through issuing deterrent judgments. These bodies are divided between independent supervisory institutions, competent courts, and public prosecution offices, where coordination between them requires harmony to ensure the effectiveness of control.

#### **1.The Supervisory Bodies**

Algeria includes a number of supervisory bodies such as the General Inspectorate of Finance, the Anti-Corruption Commission, and the Audit Bureau, which carry out financial and administrative monitoring and auditing functions, as well as providing detailed reports to the judicial authorities. This role plays a vital role in the early detection of financial abuses, and enhances the chances of those involved being prosecuted. In his article "The Role of Judicial Bodies in Combating Economic Crime", Abdelkader Mohamed says: "Regulators are the watchful eye that monitors financial operations and analyzes violations, and provides the evidence that the judiciary needs to follow up cases effectively" (Abdelkader Mohamed, *The Role of Judicial Bodies in Combating Economic Crime*, Journal of Law and Development, No. 15, Algeria, 2018, p. 65). These entities face challenges represented in the limited qualified human resources and advanced technologies required to detect complex economic crimes, in addition to some administrative obstacles (Rahali Saeed, *Cooperation between Judicial and Supervisory Authorities in Combating Corruption*, Dar Al-Nahda, Rabat, First Edition, 2017, p. 43).

## 2.The Judicial Bodies

The judicial bodies, especially the economic courts, are competent to hear cases related to economic crimes, as they have special powers related to the rapid and accurate hearing of complex economic files, with the accreditation of experts specialized in financial and economic law. In a study published by Rahali Saeed entitled "Cooperation between Judicial and Supervisory Authorities", he pointed out that: "Economic courts are the crucial tool for achieving justice in economic crimes, and the specialized competencies and techniques necessary to ensure the fair and effective functioning of justice must be provided" (Rahali Saeed, Cooperation between Judicial and Supervisory Authorities in Combating Corruption, Dar Al-Nahda, Rabat, First Edition, 2017, p. 43). Cooperation between the regulatory and judicial authorities is also an urgent necessity to increase the effectiveness of combating economic crime, as this cooperation enables the exchange of information and the strengthening of legal procedures to reduce impunity (Abdelkader Mohamed, op. Cit., P. 67)

It is worth mentioning that the supervisory and judicial authorities face great and multiple challenges that hinder their performance of their tasks in order to address economic crime, including:

- Lack of specialized competencies in the field of accounting and financial investigation, which affects the quality of investigations and prosecutions in the field of financial crimes (Youssofi Mohamed, Financial Supervision in Algerian Institutions, Journal of Management and Economics, Algeria, 2019, p. 89)
- Slow judicial procedures leading to delays in the adjudication of cases of a financial and economic nature (Bin Saleh Abdul Karim, Improving the Economic Justice System, Dar Al-Hikma, Algeria, First Edition, 2020, p. 55).
- The complexity of economic issues that require sophisticated tools and techniques to decipher financial and economic codes (Fatima Al-Zahraa - Abdullah, op. Cit., P. 77).

### **The second requirement: Economic and preventive mechanisms**

Preventive mechanisms play a pivotal role in preventing economic crime, as they work to reduce the chances of these crimes occurring by creating a sound and tight institutional economic environment. These mechanisms include a set of measures aimed at improving governance in institutions, strengthening financial control, applying transparency in financial and administrative processes, and relying on modern technologies in auditing and reviewing, in addition to raising awareness and financial and legal education among employees and individuals. This preventive aspect is complementary to legal and legislative efforts, and contributes effectively to reducing the volume of economic crimes and mitigating their negative effects on the economy and society (Mohammed Al-Hamdawi, Governance of Institutions and Transparency, Journal of Management and Economics, 2020, p. 112).

### **Section I: Financial Control**

Financial control is the cornerstone of any effective system to combat economic crime. They help organizations accurately monitor and manage their finances, and detect any potential financial irregularities or manipulations in their early stages.

