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## PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES IN UZBEKISTAN

**Abstract:** This article discusses the current state of administrative procedures in Uzbekistan, the concept of administrative procedures and the theories of scientists about them, the analysis of research in their scientific activities, existing problems and opportunities for solving them, and foreign experiences. Administrative procedures are important processes that regulate legal relations between state administration and citizens, and their effective organization is important for the effectiveness of the state and protection of citizens' rights. The article examines problems such as bureaucratic obstacles, corruption, and lack of openness in Uzbekistan, as well as measures to overcome these problems, such as digital transformation, increasing legal culture, and fighting corruption.

**Keywords:** administrative procedures, bureaucracy, corruption, openness, e-government, digital transformation, legal culture, public administration, civil rights, administrative reforms.

After the independence of Uzbekistan, the reforms implemented in the state administration system led to changes and updates. Administrative procedures, that is, the processes that regulate relations between state bodies and citizens, are the main component of these reforms and play an important role in ensuring the effective functioning of the state. However, there are a number of problems and obstacles in the implementation of administrative procedures, which reduce their effectiveness and lead to mistrust between the state and society.

When discussing administrative procedures, it is necessary to consider their connection to public services. The fact is that a number of countries have followed the path of developing the provision of public services instead of regulating administrative activities through legislation related to administrative procedures. For example, there is no law on administrative procedures in Russia. Instead, the legislation on the provision of public services, regulated by thousands of administrative regulations, has been developed. Accordingly, in some national literature and scientific approaches, there is a tendency to include the provision of public services in the framework of administrative procedures.[1]

It can be seen that administrative procedures are given different definitions within the framework of the studied scientific works. In particular, I.M. Lazarev defines administrative procedures as follows: "Administrative procedures are actions aimed at implementing the right to apply their powers in relations between executive authorities and non-subordinate citizens and organizations, not related to the consideration of disputes or the application of mandatory measures, regulated by administrative procedural norms." [1]

V.A. Zyuzin emphasizes that administrative procedures should be understood in a narrow sense. According to it, administrative procedures are the established procedure for executive bodies and officials to perform management actions to resolve specific individual cases of a positive, indisputable nature aimed at ensuring the interaction of executive bodies with citizens and legal entities in order to exercise their rights and legitimate interests.

It should be noted that Article 4 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Administrative Procedures" (Basic Concepts) defines administrative procedures as follows:

"administrative procedure is the procedural rules governing the administrative and legal activities of administrative bodies."

It is also possible to see that Article 4 of the law defines administrative bodies as follows:

"administrative bodies are bodies with administrative management powers in the field of administrative and legal activity, including state administration bodies, local executive authorities, citizens' self-government bodies, as well as other organizations and specialised commissions authorized to carry out this activity."

Among scientists from European countries and the USA, it is possible to see a desire to understand administrative procedures by reasoning about its essence, without dwelling on their differences from the administrative process. Accordingly, it is possible to show some differences in the theoretical and legal foundations of administrative procedures in the legislation of European countries and the USA, as well as in the scientific works of scientists, but it can be seen that a single approach is being formed in this regard in some sense [5].

In German administrative law theory, the legal nature of administrative procedures is characterized in a unique way.

Prominent German legal scholar Eberhard Schmidt-Assman describes administrative procedures as follows: "Legislation on administrative procedures is the central component of any democratic administrative law based on the rule of law. It ensures the rights of citizens and gives confidence and wisdom to the executive branch. According to Eberhard Schmidt-Assman, administrative procedures are not only rules with the function of providing services, but also have an independent content along with the norms of material law. Because in order for administrative decisions to be fully legally binding, it is necessary to comply with both material and procedural law.

Among the problems of administrative procedures are the following:

1. Unformed legal culture. Although there is a legal framework for administrative procedures in Uzbekistan, their effective implementation is often weak and inaccurate. Relations between state bodies and citizens are often complicated due to systematicity, lack of legal culture and incorrect interpretations. This, in turn, leads to difficulties in the protection of citizens' rights and weakening of transparency in the activities of state bodies.

2. Bureaucratic obstacles. Bureaucratic obstacles are the most common problem in administrative procedures in Uzbekistan. Citizens often have to go through several government agencies, long queues and many formal processes to receive the necessary documents or receive various administrative services. This, in turn, slows down business processes and increases dissatisfaction in society. Simplification and openness of bureaucratic processes will serve to increase the efficiency of public administration.

3. Corruption and Manipulation. Another problem hindering the effective operation of administrative procedures is corruption and manipulation. In some cases, representatives of state bodies receive additional payments or bribes from citizens, which weakens the reliability of administrative procedures. In addition, in some cases, manipulations aimed at gain through procedures may be performed. These circumstances shape a negative attitude among citizens towards state bodies and undermine the effectiveness of the legal system.

4. Low trust between the government and citizens. It is very important to ensure mutual trust between the state and citizens through administrative procedures. However, in recent years, many citizens have protested against the administrative system and claimed that their rights have been violated. This situation is related not only to the quality of services provided by state bodies, but also to doubts about the openness and fairness of administrative processes.

In order to eliminate these problems, it is possible to present the prospects and recommendations for improving the following administrative procedures:

First, digitalization and the development of e-government. One of the most important areas for improving administrative procedures in Uzbekistan is the digitalization of public services and the development of the e-government system. Currently, most of the services provided by state bodies are being transferred to online platforms. This will allow citizens to save time and resources, as well as reduce bureaucratic obstacles. Through the e-government system, citizens will be able to quickly and easily get the necessary services and monitor the activities of state bodies.

Secondly, simplifying procedures and increasing transparency. In order to increase the efficiency of administrative procedures in Uzbekistan, it is necessary to simplify them. This is especially important in the most demanded administrative services, for example, registration, obtaining licenses and other documents. It is necessary to increase the transparency of the activities of state bodies, to provide citizens with accurate and reliable information, as well as to establish a system of intelligent notification of their rights and obligations.

Thirdly, the fight against corruption. Prevention and combating corruption in administrative procedures is an important task. To improve the activities of state bodies, it is necessary to monitor their activities, impose strict penalties for cases of corruption and encourage citizens to actively participate in the fight against corruption. To prevent corruption, an effective method is the establishment of open relations between state bodies and citizens, the introduction of open data submission and audit systems.

Fourth, the formation of a new legal culture. It is necessary to form a new legal culture in relations between citizens and state bodies. It is advisable to have a broader understanding of administrative procedures and their legal basis, to improve the legal awareness of citizens and to encourage them to protect their rights. It is possible to improve the legal culture by strengthening the teaching and educational process.

In conclusion, it is necessary to take a number of measures to increase the effectiveness of administrative procedures in Uzbekistan. Simplifying the activities of state bodies, increasing transparency, introducing digital technologies and combating corruption are the main directions for improving administrative processes. Their implementation, in turn, will increase the efficiency of public administration, protect the rights of citizens and strengthen trust in society.

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