



REALITY AND PROSPECTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract

Object: this article discusses the strategic directions for the development of civil society in the medium and long term. At the same time, the purpose of this study is to develop proposals for improving the organizational, legal and economic foundations for the activities of NGOs. The issues of increasing the efficiency of social partnership and public control, creating favorable conditions for expanding the participation of NGOs in public administration, further strengthening their organizational potential, organizing training and advanced training of specialists also require special attention.

Methods: in order to study the real state of the "third sector" in Uzbekistan, to assess the interaction of NGOs with state authorities, a comprehensive analysis of the interaction of NGOs with state bodies in solving urgent socio-economic, socio-political, cultural and humanitarian problems of the

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region, the attitude of citizens to public useful activities of NGOs, their impact on the social development of the country's regions, participation in government programs, the implementation of grant projects and the provision of services to the population.

Results: Based on the analysis of the state of the "third sector", the reasons that impede the effective functioning of NGOs in these areas were identified and proposals and recommendations were developed to further strengthen the role and importance of NGOs in the socio-economic development of regions.

Conclusions: given the importance and necessity of the NGO sector in the implementation of the tasks of the socio-economic, socio-political, cultural and humanitarian development of the country, there is a need to improve the legal framework of NGO, strengthen the organizational and financial stability of NGO, increase the positive image of NGO, strengthen international relations . At the same time, it is necessary to develop and publish methodological manuals and guidelines for employees of state bodies, NGOs and other civil society institutions on issues of interaction with foreign and international organizations, as well as take the necessary measures to consolidate the intellectual, material, technical and other resources of all self-initiative NGOs .

Key words (Keywords): civil society, NGOs, social partnership, public control, fundamental research, rule-making activity, personnel training.

Introduction

Huge scale work is being carried out in Uzbekistan to democratize and liberalize the activities of various institutions of civil society, the development of diverse dynamically developing NGOs as an essential component and one of the conditions for democratic renewal and modernization of the country, building a strong civil society.

The country has created the necessary comprehensive organizational, legal, material, technical, institutional framework for organizing the activities of non-governmental non-profit organizations (hereinafter referred to as NGO). By this period, more than 250 legislative acts have been adopted (over 20 laws, 60 decrees and resolutions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 180 resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic) aimed at strengthening the role and importance of civil institutions.

The rarest example of constitutional construction is that a separate chapter 13 of the Basic Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan is devoted to public associations. It forms the basis, the foundation of legislative support for the rights and freedoms of citizens to create NGOs and guarantees for the freedom of their activities.

The norms of the Constitution are concretized and disclosed in laws and legislative acts that establish solid legal foundations and guarantees for the creation and functioning of various forms of NGOs - public associations, public funds, mass social movements, institutions, their associations and unions, charitable organizations.

In particular, these are the laws “On public associations in the Republic of Uzbekistan”, “On non-governmental non-profit organizations”, “On public funds”, “On guarantees for the activities of non-governmental non-profit organizations”, “On social partnership”, Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On measures to assistance to the development of civil society in Uzbekistan”, etc.

As a result of ongoing phased reforms, the legal framework of NGOs has been significantly liberalized . Thus, in recent years, the state fee levied for state registration of NGOs has been reduced by 5 times, the period for considering applications for state registration of NGOs has been reduced by 2 times (from two months to one). Also, fees for state registration of separate divisions of NGOs have been abolished.

At the same time, there are a number of legal conflicts and gaps in the national legislation regulating the activities of NGOs that require revision. First of all this is a fuzzy formulation of the concept of NVC and an unclear classification of NVC forms.

According to Article 10 of the Law "On Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations" - non-governmental non-profit organizations can be created in the form of a public association, public fund, institution, as well as in another form provided for by legislative acts. It should be emphasized that the words “as well as in another form provided for by legislative acts” make it possible to create an almost unlimited variety of forms of NGOs (associations, unions, clubs, etc.). All these forms should differ from each other at least in the internal structure and features of property management. In turn, this leads to an insufficiently clear understanding of the term “NGO” and its possible forms by government agencies, specialists and society as a whole.

Moreover, the very concept of “non-governmental non-profit organizations” is absent in the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which requires a revision of the main law of the country.

This situation is due to the fact that before the adoption of the Constitution of the country in 1991, the Law “On Public Associations” was developed and adopted. At that time, the very concept of “non-state non-profit organization” did not exist in the socio-political life of the republic, and the expression “public associations” was used instead. Because of this, in 1992, when drafting the Constitution, the concept of “public associations” was introduced. Since the adoption of the Law "On Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations", in all legal documents, instead of the

expression "public associations", the concept of "non-governmental non-profit organizations" has been used .

With this in mind, it is necessary to introduce the concept of “non-state non-profit organizations” into the Constitution of the Republic in order to bring the legislation into a single one.

Certain conflicts can be traced in the Civil Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In Art. 73-78 of the Civil Code lists the organizational and legal forms of NGOs (consumer cooperatives, public associations, public funds, associations of legal entities (associations and unions) and self-government bodies of citizens). However, not all of them are NGOs, since the word “non-state” is absent in these articles of the code, with the exception of public funds. For example, citizens' self-government bodies are not NGOs, since the procedure for their creation, functioning, powers, etc. do not correspond to NGOs.

The imperfection of the legal regulation of the activities of NGOs in the field of taxation is also an obstacle to the development of the "third sector". Article 350 of the Tax Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan puts NGOs in an unequal position with large business entities, i.e. according to the norms of this article, NGOs are not single tax payers, as subjects of a small business, and they are not subject to the simplified taxation procedure. Given the socially significant activities of NGOs and the average annual number of employees of NGOs employed in non-productive industries and not exceeding 10 people, can be attributed to small enterprises. And this, in turn, would enable NGOs to enjoy the benefits provided to small businesses. Moreover, the saved funds could be used by the NNO for the further effective implementation of the statutory activities.

The mechanism for the practical application of sources for the formation of funds of NGOs has not been worked out. Article 18 of the Law "On public associations in the Republic of Uzbekistan" lists the sources of formation of funds of public associations. In accordance with this article, the holding of lottery games, if it is provided for by the charter of the NNO, is defined as one of the sources of formation of the financial resources of the organization. However, the lack of mechanisms for holding such games does not make it possible to fully use this tool, which is an unused reserve in strengthening the financial stability of NGOs.

There are certain legal gaps in the development of charity. Article 15 of the Law "On Charity" provides benefits to the subjects of charity (individuals and legal entities). Part 1 of Article 159 of the Tax Code provides legal entities with a benefit in which the taxable profit of legal entities is reduced by the amount of contributions, funds in the form of sponsorship and charitable assistance

to public organizations no more than 2% of taxable profit. However, the specific mechanism for applying this benefit is still not disclosed.

A similar situation is associated with individuals. The Tax Code does not provide for the use of any benefits in relation to individuals providing charitable (financial, property and other) support to NGOs.

