

THE IMPACT OF THE UPDATED CONSTITUTION ON THE FUTURE OF UZBEKISTAN

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Annotatsiya: *Konstitutsiya o'zgarishlari, avvalo, demokratik institutlarni mustahkamlash va fuqaro huquqlarini kengaytirishga qaratilgan. Yangi qoidalar, erkinliklar va tenglik tamoyillari, jamiyatda fuqarolik ongini oshirishga xizmat qiladi. Bundan tashqari, konstitutsiyadagi o'zgarishlar iqtisodiy rivojlanishga ham ijobiy ta'sir ko'rsatadi. O'zbekistonning global iqtisodiy tizimga integratsiyasi uchun qonuniy asoslarni yaratadi va investitsiya muhitini yaxshilaydi. Shuningdek, yangilangan konstitutsiya siyosiy barqarorlikni ta'minlash va ijtimoiy taraqqiyotga hissa qo'shadi. Natijada, O'zbekistonning kelajagi yanada ochiq, adolatli va barqaror jamiyatga aylanishi kutilmoqda.*

Kalit so'zlar: *Yangilangan konstitutsiya, demokratik institutlar, fuqaro huquqlari, erkinliklar, tenglik, fuqarolik ong iqtisodiy rivojlanish, investitsiya muhit, siyosiy barqarorlik, ijtimoiy taraqqiyot, O'zbekiston kelajagi, ochiq jamiyat, adolatli tizim.*

Аннотация; *Конституционные изменения направлены, прежде всего, на укрепление демократических институтов и расширение гражданских прав. Новые правила, свободы и принципы равенства служат повышению гражданской ответственности общества. Кроме того, изменения в конституции также окажут положительное влияние на экономическое развитие. Создает правовую основу для интеграции Узбекистана в мировую экономическую систему и улучшает инвестиционную среду. Также обновленная конституция будет способствовать политической стабильности и социальному развитию. В результате ожидается, что будущее Узбекистана станет более открытым, справедливым и стабильным обществом.*

Ключевые слова: *Обновленная конституция, демократические институты, гражданские права, свободы, равенство, гражданское сознание, экономическое развитие, инвестиционная среда, политическая стабильность, социальное развитие, будущее Узбекистана, открытое общество, справедливая система.*

Annotation: *Constitutional changes are primarily aimed at strengthening democratic institutions and expanding civil rights. New rules, freedoms and principles of equality serve to increase civic consciousness in society. In addition, changes in the constitution will also have a positive effect on economic development. Creates a legal basis for the integration of Uzbekistan into the global economic system and improves the investment environment. Also, the updated constitution will contribute to political stability and social development. As a result, the future of Uzbekistan is expected to become a more open, fair and stable society.*

Key words: *Updated constitution, democratic institutions, civil rights, freedoms, equality, civil consciousness, economic development, investment environment, political stability, social development, future of Uzbekistan, open society, fair system.*

The new Constitution is a solid guarantee of human honor, dignity and rights. “The new Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan has created a solid foundation for the further sustainable development of statehood, socio-political, socio-economic and judicial spheres.” This rightful recognition was emphasized in the decree “On preparation and holding of the holiday of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan”, signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev on November 16, 2023. The fact that 90.21 percent of citizens who participated in the referendum held in our country on April 30, 2023 voted in favor of our new Constitution clearly confirms this idea, and at the same time, it also indicates that our Main Constitution reflects the dreams, hopes and aspirations of our people to build a New Uzbekistan. The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan has the highest legal force throughout the country, is directly applicable and forms the basis of a single legal space. The first paragraph of Article 7 of the new Constitution establishes the norm “The people are the only source of state power.” In the image of this norm, the universally recognized principle of popular power in the Republic of Uzbekistan, that is, the principle that the people are the bearers of sovereignty and the only source of state power, has been strengthened. Based on this, in recent years, our country has been striving for a New Uzbekistan - a state in which human honor and dignity, rights and freedoms, and legitimate interests are considered the highest value; the people serve state bodies, not state bodies; “living with the concern of the people”, the realization of the legitimate demands and wishes of our people, has become the most important criterion for assessing the activities of state bodies; Systematic measures are being taken to implement such principles and ideas as the participation of the population in all important decisions, based on consultations with civil society institutions.

