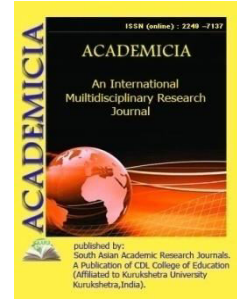




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**THE STATUS AND DYNAMICS OF THE RAISE OF THE ACTIVE  
 CITIZENSHIP AND INITIATIVE OF UZBEKISTANYOUTH:  
 PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES**

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**ABSTRACT**

*The hereby article analyzes the issue of the status and dynamics of the growth of active citizenship and initiative of young people of Uzbekistan by doing a comparative analysis with foreign experience. It also highlights the mutual correlation of material factors with particular socio-psychological phenomenon in the current development of social trust among youth of the country and identifies the main tasks. These types include a number of forms e.g., “interest groups”, i.e., various public organizations and associations. When an individual realizes that one person is not enough, he/she comes together with others to express their positions and demands in different organizations. The advancing potential of the state is presently insufficient for large-scale construction of civil society. To get out of the current economic situation we need a clear and concrete program of measures. The role of universities as institutions is very essential in the development of society, so the reforms aimed at enhancing their democratic values or civic responsibility contradicts their traditional role as a “beneficial” educationalist.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Social Crisis Among Youth, Material Factors, Civil Society, The Period Of Social Change, Modern Civic Culture, Democratic Reforms, Social Norms.*

**INTRODUCTION**

The level of social crisis and discomfort among young people has slightly declined in the last few years. Consequently, today the growth of social confidence among youth is associated with the co-action of material factors in tandem with a particular socio-psychological phenomenon, which is reflected in the elimination of high expectations of the population from the new state reforms. The advancing potential of the state is presently insufficient for large-scale

construction of civil society. To get out of the current economic situation we need a clear and concrete program of measures. For this we need to start to reform the economic sector for changing the society by identifying strategic regulatory vectors, without changing the state policy.

The lack of the development of modern civic culture in our country can be seriously explained by the governing party which is in need of more serious reforms in the field of social support and in the context of government and population incomes (thus the public has already formed a negative attitude to present legislative reforms).

One of the meters of the formation of civic position is the social activity of the population. The researcher K.A.Abulkhanova-Slavskaya explains the term “activity” in the following way: “It is a method of meeting the needs of the highest human values, in which the ideas of the individual about abilities and capabilities are integrated” [1]. The social activity in modern society is reflected in the ability to cooperate and work together and focus on the involvement in democratic reforms. Social activity depends on the level of the development of the civic position, and in turn evolves from the participation and interest of the subject (self) in his/her social life and the measure of activity in the internalization process of social norms, ideals, values by the subject. The perception or denial of social norms and ideals is an indicator of civic maturity which reflects the individual’s level of readiness to perceive new democratic values.

Social activity in society relates to the existence of social relations, their confrontation and development. However, these relationships are usually realized through a whole set of structured institutional forms. These types include a number of forms e.g., “interest groups”, i.e., various public organizations and associations. When an individual realizes that one person is not enough, he/she comes together with others to express their positions and demands in different organizations. The main objective of such institutions is to ensure the realization of individual potential, interests and needs. Through these institutional divisions, the society reflects and implements all the diversity of economic, religious, ethnic, professional and other interests. At present civil society structures play a central role in changing the culture of the community. “The agents of social mobilization and targeted changes can be the individuals, civic organizations and parties. They materialize what is called civil society.”[2]

New social movements are formed and intensified. The existence of democratic institutions allows people to express their views openly and join different unions. They also encourage civic activity, and in turn influence the level of the development of democracy. As it has been repeatedly stated at the symposium aimed at the formation of civil society institutions, the third millennium will be held under the sign of a qualitatively new unity of state and civil society [3].

Political activity within the country is of particular importance because it greatly influences the development of civic culture. It also encourages the presence of diverse value models and ideas in the society, and the directions of reforming the development of the society on the basis of a number of political parties and associations.

