

Social Partnership In Uzbekistan: Status And Prospects

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Abstract: This article analyzes the current state of social partnership in Uzbekistan, existing problems and prospects for the development of social partnership relations.

Key words: social partnership, reforms, state, civil society institutes, nongovernmental noncommercial organizations, social council, business enterprises, makhalla.

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the factors of formation and sustainable development of a democratic state is to ensure of the consent and consensual interaction between public authorities, public institutions, the general public and the business community on the implementation of various projects of socio-political and socio-economic values. In other words, the democratic development of a given society is determined not only by the functioning of democratic institutions, the presence and consolidation of democratic principles and values in society, but also by the widespread use of such a tool as social partnership. In Uzbekistan, the understanding that social partnership is the path to an effective state through consolidation, expansion of public support for the goals and actions of the authorities is gaining ground. The idea of social partnership is close and demanded by wide layers of the people. In this regard, it should be noted that in the present time in our country, invariably growing the number of NGOs, reflecting the interests of various strata of the population. In Uzbekistan it has been created for them strong legal guarantees. Today they can not only freely carry out their activities, but also feel strong support, both from the state and society. It is obvious that the effectiveness of the functioning of civil society in the person of NGOs or other public associations is determined not only by their presence and conduct of any activity, but also by their interaction with state bodies in order to solve socially significant problems. As some researchers note: "Civil society and the state are completely interdependent social values. For their existence, they are equally necessary for each other ... But the connection between civil society and the state is not just ... interdependence. He is also a complementarity relationship"[1]. One mechanism for this interdependence or synergy is social partnership.

2 UZBEKISTAN EXPERIENCE IN SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP

In Uzbekistan it has already been gained experience in social partnership, operate machinery, interaction, guaranteed by the national legislation of the country, which includes more than 30 laws and more than a hundred legal acts regulating certain aspects of cooperation between the state and various civil institutions, including sectorial laws on development of social partnership in the field of environmental protection [2], health[3], education[4] social protection[5] and others. All about either, being a reflection of the democratic principles and values, at the same time respond and mentality in our people, in particular the tendency of our society to solve most of the problems together. In this regard, it should be noted the adoption of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On social partnership"[6], aimed at the creation of mechanisms that would consolidate society in order to protect the interests of different social groups and strata, the promotion solution of urgent social and political problems, the deepening of democracy, the formation of the social state of law, an open democratic civil society. In the conditions of growing social consciousness and activity of the citizens and public institutions the adoption of the Law has enabled creator's integrated system of interaction; provide a legal guarantee of constructive dialogue. It should be noted that during the development of the law has been studied international experience as well as modern e trend and socio-political development. So, in the early 90s of the last century France, Great Britain, Canada[7] and a number of other developed democracies widely were applicable the practices at the conclusion of partnership agreements between the government and a coalition of non-governmental organizations. They are usually picked were the principles of cooperation, forms and mechanisms, the financial side. However, such agreements were the term of the government, that is a question raised the issue of stability in mutual relations. In these countries, politicians, and above all, the public, are actively taking the initiative to legislatively resolve partnership issues in order to give them a stable character that would not depend on the political situation and the change of government. Moreover, the mechanical copying of the experience of Western countries is hardly promising. It is necessary to identify the historical, socio-political, economic prerequisites for social partnership. Only on this basis can a national model of partnerships be developed. A significant event in the socio-political and socio-economic development of Uzbekistan and the adoption in 2017 Action Strategy for the Further Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-

