

**POLITICAL MODERNIZATION AS A FORM OF POLITICAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

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**ABSTRACT:**

The term "modernization" does not refer to the entire period of social progress, but only to one of its stages - the modern one. Translated into English, "modernization" means "modernization". Modernization theory is designed to explain how countries that are "late" in their development can achieve the economic and social successes that the leading countries of the world have. Modernization indicates the way of entering the world community, which is understood as the world economic system of capitalism. The desire of scientists to identify the sources, nature and direction of political changes in societies that change models of economic and political development has led to the formation of the theory of political modernization. The political improvement of public life, the democratization of government and control bodies are naturally based on political modernization. Political modernization creates conditions for the emergence of new, political institutions. Existing political institutions will also develop and acquire a new essence. Therefore, various reforms, renovations and modernization processes are of great importance in the political life of Uzbekistan.

This article explores the concepts and features of political modernization in Uzbekistan, substantiates the need for its implementation. The role of the Uzbek state in carrying out reforms of the social system is shown. The paper notes the role of the legislature in the structure of the political institutions of the country. Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that the political and cultural progress of socio-political systems depends on the course and nature of political processes in general, on the paths that the country will follow. The key issue is the realization that the renewal of life is possible only on the basis of freedom, self-activity and the participation of the people themselves in the exercise of legislative power and control over executive power.

**Key words:** Political modernization, modernization theory, political institutions, political stability, social sphere, education, political structure, political life, elections, referenda, political views, political parties, political development.

## INTRODUCTION

Modernization is caused by the presence of those changes that have objectively matured within the Uzbek state. Now public relations are characterized by significant complication and are accompanied by the active use of politics to solve emerging problems. It must be recognized that the level of political regulation does not always correspond to the level of real social relations. At the present stage, intensively developing social processes need to create new political means that would allow them to quickly influence the dynamics of relations contained in the political system. One of the decisive factors that can ensure the above task is modernization. The result of the ongoing modernization reforms should be a new quality of the political system of Uzbekistan.

Political scientists from Uzbekistan, according to Kh. T. Odilkariev and Sh. G. Goyibnazarov, "Political culture is a large field of the general culture of mankind, directly related to politics. This is the achieved level, quality and direction of the political life of a person and the political life of society, as a result, political processes, the political activity of people, the activities and development of political institutions and systems, leading political values and behaviors, theories and ideologies, the political socialization of citizens and social modernization relationships are reflected in the nature of the communication system. [1.]

The political improvement of the social life of society, the democratization of the organs of administration and control are naturally based on political modernization. In the process of political modernization, new political institutions are created, and existing political institutions develop and acquire new meaning. In such conditions, on the one hand, maintaining political stability, which is an important condition for social development, becomes an objective necessity, and on the other hand, it is necessary to expand the possibilities for increasing the political participation and activity of citizens.

Therefore, the ongoing reforms, renovations and modernization processes are one of the most important issues in the political life of our country.

In 2017-2021, the Action Strategy for the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan also focuses on deepening democratic reforms and modernizing the country as priority areas for improving the system of state and social construction.

Political modernization involves the creation of certain political institutions that should contribute to the real participation of the population in power structures and the influence of the masses on the adoption of specific decisions. Its components:

- Approaching a differentiated political structure with highly specialized political roles and institutions;
- Evolution of the political system towards the creation of a modern sovereign state;
- Strengthening the role of the state;
- Expansion of the scope and strengthening of the role of the legislative field, uniting the state and citizens;
- Growth in the number of citizens (persons with political and civil rights), increased involvement of social groups and individuals in political life;
- The emergence and growth of political bureaucracy, the transformation of a rational depersonalized bureaucratic organization into the dominant system of management and control;
- Weakening of traditional elites and their legitimacy, strengthening of modernizing elites. [2.]

Political modernization began with the appearance in Europe of the first national centralized states, the deepening of political modernization in Europe and America led to an increase in the number of centralized states, the establishment of a constitutional system, a parliamentary form of government, the introduction of the principle of separation of powers, universal suffrage, the formation of political parties and movements, legal state, the development of democracy and the introduction of parity democracy. At the same time, it led to the regional and global expansion of centralized bourgeois states, the formation of world colonial empires (the beginning of the 16th century) and - in the 19th century. - to the development of imperialism as the highest,

systemic method of such expansion, aimed at dividing the world into dependent territories and zones of influence.

Looking at the history of modernization theory, this process began to take shape in the 50s and 60s of the 20th century. This theory conditionally went through three stages of development in its development. That is, in the 50s-60s, 60s-70s and 80s-90s of the XX century.

Political modernization (fr. modernisation, from moderne - modern) is understood as a process associated with the formation or renewal of the institutions of the political system, as well as the nature of political relations. Unlike the concept of "political development", the concept of "political modernization" is used in relation to countries making the transition from a traditional (pre-industrial, agrarian) society to an industrial society. Modernization is the process of movement of pre-industrial societies based on traditional types of sociality to those economic and political systems, as well as mass culture, which are characteristic of the developed countries of capitalism. The concept of "modernization" in world sociology and political science describes the transition from pre-industrial to industrial, and then to post-industrial society. In most developed modern countries, political modernization took place in the period from the end of the 17th to the beginning of the 20th centuries, during which new political institutions arose, various forms of political participation of citizens in political life appeared, and a new type of political culture was formed. [3.]

