



ROLE OF PUBLIC CONTROL IN THE ACTIVITIES OF REPRESENTATIVE AUTHORITIES IN THE LOCATIONS

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| Article history: | Abstract: |
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| Received: March 10 th 2022 Accepted: April 10 th 2022 Published: May 22 th 2022 | The article highlights the importance of citizen participation in local government through public participation, and explores the need for openness and transparency in this process. |
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INTRODUCTION

Understanding local needs is often accomplished through a process called "public relations". The English scholar G. Stuard had stated that there was no clear definition of public involvement. Attempts to explain the connection to the community are mainly considered in the context of planning and implementation. It depends on how the place of planning is managed and, of course, on the final decision-making power.

The best way to achieve citizen engagement is not to strengthen paternalism in the management processes associated with local community organizations, but to focus on developing cooperation and encouraging self-awareness. leads to the loss of established interactions. The term "citizen engagement" is based on the four principles of meeting local needs and the origins of local governance: authority, cooperation, government, and governance. Citizens' participation in these four principles of local government is directly described as "simple roots" or "bottom-up" relationships.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the research, the information of the foreign scientific works, learning the management of scientific styles of generalisation, systematic analysis, descriptive and other methods were used.

RESULTS AND ITS DISCUSSION

The question of the extent to which the general public participates in public administration today is a hotly debated topic in political science. As we analyze the theoretical approaches to public engagement in governance, we come across differences and even contradictions.

According to the first proponent of the theoretical approach, it is through local authorities that public participation is seen as the result of a society's social development activities. Local government, as the smallest and most appropriate unit in the system of public administration, plays a major role in overcoming barriers between the individual and society. Board members also need to have a oversight role in order to communicate effectively with the general public. This will allow for greater participation in democracy and active participation in governing the government. In political practice, the exercise of governance by the elite is more reasonable, less consistent than that of ordinary citizens. Ordinary people believe that instead of leaving decisions to the elite, they have enough intelligence to make their own decisions. In many cases, people do not think about the logical sequence of the decision-making process or the amount of information they use and how they use it. Instead of focusing on their decision-making process, people are more interested in the expected results of management and hope that its performance will lead to better results[7].

Contrary to these views, proponents of the second approach argue that democratic public participation raises a number of important theoretical and political issues. Involving the public directly in discussions through competent democratic institutions may reduce the role of officially elected representatives (local councilors) [8]. Management should be carried out by a selected group that is deemed competent, not as a whole citizen. Because the intellectual abilities of the public in the management process are different. Citizens' decision-making is a one-time process, largely through voting. In modern times, such participation (other than



voting) depends more on the problem and the situation in it [10].

In our view, elected representatives play an important management role at the local level. Because they are responsible on behalf of the general public to ensure that the activities of public organizations are fair, effective and meet local needs. They are also responsible for the overall balance of results, community action, and the effectiveness of local collaboration. It should also be borne in mind that those with a high level of education - selected officials - may use the information in other ways for their own benefit. In this process, communities and private organizations will need to take control of them. Therefore, transparency, equality, organic communication and debate must be ensured in achieving efficiency in activities.

So far, the rights of citizens related to political participation are guaranteed in several international documents. In particular, Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states that every citizen has the right to participate in public affairs, to vote and to enter elected public service. Article 25 of the Convention on Civil and Social Partnership also provides for the right of citizens to participate in public affairs, to participate directly in public meetings, and to deal with local problems or the affairs of a particular community. 'shown. The Document on Equal Participation in Political and Public Affairs, adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2015, emphasizes the importance of citizens 'participation in public affairs and their ability to participate in political life without legal or practical barriers. Also, Article 8 of the UN General Assembly Declaration of Human Rights stipulates that everyone has the right to participate in the work of his or her government, both personally and collectively, through the conduct of public and public affairs.

The Aarhus Convention (1998), one of the most important international instruments for public participation in governance, guarantees the right to information, public participation in decision-making and access to it [11]. During the preparation of various programs, the public will be given the opportunity to express their views and suggestions.

In recent years, our country has been achieving effective results in terms of public participation and control in the field of public administration. At the same time, of course, the timely adoption of the Action Strategy for Development for 2017-2021 is important. Item 1.3 is entitled "Improving the system of public administration", which

reflects the issues aimed at enhancing the place and role of the public institution. At the same time, special attention should be paid to the quality of public administration, its efficiency and effective control, aimed at timely "meeting" the needs of the state and society. "In the interests of our people, in making any decision that affects their future, we must cut seven scales and one" [12]. At the same time, it is important to involve the general public in all processes, from its adoption to its implementation, and to introduce transparent and effective methods of citizen participation in this process [13].