In this regard, legal entities and individuals often do not see benefits for themselves in supporting NGOs.

An undeveloped mechanism for creating public funds to support NGOs and other civil society institutions under Jokargy Kenesa of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Kengashakh of people's deputies of the regions and the city of Tashkent hinders the further development of initiatives and the strengthening of the role of NGOs and other institutions of civil society, as well as the stimulation of their participation in solving socially and socially significant issues on the ground.

In general, legal conflicts, imperfect legislation and the presence of some artificial barriers create certain obstacles to the effective development of the NGO sector in Uzbekistan. In this regard, it is necessary to take separate measures to solve these legal problems, conduct an inventory of legislation, and amend certain legislative acts.

In order to study the real state of the "third sector" in Uzbekistan, assess the interaction of NGOs with government authorities, analyze their projects and programs, develop proposals and recommendations for the further development of the sector, a study was conducted.

The main objectives of this study were:

- analysis of the interaction of NGOs with state bodies in solving urgent socio-economic, socio-political, cultural and humanitarian problems of the region;
- analysis of the attitude of citizens to the socially useful activities of NGOs, its impact on the social development of the regions of the country, participation in government programs, the implementation of grant projects and the provision of services to the population;
- identifying the reasons that impede the effective functioning of NGOs in these areas;
- development of proposals and recommendations for further strengthening the activities of the role and importance of NGOs in the socio-economic development of the regions.

Materials And methods _

According to the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as of January 1, 2021, there are 9,205 NGOs operating throughout the country. The largest number was registered in the Fergana region, the smallest - in the Navoi region.

Basically, NGOs conduct their activities in the areas of entrepreneurship and farming (21.2%), sports development (13.7%), strengthening of democratic institutions (9%), etc.

At the same time, it is quite difficult to give a strict breakdown of NGOs by areas of activity, since many NGOs are engaged in the implementation of complex tasks that include several areas. Thus, more than 65% of women's NGOs work on educational programs that include the following areas: women's rights, reproductive health, gender education, professional training and retraining of women, issues of small business and private entrepreneurship, environmental protection, etc.

The total number of NGOs includes all subdivisions of political parties, movements, trade unions and other regional branches of republican NGOs.

For example, the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan has over 200 regional, city and district branches, and each of them is considered a separate NGO. The same situation is connected with the Mahalla Foundation, the Youth Union of Uzbekistan, the Red Crescent Society of Uzbekistan, the Society of the Disabled of Uzbekistan, the number of regional divisions of which exceeds 800 units throughout the republic.

Such registration and counting of NGOs is often criticized by foreign non-governmental and international organizations. Since the NGO with all its regional branches, in fact, is considered one organization.

Thus, the number of backbone NGOs with their regional divisions is more than 6 thousand, of which almost half was created by separate decisions of the government. The number of so-called "self-initiative" NGOs that do not have a territorial subdivision and function at the local level is about 3 thousand units.

At the same time, a critical analysis of the quantitative indicators of NGOs indicates the presence of a number of problems that require the adoption of effective measures to address the current situation.

First, a critical analysis of NGOs operating in the regions of the country shows that not all organizations registered with the justice authorities are fully functioning. In each region, there are on average 10-20 NGOs that have not been functioning for several years. The question of liquidation or resumption of activities of non-functioning NGOs still remains open.

In turn, the analysis of the study of the reasons for the non-functioning of NGOs made it possible to classify them into the following groups:

- lack of management of the organization (due to death, migration abroad in order to earn money, transition to the public and business sectors, etc.);

- lack of funding sources;

- Lack of premises, office for activities.

Secondly, it is necessary to improve the mechanisms for providing initiative groups with legal support in the preparation and execution of the statutes of new NGOs. Insufficient level of legal knowledge also makes it impossible to prepare statutes in accordance with the requirements legislation.

In this regard, the National Association of Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations of Uzbekistan (hereinafter - NANNOUz) has a good practice of providing methodological support through regional offices in the preparation and execution of charters of initiative groups. However, the lack of legal education among the coordinators of RO NANNOUz makes it impossible to provide these groups with high-quality legal support.

Thirdly, according to the State Statistics Committee, the number of registered NGOs throughout the country in accordance with the 1- NNT form is more than 20 thousand units, while according to the Ministry of Justice, their number is 9,205 units.

The undeveloped mechanism of interaction between the two government agencies in the formation of a single register of NGOs leads to a discrepancy in the numbers.

Moreover, form 1- NNT of the State Statistics Committee requires a radical revision, since this form, in addition to NGOs, registers religious organizations, non-state educational institutions, law firms and other non-profit organizations that are not included in the NGO system.

Fourth, the analysis of employment in the "third sector" reveals the prevalence of the model of hidden employment in NGOs, combined with work in government and commercial organizations. According to the survey conducted by NIMFOGO, work in NGOs is the main source of income for only 99 (28.6%) NGOs. The actual number of NGO employees for whom work in their organization is the main source of income may be even smaller, given that the survey was conducted mainly by representatives of the NGO management.

Thus, the number of permanent and part-time employees in the "third sector", including NGOs, is currently incalculable. The situation can change only if employment in NGOs can become a source of income for employees close to the salaries of government agencies, and this, in turn, will become a reality only when NGOs are able to profit from their activities. Such a change in the vector of development of NGOs is not yet possible de facto due to the restrictions of the current legislation.

Sixth, the issue of political parties requires separate consideration. Today, there are 839 political parties throughout the republic. These civil society institutions are also registered by the justice authorities as NGOs. However, there are several differences in the nature of political parties from NGOs.

First of all, it should be noted that, unlike NGOs, political parties are not created by individuals or legal entities.

In addition, the features of the creation, activities, reorganization and liquidation of political parties are regulated by the Law "On Political Parties".

Unlike NGOs, political parties pursue purely political goals, i.e. through their representatives participate in the elections of the President, the Legislative Chamber of Oliy Majlis, CPVs on the ground, while NGOs do not have such rights.

An important difference between the activities of NGOs and political parties is that NGOs protect the rights and legitimate interests of citizens, including foreign ones. Political parties do not have such rights.

The country has formed a legislative framework that meets generally recognized standards, creating the necessary conditions for effective interaction between NGOs and government agencies in addressing topical issues of socio-economic development.

The Law "On Social Partnership" was adopted, which determines the interaction of state bodies and NGOs and other institutions of civil society in the development and implementation of programs for the socio-economic development of the country, including sectoral, territorial programs, as well as legal acts and other decisions affecting the rights and legitimate interests of citizens.

In accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures to improve the structure of local executive authorities" dated January 3, 2011, the positions of deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, deputy khokims of the region for relations with public and religious organizations, as well as heads of their secretariat were established.

Public commissions for social partnership created under Jokargy Kenese of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Kengashes of people's deputies of the regions and the city of Tashkent, designed to assist in the development of social partnership between NGOs and government bodies, in monitoring and assessing the state of social partnership in addressing issues of social, socio-economic development in the relevant territory.

