



## THE ROLE OF POLITICAL AND LEGAL CULTURE IN INCREASING THE SOCIO-POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF THE POPULATION

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**Annotation:** *The article examines the issue of social and political activity of the population as a result of successful reforms in Uzbekistan. It highlights the ongoing efforts in this area, as well as the implementation of targeted measures to ensure personal, political, economic, social, and cultural rights within the framework of the National Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Human Rights. In the context of the era of major changes and renewal in our country, the article also addresses the importance of improving the population's social awareness and protection mechanisms. The reforms in this sphere are analyzed through their impact on people's lives, worldviews, and lifestyles.*

**Keywords:** *National strategy, reform, population, socio-political, development, citizenship, society, relations, culture.*

As a result of the reforms carried out in Uzbekistan, a number of efforts have been made aimed at upholding the value of human dignity. In particular, within the framework of the National Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, targeted measures are being implemented to ensure personal, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. When analyzing the reforms in this regard, it should first be noted that international standards on human rights are being systematically and gradually implemented into national legislation and law enforcement practices.

Currently, the provisions of more than 80 international human rights instruments ratified by Uzbekistan — including the 7 core UN treaties and 4 optional protocols — have been incorporated into the national legal framework. Accession to the main international human rights treaties has contributed to the creation of an effective national system for the protection of human rights. In particular, 12 constitutional laws, 18 codes, and over 700 laws aimed at regulating the field of human rights protection have been adopted.

It is worth noting that, thanks to the reforms carried out, the issues of ensuring the socio-political literacy and freedoms of the population are now under the scrutiny not only of the state but of society as a whole. Civil society institutions actively participate within the framework of the current legislation in improving the legal system, monitoring the rights of socially vulnerable groups, conducting information and educational activities, and preparing periodic national and alternative reports on the implementation of international human rights obligations.

The process of reforming state-society cooperation, interethnic dialogue, and intercultural exchange is underway in our country. Therefore, the statement that "in our



country, the construction of a legal democratic state, a strong civil society, an economy based on free market relations and the primacy of private property, and the establishment of a peaceful, prosperous life for our people is serving as a strong foundation for Uzbekistan to gain a worthy place in the international arena” is no coincidence. Balanced and harmonious cooperation between the state and society requires the continuation of reforms aimed at establishing civil society as independent from the state and monitoring government activity. Modern democracy cannot exist without a strong and organized civil society.

A high level of autonomy and self-organization of civil society can serve as a guarantee for the rapid resolution of existing issues. At the same time, it provides full protection for society and individuals from violations of state boundaries and the law. “Civil society institutions, including public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations, citizens’ self-governance bodies, and the mass media form the basis of civil society. The activities of civil society institutions are carried out in accordance with the law.”


The state must be a reliable partner for society and the private sector. Mutual interest and complementarity should form the basis of the "social contract" between the state and society. It is the honorable duty of the state to ensure a legal framework that guarantees fair and competitive conditions for various spheres of public life. Both central and local government bodies should, as much as possible, transfer their functions to non-governmental organizations. The formation of such relations requires well-organized policy and a high level of political culture.

Politics encompasses the relationships, interactions, changes, or possibilities for modernization between political actors at various levels. Political culture, therefore, is the set of beliefs, values, and emotions that give meaning to political processes, as well as the principles and rules by which political systems are maintained and operated. The German philosopher Johann Gottfried Herder was the first to use the term "political culture" in the 18th century. He wrote: “Most of the ancient Greek philosophers held state positions as leaders, advisers to kings, and generals. Only such prominent figures and aristocrats could create political culture and influence the lower strata of society.”

The main tasks in the formation of legal culture are to instill a positive attitude towards the law, and to help individuals understand their rights and responsibilities before the state and society. In today's world, it is essential to adapt to emerging trends. The primary condition for the rapid development of any modern state is the establishment of the rule of law. This is not only a guarantee of rights and freedoms but also a key criterion for the country’s investment attractiveness. However, this process is impossible without forming and developing the legal culture of the population.

A.F. Nikitin, defining the concept of “legal culture,” suggested visualizing it as a building with three floors: the first floor includes legal knowledge and the ability to use it; the second – attitudes toward the law; and the third – behavior and actions in legally





significant situations. The foundation of this building consists of moral and ideological, political views and beliefs.

The foundation of expanding the legal consciousness of the population of Uzbekistan lies in enabling all social groups to actively engage in labor and expand the scope of human rights. It is necessary to eliminate legal indifference, any excesses, or cruelty toward the law, and the destructive idea of “I do what I want” under the guise of democracy. One of the ways to achieve this is legal education for youth. In this regard, it is important to prevent the development of legal nihilism in Uzbekistan, because its acceptance among young people poses a serious threat.

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