As a part of civil society, political parties provide links between different levels and branches of government, develop political solutions, mediate between the various social groups that make up the electoral base, support their political goals, invite public opinion, provide ideological and organizational support for election campaigns and nominate the candidates for elected boards at

all levels of government. They are also answerable for the accumulation and consolidation of interests in the ideological and political installations of different strata, classes and groups on the basis of active citizenship and by these political parties affect the fundamental aspects of civic life. With their activity they take active part in civil life of the opposition bodies of the party and operate relatively autonomously from the state. As for current issues, political parties encourage people to reflect on various processes occurring in the country, help to seek ways out of the situations and in this way help people to form their civic position.

It is clear from the above-mentioned considerations that the integrative processes taking place in the world community primarily affect the system of higher education for the reason that today in different countries of the world have formed a single educational space, which reflects the harmonization of educational standards, approaches, curricula and various specialties. The formation of such an open educational space leads to the constant growth of student academic mobility and international cooperation of universities in different countries, and in turn all this will help students achieve great success in their chosen professions, improve the employment system of university graduates and enhance their positions in the field of education. The formation of a single educational space, along with the formation of an active civic position in young people, helps to strengthen the young people's tendency to make democratic decisions in society and create favorable conditions for their demonstration of high moral qualities. The process of forming such an approach in the higher education system is an important direction of the activities of universities in many countries around the world, and such goals and objectives are also supported by the international organizations such as the UN, UNESCO and the Council of Europe. In this regard, in this article we decided to focus on the ongoing reforms of European and American universities in this area:

- active support of democratic values in society and the process of their implementation;
- to actively contribute to the spread of democratic views around the world;
- to make a significant contribution to the development of democracy at the university, local community and big community levels etc. [4].

The study of the level of formation of active citizenship in the European students has led to some critical and analytical visions. This in turn directed us to the conclusion that the development of democratic initiatives among all university students should be encouraged. Such an encouraging system will certainly give a necessary impulse in the development and implementation of new programs that will help young people to form their active civic position in their society. This is because the main work of today's universities is reflected in the degree to which they attract specific approaches to the formation of active citizenship in young people, despite their demographic composition, financial security and status.

Presently, we can witness the following measures being taken in foreign universities to develop their students' active citizenship:

- active participation of students in the management policy of the university education system and the support of their activities in the decision-making of active democratic values by the head of the university;

- dynamic implementation of effective work aimed at the formation of civic competence among university students to adopt and develop their democratic values;
- the further increase of the university role in the formation of active citizenship;
- provision of closer relationships of university students with other people in the society and the creation of opportunities for their socialization;
- Introduction of democratic changes in the management system of bodies and structures of educational institutions operating within the university;
- Implementation of targeted and integrated curricula necessary for the formation of active citizenship among young people [5].

In this regard, we consider it appropriate to highlight the following factors that hinder the formation of young people's active citizenship studying in various European universities: first and foremost, civic education in European universities is organized around national, political and ethnic contexts, they pose different levels of challenge in attracting new approaches to the formation of active citizenship and commitment to state democracy. The role of universities as institutions is very essential in the development of society, so the reforms aimed at enhancing their democratic values or civic responsibility contradicts their traditional role as a "beneficial" educationalist. Second, its specific status and structure define the parameters and directions in which universities should operate as reforms or policy changes in the field of civic education. In turn, the competition of universities affects the mechanisms of change in every sphere of the society and ensures openness to new initiatives based on their comments and regulations. However, in addition to the historical rules of governance protected in the regulations of most European universities, there are often some contradictions between desired and present decision-making processes and the protection of student rights. Finally, the historically evolving traditional social and professional relationships between administration and students prevent a shift towards greater student engagement in activities. Third, the development of cooperation between European and American scientists, practitioners and independent experts in the field of higher education plays an important role in the further development of the civic education system in European universities. At the present stage, the appeal of European civic education to the world practice is determined by maintaining an active civic position, which in turn means that members of society are ready for conscious and independent creative activity in solving problems of social significance in their region as well as throughout Europe.

