Sociological Discourse In The Process Of Development Of Civil Society

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Abstract

The article analyses the modern concepts of the state and civil society, their sociological, political and ideological values. The necessity of changing the criteria used to analyze the state and civil society in modern conditions is substantiated. The development of civil initiatives and their role in building a dialogue between the government and civil society are also considered. Conclusions are given on the availability of the potential to enhance the role of civil initiatives in the development and adoption of social-political decisions. **Keywords**: state, civil society, social development, sociological discourse, dialogue with people, public action, activity.

Nowadays, the formation of constructive interaction between the state and civil society is one of the most critical tasks of modern science.The relationship between the state and civil society has a direct impact on the effectiveness of the functioning of the political system of society, and the state as a complete educational system.

In the study of the relationship between civil society and the state, sociological discourse is used, which is understood not just as a reflection of reality, but as a mode of knowledge and the rules of the search for truth.

There are important categories of civil society and its relationship with the state:

1) the definition of civil society;

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2) its historical values and goals;

3) social-political situation in various periods of development of society;

4) ways to achieve the goal and programme of action of social-political actors;

5) structure of civil society.

Before starting a sociological analysis, it is necessary to understand what civil society is. The simplest and most common definition of civil society is the totality of all non-state forms of self-organization of citizens.

Civil society appeared in Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome.In ancient society, the institution of law was formed, and was an independent political entity.Later it represented a system of self-government.Elected bodies governed antique societies.The Greek national assembly - the "agora" - was the center of political and public life.The powers of the national assembly were different in various states entities that determined the nature of the social system.

In Western sociology and political science, there are three main traditions of understanding civil society. Let's start with the definition of the famous English scientist John Locke.He and his followers understood civil society as an ethical community of full and free citizens, where everyone is equal in dignity and living according to natural laws, ensuring the protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens with civic responsibility, activity and duty [1, c.137-405].

Jean-Jacques Rousseau believes that civil society is a society of citizens, where the participation of free and equal citizens in relations of governance and subordination [2, c.31-108].Charles-Louis Montesquieu represented civil society as a system of independent associations of citizens determining the relationship between an individual and the state and, if it is necessary, protecting human freedom from state power.In this case, civil society includes civil organizations and associations, independent media, local government, other forms of self-

organization of citizens who have private ownership of the means of production and land [3, c.706].

It should be noted the definition of American publicist Thomas Payne, who wrote more than two hundred years ago that people themselves created the order in which they live. Payne noted that civil society itself is capable of performing almost all the functions that are attributed to the government [4, p.633].

Currently, many researchers understand civil society as a specific social space in which people interact as independent individuals, united on the principles of freedom and voluntariness.A community that combines solidarity, social justice and democracy, where civil activity and responsibility are important, intolerance of violations of the rights and freedoms of citizens.Social interests, values and norms of the human community are realized, the strength and harmony of the whole diversity of social relations are checked in this society.

Noting the multifunctionality of the concept of "civil society", and taking into account the approaches of Thomas Payne, John Locke, Charles-Louis Montesquieu and other classics, we can determine the following: *civil society* is a free and fair society of equal opportunities, which is formed on the basis of the principles of morality and democracy, political pluralism and legal equality of citizens, their self-determination and self-organization, a social space in which there is a transition of some power functions from the state to public structures independent of power able to create the necessary and sufficient conditions for the development of the individual, the realization of its rights, the satisfaction of legitimate interests and its essential needs, the formation of high moral ideals and principles, values and orientations.

Civil society arises at a certain stage in historical, economic, social conditions, where a specific model of civil society and its relationship with the state was created.

The ideal relationship between modern civil society and the state is the complete equality of all their structures, which work on the principle of justice and trust.A full-fledged civil society is possible when it is in a state of equal partnership and high-quality legal interaction with the state.

Civil society in a certain sense is able to control the state and its bodies, through certain mechanisms to manage specific, previously defined processes.Such mechanisms in a certain sense can be political parties, trade unions, non-profit non-governmental organizations, national-cultural and religious associations, associations and structures of public self-government, etc.The government provides the necessary conditions for the development of civil society and its institutions, determining the successful activities of its structures, ensuring the observance of the rights and freedoms of citizens.

Forming an effective relationship model is important for the state and civil society to take into account their own experience, due to traditions and mentality, the level of legal culture and legal awareness of citizens, aimed at protecting the interests of the state, society and people.Civil society should take a certain part of the responsibility for the state affairs in the country; take part in the formation of the foundations of a national ideology and national development strategy; to achieve responsibility of civil servants for the quality and consequences of their decisions.

