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## **The New Strategy of Political Parties in the Parliamentary Elections in Uzbekistan**

**Key words:** *civil society, political parties, concept, election, election committee, Oliy Majlis, candidate, deputies, transparency, electioneering activities*

**Annotation:** *The article analyzes the strategy of political parties in the upcoming parliamentary elections in Uzbekistan. Here an important role is played by the new laws relating to the activities of political parties and their participation in the parliamentary elections. The law defines new types and methods of participation of political parties in elections.*

It is significant to stress that in Uzbekistan, in order to ensure freedom of suffrage, liberalization of the electoral system consistently and gradually developing electoral legislation. Forward putting by President Islam Karimov Concept of further deepening democratic reforms and formation of civil society in the country marked a new period in this direction.

In 2012 was adopted the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On introduction of changes and amendments to laws “On elections to Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan” and “On elections to regional, district and city Councils of People’s Deputies” in connection with the further provision of freedom of choice and the development of electoral legislation . These laws were developed in accordance with the concept.

An important condition and guarantee the implementation of universally recognized principles on voting rights is to participate in national and international election observers. Under the new law observers entitled to attend conferences of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, which nominated candidates for deputies of the Legislative Chamber of movement and their election. This allows for openness and transparency in the nomination of candidates from the environmental movement to implement the mechanism equal conditions for candidates who actively engage in the electoral process the general public, in particular, representatives of civil society and international observers.

Another important change in the election law is to present a new edition of articles "Campaigning" the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On introduction of changes and amendments to laws “On elections to Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan” and “On elections to regional, district and city Councils of People’s Deputies”. As you know, campaigning is essential to the election results.

With full election campaigning voter can easily formulate to their point of view. Therefore, the new law was given to important issues related to the election campaign. If the rules of law in the former order of election campaigning has been described in general terms, it is now given a separate definition of "electioneering" specifically described its types, forms and methods.

So, it is determined that the pre-election campaign - the activity carried out during the election campaign and aimed at encouraging voters to vote for a candidate or political party that campaigning begins on the date of registration of candidates by the Central Election Commission (relevant regional, district, city Commission), campaigning is not allowed on election day and the day before the vote, election campaigning is prohibited accompanied by granting voters free or discounted goods and services (except information), as well as the payment of cash (8).

It should be noted that this definition is fully consistent legislative practice in most developed democratic countries (USA, Canada, Spain, etc.). In particular, Article 318 of the Law of Canada "On election of the House of Commons," provides that "campaigning - bringing it in any form to the attention of the general public during the election campaign material in support of a registered party, a candidate" (2).

The purpose of campaigning - encourage to vote for the candidate. During this period, disseminates information about the program or the election platform of a political party, candidate, held a public debate, discussions, press conferences, interviews, speeches, meeting voters. It is important to post videos of the candidate for a political party (8).

One can observe separately ordered law election campaigning through the media. In this occasion the same candidates, political parties are provided equal access to state media by providing them free of the same in terms of airtime and print space and distribution of print, visual, audio-visual materials, phonograms, electronic versions of printed materials and other campaign materials. Campaign materials must be manufactured in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Information disseminated in the media, should be accurate, not violate the rights and lawful interests of candidates, political parties.

Campaigning can be conducted through meetings with voters, production and distribution of printed, visual, audiovisual and other campaign materials. Also, in this process, the principle of equal conditions for election contestants must be followed.

Under the new law campaigning on Election Day and the day before the voting is not permitted. Campaigning materials previously placed on buildings, structures and other places are taken by public authorities in the field the day before the election.

Inclusion in the electoral laws of such a rule, which is enshrined in law developed countries, helps voters determine their views and political preferences, to come to a particular decision, with any candidate or any political program should vote. It also excludes various abuses and violations of the law on the eve of polling day. As noted by foreign experts, the new law will help to further improve the electoral legislation, guarantee the rights of citizens to vote and to be elected to representative bodies of state power and the development of democratic elections.

In its turn, it is a crucial issue of democratic rule of law in force in the country, an essential attribute of a democratic constitutional state, the main form of expression of the people, citizen participation in the affairs of state and society.

The main purpose of the law is to strengthen the principles of openness and transparency of the elections. In particular, introduced new rules, according to which for three days before voting day and the day of voting is not allowed publication (promulgation) of the results of public opinion polls, forecasts of election results and other studies related to the ongoing elections, including their placement in the information and telecommunications networks (including the Internet) (8).

Previously, such a rule existed only in the Law "On the Election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan". This requirement is one of the most important innovations in the law, which, in fact, to protect the rights of voters, to exclude the possibility of formation of biased, wrong attitude to any candidate and election law violations. The right to vote have also face the question of guilt which has not been resolved in court or in respect of which as a preventive measure applied a penalty of temporary detention. In order to implement their electoral rights in law included a provision on the organization of polling places and in places of detention. This addition is a striking embodiment of compliance in Uzbekistan principle of priority of human rights.

It must be emphasized that the law also reinforced another important point as early voting. On Election Day, some citizens may be on a business trip, vacation or other reasons not to be in the residence. In such cases, the conditions for their early voting, this is one of the guarantees of suffrage.

The law specified time and procedures for early voting. Now early voting begins in ten days, and ends the day before the election. Time of the meeting is determined by the district election committee and brought to the attention of voters, observers, representatives of the media.

To implement early voting voter based on the application, indicating the reasons for the lack of Election Day, gets PEC electoral list. Election voter list is filled in a specially equipped cabin or room for secret voting. Voter after filling electoral sheet leaves it in a sealed envelope to the election commission. Voter decides and leaves of ballot sheet in a sealed envelope in the PEC. It is obvious to state that the place of gluing envelope signatures of two members of the precinct election commission, which confirmed commission stamp and signature of the voter. Form and procedure for making the election sheet, as well as delivery time ballot papers to polling stations established by the Central Election Commission.

During the election bodies of the state and economic management, public authorities at local, public associations, as well as self-government bodies are obliged to provide free candidates, political parties equipped rooms for meetings with voters, assist in obtaining the necessary reference and information materials (7).

In short, the new regulations included in the electoral legislation, along with the development of mechanisms to create equal conditions for political parties and candidates to during the campaign will further strengthen the legal safeguards of citizens in a free implementation of their electoral rights. Strengthening the principles of openness and transparency in the preparation and conduct of elections is the full statement in Uzbekistan principle of freedom of choice and further democratization of the electoral process.

In modern conditions, strengthen multi-party system in Uzbekistan, tighter inter-party competition, the emergence of large-scale and diverse forms and methods of campaigning, becomes important in securing law concept of "electioneering" rules aimed at ensuring equal conditions for candidates, political parties during of this crucial stage of the election campaign.

This law is aimed at ensuring greater transparency and openness of the electoral processes, increasing efficiency electioneering activities of election commissions. Experts note that the document was developed based on best practices in countries such as USA, Canada (4), Germany, France, Spain, Korea, Japan (9) and others, as well as generally accepted international principles and norms in the organization and holding of free elections.

The main requirement of democracy - free and fair elections, and democratic, they are only based on a multiparty system. Only under the condition of a multiparty system, every citizen has the right to choose really. Under international law, the elections are considered free and fair, if they are conducted on the basis of universal, equal and secret suffrage so that all voters can choose their representatives in conditions of equality, openness, which stimulate political competition.

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