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The importance of public control in the transport sector in Uzbekistan: important aspects for improvement

Yusupov Jamolbek Zokir ugli

Tashkent State Transport University, Independent researcher of the Department of International Public Law, Uzbekistan

Abstract: The article presents scientific and theoretical proposals and recommendations for the adoption of a legal basis for the practical implementation of reforms carried out in the new Uzbekistan and the mechanism for its implementation. It is important that the main subjects of public control become active participants in these reforms and feel that their opinion is in demand as a civic duty.

Keywords: Public control, officials, reforms, mass media, national council, corruption, civil servants.

Introduction: In recent years, the process of the practical mechanism of public control in the Republic of Uzbekistan has been systematically intensified within the framework of the reforms being carried out in the state. The Law "On Public Control"[3], adopted on April 12, 2018, was adopted as an important legal basis in this area. This law defines the procedure for organizing and implementing public control over the activities of state bodies and their officials.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

However, to say that it has been fully formed in practice, it should be noted that there are still some problems and the need for improvement. In my research, Doctor of Law, Professor A.A.Dadasheva, emphasizing the importance of the idea that "public control should not be a process, but the result should be the main one" [1, 2, 5, 6, 7], emphasized the need to present the activities of officials through the media through full programs of one-day activities and officials in their speeches to fully present their daily plans through the media. On March 5, 2025, a meeting of the National Council for Combating Corruption was held in the Senate of the Oliy

Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan. At it, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev, in his speech, gave an assessment of the work done to create a corruption-free environment in our country and outlined future tasks. An open system has been created in society that brings the problem of corruption to public discussion. In particular, the role and influence of the mass media in this regard is growing" [4].

In continuing this idea, it is important that in the modern information age, the open and transparent conduct of one-day labor activities of public servants through the media (mass media) be available to our citizens as information in certain aspects, be aware of the sequence of work being carried out, and have at least some knowledge and information about the responsibility of public servants. The subjects and forms of public control, the rights and obligations of participants in social relations in this area, and the results of public control have been legally enshrined. Today, the regulatory framework for conducting public control has been formed in our country, and it is being systematically developed.

As the Executive Director of the Development Strategy Center, Eldor Tulyakov, noted, "The main instrument of public control is the law. Public organizations monitor the implementation of laws by state executive bodies. The conclusions of public control serve to critically review the activities of the executive branch, correct shortcomings, and ensure public participation. An important condition for the formation of civil society is the increased activity of citizens, a sense of involvement in social events, and a deep awareness by each civil servant that their activities are under public control. That is, state bodies must explain their policies and actions to the population and regularly report to the people - this is a requirement of our time.

In our opinion, it is necessary to draw conclusions based on the results, not the process, under public control. Otherwise, public control will put executive authorities in a state of deprivation. Therefore, in public control, the main criterion should be the result, not the process".

The Law "On Public Control" clearly specifies the subjects of control (citizens, non-governmental non-profit organizations, mass media, and self-governing bodies of citizens) and the objects of control (decisions, programs, and services of state bodies) [8]. Various methods such as public discussions, hearings, monitoring, expert evaluations, and surveys are established as forms of control. Public councils have been formed under state bodies, for example, the Public Council under the Committee for Development

of Competition and Protection of Consumer Rights. Furthermore, the establishment of the Public Chamber under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2020 served to strengthen public oversight. The role of mass media and social networks in public control activities is steadily increasing. For instance, draft laws are published for broad public discussion, and citizens' opinions are taken into account. Additionally, there are opportunities to participate in open meetings of state bodies and hear their reports. Currently, however, Public Councils are often limited to formalities and are unable to exert real influence. According to monitoring and analysis, the activities of these structures frequently remain only on paper. To fully utilize public control mechanisms, it is necessary to further enhance the legal awareness and participation of the population. For this, it is crucial that the transparency of state bodies' activities and the volume of information they provide are clear and complete. However, this information is not yet fully organized.

In recent years, the development of the "Electronic Government" system, the provision of public services through online platforms, and improved communication with the population have contributed to increasing the effectiveness of public oversight. Furthermore, the New Uzbekistan Development Strategy for 2022-2026 sets the task of further enhancing these mechanisms.

In Uzbekistan, the practical mechanism of public oversight has been legally established and is gradually developing. However, to achieve its full effectiveness, it is necessary to further strengthen practical processes, increase citizen engagement, and ensure the transparency of government bodies. Reforms in this direction are ongoing, and the results will become more evident over time if this mechanism proves to yield positive outcomes.

The object of our research is public oversight in the development of the railway transport sector in Uzbekistan, as it plays a crucial role in ensuring transparency, efficiency, and social interests in this field. In this context, public oversight refers to the process by which citizens, non-governmental organizations, and independent experts observe, analyze, and influence the activities of the railway system. This oversight serves to improve the work of state bodies and responsible organizations in the railway sector, reduce corruption, and enhance the quality of services in accordance with the needs of the population. Public oversight is of vital importance in the development of the railway transport sector in Uzbekistan, as it plays a significant role in ensuring transparency, efficiency, and the protection of social interests in this area.

Firstly, railway transport in Uzbekistan is considered an essential component of the country's economy and transit potential. In recent years, the joint-stock company "Uzbekistan Railways" has been implementing numerous projects to open new routes, modernize infrastructure, and improve the quality of service. Public oversight serves as a crucial tool in ensuring the efficient use of resources in these processes and the high-quality execution of construction and modernization work. For example, feedback from citizens regarding services at railway stations, timely train operations, or pricing policies helps identify and address issues in the sector.

Secondly, public oversight serves to strengthen the implementation of state policies and legislation in the railway sector. Although entities such as the Transport Control Inspectorate under the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Uzbekistan are responsible for ensuring safety and compliance with regulations in the field, involving the public in this process creates an additional factor of transparency and trust. Suggestions or critical feedback provided by citizens and non-governmental organizations help to consider the interests of the population when making decisions.

Thirdly, public oversight ensures the social orientation of railway transport. In Uzbekistan, the majority of users of railway transport services are ordinary citizens, for whom convenience, safety, and affordable prices are crucial. Through public control, passengers' complaints and needs can be communicated more swiftly, allowing appropriate measures to be taken based on them. For instance, issues such as the quality of train services, conditions at railway stations, or the availability of infrastructure for persons with limited mobility remain relevant due to public attention.

CONCLUSION

Finally, public oversight also plays a significant role in implementing innovations and modern technologies in the railway sector. Suggestions from citizens and experts can unlock new opportunities in areas such as digitalization, the use of environmentally friendly vehicles, or the expansion of services through online platforms. In conclusion, public oversight in the development of the railway transport sector in Uzbekistan ensures that the industry operates transparently, effectively, and in accordance with the needs of the population. This process serves to strengthen cooperation among the government, the private sector, and citizens, elevating the country's transportation potential to a higher level.

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