

MODERNIZATION PROCESSES IN UZBEKISTAN AND CIVIL SOCIETY

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Abstract: One of the conditions for successful modernization is the presence of social forces capable of becoming initiators and agents of change. Civil society as a factor in the modernization of Uzbek society is related to the question of the subject of large-scale socio-political changes. The formation of relations based on mutual cooperation between the state and civil society has become a priority in Uzbekistan.

Key words: civil society, modernization, reforms, activation, subject, state, model of relations, interests of the people.

Introduction

Addressing the challenges of modernization in Uzbekistan has highlighted the importance of engaging the potential of civil society structures. The success of the ongoing reforms in the country depends directly and proportionally on the strength of democratic institutions and civil society structures at the current stage of development.

From the methodological point of view, the consideration of civil society as an important factor in the modernization of Uzbek society at the present stage is, to a certain extent, a scientific statement of the subject of large-scale socio-political changes. Civil society, in our view, must become a mobilizing force for social change, inseparable from the political dimension of the reforms being implemented.

Main body

As part of a review of the scientific literature, let us emphasize that different approaches to the theoretical explanation of the main features of modern civil society and the features of its interaction with the state are reflected in the works of such researchers as E.Arato, D.Cohen, D.Keane, R.Kozellek, K.Schmitt, N.Luhmann, E.Giddens, and others [4].

G.N. Weinstein distinguishes three models of relations between the state and civil society. The first is a model of confrontation between them. According to him, the strengthening of one of them necessarily leads to a weakening of the other and indicates the presence of conflict in the relationship. The second model is the democratization model, which is characterized by the desire to reach a compromise between the parties. But compromise, as well as the denial of contradictions, does not mean that there are close and trusting relations, but only indicates compromise. The third model assumes the existence of stable partnerships between the state and civil society, which are characteristic of democratic societies [1].

It may be noted that in the process of reforms carried out in Uzbekistan since 2016, of the models listed above, the third was chosen, that is, the model of interaction between the state and civil society institutions in the process of ongoing reforms.

Under these conditions, the success of reforms largely depends on how this important signal sent by the state to society will be perceived by society, on "...the readiness of society itself to carry out reforms" [2].

It is here that another peculiarity, defining the essence of the reforms conducted in Uzbekistan, is revealed. An important component of the ongoing changes is the active participation of various segments of the population in the implementation of the objectives, turning people not only in the object of reforms, but also in its active subject. The importance of

this can be seen in the statement of the President of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev: “Citizens should develop a sense of ownership of the reforms. Only then will we be able to achieve our goals” [3].

In our opinion, the following factors have contributed to the priority given to the formation of relations based on mutual cooperation between the state and civil society in the process of reforms in Uzbekistan:

First, the fact that reforms are for the people requires a fundamental rethinking of attitudes toward civil society as a whole.

Secondly, the goals and objectives that society faces in reforming all of its spheres make it necessary in their implementation not only to rely on the state's own capabilities, but also to mobilize all of society's forces.

Thirdly, it is known that the renewal process currently underway in Uzbekistan, in fact, involves the implementation of innovative modernization.

In contrast to the agricultural and industrial modernization carried out in earlier stages of history, innovation modernization can be performed only with broad reliance on the forces of civil society. All of these factors indicate that Uzbekistan, at its new stage of development, has proclaimed civil society to be the leading force in modernization processes.

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