The most important factors for modernization include the following:

1. in the economy - the expansion of industrial technologies based on the use of capital and scientific knowledge, the widespread development of natural resources, the expansion of the secondary (processing, trade) and tertiary (services) sectors of the economy, the development of markets for goods, capital and labor;
2. in the social sphere - the weakening of the previous prescribed types of sociality and the expansion of the scope of new purposeful rational ties based on professional or market criteria, which is accompanied by an increase in differentiation, especially class and property, the division between production, political and social activities;

3. in politics - the formation of centralized nation-states, within which various socio-political movements and groups are formed that defend their interests;  
4. in culture - the differentiation of spiritual systems and value orientations, the secularization and pluralization of public consciousness and education, the spread of literacy, the formation of national culture and language, the diversity of ideological movements, the development of mass media and communications.

In the 60s of the 20th century, Western scholars who developed the theory of modernization put forward the idea that "sustainable" political development is a condition for socio-economic development. They develop various theories of stability. In the scientific literature devoted to the theory of modernization of those times, representatives of the "conservative" and "liberal" directions give scientific conclusions, based on their political views, to the question "what is the factor of stability?".

Representatives of the "conservative" direction (S. Huntington, J. Nelson, H. Linz, etc.) believe that the main problem of modernization is the conflict between the mobilization of the population, involvement in political life and the availability of the necessary structures and mechanisms for protecting and realizing the interests of the population. At the same time, the unwillingness of the population to use the institutions of power leads to the destabilization of the political system. It is argued that the adaptability of political institutions to changing conditions is the main task of political modernization. [4.]

Supporters of the "liberal" direction (R. Dahl, G. Almond, L. Pei, etc.) understood the establishment of an open socio-political system as the main content of modernization by accelerating social mobilization and uniting the population into a single whole political society. For example, G. Almond and D. Powell considered the degree of involvement of the population in the system of political representation as the main criterion for political modernization: "The nature and development of modernization depend on the open competition of free elites and the degree of involvement of ordinary citizens in the political process" [5.]

Political modernization - first of all, the processes of regulating administrative and political boundaries, establishing national or federal states, strengthening state authorities, improving their distribution;

secondly, it is an important tool in the implementation of structural changes in the state in the economic, political and social spheres while maintaining the stability and internal harmony of society.

thirdly, important aspects of political modernization are manifested in increasing the activity of citizens in the political life of the country, ensuring the participation of the population in political processes (ie, elections, referendums);

fourthly, political modernization - providing political democratic governance, also performs tasks such as raising the political and legal culture of citizens, expanding their political consciousness and political thinking.

According to a number of scientists, modernization has cultural, socio-cultural characteristics and covers all spheres of social relations. For example, B.S. Starostin writes: - "The purpose and meaning of modernization is not only economic growth, but also the achievement of a certain level of development of social culture, which includes technological culture, managerial culture, political and culture."[6.]

It should be emphasized that the state plays an important role in the modernization of the socio-political life of our country. This feature is largely due to the fact that the state has assumed responsibility as the main reformer in the development of entrepreneurship in our country and the radical renewal of the economy of the republic.

The processes of political modernization in Uzbekistan are of the endogenous-exogenous type, that is, this process is carried out on the basis of their own traditions, culture and practice of the people, as well as acquired values. Also, modernization is built on the basis of the achievements of universal thinking and the traditions of national culture, based on people's confidence in their strengths and capabilities. Modernization serves to develop entrepreneurial spirit in the minds of people, effective methods of economic management, as well as to increase the political activity and culture of citizens.

The political and cultural progress of socio-political systems depends on the course and nature of political processes in general, on the paths that countries will follow. The key issue is the realization that the renewal of life is possible only on the basis of freedom, self-activity and the participation of



the people themselves in the exercise of legislative power and control over executive power. Only in this way will we be able to awaken people's involvement in the necessary democratic transformations in society, revive moral standards, and ensure a reasonable balance between individual and collective interests.

Prominent Russian political scientist V.I. Pantin writes that "due to the weakness of civil society and the exclusive role of the state, the modernization of society is constantly being replaced by the modernization of the state - its military-industrial power, bureaucracy, repressive bodies, the public sector of the economy" [7.]

It will take some time to implement the modernization processes in our country. At the same time, political modernization is based on political stability and national harmony. If political stability and order-discipline have not been established in a society, no modernization can be carried out. It would not be an exaggeration to say that political stability, which is one of the important conditions for the modernization process, has been fully established in Uzbekistan, especially in the last five or six years, thanks to independence.

Analyzing the data obtained concerning political values and political participation, the following groups can be distinguished. Firstly, these are "democrats - activists", people who actively participate in political and public life, have an active life position, fully sharing the basic democratic values (elections, freedoms, protection of rights, etc.). Secondly, "passive democrats", who generally share democratic values, but do not show political activity. Such people, rather, consider democracy as a means of achieving personal material well-being, stability and improving the quality of life, the opportunity to travel abroad, and so on. The third group we can call "paternalists". These people are focused on a strong state, actively participating in their lives. This group includes people with low income who need social protection from the state. [8.]

Summing up, it can be noted that the socio-political development of Uzbekistan creates ample opportunities for modernization processes, political renewal and reform of our country, so that it takes its rightful place among the developed countries of the world. We think that the citizens of our country

will be more active in the broad implementation of all reforms that serve the development of society, effectively using such opportunities.

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