This is the requirement and advantage of democracy. In this regard, it is required that the legislative and executive bodies ensure human rights; strengthen the role of parliament and political parties, civil society institutions, and the media in deepening democratic reforms and modernizing the country; increase the role of parliament in maintaining checks and balances in the branches of power; pay special attention to improving the quality and efficiency of public services, strengthening the accountability and transparency of the activities of state bodies, and implementing mechanisms for parliamentary and public control.

State bodies must serve the people! The norm on the exercise of state power in the Republic of Uzbekistan in the interests of the people, stipulated in the first part of the second paragraph of the above-mentioned article, is also a confirmation of the above-mentioned ideas. Undoubtedly, these norms, along with strengthening the constitutional and legal foundations of people's power in our country, also serve to ensure the will of our people and

the legitimate interests of people. The second paragraph of this article enshrines another universally recognized principle. According to it, state power is exercised only "by bodies authorized by the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and laws adopted on its basis." These provisions of the Constitution are more clearly expressed and deeply explained in the first paragraph of Article 10, which states that "Only the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan elected by them and the President may act on behalf of the people of Uzbekistan." That is, no part of society, political party, public association, social movement or individual has the right to act on behalf of the people of Uzbekistan. When interpreting these norms, it is appropriate to note that two types of democracy have been developed on the basis of human experience. One of them is direct, that is, direct democracy, and the second is representative democracy, which is implemented through the relevant institutions of elected representatives. Accordingly, governance in Uzbekistan is carried out through a three-branch system of state power: the Oliy Majlis, as a legislative representative body, adopts laws, the executive branch headed by the Cabinet of Ministers ensures their implementation, and the courts, as judicial bodies, resolve disputes on the basis of law. Each of these bodies has a certain range of powers. The third paragraph of Article 7 of the new Constitution states: "The usurpation of the powers of state power in a manner not provided for by the Constitution, the suspension or termination of the activities of government bodies, the formation of new and parallel structures of power. is considered a violation of the Constitution and is grounds for liability in accordance with the law." These norms are a guarantee of the implementation of the principle that New Uzbekistan is a democratic legal state, and the transfer of power in the country is ensured only on the basis of the Constitution and laws. The legal policy of the state is based on the principles of humanity, democracy, social justice and political diversity. Another important fact is that the right and opportunity to receive education will be expanded, and teachers will have constitutional status. In particular, the right of citizens to study at higher educational institutions at the expense of a state grant has been firmly established. The Basic Law also stipulates free primary vocational training for citizens. New Uzbekistan is a social and secular state. The Preamble to our Constitution clearly defines the legal ideology of the development of the state and society, the constitutional values and principles that our people will rely on in building a New Uzbekistan.

The first principle is loyalty to human rights and freedoms, national and universal values, and the principles of state sovereignty. Thus, our Constitution, embodying the basic spiritual and moral values and fundamental rights of man formed over the centuries in the world, declared that the highest value of man is his life, freedom, honor and dignity. Unlike the previous edition of our Constitution, the main idea of its new edition is to ensure the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of the individual, human honor and dignity, and to change the previously existing paradigm of "state - society - individual" to the new principle: "man - society - state".

The second principle is commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom and equality, social justice and solidarity. In international human rights law, the concept of "human dignity"

is inextricably linked to the concepts of equality and personal freedom, based on the understanding that every person is worthy of respect. As emphasized in international human rights treaties, freedom means the absence of state interference in the exercise of an individual's rights.

The third principle is awareness of our high responsibility to present and future generations (the principle of equal rights of generations), as well as a sincere desire to increase the invaluable natural resources of our country and preserve them for present and future generations, and maintain a clean environment. The fourth principle is to rely on the more than three thousand years of historical experience of the development of our statehood, as well as the scientific, cultural and spiritual heritage of our great ancestors, who made an incomparable contribution to world civilization.