The development of a new concept of civic education and training is based on three main approaches to the problem of civic education:

- an approach based on civil-legal status (USA);
- understanding of the laws of the socio-political life of a civil country and active participation in their implementation in society (Great Britain, the Netherlands, Hungary, etc.);
- citizenship is as a product of the formation of a sense of patriotism towards one's motherland (Japan, Singapore).

Hence, it can be seen that the approach to civic education in different countries is determined by the readiness of the young generation to participate in the diverse socio-political life of their

country in terms of their active participation in social and public affairs. According to many foreign researchers, such an approach is fully compatible with the life of modern society, which is characterized by the freedom of choice of individual behavior, personal values etc. Simultaneously, the formation of youth's active civic position is closely connected with the process of their political socialization.

A.A. Akramov points out the following important conditions necessary for the formation of students' civic position in student-oriented learning processes:

- to fill student-oriented learning with valuable knowledge and data;
- to develop students' positive attitude towards professional knowledge and the social rules necessary for the living;
- to give students the opportunity to freely choose the materials needed for training and learning;
- to show the importance and relevance of students' personal activities, to provide them with basic knowledge to stimulate their desire for personal growth in the educational process [6].

According to Uzbek model, the formation of students' active citizenship is a process associated with the demonstration of their social activity and initiative, which can not only be the result of their civic duty, but also serve as an important step in the sustainable development of their lifestyle. If the youth is quite initiative in society and in addition have such qualities as creativity, courage and high social responsibility, there is a great chance to develop personally and activate their civic position in the society. At present the youth of our country possess all the necessary conditions to demonstrate their unique civic position. In modern democratic conditions civil society, in contrast to the previous phases of the country's development, creates great opportunities for individuals to demonstrate their active civil position and the effective use of these opportunities much depends on the self, interest, determination, initiative, will and courage of young people.

In general, today it is important to pay special attention to the following aspects in the formation of young generation's active citizenship.

First of all, a person as a member of civil society can enter into a rational relationship with the state through an active civil position. This process, in turn, means that the individual's civic consciousness recognizes the need for the individual to reconcile his/her interests with the interests of society, and in the case of a conflict between them, the individual is ready to obey the society, accept all social demands and perform public duties and responsibilities. Moreover, the current socio-political and economic state of affairs requires every citizen to bring up a high level of civic culture, a sense of civic duty, patriotism, freedom, individuality, activism and initiative. The main goals and objectives of the formation of youth's active citizenship are closely linked with the processes mentioned above.

Second, the thorough analysis of youth participation in public life shows that a large part of young generation can understand the values of democracy and market economy fast, and quickly adapt to modern socio-economic and political realities of the country. Individual groups of young people also differ in their level of interest in socio-political processes, their integration into society, their activism and initiative, as well as their views on the development of society. The process of such socialization among youth of the country is determined by different



participants depending on political, social, economic, material and other factors. Besides the main qualities that are inimitable and important for modern youth, the following features of the individuals take a top place in their individual development: the individual is able to determine the potential of personal initiative, self-confidence, enhances moral dignity and self-esteem, relieve addictive moods and increase responsibility for the individual characteristics and a sense of freedom.

Third, the formation of civil society is a complex process associated with the development of civic behavior of young people. In this process, it is important to ensure the correlation of state and civil society institutions because civil society is a comfortable environment that legally meets the needs of modern youth, develops their personality, realizes the values of collective activities and social solidarity i.e., the main principle of the formation of an active civic position. In this sense, it would be right to call civil society as the most important subject and source of the formation of young people's active civic position.

## CONCLUSION

To sum up, today in our country the development of the organizational framework of state youth policy is in active process, and in addition to this special mechanisms for its implementation are being developed in accordance with international standards. At the same time, all the activities of state and local self-government bodies in creating an integrated system of implementation of state youth policy are being critically evaluated because the institutions of civil society play a central role in the formation of active citizenship among young people of the country. They are also of first importance in the implementation of state youth policy and the formation of public opinion in this field. For that reason, improving the legal framework for further development of civil society institutions have become one of the most cutting-edge issues of the present day.

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