In 2017, optimization was carried out in the Office of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Service for interaction with Oliy The Majlis, political and public organizations were abolished and a new structure, the Service for Interaction with Public and Religious Organizations, was created

Interaction between the state and civil society is provided at all levels: republic, region, district, city, mahalla , as well as at all levels of government.

A greater openness of state bodies to cooperation with NGOs has been achieved through the conclusion of agreements, the development and implementation of joint projects and plans. Only within the framework of the National Forum of NGOs, annually held by the National Association of Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations of Uzbekistan (NANNOUz), more than 600 memorandums and agreements on cooperation were signed between NGOs and government agencies.

These arguments are confirmed by the results of a sociological survey conducted among regional NGOs. Analysis of the study shows that NGO representatives interact most of all with local authorities (**46%**) and **25%** - with departments of the social sphere.

At the same time, systematic monitoring, expert opinions and the results of a sociological study on the interaction of NGOs with government and local authorities show a number of problems in the field.

State bodies do not have the practice of actively working with NGOs through the implementation of the state social order.

In accordance with Article 21 of the Law "On Social Partnership", state bodies determine, within the limits of the spheres of social partnership provided for by this law, priority areas of their activities that require the support of NGOs, and send applications for the provision of state social orders for the next financial year to the Public Fund under Oliy Majlis . However, in practice, the situation is reversed, and the Public Fund under the Parliament of the country has to send requests to state bodies for submission of applications from them for receiving state social orders.

Local authorities are isolated from the problems of NGOs. Field meetings of khokims of regions, cities and districts with representatives of the "third sector" are not held to discuss topical problems of the region, to direct their potential and resources to solve socially significant problems.

Similarly, other state bodies at the regional, city and district levels do not fully attract the resources of NGOs, there are practically no skills to interact with them.

According to the overwhelming majority of NGO representatives (50%) who took part in the sociological survey, the main initiative for cooperation comes from them. Only 40% of respondents note that the initiative for interaction comes from both sides approximately equally. NGOs themselves do not always engage in dialogue when state bodies need their support.

According to 40% representatives of state bodies, NGOs should help them in working with the population, which has recently failed to achieve this goal. This leads to a complementary answer

from another category of representatives of state bodies, 30% of which state that NGOs and state bodies are partners who should jointly solve the problems of citizens.

There is no clear regional policy for the development of the "third sector" in the regions. There are no special programs for the comprehensive interaction of state bodies with all institutions of civil society to solve socially significant and public problems on the ground.

This argument is confirmed by the results of a sociological survey conducted among regional NGOs. According to respondents, there is a regional policy, but it is not entirely clear in which direction this sector is moving. And only one third of the respondents say that the regions have special programs in this direction. As an example, the annual work plans of the Public Commissions for Social Partnership and the annual regional programs for the implementation of the Action Strategy are given.

The partnership is carried out by the same NGOs, primarily republican ones. The foundations "Mahalla", "Nuroni", the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, the Youth Union and other republican NGOs are most involved in cooperation. At the same time, the so-called "self-initiative" NGOs remain on the sidelines.

In the course of a sociological survey, it turned out that representatives of state bodies, with the exception of justice bodies, are not informed about the activities of self-initiative NGOs. Respondents could not list the names of such organizations.

Sources of funds (resources) in NGOs can be divided into 6 main groups:

- from sales of goods and services;
- from the budget;
- from state targeted and special off-budget funds;
- membership, entrance fees and donations, grants, other gratuitous receipts (including from foreign and international organizations, from individuals of citizens of the republic, including members of the organization, from foreign citizens and stateless persons, as well as from a higher organization);
 - from operating lease;
 - interest on finance lease.

In order to financially support the activities of NGOs and other civil society institutions during 2008-2020. over 80 billion soums were allocated from the state budget for the implementation of over 2 thousand projects and programs.

At the same time, it is necessary to note a rather low level of professional knowledge and skills in the preparation of project applications. The situation is aggravated when analyzing the entire region of the republic. This situation is determined by several factors:

firstly, these regions are relatively backward in socio-economic terms compared to other regions; accordingly, there is a low level of activity of NGOs themselves in these regions;

secondly, the majority of NGOs in these regions remain uninformed about the grant competitions of the Public Fund, limited access to the Internet does not allow them to receive information in a timely manner;

Thirdly, lack of interest in relationships with more experienced NGOs in the region, regional branches of NANNOUz does not provide an opportunity to receive timely information about competitions.

In general, the vast majority of NGOs (83%) and representatives of state bodies (65%) are in favor of increasing the state financial support to civil society institutions, and only 2% of NGOs and 1.4% of representatives of government agencies argue the need for a gradual reduction in such support and the creation of mechanisms for the transition to self-financing of the organization.

The mentality of the people does not allow individuals to provide direct financial support to NGOs. In most cases, individuals do not intend to finance the activities of NGOs: they help individual children with a specific name, surname and photo.

Often, citizens, based on their religious beliefs, most of all prefer to provide financial support to mosques and other religious institutions.

Personnel problems are linked to the lack of funding: many NGOs are unable to properly pay for the work of employees, including developers of project ideas, to hire qualified specialists in fundraising, financial management, accounting, etc. for the full functioning of the organization.

fundraiser would help improve the financial stability of NGOs. However, there are practically no such people in the NGO sector. Moreover, its maintenance will cost NGOs dearly, since they cannot afford to allocate full-time employees who would only be engaged in the search for funding, constantly improving their qualifications.

Moreover, the lack of a clear strategy for attracting financial resources also negatively affects the financial sustainability of NGOs.

In general, the lack of self-financing mechanisms of the organization has led to the fact that the majority of NGOs in the country today are on the verge of survival, working solely on enthusiasm.

The vast majority of NGOs see their activities mainly from the point of view of fulfilling a social mission.

The state calls on NGOs to be involved in the systematic study and solution of the problems of the population. However, without financial, organizational and other resources, it is impossible to become an equal partner of government agencies in effectively solving the problems of the population.

In this regard, the state needs to develop a new model for financing NGOs, which allows you to look at yourself as an organization with income and expenses, evaluating each step in terms of economic efficiency and a possible funding base.

This model should provide an opportunity to look at the social services produced by NGOs as a product and assess its competitiveness in the market.

It is important for the government to know how many jobs will be created in the NGO sector, what contribution they will make to the GDP and the solution of the country's social problems, what social services can be transferred to the sector, how many children can be cured with the help of such organizations, how to mobilize volunteers to implement important state projects, and, ultimately, how to reduce budget expenditures in this way.

For this, the issue of developing civil society institutions should be included in the tasks of the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction.

According to the State Committee on Statistics, the number of employees in the NGO sector without external part-time workers was 30,968 people. Of these, 11,285 are women and only 319 are persons with disabilities. More than half of the employees (15,998 people) have a higher education and 13,294 have a specialized secondary education.