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2021 ss, Which includes 5 priority directions of development in this period.[8]. As part of the Strategy a separate place is given to the improvement of public administration system, which sets out the fundamental strategic objectives for the development of civil society in the next five years, among which there is the task of embedding the effective mechanisms for dialogue with the people and increase the effectiveness of social partnership. An interesting fact is that even at the stage of developing the draft Strategy, the general public of the country actively participated, whose wishes and comments were taken into account and reflected in the final version of the Strategy. This circumstance indicates that many aspects of the democratization and modernization of the country, including the development of civil society, began to gradually take on a "bottom-up" trend and become filled with an "inside out" paradigm, in which issues directly related to social development are initiated within society and transmitting in the state. Moreover, in order to expand the participation of citizens in managing the affairs of society and the state, to ensure the transparency of the activities of state bodies, as well as the viability and effectiveness of the laws adopted, in the beginning of 2018 a web portal "Mening fikrim" was created, with the help of which citizens of Uzbekistan were able to send offers in the form of an electronic collective appeal on topical issues relating to the life of society and the state. Thus, for the first time, a unified platform of public initiatives has been created in the country, which in the future can develop into a law-making initiative guaranteed by law, become a powerful impetus for the development of civil society as a whole and will enhance the effectiveness of dialogue between the state and civil society institutions. It is also worth noting that the solution to the problem of enhancing the activities of citizens and public institutions in the life of the state aims to create Public Councils under state bodies and state authorities in the field, the purpose of which is to ensure the participation of the general public in solving issues such as the comprehensive development and improvement of living standards local population, the expansion of public-private partnerships and international cooperation, the introduction of modern management technologies, is perfect infrastructure through the introduction of successful technologies used in developed cities of the world, the development of entrepreneurship, etc. The function of public councils is to prepare proposals on the above issues and ensure public control over their implementation. To date, these public councils are formed and operate at Tashkent city administration and regional state administration capital, as well as at various ministers. A big step forward in expanding the mechanisms of social partnership was the adoption in 2018 of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to radically increase the role of civil society institutions in the process of democratic renewal of the country", on the basis of which the Advisory Council on the Development of Civil Society under the President of the Republic was created Uzbekistan, whose main tasks are to establish a systematic and effective dialogue between the state and civil society institutions, has worked a bunch of proposals for determining strategic directions and forming a national model for the development of civil society, initiating the organization of fundamental and applied research in the field of civil society development, developing indicators for assessing the development of civil society, etc.[9] At the same time, despite

significant progress in the development of social partnership in Uzbekistan, urgent problems remain in this area that impedes the strengthening of a civilized dialogue between the parties. These include the following:

1. Insufficient activity and missing strong the trade union's organizations, capable of effectively defend workers' rights through dialogue and cooperation with the relevant government institutions to participate in lawmaking.
2. Lack of knowledge of the most population in the field of social partnership, without understanding of its nature and value, the lack of sufficient knowledge about the tools and mechanisms of interaction with the state authorities.
3. Not high enough level of legal literacy and that it sometimes becomes an obstacle for the active participation of citizens in the activities of NGOs and on effective cooperation between the state and civil society institutions.

If we talk about the prospects for the development of a national model of social partnership, it should be noted that on May 10, 2019, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan signed the Law "On Public-Private Partnership"[10] (PPP), the development and discussion of which has been ongoing over the past two years. The adoption of this Law is aimed at improving the effectiveness of mutually beneficial cooperation in implementing the tasks of socio-political and socio-economic development of the country. This law will initiate projects based on PPP, which should be a successful step in developing a new principle of interaction between the government, society and the business community. The inclusion of business entities as a party to social partnership will contribute not only to the development of the economy, the creation of new, highly efficient jobs, but also to the increase of the social responsibility of business for addressing problems, providing targeted social services, in a word, for the fate of reforms[11].

CONCLUSION

It should also be taken into account that the policy of social partnership is not limited only to the sphere of economic or social-labor relations. Its implementation is associated with the participation in such a process of public associations representing the interests of various social groups, strata, government bodies and self-government bodies of citizens. In Uzbekistan, this role is played by the makhalla, through which a steady relationship with society and the citizen is carried out. It is contacts with the makhalla that are for the state a large-scale source of information about the state of society, its interests, moods, attitude to power. Being a reflection and manifestation of traditionalism, the makhalla performs such significant functions for a democratic society as public control, self-government, the education of a conscious and harmoniously developed personality, the promotion of private business and entrepreneurship, and other.

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