People is the only source of state power and bearer of sovereignty of the strong and independent state, recognized as a full member of the world community of states where a variety of political institutions, ideologies and opinions, and a

solid foundation has been created that allows society and the state to effectively develop in all directions.

In the period of growing free self-organization of citizens, the interaction of citizens and the state in order to solve social problems is sometimes replaced by a decline in civil activity, public indifference to pressing social-political issues and a high degree of detachment from a mutually beneficial dialogue with management structures.

In 2017, Uzbekistan entered a qualitatively new stage of its development based on full transparency and wide participation of the population in public administration.Today, civil servants of Uzbekistan, primarily leaders, except the cabinetwork, began to visit necessary places and practically participate in solving the most important problems of the population.These actions reflect the norms of the concept "From a strong state to a strong civil society", implement the principle "Human interests are above all", and the ideas "It is not the people that should serve the government, but the government should serve the people".[1]The People's Receptions and the Virtual Reception of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan have become the basis of this system and act as a kind of democratic institution for working with citizens.Moreover, the protection of human interests is defined as the main goal of the ongoing transformations.The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M. Mirziyoyev emphasized that: "... to listen to people, to conduct an open dialogue with them, to facilitate the concerns of the people - all this will help strengthen public confidence in the state and society"

To organize a complete, objective and timely consideration of appeals of individuals and legal entities, to monitor and control the actions of the relevant

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[1]Шавкат Мирзиёев. «Миллий тараққиёт йўлимизни қатъият билан давом эттириб, янги босқичга кўтарамиз» 1-жилд. Тошкент: «Ўзбекистон» НМИУ, 2017. Б. -116

state bodies and economic management bodies to resolve complaints, the following institutions have been established:**People's Receptions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan,** which operate at the level of the Office of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions and the city of Tashkent, as well as in each district and city (except for cities of regional subordination).**Virtual Receptions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Prime Minister** are opened, where citizens and legal entities from the most remote regions of the state have the opportunity to directly contact.Statements, complaints and suggestions of citizens are now sent directly through the website or a free call to a short phone number available throughout the country.

The Virtual Reception and People's Receptions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as special units for working with citizens created in each state body, served **to form a qualitatively new effective system of working with the population.**The proposal to launch the updated Virtual Reception of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which will have additional opportunities for providing online consultations to the population, deserves the closest attention of the society.This is included in the State Programme for the Implementation of the Action Strategy in the "Year of Supporting Active Entrepreneurship, Innovative Ideas and Technologies", approved by the Presidential Decree on 22 January 2018.A breakthrough innovation in the process of strengthening the dialogue between the government and people will be also the development of a concept for the presence of government bodies in the virtual space.This provides mechanisms for a systematic study of public opinion by the press services of state bodies, monitoring the reaction of the population to decisions of state bodies and their officials, as well as

creating a system for timely response to them.A new stage in the introduction of innovative technologies in the process of providing public services will be the creation of opportunities to provide them through mobile applications, as well as mobile centers of public services for residents of remote settlements. [5]

S.N. Lavrentieva and R.F. Latypova represent interesting views on relations between the authorities and civil society. Scientists offer their vision of the structure of civil-state dialogue and provide a definition of such relationships, calling this model a "civil corporation".Scientists understand a civil corporation as "a model of interaction and coordination of interests between the state and a civil organization, which is formed and managed based on the principles of intersectoral partnership.The parties of the partnership are the state, social groups of citizens and business".The difference between a civil corporation and classical civil society is that the state takes direct or indirect part in the formation of the corporation, its financing, personnel policy and determining the political position of the organization [6].

Speaking about the modernization of the state, first of all, it is worth emphasizing the important role of modernization of public and political institutions.To achieve ambitious goals and objectives of a state scale, it is necessary to transform the current system of public-state relations.For active citizens, more conditions should be created for the implementation of their initiatives, participation in a dialogue with the state, monitoring and analysis of the results of leaders' activities.Modernization means updating, including renewal and rejuvenation of national elites.It is necessary to create favorable conditions for the access of competent and promising young people to solve urgent problems at all levels of government.The implementation of these measures will be a significant contribution to building a dialogue between the authorities and civil society.The

development of civil society largely depends on the quality of interaction between the state and society, as well as the level of civil initiative and self-organization [7].Civil initiative, being the basic component of a mature civil society, seems to be one of the most promising forms for citizens to exercise their rights and solve pressing problems at the local, regional and republican levels.Civil initiative is "a form of collective expression of citizens' will, which the opinion of a certain group is communicated to the competent state body or local government and requires its response.Basically, civil initiative is implemented by collecting the required number of signatures of citizens, or by making a decision at a meeting of citizens at their place of residence or work". [8]

