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### SECTION 24. Sociological research

## SOME ASPECTS OF UZBEKISTAN YOUTH ELECTORAL CULTURE FORMING

**Abstract:** In this article some aspects of Uzbekistan youth electoral culture forming are considered. Also some features of political activity, political behavior, political consciousness, political knowledge objective and subjective factors of political activity of youth are analyzed.

**Key words:** *electorality, electoral culture, youth, political activity, political consciousness, political knowledge.*

**Language:** English

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### Introduction

Electoral culture today is rightfully an indicator of democratic transformations in any country in the world. Despite the ever-growing process of globalization, every democratic state has elective bodies and electorate. The task of elective bodies is to ensure, to the maximum, the political and electoral activity of the population in order to obtain the majority of seats in the Parliament, in other state and local government bodies, where the electoral system is relevant. Elections are the most optimal way of renewing power and legitimizing the political system and its components. Almost all CIS countries the main electorate is represented by young people. According to this indicator, Uzbekistan occupies one of the first places not only in the Commonwealth space, but also on the continent. Consequently, the electoral culture of the youth plays a decisive role in the political life of the country, in the direction of the transformations and reforms carried out in it. In the Republic of Uzbekistan over the past 2 years, fundamental changes have taken place, both in the political and in other spheres of public life. The increase of the electoral culture of the youth in this respect aims to solve far-reaching tasks for ensuring the well-being and prosperity of the state.

### Materials and Methods

Guarantees of the electoral rights of citizens are enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. As noted in it, citizens of the Republic of

Uzbekistan have the right to elect and be elected to representative bodies of state power. Each voter has one vote. The right to vote, equality and freedom of expression are guaranteed by law.

These constitutional guarantees are more widely reflected in the legislative documents adopted in this sphere, such as the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Guarantees of Electoral Rights of Citizens", "On Elections to the Oliy Majlis (Supreme Council) of the Republic of Uzbekistan", "On Elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan", "On elections to the regional, district and city Kengashes (Councils) of People's Deputies" and "On the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan" [1; 2].

Before turning to the consideration of the aspects of the formation of the electoral culture of youth in Uzbekistan, it is necessary to briefly dwell on the very understanding of the term "Electoral culture". Most authors-specialists in this field note that there are a lot of definitions of this term. In the national political encyclopedia the following definition of electoral culture is given: "a relatively stable system of knowledge, assessments and norms of electoral behavior, electoral relations and the electoral process as a whole. Electoral culture is directly connected with the general political culture. Determining for the electoral culture is responsibility (awareness of the importance and importance of



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elections) and competence (necessary knowledge, ability to assess the situation) of voters" [3].

It should be noted that the growth of political activity can also depend on the political situation itself, political reforms in the country. In Uzbekistan, a course has been adopted for a new development strategy for the country. This strategy includes five main areas: 1) improving state and public construction; 2) ensuring the rule of law and reforming the judicial and legal system; 3) development and liberalization of the economy; 4) development of the social sphere; 5) ensuring security, interethnic harmony and religious tolerance, implementing a balanced, mutually beneficial and constructive foreign policy. In particular, with respect to the first paragraph, it is stated that this task is aimed at further strengthening the role of parliament in deepening democratic reforms and modernizing the country, developing the organizational and legal basis for public administration and public service, reducing government regulation of the economy, broad implementation of the public service delivery system on the principle of "one window", the further implementation of public control mechanisms and the strengthening of the role of civil society institutions and the mass media

The legal state implies the supremacy of law in all spheres of public life. This means that every citizen should know both his rights and his duties. The level of political activity in the country reflects the level of confidence in political elites, as well as the ability to understand political processes not only within their own country, but also in the international arena. As noted above, it is very difficult to stay out of politics today. Our whole life is politicized. In these conditions, when information flows are so numerous and diverse, one has to know a lot about the political structure of the world. Thanks to this knowledge, the constantly updated information is precisely the youth, as the most representative client of the information world is capable of showing political activity. Political culture and political activity of young people are interrelated and coexist.