The age category of workers indicates that citizens aged 30-39 are most involved in the NGO sector.

On average, NGOs employ from 3 to 10 people. Often in self-initiative NGOs there are no permanent active employees as such. Employees on a paid basis are involved only when the organization implements any grants.

These theses are confirmed by the results of a sociological survey, in which more than half of the participants claim that their organization has less than 5 employees.

It should be noted that it is the weak economic component of most NGOs that causes the outflow of qualified personnel, which significantly affects the quality of services provided. There is a high growth in turnover in organizations.

The main reason for such an outflow of personnel from the "third sector" is the absence or low wages in comparison with state bodies.

At the same time, the issue of increasing legal literacy and professional qualifications of both NGO employees and the leaders of the organization remains relevant.

It is the issues of staff development, studying international experience, attracting qualified personnel, developing special programs to support NGOs, according to the participants in the sociological survey, that will contribute to the effective organization of the activities of these civil society institutions.

The results of the analysis show that, most of all, NGOs need to improve their legal knowledge, teach them the basics of accounting, auditing and taxation, raise funds and resources (fundraising), develop skills for interacting with business structures, government agencies, use the labor of volunteers, prepare project applications, etc.

Today, branches and representative offices of foreign and international organizations accredited in the country make a significant contribution to the development of the country, the achievement of social, cultural and educational goals, the satisfaction of spiritual and other non-material needs, and the implementation of charitable activities.

At the same time, Rossotrudnichestvo , the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the branch of the Goethe Institute in Tashkent, the Representative Office of the Foundation named after. F. Eberta , Delegation of the European Union, UNDP Office, UNICEF, Project HOPE Branch, OSCE CP in Uzbekistan, etc.

The main areas of activity of foreign and international organizations are conducting charitable operations for children from low-income families, strengthening the capacity of medical workers to provide quality family planning services, familiarizing farmers and other stakeholders with the promotion of innovative technologies in the agricultural sector, expanding legal and economic opportunities for the development of women 's entrepreneurship , combating child labor, human trafficking, protecting the environment, improving the professional knowledge and skills of NGO leaders, improving the skills of prosecutors, as well as developing volunteerism and journalism.

At the same time, in the activities of branches and representative offices of foreign and international organizations accredited in the country, a certain transformation of their working methods was observed.

Firstly, due to the difficulty of establishing cooperation with NGOs, the need to necessarily coordinate such interaction with the justice authorities, they are increasingly establishing

partnerships with government agencies and business structures, together with which various propaganda and educational work among the population is often carried out.

Secondly, in recent years, there have been active attempts by foreign organizations in the country to artificially initiate the creation of network public structures that can be used in the interests of external forces. In particular, the representative office of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Uzbekistan, together with UNDP, has repeatedly provoked the initiative to create an Association of Disabled Organizations in Uzbekistan with further membership of this organization in the International Organization of Disabled People (IOI).

It should be noted that this organization, in fact, is parallel to the Society of the Disabled of Uzbekistan and, accordingly, duplicates its functions.

Thirdly, projects are increasingly being financed, through the implementation of which information is collected on the ground, and public opinion that meets the requirements of the donor is formed, etc. At the same time, the implementation of projects is carried out both in the real plane and offline. The widespread use of social networks is becoming an increasingly effective form of work of foreign socio-political centers in terms of the political mobilization of young people. In particular, in the online environment, the tactics of commenting on disseminated information, sending emails, creating online communities that share common views, blogging, messaging and other tools of the new media environment, which create mechanisms for broad civil participation in political processes, become the main tools of their activity.

Fourthly, special attention is paid to financing and coordination of work on the development of methodological manuals and reports regarding the assessment of socio-political situations and the country's legislation.

Fifth, the “soft power” method uses technologies to instill “democratic values” among young people. At the same time, foreign socio-political centers actively use the academic exchange of students, hold various events, seminars, trainings, exams in order to identify informal leaders to participate in summer vacations in foreign countries. Examples of this are the US Fulbright program and the Schools: Partners of the Future program of the Goethe-Institut Tashkent Branch. Recognizing the certain usefulness of such educational activities, one should not forget that it is through participation in these programs that young people become a potential supporter of Western-style democracy, begin to orient themselves in those areas of activity and problems that are most relevant not for their own country, but for developed countries where they come from. and these structures are financed.

Sixth, monitoring visits to remote regions of the country are increasingly being organized. This method is used to verify the effective implementation of funded projects and programs. The advantage of this method for foreign NGOs is that during the monitoring visit the visitor has a greater opportunity to meet with informal sources in order to obtain additional information.

Seventh, conducting medical examinations of the population, improving the skills of medical staff, especially in countering the spread of HIV / AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Despite the fact that foreign medical NGOs and international organizations usually claim that their activities are free from politics and ideology, the results of work in developing countries show that the proposed programs have a noticeable impact on local mentality, norms of behavior and the system of interpersonal relations.

Eighth, work is being done with the public through the presentation of various circus scenes and the organization of a festival of children's and youth films. This method is successfully applied by the branch of the Goethe-Institut in Tashkent. Monitoring shows that the activities of the Branch in this direction were concentrated in Tashkent, Andijan, Samarkand, Fergana and Bukhara regions.

Another striking example is the display of several films by the Goethe-Institut in the years. Tashkent and Ferghana, the content of which caused a number of displeasure and criticism among the older generation.

The picture of the feature film "Victoria" presented to the viewer often showed scenes of alcohol and tobacco use, methods and methods of using psychotropic and narcotic substances, as well as naked people dancing in nightclubs.

Ninth, through the implementation of various programs and projects, foreign socio-political centers are trying to form a corps of managers and social activists loyal to the West at the grassroots level.

Joint UNDP projects with the Cabinet of Ministers and the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "Support for the local government system" (Phase-1 and 2), "Promotion of training of managerial personnel in Uzbekistan" were aimed precisely at achieving the above goals.

Tenth, foreign NGOs are becoming more active in opening their branches and representative offices in the country. Thus, during the year, such foreign NGOs as the International Mental and Educational Center (Republic of Korea), the International Center for Non-Commercial Law (USA) submitted relevant documents for state registration to the justice authorities. In turn, the latter is known for his critical remarks regarding the ongoing civil society reforms in Uzbekistan.

An analysis of world practice shows that the creation in a particular country of the necessary conditions for strengthening the role of international NGOs, providing them with a wide

opportunity for cooperation with the "third sector" contributed to the definition of priority areas for their activities to strengthen civic activism and political intolerance, dominating in the ideological and social spheres. To create favorable conditions in this direction, the NGO mechanism is considered to be quite effective.

It is no secret that the "color revolutions" in Serbia (2000), Yugoslavia (2000), Georgia (2003), Ukraine (2004) and Kyrgyzstan (2005 and 2010) were carried out by external destructive forces, using the third sector tool.