Internal control within institutions includes several aspects such as examining the validity of financial operations, as well as the conformity of accounts with approved policies, and ensuring the implementation of preventive measures. This control is the first line of defense in detecting abuses before they worsen and turn into crimes with wide impact (Mohamed Youssef, Financial Control in Algerian Institutions, Journal of Management and Economics, 2019, p. 89)

External control is carried out by independent bodies, such as the Audit Bureau and government bodies in charge of financial control. These bodies periodically and independently audit accounts to verify compliance with financial laws and regulations, and provide comprehensive reports on the status of transparency and compliance within institutions (Abdelkader Zarad, Transparency and Governance in Combating Corruption, Scientific Publishing House, Tunis, 2020, p. 112)



Transparency is also one of the main pillars in the fight against economic crime, as it helps to reduce opportunities for corruption, embezzlement and financial manipulation. Transparency means providing clear and regular financial and administrative information to all stakeholders, including shareholders, regulators, and the public. Through transparency, it is possible to strengthen trust in institutions, increase their compliance with financial laws and standards, and help in the early detection of suspicious activities (Bin Saleh Abdul Karim, Institutional Governance and its Role in Combating Corruption, Dar Al-Hikma, Algeria, 2021, p. 75).

Adopting clear policies for good governance, which include internal laws and regulatory procedures, enables institutions to prevent the occurrence of economic crimes by establishing strict controls over financial operations, defining responsibilities, and holding violators accountable (Al-Hamdawi, op. cit., p. 115).

## **Section Two: Economic Policies**

Economic policies play a vital preventive role in combating economic crime, by working to build a transparent and well-regulated economic environment, and strengthening financial and accounting control systems. These policies include the development of legal frameworks governing financial accounting, the improvement of internal and external audits, as well as the adoption of international accounting standards that enhance the reliability of financial statements. The application of these standards reduces the chances of manipulation of accounts, and detects any financial irregularities early (Sheikh Fatima Al-Zahra, Awareness as a Mechanism to Combat Economic Crime, Journal of Law and Society, 2022, p. 56).

Modern technology has also become an indispensable tool in the fight against economic crimes, as electronic auditing systems and artificial intelligence help to analyze financial data efficiently, detect fraud and manipulation patterns with high speed and accuracy. These tools are used to monitor daily financial operations and track suspicious transfers (Bin Saleh Abdul Karim, op. Cit., P. 78).

Furthermore, financial and legal awareness and education play an important role in prevention. Raising awareness among employees and citizens contributes to promoting a culture of integrity, reducing the acceptance of suspicious behaviors, and increasing whistleblowing. This awareness includes training programs for employees on how to identify signs of fraud and forgery, in addition to public awareness campaigns targeting the community, to enhance the role of popular control in combating economic crime. (Al-Hamdawi, op. Cit., P. 115).

## **Conclusion**

Through this study, it was found that confronting economic crime, or in a more accurate and correct sense, reducing it, faces great challenges that threaten the economic and social stability of countries. Combating these crimes requires concerted efforts between legal frameworks, regulatory and preventive mechanisms, in addition to employing modern technologies in tracking and detecting them. Accordingly, the legislative system must be developed and control and coordination between the various parties must be strengthened to ensure effective protection from and control of their occurrence. Through what we have discussed, we have reached a number of important conclusions that can be limited to:

- Economic crime is a complex phenomenon that combines legal, economic and social dimensions, making it difficult to combat.
- The existence of a legal framework regulating economic crime, but it needs constant updating to keep pace with the development of methods of committing it
- Legal and financial awareness raises the awareness of individuals and institutions, which reduces crime and encourages reporting.

- Financial control and transparency are essential pillars for the prevention and early detection of crimes.
- Modern technology helps in monitoring and analyzing suspicious financial operations accurately and quickly.

Finally, the following suggestions can be made:

- The need to review the laws governing economic crime periodically to keep pace with technical developments and new methods of committing them.
- Improving the skills of workers in supervisory and judicial institutions through specialized training programs in accounting and financial investigation, which enhances their ability to face economic traction
- Establishing effective cooperation mechanisms between the supervisory, judicial and administrative bodies to exchange information and coordinate procedures, which leads to rapid detection and prosecution of various forms of economic crime.
- Developing internal control systems within institutions, and supporting external control bodies to strengthen the monitoring of financial and administrative operations, which enhances opportunities to combat various forms of financial corruption.

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