For the electoral culture, the two indicators are decisive: responsibility (understanding the importance of elections, interest in them and the desire to understand the situation) and competence (ability to assess the situation, correlate their interests with offers and personal merits of candidates and parties).

Despite the fact that the notion of electoral culture is widespread in the CIS countries, Eastern Europe, Southeast Asia, in the West, the concepts of "electoral behavior", "electoral orientations" are most often used [4; 5, P. 611-615]. As noted by the author L. Fadeeva, "one can speak of electoral culture only in relation to situations where social habits and influence are stronger than rational choice, that is, to

non-Western societies. Probably skepticism in relation to electoral culture is affected by the perception of political culture as a conceptual stretch" [6]. But still, we will focus on the concept of "electoral culture", to identify the main aspects and trends in its formation. This is due to the fact that the truly democratic nature of the suffrage began to be carried on the territory of the CIS countries relatively recently and has not yet fully manifested its advantages at the moment. The formation of a youth electoral culture in particular and electoral culture in general is a matter of time.

It is young people who want to change something in the existing world. Factors on which the political behavior of young people depend, both subjective and objective, are diverse. According to T.G. Sudakova and A.S. Gezimiyev, the age-specific features (mobility of political consciousness, susceptibility to manipulation due to lack of political experience), unstable financial position (difficulty of finding a job, low incomes, etc.) and objective economic development of the state [7].

Numerous subjective factors include, in particular, the degree of trust in the institutions of state power, confidence in the future, the degree of interest in political events, and so on. The possibilities of e-government can also be used to increase political activity and political culture of the youth. Introduction of online support and communication with the leading political parties of the country, with statesmen, political elite, representatives of local self-government. Now you do not need to stand in line for a reception for a politician. It is enough to write a letter, application or request and send it to a special Internet portal. It will be registered and within a few days will be considered. The effectiveness of the relationship between the electorate and the political elite is the key to the successful implementation of civil society building in the country. Since the main users of the Internet, including electronic state portals, are young people, it is this age group that creates a powerful platform for political culture.

Young people, as a constituent part of the electorate, certainly influence the change in the political alignment of forces in society. Therefore, the struggle for the political consciousness of young people is especially actual in modern conditions. This struggle can occur at different levels.

In accordance with the Law "On Elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan", citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan from the age of 18 have the right to participate in elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Any direct or indirect restrictions on the voting rights of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan depending on their origin, social and property status, race and nationality, sex, education, language, attitude to religion, kind and nature of classes are prohibited. Of

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course, direct participation in voting and determining your own political choice comes when young people reach the age of 18. However, the preparatory stage for entry into political life begins earlier. Even at school, young people consolidate the foundations of the state and law, the national idea and ideology, the relationship between the individual and society and other humanitarian and social disciplines. It is these foundations that will become the foundation for the future political activity of citizens.

### Conclusion

The active political and civil position of the Uzbek youth is formed also on the basis of studying foreign electoral experience. In this regard, the future prospects of the integration of the newly created Union of Youth of Uzbekistan and the Youth Council of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization countries are of great importance. Also in our country, the practice of the Youth Parliament is taking on an increasingly broad scale. The future electorate, future parliamentarians have the opportunity to gain experience both in the Parliament

of their country and in the Parliament of other states. For example, young people from Uzbekistan undergo training in the Parliament of Western and Eastern Europe, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, as well as the United States.

Nevertheless, it can not be asserted that an active political and civic position is manifested in all young people. So, for example, a certain part of the youth environment does not show much interest in the political life of the country, towards the transformations that take place in it. But the percentage of such young people is insignificant. As an instrument of propaganda of political activity, one can not use the imposition of certain political, social, or spiritual ideas. We need a planned, evolutionary movement from unwillingness to participate in the political life of the country, to an active vital, civic position. And in this process, not only the school, but also the family has value. In the family, besides all other ideas, ideas of civic-mindedness, patriotism, love for the Motherland, aspirations for participation in the choice of the political course and political leaders of the state should be laid.

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