



THE ROLE OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN STRENGTHENING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STATE AND SOCIETY

(PhD) Nurmukhammad KARSHIEV,
NUU "Civil Society and legal education"
Teacher of the department

E-mail: nurmukhammad.qarshiyev@mail.ru
phone: 90 975 90 70

Article history:	Abstract:
Received: May 8 th 2023 Accepted: June 6 th 2023 Published: July 4 th 2023	Political parties have emerged whose main task has been to protect the interests of their electorate and supporters. The relations between the political party and the state institution are being studied in depth in world science. The influence of globalization, the acceleration of political processes, and their renewal and change complicate the relations between the state and society and create new factors in relations. The article highlights the role of political parties in strengthening relations between the state and society and analyzes the theoretical approaches of political scientists.

Keywords: state, society, political party, party system, multiparty system, democracy, civil society, political system, the electorate.

INTRODUCTION. Many political scientists have different approaches to the emergence and development of political parties. Some scholars associate political parties with the ancient world and connect their emergence with the coexistence of different social strata and groups, such as farmers, fishermen, artisans, and townspeople, living in the territory of the Ancient Roman and Greek states, and each of these strata's desire to protect their interests in front of the ruling circle, the political elite, and the state. Most political scientists emphasize that political parties emerged as a result of the European bourgeois revolution in the 19th century. In our opinion, the groups, clubs, and associations that give the essence of political parties belong to the ancient world, while political parties in the modern form are the product of the European bourgeois revolution.

The difference between political parties and other non-governmental non-profit organizations is that it is a politicized institution that fights for power in most cases by legal means. Political parties perform many functions and tasks in society. One of the most important of these is the role of a bridge between the state and society.

In recent years, a wide political and legal space has been created for political parties to operate freely in Uzbekistan. The legislation on the activities of political parties is being improved. As an example, the presence of separate articles (Articles 71-74) in the Constitution, as well as in the "Election Code" of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which was adopted in 2019 after an in-depth study of international best practices, simplified the participation of political parties in elections.

In addition, there are laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Political Parties" (1996), "On Financing Political Parties" (2004) and other similar laws.

Also, in the Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026, the tasks of increasing the role of political parties are defined. The 7th goal of the development strategy. It is of particular importance that the task "to further strengthen the role of Oliy Majlis chambers and political parties in comprehensively studying the situation in all areas and developing effective measures to solve existing problems, to expand the participation of the parliament in ensuring the unconditional and full implementation of the adopted laws in practice" [1] is of particular importance.

LITERATURE REVIEW. There are separate theories about the role of political parties as intermediaries between the state and society, and we can give an example of J. Sartori's theory of the party as an intermediary between the state and society. Also, scientists who researched this topic include N. Machiavelli, T. Hobbs, J. Locke, D. Hume, M. Duverge, M. Weber, R. Kats, P. Mair, B. N. Chicherin, M. Ya. Ostrogorsky, B. Isaev, S. Lantsov, V. P. Pugachyov, A. I. Solovov, Uzbek scientists M. Kyrgyzboev, Q. Nazarov, I. Ergashev, S. Berdikulov, V. Kuchkarov, B. Yakubov.

R. Katz and P. Mair are among the scientists who studied the function of political parties as a link between the state and society, and they focus on the fact that parties are institutional organizations closer to the state than to society.

Understanding the relationship between society and the state is imperative in understanding the way



political parties function. Katz and Mair rightly try to link the assessment of political parties with the relationship between the state and society. But their approach reveals a rather static view of how state and society relate to each other. Since their main contention is that parties move from civil society toward the state 'to such an extent that parties effectively become part of the state apparatus itself, a different evaluation of the relationship between state and society also affects the appreciation of the functioning of political parties.

In some literature, they try to interpret parties as a link between the state and society, not as a bridge, that is, as a dual concept. For example, "Against the background of the enormous growth of the electorate, and hence of civil society, political parties were devices to structure the masses and to integrate them into the political system. State intervention found its necessary counterpart in increased possibilities for control by the people of the state. Parties provided the linkage. The intermediary role of parties therefore, should not be interpreted as bridging a gap between society and the state, but rather as structuring the increasing interweaving of society and state: not a bridge, but a binder"[2, -Б. 512].

Political parties are one of the most active institutions in ensuring communication between the state and society in the conditions of democracy and the only institution that strives for power within the framework of the law and ensures its exchangeability. That is, it is possible to come to power within the law only through political parties. These approaches are described in the literature as follows; It has been shown that mass democracy can only function in the form of representative democracy and the parties are ultimately the only institutions legitimized with their participation in the general elections, justifying their representation and legitimacy through their participation in these elections[3].

