



## Political Participation: Essence And Implications

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**Annotation:** This article analyzes political beliefs and experiences of participation in the political world, legitimizes the legal and political significance of Etgan Turlari and its special legal form, and analyzes political beliefs and political beliefs based on evidence, evidence, evidence, evidence, e, evidence, evidence, evidence, evidence, evidence,

**Keywords:** Political participation, political institution, political faolik, political demonstration, political rally, Picket.

Until the middle of the past century, political participation had mainly been perceived as the involvement of citizens in voting and state governance processes. Political participation began to be theorized following the publication of the theoretical work "The Civic Culture" by G. Almond and S. Verba in 1963. Currently, the majority of researchers and scholars engaged in the study of the issue of political participation discuss the participation of members of society in existing political relations and the functioning of government structures. The following is a series of analyses of the social-political significance of political participation by scholars.

According to the political scientist M. Kazen, "Political participation, any enthusiastic activity undertaken to influence decisions accepted at various levels of the political system by citizens; participation in politics, first and foremost, purposeful activity directed towards a goal." The scholar, likewise, emphasized that people's participation in politics is one of the means by which they express their interests.

"Political participation - the involvement of citizens in political processes or actions... However, in real life, some citizens may not believe in the effectiveness of their own participation and may not want to participate in political processes, while others, due to their passivity, do not participate; a third group of citizens rejects political actions for serious reasons they consider for themselves; likewise, citizens who do not have opportunities and means for participation also exist," wrote G. I. Kozyrev. The scholar's understanding of political participation as the means by which citizens influence decisions resonates with us. Because within the framework of such an explanation, the actions of socially and politically active members of society that contribute to the development of a progressive socio-political environment and culture are not overlooked. Views expressed by T.S. Bolkhovitin highlight a distinct approach to the scope of political participation. For instance, the specialist delineates the following types of political participation:

- Expanded political participation model. This type of participation ensures comprehensive influence of citizens on governmental structures, monitors the vigorous activities of political institutions, contributes to a broad system of benefits, and includes oversight institutions for citizenship.

- Restricted political participation model. In this type of participation, the forms and methods of political will and desire expression are limited.



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- Mobilized political participation model. Such participation is characterized by the intensified influence exerted by political institutions to enhance socio-political activity. The aforementioned models, as expounded by specialists, do not correspond to our specificity and the modern societal complexity. Indeed, the identification and realization of needs and benefits by political activity and participation subjects occur within the framework of state policy and are implemented through regular actions and movements, subject to existing regulations and laws. Thus, aligning political participation with expanded, restricted, or mobilized models does not conform to the essence of this phenomenon.

V.M. Barseghyan considers it purposeful to pay more attention to studying the impact of various types of resources—civil, administrative, social, and others—on human political activity and participation, and deems such an approach reasonable and goal-oriented, emphasizing its effectiveness and suitability. D.M. Panteleeva, in analyzing various contemporary concepts related to the nature of political activity, generalizes and illustrates the major forms of political participation, both legal and illegal.

1) Conventional forms of political activity, meaning politically participatory actions permitted by law, such as voting, participation in permitted rallies authorized by governmental structures, collecting signatures for a candidate, participating in election campaigns, and so forth.

2) Unconventional forms of political activity, meaning politically participatory actions that contradict the law, such as blocking roads, participating in rallies not permitted by governmental structures, causing damage to administrative buildings, and so on.

It should be emphasized that the aforementioned types and forms of political participation, in certain societies, partly occupy their place, but they are not practiced straightforwardly; rather, they often intertwine with each other and in many cases clash. Therefore, analyzing the integration model within the framework of the development of theoretical perspectives on political participation becomes crucial.

In this context, the types and forms of political participation that have gained significant ground in the world experience, and their legality and effectiveness, are particularly discussed.

The subjects of political activity, such as social groups and organizations, as well as individual persons, are the participants of political activity. Within the domain of political science, several types of political participation are recognized:

Legal, official political participation. Such participation is based on the rights, freedoms, and obligations of citizens entrenched in the constitution and laws. Since these rights are directly related to the people's sovereignty and state sovereignty, they are given to the citizens by the state in a regulated manner.

Illegal, unofficial political participation takes place through forms and means not derived from the fundamental rights, freedoms, and obligations enshrined in the laws, or it is restricted by law. These include demonstrations and rallies that violate the law, making political statements based on political motives, self-expression, disobeying the laws, and so forth.

According to its regularity, the following types of political participation exist:

"Active participation" - activity in elections, such as campaigning for state and party leadership, participating in election campaigns, organizing election campaigns, participating in elections and referendums, and participating in party activities.



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"Intermediate participation" - participation in political events, support for political parties with funds, and establishing relationships with political leaders and government officials.

"Observational participation" - raising awareness in demonstrations, discussing political events in forums, and appealing to others to participate in voting processes.

Depending on the degree of compliance with the purpose of political participation, the following forms of political participation exist:

Instrumental participation - active participation and means directed toward specific actions and goals.

Non-instrumental participation - active participation and means not developed, primarily characterized by spontaneous political participation.

The following common and legal forms of political participation operate consistently. Particularly in democratic societies, citizens' political participation includes participation in elections and referendums, and influencing governmental and local governance bodies through various means.