Given the fact that today in our country there are more than 9.5 thousand NGOs, more than 1.5 thousand media outlets and about ten thousand neighborhood assemblies, it shows how important and relevant this is. To this end, many legal documents have been adopted to further increase the participation of the general public in public administration. In particular, "On Public Associations", "On Trade Unions, Guarantees of Their Rights and Activities", "On Political Parties", "On Non-Governmental Organizations", "In the new edition "On the bodies of self-government of citizens", "On environmental control", "On social partnership", "Transparency of public authorities" Examples are the Laws on Parliamentary Oversight and the Law on Public Oversight.

Only the Law "On Transparency of Public Authorities" provides for the public to be fully informed about the activities of these bodies, based on the openness and transparency, speed and accuracy of information, the procedure and sources of disclosure of information. was important. "Because in a democratic and open society, public administration is carried out with the direct and indirect participation of the population. This is the only way for citizens to know clearly what programs are being adopted in the country, how they are being implemented, how responsible and officials are fulfilling their duties, and, if necessary, to express their views on these processes. it will be possible "[14]. As a result, democratic values develop in all segments of society.

Ensuring the participation of citizens in the governance process (directly or indirectly) is one of the key components of building civil society. The head of our state pays special attention to the participation of citizens in public administration processes. "There is no procedure for reporting and information in public authorities, including the economy, banking and finance, public utilities, internal affairs, foreign affairs, education, health, the judiciary in parliament and local



councils," he said. People's control is being put into practice "[15]. Citizens are also influencing the public by observing what laws are being passed in the country and expressing their views on the adopted document. For example, in 2016, the Cabinet of Ministers decided to amend the traffic rules. According to him, large-sized and small-sized vehicles should move with the lights on during the day. This was supported by the Oliy Majlis. However, the Cabinet of Ministers later amended the text by Resolution No. 292 of April 9, 2019, which established a rule that drivers must drive with all headlights on during daylight hours. Due to the introduction of this rule, the increase in the number of accidents has led to protests from the general public. This decision did not justify itself due to the fact that it was not carefully considered, taking into account local conditions. Following the public outcry, the government had to take into account the public's opinion on turning on the lights during the day. On June 4, 2019, a new government resolution No. 460 was adopted. As a result, the requirement to turn on the lights on vehicles during the day was postponed for two years, and from January 1, 2021 was set as a requirement for implementation. Taking into account the opinion of the general public, the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of December 17, 2020 No 796 "On amendments to some decisions of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as the repeal of some" accepted. Based on this decision, the requirement to move by turning on the headlights or daytime running lights was abolished. This is one of the rare victories of public control. It is obvious that the principle of effective governance depends more on the direct participation of citizens. This forces institutions to increase transparency and accountability. Because we saw a number of decisions that were made immediately. This situation necessitated a reconsideration and reversal of the decisions soon taken.

At the same time, the lack of such positive developments in local government remains a problem. Systematic work is not being done to widely discuss the decisions taken by local authorities and study their implementation. Therefore, the task was to increase the impact of public discussions on the process of norm creation [16]. This in itself requires further strengthening the role of NGOs and other civic institutions in ensuring the active participation of citizens in the life of the state and society. The wide participation of various non-governmental, "third sector" public consultative councils in the governance process will pave the way for its effectiveness.

Therefore, the Public Chamber and the Territorial Public Chambers under the President [17]; Public Councils under public administration bodies; Public funds to support civil society institutions and non-governmental non-profit organizations have been established under local councils. The Presidential People's Reception and virtual receptions have also been set up. The establishment of such a new system of working directly with the citizens of the country has created many opportunities for citizens. This can be explained by the fact that the virtual reception alone has received more than 5 million applications [18] to date.

Indeed, information and communication technology (ICT) reinforces public policy. Increasing the pragmatic political potential of the electronic age applied to today's parliamentary democracy [19]. The use of ICT allows to reach the opinion of consumers. ICTs provide the freedom of information necessary to ensure elite transparency [20]. Establishing an e-government system will save time, bureaucracy and unnecessary expenses. In our view, e-government can ensure the transactional efficiency of a number of local government processes, support them, and invest heavily in infrastructure to help provide more services to citizens. For this purpose, from May 1, 2021, control over the implementation of all local government will be carried out only in the system "Ijro.gov.uz" [21], until July 1, they will make decisions only in a special electronic system "E-decision" [22] and a new practice of its adoption was to be established.

Public authorities operate at all levels of government - at the federal, regional and local levels - through special press services created in collaboration with the media. They develop interaction with citizens in such forms as the creation of governance mechanisms, the establishment of a link between government and society [23]. In our opinion, today to inform the population about the activities of public authorities in the development of information services of local authorities; pursuing local policies based on public opinion polls, adaptations, and recommendations; there should be several factors, such as the analysis of public opinion and the formation of public attitude to political change, the prediction of political processes based on the data obtained.

