



DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN UZBEKISTAN: REGULATORY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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Abstract. *This article examines the development and implementation of digital transformation in Uzbekistan, focusing on the regulatory and legal framework that underpins this process. It highlights the government's strategic initiatives, including the "Digital Uzbekistan – 2030" strategy, and analyzes the institutional and legislative mechanisms that ensure the effective adoption of digital technologies in public administration and the economy. The paper also outlines key challenges and opportunities related to cybersecurity, e-government, and legal modernization.*

Keywords: *digital transformation, e-government, legislation, ICT, innovation, Digital Uzbekistan–2030, legal regulation.*

INTRODUCTION

Digital transformation has become a central priority of Uzbekistan's socio-economic policy, reflecting the country's transition toward a knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy. The implementation of digital technologies in governance, education, health care, and finance aims to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accessibility of services.

In 2020, the Presidential Decree No. PF-6079 "On the Strategy 'Digital Uzbekistan – 2030'" established a comprehensive national agenda for digitalization, covering public administration, e-services, cybersecurity, and digital literacy. The success of this transformation largely depends on a well-developed legal and regulatory framework that supports innovation while safeguarding data protection, privacy, and citizens' rights.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study is based on an analysis of legal acts, government programs, and strategic documents related to the digital transformation of Uzbekistan. The methodological approach includes comparative legal analysis and systematization of data from national and international sources such as UNDP, OECD, and the World Bank.

Legal instruments such as the Law "On Electronic Government" (2015), the Law "On Electronic Digital Signature" (2021), and the Presidential Decree "On Measures for Accelerating the Digital Transformation of Public Administration" (2022) serve as key regulatory foundations.

In addition, the Ministry of Digital Technologies of the Republic of Uzbekistan plays a leading role in implementing national digital projects, coordinating with both domestic and foreign partners to promote e-governance and digital innovation ecosystems.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The implementation of the “**Digital Uzbekistan – 2030**” strategy has resulted in the launch of over 400 digital initiatives across various sectors. One of the major achievements is the creation of the Unified E-Government Platform, which integrates more than 300 public services accessible to citizens and businesses online.

The legal framework for digital transformation is evolving rapidly. Recent reforms have introduced:

- **Data protection and cybersecurity laws** aligned with international standards;
- **Regulations on open data** and interoperability of government systems;
- **Legal mechanisms for supporting IT startups** and attracting foreign investment into the digital economy.

Furthermore, Uzbekistan’s accession to several international digital cooperation agreements has strengthened its position as a regional hub for technological development. The government also promotes public-private partnerships (PPP) in digital infrastructure, enabling cooperation with leading global technology firms.

However, several challenges remain. These include ensuring consistent enforcement of digital laws, enhancing digital literacy among civil servants and citizens, and building a sustainable cybersecurity framework. Addressing these challenges requires not only technical solutions but also continuous adaptation of legislation to the fast-changing technological environment.

The digital transformation process is closely linked with administrative reform and the modernization of governance. By digitizing bureaucratic processes and promoting transparency, Uzbekistan reduces corruption risks and improves public trust. Legal instruments such as digital identity (e-ID), electronic document management, and electronic payments provide the basis for efficient and accountable governance.

CONCLUSION

Digital transformation in Uzbekistan is not only a technological modernization process but also a comprehensive reform aimed at improving governance, economic efficiency, and public services. The implementation of the “Digital Uzbekistan – 2030” Strategy has become a key driver of these reforms, creating a unified framework for developing digital infrastructure, e-government systems, and innovation-based institutions.

The adoption of laws such as “On Electronic Government,” “On Electronic Digital Signature,” and “On Personal Data Protection” has laid a solid legal foundation for the digital economy. These regulations ensure data security, transparency, and accountability while promoting public trust in digital services. They also align national policies with international standards, strengthening Uzbekistan’s position in the global digital ecosystem.

At the same time, digital transformation requires continuous adaptation of legislation to new technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, and big data. The state must strike a balance between innovation and regulation to maintain progress without



compromising privacy or ethical standards. Human capital development remains equally important—enhancing digital literacy and professional competence among civil servants and citizens is essential for sustaining long-term progress.

In summary, Uzbekistan’s digital transformation demonstrates that technological innovation must go hand in hand with legal modernization and institutional reform. A strong regulatory framework, combined with investment in human capacity and international cooperation, will ensure that digitalization contributes to sustainable economic growth and the creation of an inclusive, knowledge-based society.

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