As a result of the color revolutions in Ukraine, Georgia, Yugoslavia and Kyrgyzstan, the German magazine *Der Spiegel* published a series of analytical articles under the general heading "OOO Revolution". The publication drew attention to the parallels between the revolutions in Ukraine, Yugoslavia, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan, which only outwardly took place in spontaneous uprisings with rallies, fiery slogans and mocking posters, but in reality were carefully planned and organized. With figures and facts, German journalists convincingly proved how Western intelligence services, primarily American ones, starting from the Yugoslav experience, developed and then perfected a new technology for non-violent change of ruling regimes in countries they do not like.

According to experts, certain political circles in the West, including the United States, spent about \$4 billion on revolutions in Georgia and Ukraine alone (\$1.5 billion on Georgia and \$2.5 billion on Ukraine). As a result, it turned out that the actions of NGOs were aimed at manipulating the mass consciousness of the most active part of the population, capable of forming the basis of internal protest potential.

Although there are no pronounced destructive forms and methods of work of representative offices and branches of foreign and international organizations in Uzbekistan, this work is carried out gently and using modern tools and mechanisms for forming public opinion.

The current favorable atmosphere in the country contributes to a change in thinking and worldview among representatives of NGOs. The mood of the "third sector" is changing. More and more often questions are raised about the need to simplify the procedure for interaction with international organizations, obtaining foreign grants, and ensuring the transparency of the activities of the Banking Commission.

At this stage of the country's development, cooperation with foreign and international organizations is necessary in terms of learning new experience and attracting financial resources to the country.

At the same time, state bodies and public organizations should take specific measures so that the agenda of cooperation, the main goals, objectives and priority areas of such cooperation are determined not by the foreign side in the interests of other countries, but by state bodies and civil society institutions, taking into account the national interests of Uzbekistan.

Literary review (Literature review)

It should be noted that there are many conceptual and theoretical models of the formation and development of civil society in the world (Khoros , 1998). And not all of them are acceptable for Uzbekistan (Syryamkina and Stupnikova , 2015).

It seems appropriate in this matter to rely on those theoretical conclusions that consider civil society and the state as two interrelated forms of a single society that have common goals and act as partners in achieving these goals through the interaction of relevant state and public institutions (Zhuravleva, 2015 ; Nemtoi , 2015).

Research on the development of civil society is carried out by scientists and specialists of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the National Center for Human Rights, the National University of Uzbekistan, the Tashkent State Pedagogical University, the Academy of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and a number of other central and regional higher educational institutions. Sociological polls and studies of public opinion on the development of civil society are regularly conducted by the Public Center "Public Opinion" and the Independent Institute for Monitoring the Formation of Civil Society (Parmanov and Halbekov , 2019; Parmanov , 2016).

Within the framework of the State Programs of Fundamental and Applied Research in 2017-2020, a number of scientific papers were presented for defense for the degrees of Doctor of Science and Doctor of Philosophy. In the recent period, a number of educational and teaching aids for educational institutions on the currently taught subject “Fundamentals of Civil Society” and related academic disciplines have also been published (Jalilov and Muhammadiev , 2015).

In general, the current scientific work on this topic reveals the main features and features of the development of NGO in Uzbekistan (Abdukhalilov , 2018; Gaffarova , 2018; Sadykova, 2016; Matibaev , 2017).

However, it should be noted that the ongoing research on the development of civil society, especially NGOs, is fragmented. They are carried out by various scientific and educational institutions in different fields of knowledge, and, as a rule, have insufficient applied value.

Problems also exist in organizing the activities of non-state media, which also, in accordance with the generally accepted classification in the international community, refer to civil society institutions (Banks , 2014; Kulsariyeva and Nassimova , 2014).

Issues of increasing the efficiency of social partnership and public control, creating favorable conditions for expanding the participation of NGOs in public administration also require special attention (Arond et al ., 2019).

There is a need to expand the scope of objects of social partnership and public control. For example, the development of non-state spheres of social services, pensions for the population, social support and rehabilitation of the disabled are unjustifiably excluded from this sphere. Meanwhile, international experience shows that social partnership in this area is widespread in the USA, France, Sweden, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea and other countries of Europe, Asia and the Americas (Banks, 2014).

As relevant foreign experience shows, work in civil society institutions, especially in NGOs, requires not only high civic engagement, but also specific professional training (Vasilescu et al ., 2010). However, the training of such specialists in higher educational institutions of the country is practically not carried out.

Teaching the foundations of civil society is also not accompanied by training in specialties in demand in the "third sector". Such, for example, as specialists in social management, social psychology, economics and management in non-governmental non-profit organizations, organizing a dialogue with the population, specialists in other areas of public policy and social sciences (Vasilescu et al ., 2010; Medvedeva , 2015; Yarullin and Gabdrahmanova , 2015).

Results (Results)

In Uzbekistan, there is still an active search for answers to the following questions: How much does the state need the NGO sector? Maybe it is worth solving the social problems of the state through other institutions and state bodies? In what areas could the potential of NGOs be most fully realized?

Despite such uncertainty, the state constantly supports NGOs, creates legal conditions for them to operate effectively, in order to prevent this sector from falling under the influence and dependence of foreign socio-political centers.

This situation is positively assessed by one-third of the respondents of the sociological survey, who claim that the state constantly encourages their development.

Based on the foregoing, we can say that the state today has a limited vision of the role and place of NGOs in the processes of economic and political development of the country. In order to develop specific measures to reform the NGO sector, it is necessary to analyze the problems in the sector in more detail.

Systematic monitoring of the "third sector" and the results of a sociological study made it possible to identify a range of typical problems hindering the development of the NGO sector in Uzbekistan. These problems can be divided into obvious and hidden:

- Clear problems include the lack of a clear national policy on NGOs.

The government's policy towards NGOs needs more clarity, transparency and predictability in the medium term (3-5 years) and long-term (5-10 years) perspectives.

The country has adopted a unique document - the Action Strategy, which determines the further development of the entire sphere of social and state building. This strategic document is a kind of "road map" for the further development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the next 5 years. The development of civil society institutions, increasing their social and political activity is also among the priorities of the Action Strategy.

However, the document does not fully disclose the mechanisms of development, increase of social and political activity of civil institutions. State programs adopted as part of the implementation of the Action Strategy only partially reveal some aspects of the development of the NGO sector and do not bring significant changes in the field;

- insufficient qualifications and legal knowledge of NGO employees.

Among the vast majority of leaders and employees of NGOs, there is a lack of such managerial skills as systematic planning of the organization's activities, focus on the final result, finding solutions to ensure the duration of ongoing projects, etc. This situation contributes to the fact that NGOs start working from project to project. At the same time, quantitative indicators (the number of events carried out, the number of people reached, etc.) become the focus of their attention instead of qualitative ones.

