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## WAYS AND MEANS OF FORMING A LEGAL CULTURE IN MODERN UZBEKISTAN

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### ANNOTATION

The article deals with the concept, structure and types of legal awareness. The work is devoted to the actual topic of the role and place of legal awareness in the democratization of public life. The authors studied a large amount of factual material on the formation and development of legal awareness in Uzbekistan, the main directions of the state's activities to improve legal awareness. Changes in the legislation and new requirements for the normative behavior of the individual are studied. The article highlights the problems of raising legal awareness as one of the main conditions for deepening democratic reforms.

**Keywords:** concept, structure, types of legal awareness, relevance, society.

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### Introduction

The problem of legal awareness and legal culture of the individual becomes most acute during periods of social transformation, when the majority of institutional and normative patterns are objectively destroyed, goals, values, acceptable means of realizing social needs change, new rules of legal interaction are established in society, and the role of individual behavioral choice increases immeasurably. We would like to note that a high legal culture is the basis of a democratic society and an indicator of the maturity of the legal system. It is a factor that has an active impact on the regulation of the entire variety of life processes, contributes to the consolidation of citizens of all social groups, supports and strengthens the integrity of society and order in it. Respect for the law is one of the main requirements of the rule of law, the effective functioning of the political and legal systems. In conditions when the normative field is not fully formed, the legislative process is contradictory, and the rules of social, economic and political interaction are periodically "re-established" again, the legal behavior of the individual becomes a key factor that can ensure either the maintenance of a certain formal order, or the chaotic "lawlessness" of illegal relations. Since most of the current subjects of legal relations in one form or another allow illegal behavior, and the moral criteria for behavior are blurred, the problem of legal behavior of the individual in the context of the transition to civil society is becoming particularly relevant today.

We emphasize that the President of Uzbekistan, ShavkatMirziyoyev, at a solemn meeting dedicated to the 24th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of Uzbekistan, paying special attention to this issue, noted that improving the legal culture in society and educating

citizens in the spirit of respect for the laws are important in ensuring the rule of law.[1] The "National Program for improving the Legal culture in Society" adopted in Uzbekistan is also very relevant, and the implementation of this program is very important in improving the legal culture of the population, especially young people.

The object and subject of the study. The object of the article is the legal consciousness and its role in the democratization of public life.

The subject of the study is the regularities associated with the role of legal consciousness in the democratization of public life.

Such well-known scientists of Uzbekistan and the CIS countries, as well as the ideas of educators of the East and West, were engaged in the formation and development of legal consciousness, as well as increasing its role in public life. These works comprehensively cover the issues of the concept of legal consciousness, its structure and types, which allows us to assert the need to study the specifics of legal consciousness and its role in the democratization of public life.

The regulatory framework of the study consists of: The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan of 1992, as well as other normative legal acts that allow to reveal the problems of the article.[2]

The methodological basis of the study was the system, dialectical, comparative legal methods of cognition; the methodological principles of analysis and forecasting were also used.

## **Discussion**

Legal awareness is one of the forms of public consciousness. In turn, the term social consciousness refers to the reflection of social existence, which, depending on its reflected area, is structurally divided into several forms, each of which has its own individual characteristics and social role. Such forms of public consciousness include: economics, ethics( morality), aesthetics, politics, religion, and law. These forms of social consciousness exist in their unity, as one whole-an active reflection of social existence.

Legal awareness is the basis and organic component of the legal life of the society organized in the state. It arose at the dawn of human development along with the formation of the state in early class societies and developed along with it. Modern legal systems have their origins in the legal thought and legal practice of the ancient civilizations of Greece, Rome, the Ancient East, India, and China.

Legal awareness is a complex spiritual survey. It is divided into legal, socio – legal psychology, theoretical and everyday legal awareness, social, group and individual legal awareness.

The legal consciousness is closely connected with philosophical theories, ideological views, and religious doctrines. Some thinkers believed that the norms of law, their obligation and compulsion should be part of the consciousness of decent people, so law is a spiritual phenomenon (Al-Farabi).[3] Others emphasized the compulsiveness of law as an external means of regulating human freedom (I. Kant, G. Hegel). Still others recognized the role of the law as the designer and guarantor of natural human rights (S. Montesquieu, J.-J. Rousseau). Currently, the defining role of legal awareness in the regulation of public relations, its high social value in the mechanism of social regulation is generally recognized.

Being an integral part of the mechanism of legal regulation, it is not limited to participation in any one stage of legal influence. Legal awareness is included in the work both at the stage of

law-making and at the stage of law implementation. To some extent, it is present in all the elements of the mechanism of legal regulation – the norms of law, legal relations, acts of implementation of the right. It should be noted that without legal consciousness, neither law-making nor law itself is unthinkable, but this does not mean that law is created through legal consciousness. Rather, the legal consciousness influences the current law, determining the practice of law enforcement in the interests of society, determines the rule-making activity of the state. Legal awareness is a complex structural formation. The structure of legal awareness consists of two main elements: 1) legal psychology and 2) legal ideology. This statement can be traced in many works of legal scholars and does not cause objections. A special place in the system of legal consciousness is occupied by legal ideology. After the Republic of Uzbekistan gained its state independence, there was a public need to create a new, democratic state-legal ideology of the country.[4] The principles and mechanisms of the formation of this ideology should be radically different from the practice of the past. So, first it was necessary to determine which ideology is most appropriate for Uzbekistan, its national characteristics, spirit and development prospects.

