



**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MULTI-PARTY SYSTEM IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
DEMOCRACY**

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Abstract

One of the most researched and urgent problems of political science in world science is precisely the issues related to political parties. The problems of the political party and the party system are being changed and renewed as a result of globalization and the development of modern information and communication technologies.

This article aims to reveal the importance of the multi-party system in the development of democracy, which is the most studied of the party systems. Comparative analysis with other party systems is also done.

Keywords: multi-party system, democracy, party system, party, political system, democratic elections, the electorate, civil society, social class.

Introduction

From the 90s of the 20th century to the present day, the process of a widespread multiparty system around the world is being observed. The crisis of the former union state based on the one-party system caused this process to accelerate even more. But even today some countries are developing based on one party. The party system of most of them is similar in structure to the party system of the former union.

Concepts of multiparty systems, democracy, human rights, and civil society are interrelated concepts that complement each other. If the provision of human rights is characteristic of more democratic societies, multipartyism is important for the formation and development of a democratic society. In terms of transformation in the life of society, the influence of the political system on the party system, or vice versa, the influence of the party system on the political system can lead to its change.

In recent years, many practical reforms have been carried out in Uzbekistan to accelerate the democratization of society. Broad opportunities are being created for political parties to operate in the conditions of mutual competition based on the multi-party system in society. In particular, the legal framework for the activities of parties was further improved. An example of this is the "Election Code" adopted in 2019, which includes articles aimed at further simplifying the participation of parties in elections, as well as, that the activities of political parties are reflected in separate articles in the updated Constitution, The Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022-2026 defines the tasks of increasing the role of political parties. For example, in the 7 th goals of the Development Strategy. "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, expanding the participation of the parliament in ensuring the unconditional and full implementation of the adopted laws in practice" [2] task is defined.

Also, at the meeting with Oliy Majlis chambers, political parties, and representatives of the Environmental Movement of Uzbekistan held on July 12, 2017, President Sh. Mirziyoyev critically analyzed the activities of political parties and Oliy Majlis chambers. He also touched upon the interrelated aspects of political parties and parliamentary activities as follows; "Naturally, the existing problems in the life of political parties hurt the parliament's activities to some extent"[1, -P. 571].

Based on the above, we can consider the multi-party system as the main driving force of democracy. The presence of a separate institutional structure, i.e. parties, in expressing the interests of various social strata in the society serves to ensure the participation of these social groups in direct management.

Literature Review

Many political scientists and specialists have studied the problems of multiparty systems and democracy in political science. M.Duverge, T. Hobbs, G. Hegel, J.Sartori, J. Locke, D. Bell, S. White, John Theorell, Michael Wahmanb, Scott Mainwaring, Paul Shimek from the Western scientists who studied the current problems of multipartyism and democracy; Russian scientists M.Ostrogorsky, D. Chizhov, V. Baturin, V.P.Pugachyov, A.I. Solovev, B. Isayev, S. Lantsov, M.N.Grachev, Yu.V.Irkhin, Yu.G.Korgunok, S. V. Volodina, among Uzbek scientists M. Kyrgyzboyev, S. Berdikulov, Q.Nazarov, R.Hasanov, I. Ergashyev, V. Kochkarov, B.Yakubov, and others.

The participation and importance of a multi-party system in the development of democracy are highlighted in many literatures based on different approaches. For example, M.Ya.Ostrogorsky says that "according to philosophers, the American government is a party government based on the principle of hiding behind voters, parties cannot exist without organization, and this should be recognized and paid for"[5, -P. 170].

The multi-party system is a system that creates the basis of democracy and actively develops it, first of all, it is important because it covers from the largest social layers of society to the smallest group. Also, a multi-party system serves to ensure governance and participation of the electorate in the formation of the government through transparent and fair elections.

