

THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT OF UZBEKISTAN AS AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT OF ELECTORAL LAW

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Abstract: This article examines the role of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan (transformed into the Ecological Party of Uzbekistan in 2019) in electoral law. It analyzes the legal status of the movement, its participation in electoral processes, and its contribution to the development of environmental policy. Furthermore, it discusses the opportunities for using electoral mechanisms to ensure sustainable development.

Keywords: Ecological movement, Ecological party, Electoral law, Environmental policy, Sustainable development.

ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКОЕ ДВИЖЕНИЕ УЗБЕКИСТАНА КАК ВАЖНЫЙ СУБЪЕКТ ИЗБИРАТЕЛЬНОГО ПРАВА

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматривается роль Экологического движения Узбекистана (с 2019 года – Экологическая партия Узбекистана) в избирательном праве. Анализируется правовой статус движения, порядок его участия в избирательных процессах и вклад в развитие экологической политики. Кроме того, обсуждаются возможности использования механизмов избирательного права для обеспечения устойчивого развития.

Ключевые слова: Экологическое движение, Экологическая партия, Избирательное право, Экологическая политика, Устойчивое развитие.

INTRODUCTION

In a democratic society, suffrage is one of the main means by which citizens participate in public administration. The openness, fairness and legality of electoral processes have a direct impact on the formation of civil society and the development of political institutions. In particular, socio-political organizations and actions play an important role in representing the interests of society, participating as an important subject in the electoral process. The environmental movement of Uzbekistan is one such socio-political structure, its role and activities in the electoral system deserve special attention. This movement not only focuses on environmental issues, but also promotes environmental policies in Parliament and other representative bodies by participating in elections. This article analyzes the legal status of the environmental movement of Uzbekistan, its participation in electoral processes and the legal basis of this participation. Also, the role of this action as an important subject of suffrage is considered within the framework of current legislation.

MAIN PART

The political and legal reforms carried out in the Republic of Uzbekistan, based on democratic principles, serve to increase the political activity of citizens. In addition to political parties, the role of the ecological movement of Uzbekistan (now the Ecological Party of Uzbekistan) in society plays a special role in this.

In accordance with the Constitution of our state, the suffrage of citizens is considered as one of the most important institutions of a democratic society[1]. The electoral code of the

Republic of Uzbekistan, on the other hand, is the main document regulating electoral processes, guaranteeing the equality of all political parties and public associations[2].

This article will highlight the legal status of the environmental movement of Uzbekistan, its role in electoral processes and the contribution of this movement to the development of Environmental Policy and ensuring sustainable development.

THE DEGREE OF STUDY OF THE SUBJECT

1. Legal status and formation of the environmental movement of Uzbekistan

The environmental movement of Uzbekistan was founded in 2008 and its main purpose was to strengthen public control on issues of Environmental Protection, improve environmental legislation and promote the development of Environmental Policy[4]. This action later received a special quota in the Lower House of Parliament (the Legislative Chamber of the House of Commons), through which it was able to raise environmental issues more broadly in the creativity of the law[4].

As of 2019, the environmental movement has been transformed into a political party and operates under the name “Ecological Party of Uzbekistan”. This change was made on the basis of the requirements of the law “on political parties” and other regulatory legal acts. The environmental party has established as one of its priorities the improvement of environmental legislation, the control of the activities of state bodies in environmental issues and the improvement of Environmental Legal Literacy of the population within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the requirements of the law “on Environmental Control”.

2. Role in suffrage and procedure for participation in electoral processes

In Uzbekistan, electoral processes are organized in accordance with the “Electoral Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan” [2]. This code guarantees the right of political parties and other public associations to participate in elections and creates equal conditions for them.

Nominating: the Environmental Party promotes its candidates in the campaign and prioritizes the issues of solving environmental problems, ensuring sustainable development in their program[5].

Cooperation with public bodies: in the electoral process, the party can cooperate with public administration bodies as well as other political parties, promote initiatives to improve environmental legislation[4].

Enhancing citizens' political activism: the party promotes issues of Ecosystem Conservation, serving to raise citizens' awareness of environmental issues. Thus, by voting in elections, citizens are encouraged to participate more actively in political processes.

3. The role of environmental policy in development and sustainable development

The environmental party's activism in the political arena is directly related to the promotion of sustainable development ideas. Sustainable development refers to the harmonization of economic growth, social stability and Environmental Protection.

Improving legislation: the Environmental party, through its representatives, takes an active part in the preparation and discussion of environmental bills in the House of Commons[4].

Environmental Control and public participation: within the framework of the law “on environmental control”, initiatives are put forward to monitor the activities of state bodies and strengthen the role of the population in eliminating environmental problems.

International relations: the party contributes to the upliftment of National Environmental Policy by promoting cooperation with international environmental organizations, relevant political parties of foreign countries, applying progressive experiences to Uzbekistan.

Data from the State Statistics Committee shows that in recent years the amount of budget funds related to Environmental Protection has been increasing in stages. This process, in turn, is also considered harmonious with the activities of the Environmental party in promoting environmental policy.

4. Prospects for using suffrage opportunities

By participating in elections, the environmental party can increase its prestige in the following areas:

Strengthening environmental legislation: bringing environmental legislation into general public discussion during campaigns, advancing reforms regarding sustainable development through increased cooperation with public authorities.

Enhancing civic activism: promoting citizen participation in the political process, especially voting activism in elections, by promoting among the population on environmental issues.

International cooperation: attracting advanced experiences to Uzbekistan as a result of cooperation with international organizations, foreign environmental movement and parties in the field of Environmental Policy.

CONCLUSION

The important role of the environmental movement of Uzbekistan (or the current environmental party) in the right to vote is explained by its effective activities in integrating environmental issues into public policy, improving environmental legislation and increasing the political activity of citizens. Participation in parliamentary representation and electoral processes expands the possibilities of Environmental Protection, consideration of environmental principles in socio-economic reforms in accordance with the concept of sustainable development. Thus, the activity of the Environmental party in the political arena should be recognized as an important factor in the transition of Uzbekistan to the green economy.

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