Elections are a means of shaping government and local governance structures through voting. Elections occur at the state and local levels, in advance and on schedule, general and specific, direct and multi-stage, competitive and non-competitive, single-party, multi-party, and non-partisan forms. The right to vote in government and local governance bodies is exercised through elections. Utilizing this right is considered one of the most important forms of citizen participation in the governance process.

In modern democratic states, citizens' participation in elections is subject to three criteria:

According to universal suffrage, the right to vote is granted to all members of the population in electoral constituencies (in some cases, with certain exceptions);

According to equality of suffrage, all voters cast their votes on equal terms and have an equal amount of voting power. This principle also signifies equality among candidates participating in elections;

Secret balloting ensures the freedom of citizens to vote and protects them from various pressures.

A referendum is one of the direct institutions of democracy, enabling citizens to express their views on important issues affecting the state and society.

According to territorial indicators, there are national referendums conducted within the entire territory of the state and local referendums held within specific administrative-territorial units.

In some countries, the term "plebiscite" is used instead of "referendum." A plebiscite refers to a survey conducted among residents of a specific territorial unit regarding issues related to political destiny.

Experts have different attitudes towards referendums. One group evaluates referendums as a high form of democracy and a direct manifestation of popular will. Another group of scholars believes that such political participation should be undertaken with caution due to the risk of making decisions that may endanger the state's integrity based on the outcome of unclearly understood votes.



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It can be argued that the referendum is a rare means of ensuring citizens' participation in state policy. Therefore, strict compliance with the laws governing referendums is of paramount importance.

In this regard, the legal and official forms of political participation are subject to detailed consideration. Political demonstration is a public expression of opinion, organized with the aim of openly expressing political interests and demands of a certain group. Posters, banners, and other visual aids are attributes of political demonstrations. Political demonstrations may have a character of protest or support, and they may also aim to support or oppose government policies.

A political rally is a public gathering in a specific location where people come together to discuss certain politically significant issues collectively. Rallies are usually held to discuss specific political demands and make decisions. The primary attribute of such events is the presence of voting equipment.

A meeting is a collective participation of citizens in a socially significant place to discuss certain political issues in a group setting. Like rallies, meetings may occur within a particular context and serve to collectively debate specific issues of political significance.

A picket is a form of political activity conducted without marches or voting equipment with the aim of openly expressing social opinions using posters, banners, and other visual aids, and it typically takes place near the object being picketed.

Political mobilization is a collective initiative undertaken in a company or organization to fulfill certain specified requirements set by the state (such as amending legislation, updating government composition, etc.).

A political petition (or petition) is when individuals or groups of citizens address written inquiries to government authorities.

The balance of political forces existing in citizens' political participation, objective conditions such as the political culture of society, individuals' attitudes towards the political system, motives for political participation, their capabilities, knowledge, and awareness levels, play a significant role. Such factors directly affect people's engagement in the political life of society.

An operationally tested and relatively well-developed scheme of political participation incorporates the following elements:

- Passive involvement that responds to certain actions within the political system, arising not from the necessity of participation but from positive or negative relations;
- Participation in electoral processes as part of the distribution of mandates, i.e., electoral activities;
- Involvement in the activities of political or other organizations;
- The implementation of political functions by the state or other institutions (such as parties, etc.). This function is performed by professional politicians, appointed officials, deputies, party leaders, etc.;
- Direct action, such as rallies, demonstrations, etc.

These forms of political participation are not of equal importance since some may not occupy a significant place in political life, while others may be highly developed and characterize the specific political culture of a society. For example, in highly developed democratic countries, political



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participation may be more broadly represented in electoral form, meaning wider participation in elections.

If there is activity among people, there will also be control over the system by the political system. However, if changes and improvements are demanded by specific groups, a specific attitude towards them may be established by the government, indicating the level of development of democracy in society.

Thus, the types and forms of political participation depend on the historical, political, and temporal components of events. However, the critical aspect is that political participation, regardless of its form and type, acquires its significant importance in ensuring the stability of the political life of society, and defining its socio-economic, moral, and cultural development.

In this regard, political participation is a highly developed form of collective, individual, and group-oriented involvement in the life of society, aimed at ensuring the stable existence of benefits and values in society, accepted by the state political authority and its institutions, and influencing decisions adopted by them.

The involvement of youth directly influences their political activity and participation. When the younger generation is motivated by social significance and benefits, either individually or collectively, their influence expands, and political participation manifests through various forms. On the other hand, the availability of opportunities for political activity, selection, and participation in society significantly shapes the role, place, and function of youth in socio-political life.

Therefore, one of the important tasks of both state governance and civil society institutions in Uzbekistan is to create necessary conditions for active youth participation in strengthening and developing democratic society. In this regard, youth not only demonstrate activism in state policy matters but also achieve success in defining their personal and group interests, life strategies, and implementation. As emphasized by our leader, Sh. M. Mirziyoyev, "Therefore, we need to communicate more with our youth, listen to their hearts, understand their pains, and provide practical assistance in solving their problems. It is necessary to pay special attention to working with youth who are not yet involved."

In general, the effective realization of a complex set of tasks in society depends on the purposeful and lawful development of political participation. This includes reaching the effectiveness of the political and legal education system, elevating the spiritual, moral, intellectual, cultural level of society members, and advancing their civil awareness, which is of paramount importance.

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