Today, the time itself requires a more rigorous review and improvement of the implementation of decisions. "It must be acknowledged that we do not yet have fully formed democratic institutions such as parliamentary oversight, public oversight, and



journalistic oversight, which are deeply ingrained in our lives." The legal basis for the implementation of broad civil control over the implementation of decisions is reflected in the Law "On Public Oversight", adopted on April 12, 2018. It provides for the legalization of public opinion in the laws and programs adopted. State programs have also been submitted for public discussion since 2017 and then adopted. The aim is to comprehensively discuss important issues, study the views and suggestions of the public.

Based on the results of public hearings on the portal "Legislative Impact Assessment System", based on 1310 proposals and comments, 41 items of the State Program for 2017 were revised [25]. Also, a total of 3399 comments were made by citizens during the public discussion of the draft State Program 2019 on the website 2019.strategy.uz. 404 proposals were submitted through the website www.regulation.gov.uz. During the discussion of the draft State Program for 2019, 4180 proposals were received, of which more than 340 citizens' conceptual and topical proposals were used to improve the content of the draft State Program. On the basis of about 30 proposals, editorial changes were made to the relevant items. A total of 3,162 proposals were received from the population for the draft State Program 2020, while 363 proposals were submitted for the draft decree. As a result, 62 conceptual and more than 30 editorial changes and additions were made. A total of 3,783 proposals for the draft State Program for 2021 were considered in detail, which resulted in a total of about 50 conceptual and more than a hundred clarifying editorial changes and additions to the draft.

The President's address to the Oliy Majlis noted the need to involve the population in the discussion of laws, the introduction of modern information and communication technologies, in particular, the creation of "platforms" on the world Internet, the introduction of collective electronic application. On April 12, 2018, a joint resolution of the Council of Parliamentary Chambers was adopted and the Regulation "On the procedure for electronic collective appeals and their consideration" was developed through the web portal "My opinion". The "My Thoughts" web portal was launched on a trial basis on April 20 and its mobile application was created. The creation of this web portal provides an opportunity for citizens to participate in government and society as a subject of public control, to express their views.

In our view, for decisions to be fully implemented in the regions, they must first be

consulted with the general public and relevant non-governmental sector representatives, and then adopted. "... The fact that about 2,500 governors' decisions have been overturned by the courts in the last two years requires further transparency in their decision-making." [26] In this process, it is desirable to bring to the attention of the general public a draft resolution, which is expected to be adopted by local representative bodies. Such a system is not fully resolved in local representation management. Practice shows that the issues to be discussed by the Council of People's Deputies before the session are often not discussed in advance among the relevant organizations and institutions, the field of science and the population. Also, in their activities, cooperation with the media and the public is almost non-existent. The participation of NGOs in the adoption and implementation of socio-economic development programs in the regions is very low, and the mechanisms of practical communication between the representative bodies and these public institutions are not systematically established. This limits the ability to fully take into account the interests of the relevant stakeholders in the decisions taken. "... how can you make the right decision without talking to people openly and knowing their problems?" [27] Today, in accordance with paragraph 8 of Article 251 of the Law "On local government", the decision of the relevant Council of People's Deputies and the governor's report on the report of the governor of the region, district, city are published in official publications and local authorities. should be advertised on their websites. It is important to draw the attention of the general public, to raise their awareness, not after the decision is made, but before it is developed.

CONCLUSIONS

For this reason, we make the following suggestions:

1. We propose to establish a legal basis for local councils to promptly publish the text of draft resolutions in the regional print media, as well as on official websites (currently the sites of all local representative bodies are not fully formed) after the Council's discussion. This serves to ensure that the activities of the local representative body are open and transparent.

2. Establish regular consultations with civil society institutions and create an effective mechanism for using their potential in the process of drafting decisions. Local Councils propose to add a new rule to Article 24 of the Model Regulations, which reads:



In conclusion, we can say that citizens participate in the governance process indirectly - through the activities of public structures that express their interests, or directly. As a result, this leads to the following socio-political changes:

first, it increases the participation of citizens in the activities of representative bodies of local government through various social interest groups. It serves the realization of their socio-political interests. As a result, the involvement of citizens in public and state affairs will increase;

secondly, the skills acquired as a result of the representation of the interests of citizens through various public organizations and political parties make them more active;

thirdly, conditions will be created for the expression of the political will of the majority in society, and the basis for the functioning of state power on the basis of democratic principles will be strengthened.

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