It is the improvement of the legal culture of citizens through legal education that prevents the crisis of legal awareness and contributes to the establishment in the minds of citizens of the principles of a new national legal ideology, which is designed to contribute to the formation of a legal state and civil society in our country. We must form a legal culture in our society in which compliance with the Constitution and laws, respect for human rights and freedoms, honor and dignity will not be an obligation, but an integral part of everyday life," the President of Uzbekistan ShavkatMirziyoyev said.[2]

Respect for the law, the president continued, is brought up on the basis of the legal consciousness and legal culture of our people, «in other words, some observe the laws out of fear of punishment, others respect the law due to the upbringing received in childhood."

"Therefore, we must first of all carry out extensive explanatory work among the population, especially young people, on legal issues. Simply put, we must teach our children from an early age to understand what is possible and what is unacceptable, while we ourselves must be an example for them, " Mirziyoyev stressed.[2]

According to the President's speeches, we learn that the progressive movement of society along the path of democracy and the success of democratic reforms largely depend on the level of legal awareness and legal culture of people. A high legal culture is the foundation of a democratic society and an indicator of the maturity of the legal system.

In our republic, the issue of legal awareness is given extremely great attention literally from the first days of independence. In order not to be unfounded, it is enough to briefly analyze such a document as the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the radical improvement of the system of raising legal awareness and legal culture in society" dated January 9, 2019, No. UP-5618. It is noteworthy that the decree emphasizes: "To determine the systematic organization of large-scale legal educational events based on the conceptual idea of "High legal culture — a guarantee of the country's development" to improve the legal literacy of all segments of the population, the formation of a high level of legal awareness and the ability to apply legal knowledge in everyday life is one of the priority tasks of state bodies and organizations.[5] And it is also necessary to determine that the improvement of legal awareness and legal culture in society is organized systematically and interlinked on the principle of "personality-family-

mahalla-educational institution-organization-society". The work carried out to improve the legal culture and improve legal education should be defined as one of the main directions of state policy." No one, I think, will object to the statement that the process of upbringing and education depends crucially on those who carry it out. Moreover, in such an area as legal education, these are not only teachers and educators, but also professional lawyers, specialists in the field of jurisprudence, lawyers, law enforcement and court officials, and government officials.[6]

Among the most important qualities that a modern lawyer should possess, and which should be instilled in future lawyers in the course of professional education, are the following: civic maturity and high social activity; professional ethics, legal and psychological culture; deep respect for the law and respect for the social values of the rule of law, the honor and dignity of a person and a citizen; strong moral beliefs, responsibility for the fate of people and the assigned task; intolerance to any violation of the law.[7]

Therefore, constant attention is paid to providing the system with well-trained specialists and improving their skills. Consistent work is being carried out to further improve legal education and the development of legal science, to radically improve the quality of training that meets modern requirements.

It is particularly worth noting the adoption of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On additional measures to radically improve legal education and science in the Republic of Uzbekistan" " dated April 29, 2020.[8]

In order to [4]further improve the system of training highly qualified legal personnel that meet the high requirements of the country's democratic and legal reforms, the formation of civil society and modern international standards, the Tashkent State Law Institute was transformed into the Tashkent State Law University. It is particularly important that one of the main tasks and activities of TSUU was defined as: creating an effective system of spiritual and moral education, improving the legal, political culture and legal awareness of students, forming and developing their patriotic, high moral qualities. The Government of Uzbekistan has adopted a resolution "On measures to organize the activities of the National Legal Information Center "Adolat" under the Ministry of Justice, as well as to improve the efficiency of the legal culture of the population". Where the program of measures to improve the legal culture in society for 2020-2021 was approved. It includes the following areas:improving the legal culture of the population in the relationship between the individual, the state and society;  
introduction of innovative methods of legal propaganda;  
strengthening the role of the mass media in raising the legal culture of the population;  
development of the legal education system, training and retraining, professional development of legal personnel;  
creating the scientific foundations of legal culture.

The legal behavior of the individual is in inseparable unity with the real level of legal culture and legal consciousness existing in society. With regard to civil society, the distinguishing feature of which is a high level of self-organization and the corresponding intensity of self-development of social subjects from social groups to individuals, this means that civil society is characterized by a special type of legal behavior of the individual, associated with a developed legal culture focused on the self-reproduction of legitimate behavior.