Civil initiative can be seen in a broad and narrow sense.In a broad sense, civil initiative should be understood as any initiative of a citizen or group of citizens of a particular state aimed at resolving issues in the political, social, economic, environmental, domestic and other spheres of society.In a narrow sense, civil initiative is a specific individual or public form of citizens' will that has distinctive characteristics (name, program, governing bodies, etc.) and focuses on solving a particular problem.

Public initiatives succeed in attracting the attention of the state and society to considering problems and to find possible solutions.Local self-government is called upon to stimulate and encourage initiative groups of citizens and contribute to solving problems voiced by them.However, local authorities are not always able to listen and hear their residents, which sometimes leads to confrontation and conflicts between citizens and local authorities.Finding no support from the authorities, the civil initiative mobilizes citizens who are partial to social problems and takes various actions to solve problems: collecting signatures, appealing to higher authorities, holding rallies, pickets, gatherings, public actions, etc.

In order to avoid social tension and extreme forms of citizens' will, the authorities should develop a mechanism for effective interaction and dialogue with members of the public.The participation of civil activists in various meetings helps to attract greater attention of the authorities, society and the media to relevant social problems.

One of the most visible trends in modern life is the spread of numerous social networks of portals.Social networks have become an integral part of both social and political life.Together with ordinary citizens, deputies, heads of local and regional administrations and state officials are increasingly active in social networks.The process of communication through social networks allows citizens to find out information about the current activities of a particular authority, a report on activities and plans.Thus, social networks help to reduce the "information vacuum" between society and government.

Technological progress and the rapid development of information and communication technologies have accelerated the process of forming civil initiatives, creating social movements and mobilizing the population to solve their problems.Mass media, social networks and other means of online communication made it possible to accumulate significant human and financial resources and manage them operatively.Citizens have the opportunity to organize interest groups online, to collect the necessary resources for events of various directions (social assistance and support, legal and psychological consultations, etc.).Social networks have become an integral part of both social and political life. For example, campaigns are regularly held to raise funds to help people in trouble.

Nevertheless, the high inactivity of society, social disinterest, the lack of mechanisms of self-organization and civil initiative are the restraining factors of

our society, which are very difficult to deal with.It takes quite a long time to develop the habit of voluntary participation in civil initiatives, but it is vital for creating a strong civil society.First of all, the national mentality should affirm such common values as selfless and gratuitous assistance, willingness to respond to the call of society, the ability to make concessions and find compromises, the desire to defend and protect their legal civil rights and freedoms, etc.

It is important to emphasize that increasing public participation in public administration is a priority task for both civil society and government.Improving the quality of developed and adopted political decisions, as well as improving the efficiency of public administration, depend both on the state and on active public participation.

M.M. Mchedlova emphasizes that the problem of trust in state and public institutions is one of the most important factors contributing to both the structuring of social-political life, its stability, and the effectiveness of interaction between society and government.[9]

Referring to the facts, it is possible to formulate the main directions of mutually beneficial cooperation between the government and society in order to improve civil culture and the quality of dialogue between them:

- increasing the intensity of interaction between managerial structures and civil society institutions in the framework of expert and public councils at local and state authorities, discussion platforms, public hearings, public control bodies;
- detailed informing citizens about the work plans of local authorities, state bodies of executive and legislative power;

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- providing information on ongoing projects, project completion dates, budgets and assignment reports;

- the formation of civil culture among the population. Reporting to citizens of their basic rights and obligations in the field of state and local government;

- wide coverage of successfully implemented civil initiatives by mass media. [10, p. 400].

Currently, our society has significant potential for enhancing the role of civil initiatives in the development and adoption of social decisions.Any civil initiative should first of all be based on the desire of citizens to make not only their own lives, but also the life of society a little better.The task of the state is to promote an active citizenship of all members of society.Disinterest and apathy must be criticized and activity and initiative of the people should be supported and encouraged in every way.Both society itself and the state are interested in this, since the modernization of the state and society is impossible without responsible and proactive citizens, as well as without government structures that provide support and take into account the views of their civil society. [11, p. 352].

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