Democracy According to Scott Mainwaring, "A democracy must meet three criteria. First, democracies must have open, competitive elections that determine who establishes public policy. This means that election results cannot be determined by fraud, coercion, or major proscriptions and that the elections in question are for important political positions. Elections must in principle afford the opportunity of alternation in power, even if, as in Japan, actual alternation does not occur. Second, in the contemporary period, there must be nearly universal adult suffrage. Until recently, this criterion was debatable because some nations that were usually considered democracies excluded a large part of the adult population (e.g., Switzerland excluded women), but this is no longer the case. Third, there must



be guarantees of traditional civil rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of organization, due process of law, etc”[7].

As the geography of a multiparty system expands, so does the geography of democracy, or vice versa. According to John Theorell, and Michael Wahman, “We argue that multiparty elections create formal institutional space for an organized opposition who see democratization as an instrumental value to obtain political power. Hence, contrary to much of the implicit or explicit arguments in the electoral authoritarianism literature,⁶ we argue that multipartyism enhances the prospects for gradual democratic change and is an unexpected stepping stone towards higher levels of democracy” [6, -P. 2]. Odilkoriev X.T, Razzakov D.X. according to "Multi-partyism is an important condition of democracy, and it is the existence of constitutional regulators (guarantees of the rights and freedoms of people and citizens) in the relations between the branches of power"[3, -P. 116].

Research Methodology

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

Analysis and Results

For many years, political scientists have tried to find an answer to the question of whether the multiparty system in society affects the prospects of democracy.

In the sources, "Three main models of democracy are distinguished: liberal, identitarian, pluralistic models" [4, -P. 78] Since the topic of democracy models is a wide-ranging separate topic, we will try to dwell on it in the next parts of our study.

During and shortly after World War II, impressed with the stability of democracy in Britain and the United States and its breakdown in Germany and Italy, several scholars (e.g., Duverger 1954: 206-280; Hermens 1941) argued that two-party systems were more favorable to democracy and that multiparty systems tended to be more unstable. These analysts did not pay much attention to the smaller European democracies, where multiparty systems had been compatible with stable democracy for decades[7].

Nevertheless, this debate has finally begun to prove that a multi-party system provides a stable democracy. Liphart (1968, 1977), and Dodd (1976) were among the first to put forward approaches to the long-term stability of democracies based on the multiparty system. In the sources, it is quoted as follows.

“The tide of this discussion changed in the 1960s and 1970s, with the contributions of Lijphart (1968, 1977) being particularly significant (see also Dodd 1976). Noting that many multiparty democracies had achieved stability for a long period, Lijphart argued that in “plural societies,” with sharp cultural, ethnic, religious, or linguistic cleavages, multiparty systems could be more propitious in promoting stable democracy. With a two-party system, significant minorities might be permanent “outs,” a situation that could reduce their willingness to abide by the rules of the game. A multiparty system could enable these minorities to attain meaningful representation and to participate in governing coalitions”[7].



The multi-party system is the participation of several parties in elections through healthy competition in the formation of state administration in the conditions of democracy and a system of means of exercising the political rights of the population.

That multiparty regime will enhance the prospects of democratic change by creating counter-elites with instrumental incentives to favor higher levels of democracy and by solving opposition collective action problems [6, -P. 5].

It is necessary to mention the electoral system as the main system connecting the multi-party system and democracy. A multi-party system ensures democracy mainly through transparent and fair elections. "People's democracy can only work as a representative democracy and parties are the only legitimate institutions that ultimately participate in general elections and prove their legitimacy and authority by participating in elections"[8, -Б. 2].

Based on the above, a multiparty system and democracy develop each other and serve to ensure the well-being of society as a whole mechanism.

Conclusion/Recommendations

In conclusion, it is necessary to mention that most of the countries in the world that follow the system of democracy form the government through a multi-party system and recognize it as a stable system. In Uzbekistan, in recent years, a lot of practical work has been done to create broad conditions for the multi-party system and increase its importance as a guarantor of democracy.

Based on the above, we offer the following:

- A more comprehensive study of advanced foreign experiences on the importance of multipartyism in the formation of democracy and its development;
- Strengthening the results of scientific research on the relationship between multipartyism, democracy, and electoral systems.

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Academica Globe: Inderscience Research

ISSN: 2776-1010 Volume 4, Issue 7, July 2023

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