The modern legislative process, designed to ensure the formation of a system of norms that encourage the lawful behavior of all public (including economic, administrative and political)

entities entering into direct or indirect legal relations, is characterized by irrationality: 1) the temporary nature of legislative decisions designed for a short historical period of validity, 2) the baselessness of the ideas of "self-regulation" of legal entities for which full-fledged rules of interaction have not been formed due to the delayed adoption of legislative decisions, 3) the established practice of political, economic and administrative lobbying for legislation, 4) ignoring the requirements of public examination of many new laws as one of the mechanisms for their legitimization. In these conditions, there are vague, confusing and contradictory requirements for the legal culture of the subjects of legal relations, which is reflected in the ambivalence of their legal behavior. Legal behavior of the individual in modern Uzbekistan, the specifics of legal behavior in the context of civil society, the features of legal behavior and legal culture of a modern citizen on the threshold of a new Uzbekistan, the prospects for changes in behavioral orientations in the field of law, etc. Due to the peculiarities of the national mentality and character, the specifics of historical conditions, the type of legal culture in which rational and legal aspects are closely intertwined with emotional and ethical ones, and the formation of behavioral preferences and motivations characteristic of civil society. This is characterized by a combination of individualistic priorities with a high level of legal awareness and legal interest.

### **Conclusion**

Thus, the established national practice shows that the country has formed and is improving the system of formation of legal awareness and legal culture of citizens, including legal education of the younger generation, professional development of legal personnel, and the mechanism for coordinating the activities of state bodies.

The main components of the national legal mentality of Uzbekistan are:

- 1) the formation of a humane democratic state governed by the rule of law, which guarantees the legal equality of all citizens before the law and its supremacy, the protection of the interests of society and the safety of the population. The rule of law is unthinkable without the triumph of law and order, the priority of individual rights, law-abiding, respect for traditions;
- 2) building the Uzbek statehood on the basis of the principle of separation of powers into legislative, executive and judicial;
- 3) the establishment of the principles of genuine democracy that corresponds to national and cultural traditions, the interests of all social groups and strata of the country's population;
- 4) implementation of the constitutional principle of equality: everyone who was born in Uzbekistan, who lives and works on its land, deserves to be an equal citizen of the republic, regardless of their nationality and beliefs; protection of the interests and rights of national groups, guaranteed maintenance and development of their culture, language, customs and traditions;
- 5) the real formation of a multiparty system as a necessary attribute of democracy; the state ensures the protection of the legal interests of political parties and public associations;
- 6) creation and development of a qualitatively new system of legislation.

Based on the knowledge about a particular society, it is possible to distinguish the criteria for the typification of legal consciousness. There are generally accepted two grounds for distinguishing types of legal consciousness:

- a) specific carriers-subjects;
- b) the depth of reflection of the legal reality.

According to the criterion of subjects (individual, social groups, society), legal consciousness is divided into individual, group and public.

According to the depth of reflection of legal reality, legal consciousness is divided into ordinary, scientific and professional.

Building the rule of law requires respect for the law, laws and legal reforms carried out in the country. Consequently, legal culture is one of the defining conditions for the effective construction of legal statehood in Uzbekistan.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, great attention and importance is traditionally attached to the formation of a legal culture, legal consciousness and education of citizens in the spirit of respect for the law. This is evidenced by the fact that Uzbekistan was elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council for the first time in its modern history. The President ShavkatMirziyoyev addressed the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council. The main thing from his speech: in the near future, the parliament will ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, more than 20 thousand people will receive citizenship this year, such crimes as torture will not have a statute of limitations, Uzbekistan intends to invite a special rapporteur on this issue, and also awaits the visit of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. These are the main priorities of democratic transformations in Uzbekistan:

Increasing the role of women in the public, political and business life of the country. To achieve this goal, the republic plans to hold a dialogue of women leaders of Central Asian countries, as well as a regional women's business forum.

\* Ratification by the Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities under the new law. In the near future, it is planned to create a Regional Council for the Self-realization of People with Disabilities.

\* Protection of the rights of young people, who make up more than half of the population of the republic. It is planned to hold a World Conference on Youth Rights under the auspices of the UN, present a draft of the relevant Convention at the tenth forum of the UN Economic and Social Council, and establish the institute of a Special Rapporteur on Youth rights.

\* Elimination of forced and child labour. To do this, the law on the children's ombudsman will be adopted in 2021.

Reduction of the number of stateless persons in the framework of the relevant proposal of the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. It is noted that last year in the country, 50 thousand people acquired the citizenship of Uzbekistan, and in 2020, more than 20 thousand people will receive a passport.[9]

In addition, the Government of Uzbekistan intends to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. It is planned to invite the Special rapporteur on torture to the country to work together.

In general, a new page in the development of Uzbekistan is being opened today. We started the year 2021 under the slogan "New Uzbekistan" and set high goals. Therefore, it is obvious that the legal construction in modern Uzbekistan should be focused on the formation and maintenance of a system that ensures, first of all, the lawful behavior of all citizens belonging to various social groups, organizations and institutions. In this regard, increasing the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures is of particular importance.

Thus, solving important tasks in the field of strengthening national statehood, it is necessary to develop democracy and form civil society, which provides for raising the level of legal consciousness of the population and improving the forms and methods of legal education.

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