For a deeper philosophical elaboration of the place and role of the institution of political parties in society, Chicherin also turns to the traditional socio-philosophical problem of the relationship between civil society and the state; the latter, however, is considered in the context of a broader "political union" (or "political order"), which includes, in addition to state bodies, non-state political structures, in particular, political parties. Thus, Chicherin gave new life to Locke's approach to the analysis of this range of issues, in which, as we know, the English theorist introduced the concept of "political community" as a broader concept than the concept of "state" and included all kinds of voluntary unions and agreements of people about the choice of their ways of government. As another key pair of concepts, Chicherin

used the concepts of "organic" and "inorganic" social connections. By the first of them, he meant a set of purposefully and imperatively regulated social relations, essentially identical to the system of interaction of state bodies. "Inorganic" social relations, by the philosopher's definition, being the supporting structure of the sphere of "freedom", were devoid of these characteristics and included not only the entire sphere of civil society, but also non-state components of the "political union" ("political order"), in particular, "the influence of public opinion", the print media, political parties, and "political assemblies" [6].

In addition, for political parties to act as the main link and bridge between the state and society, they must grow naturally from society, and no institutions, organizations, as well as the state should try to artificially create political parties and present them to society. In some cases, for example, during the transition period, the state may provide financial support for the development of political parties. In this case, it is aimed to ensure the development of the political party system. But for societies where the party system has already formed, this situation may cause certain dangers or work against progress. For example, according to the Russian scientist A. Tetuev, "The fact that political parties were mostly created around influential businessmen, popular leaders and parliamentary factions, and did not grow out of the depths of civil society, is also an inhibitory factor in the development of parties"[8].

Thus, political parties play an important role in establishing and strengthening relations between the state and society, and the building of relations between both parties based on mutual trust is directly dependent on the activities of political parties.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY. Institutional, systematic-analytical, structural, functional, historical, logical, complex approach and comparative analysis approach methodologies were used in this research.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS. Political parties are essentially a bridge between the state and society, and in modern societies, they fulfil this task by protecting the interests of their electorate before the authorities. In a multi-party system, several parties represent and protect the interests of many social strata that make up the society before the state power and become a means of connecting them.

Since political parties are seen as a connecting tool between the state and society, we should also mention that other institutions of civil society can perform certain functions of political parties, but cannot



perform their main functions, participation in public elections, formation of power through representative institutions, etc. Also "Political parties have particular importance in democracy because during the elections. They create consciousness among the voters. They keep the nation alive, politically. They create the interest of the voters in politics and attract them toward fundamental problems"[4].

So, the political party is one of the strongest institutions of civil society, and it is directly seen as a guarantee of democracy in most cases. Political parties are institutions that belong neither fully to the state nor fully to society. It is considered an organization close to a state institution in terms of the fact that it takes an active part in the management, that is, in the formation of factions and the composition of the government, and in terms of controlling the activities of the officials it represents, on the other hand, protecting the interests of the electorate in front of the state power and other institutions of civil society, expressing the political will of a certain social stratum, indicates that it belongs to the society. Based on the above, we consider political parties as institutions belonging to both the state (government) and society (civil society), and it is political parties that are responsible for the relations between them.

We emphasized that parties are not government structures. At the same time, each party seeks to get its representatives into these structures (parliament, government). So, on the one hand, the party is a public organization, belongs to civil society and puts pressure on the government from below. On the other hand, party factions in parliament and party leaders belong to state structures and run the country. Thus, the party system is like a connecting bridge between the state and civil society. It is through it that individual citizens and organizations can express their aspirations and influence the country's policy [7].

So proper understanding should be created between the citizens and government for proper governance of the nations. The political party also helps in educating the citizens about the country's political and electoral system so they can elect their government officials[5].

Based on the above, political parties are viewed as a connecting bridge between the state and society, which can benefit both sides and are one of the main instruments for ensuring their effective functioning as an integral mechanism. Effective functioning of these processes as a system serves to ensure an increase in the quality of life of the population.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS.

In conclusion, we can mention that the political parties of the advanced countries of the world have formed as a unique strong political institution in ensuring relations between the state and society. It is concluded that the maximum fulfilment of this task by the parties will increase the development of democracy in modern societies.

In Uzbekistan, political parties are seen as institutions that ensure the normal functioning of the democratic system and one of the main tasks assigned to them is the political bridge between the state and society, which serves to develop an open, free, and human rights-based civil society.

Based on the above, we offer the following:

- In the conditions of multi-partyism, to ensure healthy competition of political parties, to develop proposals for their more effective functioning as a strong bridge and link between the state and society;
- To increase scientific research works on the relationship between political parties between the state and society, to continue studying it based on new approaches.

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