A low level of legal knowledge often leads to violations by NGOs of legislation related to their organizational activities. Thus, the majority of leaders of NGOs, especially at the district level, do not understand the essence and significance of the Regulations on the procedure for coordinating events. Moreover, given the absence of structural subdivisions of the Ministry of Justice in the districts, NGOs of the district scale do not have the opportunity to coordinate their activities with them and prefer to hold

them without the consent of the justice authorities, which is a violation of the law (Article 8 of the Law “On Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organizations”).

A low level of legal awareness also contributes to the commission of offenses in the proper conduct of office work, ensuring the labor and medical rights of employees guaranteed by law, etc.;

- weakness of interaction between NGOs themselves within the sector.

In the regions of the country, the interaction between the NGOs themselves in the implementation of joint projects is extremely poorly developed. This state of affairs is due to the fact that each NGO strives to occupy its own niche within a specific territory and a specific type of activity. The situation leads to the fact that NGOs are ready to exchange experiences, but in practice they actually compete with each other for resources and try to avoid contact;

- low level of interaction with the media.

Insufficient understanding of the specifics of NGOs by journalists, as well as the lack of professionalism among representatives of civil society institutions in preparing press releases, news reports and other materials about their activities, does not make it possible to show a complete picture of the effectiveness of the "third sector". As a result, the majority of the population has no idea about the NGO sector, and regular coverage of the activities of the same large republican NGOs (the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, the Youth Union, the Mahalla Foundation, etc.) contributes to the formation in the minds of citizens of a false idea - the nationalization of these NGOs.

- among the hidden problems are the limited holding of spiritual, educational and explanatory events.

The vast majority of NGOs are limited to holding various events (seminars, trainings, round tables, meetings, etc.), promoting certain values (healthy lifestyle, strengthening the family, building a sense of patriotism, love for the Motherland, etc.). Often, the results of these activities are not always tangible, and their effectiveness, in principle, cannot be assessed, which means that such activities of NGOs simply do not have feedback.

In addition, the very nature of propaganda as a tool for social design is such that it requires consistency and coverage of the entire society, as a result, propaganda cannot be effective in the hands of NGOs.

Thus, not all NGOs are involved in solving specific social problems on the ground, providing employment for the population, and providing social protection to vulnerable categories of citizens, although these areas should be the end result of the activities of all civil institutions;

- Lack of focus on project performance.

Most of the ongoing projects are one-time or short-term (12 months).

A group of NGOs appeared, functioning according to the principle “from grant to grant”. The justifications for ensuring the effectiveness of the project in the applications are vague, which suggests that the grantee does not have a clear idea of the final result and the formation of mechanisms to ensure the duration of the project.

This situation leads to an inefficient use of resources at the disposal of NGOs, and the main criterion for the success of an organization is the number of events held, as well as the number of people who took part in them.

The result of this state of affairs is the actual interest of the NGOs themselves in preserving the problems that their activities are formally aimed at solving, since this makes it possible to justify the need for the endless resumption of the same projects with low efficiency;

- strong interest of the leadership of NGOs in the implementation of foreign projects.

Another hidden problem in the activities of NGOs is the interest of certain NGOs in the implementation of projects of foreign and international organizations. This is of course due to the presence of a significant resource in the hands of NGOs, compared to the resources provided by national donors.

The most important problem in this process is that the beneficiaries of NGOs do not always become consumers of final goods as a result of the implementation of foreign projects. Formally, the beneficiary of NGO is society as a whole or its individual (usually the most vulnerable) groups. However, in conditions where the activities of NGOs are often not result-oriented, society in fact cannot be such a beneficiary. This is because the NGO produces a product that has no market value and is offered free of charge.

In each specific case, the NGO is interested in maximizing the costs associated with resource management and minimizing those associated with the production of the final good. Thus, the organization itself, represented by its management, becomes the main recipient of the benefit.

Discussion (Discussions)

The study made it possible to identify the main development trends that are typical for the “third sector” today, and also, taking into account the identified development problems, to build scenarios for its further evolution in the following aspects:

- the regulatory and legal framework regulating the activities of NGOs, their interaction with state bodies, the development of mechanisms for state financial support and public control is being gradually improved;

- the tendency of the Ministry of Justice to create a legal system of full control over the activities of both national NGOs and branches and representative offices of foreign and international NGOs accredited in Uzbekistan continues.

In recent years, two documents have been adopted by order of the Minister of Justice: Order of the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the Regulations on the procedure for coordinating the activities of NGOs" No. 177-mx of 06/04/2015 NGOs with a registration authority from foreign states, international and foreign organizations, citizens of foreign states or on their behalf from other persons of funds and property" No. 157-mx dated 06/15/2016;

- the trend of quantitative growth of NGOs continues. Over the past 5 years, the number of NGOs has almost doubled. However, a qualitative analysis shows a different picture: 66% of NGOs are backbone, almost half of which were created by relevant government decisions, and only 34% are self-organized .

The growth in the number of NGOs in 2017 is characterized by giving the Republican Council for the Coordination of the Activities of Citizens' Self-Government Bodies the status of a legal entity with its formation in the form of an association of citizens' gatherings, by Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures to further improve the mahalla institution" No. UP-4944 dated 03.02.2017 ., having territorial subdivisions in all regions of the country;

the authority of NANNOUz among other institutions of civil society , designed to consolidate and coordinate the intellectual resources of domestic NGOs, provide them with comprehensive information and methodological, advisory, financial, legal and other support, negatively affects the further development of the NGO sector.

In this regard, only the adoption by the founders of NANNOUz of effective measures to radically review the organizational and personnel activities of the Association and their proposal to the government of the country to empower NANNOUz with appropriate powers, benefits and preferences will help to overcome the crisis.

The situation is aggravated by the fact that the spread among the "third sector" of a rumor about its possible liquidation is increasingly reducing the image of NANNOUz in the eyes of NGOs, foreign and international organizations accredited in the country;

- characteristic is when NGO of the "traditional" type (the older generation) are unable to carry out their own transformation and die. Thus, new methods of NGO work are being mastered from scratch by new people;

- annually increases the amount allocated from the state budget funds to support the "third sector". So, if in 2008 only 3 billion soums were allocated to support the socially useful activities of NGOs,

the media and other institutions of civil society , then in 2018 this figure exceeded 17 billion 750 million soums .

At the same time, there is a tendency to reduce the funding of socially significant projects of NGOs among other civil society institutions. The analysis shows that the largest number of NGO projects were funded in 2013 (193 units). Since then, there has been a reverse trend (in 2017, 179 NGO projects were funded), and priority is given to the media and citizens' self-government bodies;

- a dependent mood is gradually formed in NGOs. A certain part of the "third sector" thinks that the state is obliged to regularly support NGOs, take care of them, provide property, financial and other support;

- financial instability in the NGO sector is gradually forcing them to liquidate the organization. This factor most of all influences self-initiative NGOs. An analysis of the applications submitted to the justice authorities for the liquidation of NGOs shows the level of desire of representatives of NGOs to leave the "third sector";

- there is a shortage of qualified personnel in the NGO sector. The lack of organizational foundations in matters of training and retraining of personnel for the non-profit sector does not allow attracting young qualified personnel to the "third sector";

- there is still a lack of professional skills and management in working with volunteers. Often, the word "volunteer" is associated with young people. However, both young people and representatives of middle and old age can become volunteers.