The fifth principle is to strive to strengthen and develop friendly relations between Uzbekistan and the world community, primarily with neighboring countries, on the basis of cooperation, mutual support, peace and harmony. Today, Uzbekistan has established diplomatic relations with 142 countries of the world and is a member of more than 100 international organizations and structures.

The status of lawyers was introduced as a separate norm in the updated Constitution. Naturally, a fair trial cannot be held without a lawyer. A dispute arises only when the parties are procedurally equal in status. Therefore, the position of a lawyer in a court proceeding should be equal to that of a prosecutor. The most important thing is that, just as the constitutional norms regarding the prosecutor's office and the court were reflected in a separate chapter, a new chapter dedicated to the bar has now been introduced. And this has created a solid constitutional basis for the principle of adversarial proceedings in criminal or civil proceedings. The bar is an important component of justice. The "Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers" adopted by the UN Congress noted that improving the bar is a primary condition for democratic and legal development. The need for qualified legal assistance requires the state to comprehensively develop the bar in the interests of society. Therefore, a separate chapter on the bar has been included in our updated Constitution. Article 141 of this chapter enshrines a new norm: "The bar shall operate to provide qualified legal assistance to individuals and legal entities. The activities of the bar shall be based on the principles of legality, independence and self-government." Qualified legal assistance is guaranteed to everyone. Therefore, qualified legal assistance is provided not by any person or employee of a state body, but by lawyers with appropriate qualifications and licenses. It is emphasized that the activities of the bar are based on the principles of legality, independence and self-government, and the organization of the bar and the procedure for its activities are determined by law.

It is of great importance that for the first time in the history of modern Uzbekistan, the people themselves are actively participating in constitutional reforms. This determines the path of development of an open and democratic country. We recall that since the beginning of the announced constitutional reform, more than 220 thousand proposals have been

received, but most importantly, the draft Constitutional Law was formed on the basis of these proposals, all of which make the New Constitution literally a People's Constitution. The right and opportunity to receive education will be expanded, teachers will have a constitutional status. In particular, the right of citizens to study at higher educational institutions at the expense of a state grant has been firmly established. The Basic Law also established free basic vocational training for citizens.

The National News Agency of Uzbekistan and the National Television and Radio Company of Uzbekistan were recommended to implement the new version of the Constitution in the mass media, including wide coverage of positive changes in the lives of the population, which is a great achievement. Of the changes in state administration, the term of office of the President was extended from 5 to 7 years. The status of the President as "head of state", the fact that the same person cannot be president for more than two consecutive terms, the text of the presidential oath and most other norms related to the president were left unchanged. For information, the term of office of the President was also extended from 5 to 7 years in 2003, and in 2011 it was reduced from 7 to 5 years.

It is this new constitution that has opened up even wider opportunities for young people. Now we have a wide range of opportunities for our youth to receive education, namely, the number of private universities under state control has increased. In addition, the confidence in improving their qualifications abroad and the ability to start their own entrepreneurial activity, as well as the emergence of new professions, which means a decrease in the number of unemployed. And at the same time, it has been determined by professors and scientists that the promotion of reading will bring great benefits to the economy of our country.

It can be concluded that the updated constitution of Uzbekistan has a significant impact on the future of the country. First of all, this document serves to strengthen democratic values. The updated constitution will expand the rights of citizens and help ensure justice and equality in society.

The constitution also includes reforms aimed at increasing the efficiency of state administration. This, in turn, can have a positive effect on economic development and attracting investments. The updated constitution will also strengthen the dialogue between the government and citizens, which will ensure social stability. By increasing citizen participation, more effective approaches to solving problems in society can emerge. As a result, the updated constitution of Uzbekistan will serve not only to strengthen the country's internal stability, but also its reputation in the international arena. These changes will be an important factor in Uzbekistan's future development and integration into global development.

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