In this regard, if the Youth Union of Uzbekistan covers a certain part of the youth, and the Nuroniy Foundation covers the elderly, then a huge number of the middle-aged population (30-55 years old) remains outside the scope of a single NGO.

This part of the population is attracted to NGOs in a fragmented and chaotic manner. The effective use of their potential by a single pro-state civil institution would contribute to the coverage by the state (through pro-state NGOs) of the entire part of the country's population and would prevent the gap where foreign socio-political centers could use in their activities;

- the adoption of the Action Strategy and the reforms carried out as part of its implementation contributed to enhancing the role of state bodies in the system of social and state building, strengthening the position of private entrepreneurship in the business sector. Such a set of circumstances made it possible for young qualified personnel to change their labor activity and move to a state body or business sector;

- there is still a lack of awareness of the population, including representatives of state bodies, about NGOs;

- there is a tendency to reduce the interest of young people in NGOs. A certain part of the youth, most of all, is busy looking for ways to achieve their own economic well-being. The other part prefers to be involved in the activities of the Youth Union of Uzbekistan. This situation is connected with reforming the structure of the Youth Union " Kamolot " and providing the Youth Union of Uzbekistan with more opportunities to support their potential;

- there is still a low level of interaction between NGOs and the media. Not enough attention is paid to coverage of the entire NGO sector. In the media, one can observe the coverage of the activities of the same NGOs (the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, the Youth Union, the Development Strategy Center, the Mahalla , Soglom avlod uchun "and others).

The results of the research, as well as the identified problems and development trends in the NVC sector, make it possible to form three main scenarios for the further development of the "third sector" in the next 5 years.

Scenario #1. Managed transformation.

This scenario is the most favorable and involves the manifestation of reformist activity on the part of the state.

In this regard, the most important task is to develop a new vision of the role and place of NGOs in the processes of economic and political modernization of the country. The state will need to take measures to create an institutional framework for the training and retraining of personnel for the non-profit sector, create mechanisms for self-financing of the "third sector", develop and ensure the implementation of specific social partnership mechanisms, involve the business sector in this partnership, improve the status of NGOs in society, increase professional qualifications of journalists on the specifics of the "third sector" .

In this regard, it is necessary to develop a strategic document for the next 5 years, defining specific areas of interaction between state bodies and NGOs, improving the legal framework, gradually reducing state funding and developing mechanisms for self-financing of civil society institutions, ensuring their financial stability, personnel stability, social protection of workers " third sector", a phased transition to electronic document management (online registration of new NGOs, online coordination of events, etc.), raising public awareness of their activities, etc.

The most important step in the development of the "third sector" will be the development and implementation in practice of specific mechanisms that allow NGOs to actually engage in entrepreneurial activities in accordance with the statutory tasks. The adoption by the state of effective measures to support and promote the idea of social entrepreneurship of NGOs will ultimately contribute not only to ensuring the financial stability of NGOs, but also to the

elimination of unemployment, the solution of acute social problems on the ground, and the provision of real material support to socially vulnerable categories of the population.

To further strengthen the role and importance of NGOs in society, including self-initiative ones, to represent their interests before state bodies, to consolidate and coordinate their efforts to actually solve socially significant problems on the ground, a radical review of the activities of NANNOUz is required, empowering it with powers and prerogatives that allows increasing interest NGO is a member of the Association.

In order to establish a constructive dialogue between NGOs and other institutions of civil society with the Head of State, the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of development of civil society, the organization of effective cooperation between subjects of social partnership, it seems appropriate to create a permanent Advisory Council for the development of civil society under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. World practice shows the effective activity of such councils in establishing close interaction between the state and the "third sector".

At the same time, in order to prevent the influence of foreign socio-political centers on the internal policy of the state through domestic NGOs controlled by them, to determine priority areas for cooperation between state bodies, NGOs and foreign and international organizations, taking into account the tasks noted in the Action Strategy, it is advisable to review the activities, functions and composition of the Interdepartmental Commission for Relations with Foreign Non-Governmental Charitable, Educational Institutions and Foundations in the Republic of Uzbekistan, established in 2003 by the relevant Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the establishment of an Interdepartmental Commission for Relations with Foreign Non-Governmental Charitable, Educational Institutions and Foundations in the Republic of Uzbekistan" No. P- 1876 dated December 12, 2003

Taking into account the regular claim of the UN Committees to the republic regarding the participation of representatives of civil institutions in the implementation of the tasks defined in the Conventions and Optional Protocols of the UN Treaty Bodies on Human Rights, as well as in the preparation of Periodic and Interim Reports on the implementation of the above documents, it is advisable to create a Resource Center at NANNOUz on the preparation of such reports with the involvement of the most active NGOs, which would give a positive result and contribute to the improvement of the country's image in the international arena.

Moreover, given the ever-increasing activity of foreign socio-political centers, the possibility of exerting a negative impact on the transformation of modern civil society, it becomes necessary to form an Expert Council at NANNOUz from among representatives of foreign and international

organizations accredited in the country, the main task of which will be to discuss and develop proposals on the further definition of priority areas for the development of civil society.

Scenario #2. Autonomous transformation.

This scenario assumes the further development of the NGO sector in the same direction and at the same pace and means as at present.

Priority areas will still remain the further improvement of the legislation regulating the activities of NGOs, raising public awareness of their activities, carrying out one-time and ineffective measures, and continuing to provide them with state financial support. At the same time, the regular provision of state financial support can help strengthen their dependency mood.

New NGOs and initiative groups will regularly face problems in preparing socially significant projects and reports, obtaining high-quality legal, methodological and informational support, which will ultimately lead to the self-liquidation of such organizations, a decrease in public confidence and interest in NGOs, since NANNOUz, which performs this role, by this moment, will completely lose its potential and status among other institutions of civil society.

The non-profit sector and the business sector will develop in parallel, but there will be no synthesized effect from these two areas in the social sphere.

For this scenario, the former (i.e. current) interaction of state bodies with the same NGOs (Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, Youth Union, Mahalla, Nuroniy, Soglom avlod uchun "and others).

Scenario #3. Stagnation.

The third scenario, like the previous one, is based on the assumption of a conservative course of the state in the social sphere, but also takes into account the likelihood of economic difficulties affecting the opportunities of both the public sector and society as a whole. This scenario can be characterized as pessimistic.

The state continues to focus on the same NGOs indicated in scenario No. 2. There may be a possibility of a gradual reduction or preservation of funds allocated annually from the state budget to support civil society institutions.

New NGOs, whose leaders do not have sufficient skills and professionalism in managing the organization, will face stagnation in their development due to insufficient resources, methodological and legal support.

The awareness of the population about the "third sector" will decrease more and more. The development of certain NVCs will take place in a narrow circle, i.e. in the active part of society.

The bureaucratic procedure for coordinating events, submitting annual reports to the registration authorities will contribute to the development of the activities of informal (unregistered) organizations that prefer to work through social networks on the Internet. And this form of work is not regulated by law today and their activities cannot be controlled.

In general, this sector is characterized by the fact that the development of the sector will freeze. Motivation for new projects will be negligible. There will be virtually no interaction between the non-profit sector and the business sector. And in an economic downturn, the business sector itself will be on the verge of survival.

Thus, the implementation of each of the scenarios depends on the decisions taken by the state to a much greater extent than on objective circumstances that can be mitigated or aggravated by these decisions.

The optimistic scenario will require serious efforts, both on the part of the state and on the part of the "third sector".

A realistic scenario will require more effort on the part of the NGO sector specifically.

The pessimistic scenario will work if the state does not pursue an equal policy towards NGOs, both with all categories of the "third sector" and with government agencies.

The situation may worsen in the event of economic fluctuations in the country. Ultimately, this can lead to the degradation of social policy and aggravate socio-political relations in the republic.

The "third sector" has specific aspects in which any political decisions may involve certain risks. In this regard, the analysis allows us to identify two main risks: hyperactivity and passivity of the NVC sector.

World experience shows that the uncontrolled development of NGOs, their excessive freedom of action can lead to the fact that NGOs become an active driving force in political processes, lobbying the interests of the business elite and foreign donors.

In particular, it has already been proven that the "color revolutions" in Serbia, Georgia, Ukraine, and Kyrgyzstan were sponsored by foreign donor organizations and implemented with the help of local NGOs.

In order to further assist in establishing and strengthening the interaction of state bodies and NGOs with foreign and international organizations, analyzing and evaluating the effectiveness of interaction with foreign NGOs, identifying priority areas for cooperation, creating the necessary conditions for their effective activities to provide technical and humanitarian assistance to Uzbekistan in the implementation programs of social, socio-economic and scientific and

technological development, an Interdepartmental Commission for Relations with Foreign Non-Governmental Charities, educational institutions and funds in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Taking into account the ever increasing activity of foreign and international organizations in the country, attempts to return previously liquidated foreign NGOs, improvement of technologies in working with civil society institutions, the current method of working with the “third sector” may lead to the loss of the national system for monitoring the activities of the NGO sector and the creation of foreign socio-political centers of the structure, allowing rapid influence on domestic NGOs.

The participation of citizens through the institutions of civil society in decision-making at the state and regional levels is the basis for the implementation of the principles of democracy, ensuring human rights and freedoms. In this regard, NGOs should become a partner of state bodies in the process of developing, adopting, executing and evaluating key decisions at all stages of social and state building. The quality of political decisions depends on successful interaction between NGOs and state structures.

Therefore, if the NGO sector is weak and passive, there is a danger of political and social apathy of the society, which, ultimately, can lead to an ideological vacuum and conflicts.

The implementation of an ill-conceived reform in the “third sector”, at best, can lead to fragmentation and spontaneity of NGOs. The latter will be engaged in solving social problems, being isolated not only from state bodies, but also from each other. Experiencing a constant need for resources to carry out their activities, they will often use the attracted resources inefficiently, duplicating or blocking each other's activities, while spending huge efforts and funds on suboptimal solutions due to ignorance of the general situation and self-isolation from local life. Just some fragments of these situations, today, can be observed in the life of the NGO sector.

Conclusion

Given the importance and necessity of the NGO sector in the implementation of the tasks of the socio-economic, socio-political, cultural and humanitarian development of the country, building a strong civil society, state support for the sector is necessary at all stages of its development. In this regard, it is advisable to develop and adopt a medium-term Concept for the further development of civil society, which provides for the following main areas:

- improvement of the legal framework of NGOs;
- strengthening the organizational and financial sustainability of NGOs;
- improving the positive image of NGOs;
- strengthening of international relations;

- public fund for the support of NGOs and other institutions of civil society under Oliy The Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan needs to ensure in practice the existing mechanism for filling and reviewing grant applications online;

– take measures to provide feedback to each participant of the competitions whose projects were not supported;

- give more preference to projects aimed at creating a specific product and service that has an equivalent in the commercial sector;

- The National Association of Non-Governmental Non-Profit Organizations of Uzbekistan needs to work out the issue of creating an Expert Council under the Association from among representatives of foreign and international organizations, aimed at studying and developing proposals for the further development of civil society;

- to take measures to create a Resource Center under the Association for the preparation of alternative reports of NGOs on the analysis of the implementation of individual recommendations of the UN committees;

- the national association of non-governmental non-profit organizations of Uzbekistan should develop and implement a plan of educational seminars for employees of state bodies and NGOs to improve their legal knowledge in matters of interaction with foreign socio-political centers;

– develop and publish methodological manuals and guidelines for employees of state bodies, NGOs and other civil society institutions on issues of interaction with foreign and international organizations;

– take the necessary measures to consolidate the intellectual, material, technical and other resources of all self-initiative NGOs.

The current legislation regulating the activities of NGOs requires a complete inventory. The legislation on NGOs contains a number of contradictory points and gaps, which were mentioned above.

Still unresolved is the issue of liquidation of inactive NGOs, the specific procedure for which is also not provided for by law.

The professionalism of NGO managers and specialists often does not meet the modern requirements of work; accordingly, the results of the work are not “tangible” for the population.

The very definition of “non-state non-profit organization” evokes negative associations among a certain part of the population (for example, non-state means anti-state).

This psychological nuance often contributes to the formation a deliberately skeptical attitude towards the activities of NGOs and the social services they provide.

In the person of the Public Commissions for Social Partnership under the CND, institutional frameworks have been created locally to help strengthen such interaction. However, the lack of interest among individual members to work in its activities, the lack of professional skills in working with NGOs, the formal holding of meetings and other events contribute to a decrease in its authority among the “third sector”, and forms the distrust of NGOs in relation to local authorities.

Despite this, NGOs managed to establish a dialogue with government agencies and influence decision-making using various tools. The vast majority of NGOs influence the decisions of state bodies through their activities.

NGOs are actively involved in the activities of various advisory (expert, advisory, public and other) councils formed under government bodies. In general, today NGOs are actively involved in the work of over 650 commissions, working groups and other councils formed throughout the country.

There is still no self-sustaining system of interaction between the state, business and NGOs. According to the heads of NGOs, the main problem of this state of affairs is the low level of awareness of representatives of state bodies and business structures in the field about the existence and possible forms of work with NGOs.

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