

## **ENHANCING THE LEGAL CULTURE OF YOUTH THROUGH COOPERATION BETWEEN STATE AND CIVIL SOCIETY INSTITUTIONS**

**Shadiyev Bekhzod Mirsalimovich**

Acting Associate Professor, Navoi Regional Center for Pedagogical Excellence

**Abstract;** This article analyzes the theoretical and practical aspects of cooperation between state and civil society institutions in shaping the legal culture of youth. The study explores the essence of legal culture, the legal socialization of youth, the functional role of civil society institutions, the influence of political institutions, and mechanisms aimed at developing legal consciousness. The necessity of ensuring the rule of law in society by increasing youth legal activity is substantiated.

**Keywords:** Legal culture, youth, civil society, political institutions, legal socialization, democratic reforms, legal consciousness, legal education.

**Introduction:** Legal culture is a complex social phenomenon that ensures the rule of law in society and reflects citizens' legal awareness, behavior, and values. Especially among youth, the formation of legal culture holds strategic importance for building a democratic society and developing civil society. Youth represent the most active, innovative, and growing segment of society. By enhancing their legal knowledge and skills, it is possible to strengthen the rule of law, prevent legal violations, and ensure social stability.

As stated in the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, "The Constitution guarantees the formation of citizens' legal consciousness and their participation in society." According to the Concept for the Development of Civil Society Institutions adopted by the state, "The development of civil society institutions envisions the gradual transfer of certain state functions to public organizations."

**Methodology:** The following methodological approaches were applied in the research:

**Theoretical analysis:** Review of existing literature on legal culture, legal socialization, civil society, and political institutions.

**Comparative analysis:** Comparison of Uzbekistan's experience with countries such as Germany, South Korea, and Turkey.

**Empirical analysis:** Analysis of surveys conducted among youth, statistical data, and the dynamics of legal violations.

**Normative-legal analysis:** Examination of the Constitution, the Law "On Youth Policy," presidential decrees, and other normative documents.

**Results** The analysis revealed the following:

Civil society institutions—political parties, NGOs, media, trade unions—possess effective mechanisms for engaging youth in legal life.

Legal education programs implemented by state bodies (e.g., “Youth Legal Literacy” project) have shown positive results, but require systematization and expansion at the local level.

Youth legal culture is often based on fear of punishment, which does not fully contribute to the development of internal legal consciousness.

- Quality teaching of legal subjects in educational institutions plays a crucial role in shaping youth legal thinking.
- The success of democratic reforms is directly linked to the legal literacy and political activity of youth.

**Discussion** Cooperation between state and civil society institutions in enhancing youth legal culture can be effective in the following areas:

1. **Strengthening legal education:** Improving the quality of legal subjects in schools, colleges, and universities; introducing interactive methods; developing systems to assess legal literacy.
2. **Partnership with civil society institutions:** Conducting seminars and trainings through youth organizations and NGOs to improve legal literacy; establishing youth clubs and legal advisory centers at the local level.
3. **Role of media and social networks:** Creating content that promotes legal culture; launching campaigns to raise legal awareness among youth; using blogs, podcasts, and legal quizzes to enhance interactive engagement.
4. **Integration with political institutions:** Encouraging youth participation in political parties, local councils, and public organizations; increasing political activity through youth parliaments and forums.
5. **International experience exchange:** Developing legal education programs in cooperation with foreign countries; organizing internships and exchange programs for youth.

In addition, it is essential to instill concepts such as social justice, human rights, democratic values, and active citizenship in shaping youth legal culture. This not only ensures the stability of the legal system but also promotes social harmony.

**Conclusion** Enhancing the legal culture of youth is a decisive factor in building a democratic society, ensuring the rule of law, and developing civil society. This process involves not only acquiring legal knowledge but also shaping youth legal thinking,

social responsibility, and civic engagement. Cooperation between state and civil society institutions serves as a vital tool in achieving this goal.

The study shows that for youth to actively participate in legal life, a favorable legal environment, quality education, practical skills, and social opportunities must be provided. Civil society institutions—political parties, NGOs, media, trade unions—serve as effective platforms for engaging youth in legal activities, increasing their legal literacy, and enhancing their social activism.

Moreover, it is important to instill internal motivation, respect for law, belief in justice, and principles of social fairness in shaping youth legal culture. This requires developing legal culture not based solely on fear of punishment, but on conscious, responsible, and civic values.

In the future, all institutions working with youth—educational institutions, local councils, public organizations—should focus their activities on strengthening legal education and legal socialization. Promoting legal culture through international exchange, innovative teaching methods, and digital platforms deserves special attention as a modern approach.

Overall, enhancing the legal culture of youth is a strategic task that contributes to increasing the legal potential of society, ensuring the sustainability of reforms, and raising future generations as legally competent and responsible citizens.

### **REFERENCES**

1. Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. – Tashkent: Adolat, 2023. – 48 p.
2. Presidential Decree on the Concept for the Development of Civil Society Institutions in the Republic of Uzbekistan. – Tashkent, 2022.
3. Abdullayev A. *Youth and Legal Culture: Theoretical and Practical Aspects*. – Tashkent: Legal Publishing, 2021. – 112 p.
4. Bobokulov S. *Legal Socialization and Youth Policy*. – Tashkent: Social Sciences, 2019. – 96 p.
5. UNESCO. *Youth and Civic Engagement: Global Trends and Challenges*. – Paris: UNESCO Publishing, 2020. – 84 p.
6. OECD. *Civic Education for Youth in Democratic Societies*. – Geneva: OECD Reports, 2021. – 102 p.
7. Khojiyev Sh. *The Role of Education in the Formation of Civil Society and Legal Consciousness // Law and Democracy*. – 2022. – No. 2. – pp. 45–50.
8. Azizov B. *Youth Legal Activity in a Democratic Society // Social Sciences*. – 2021. – No. 3. – pp. 28–34.

9. Transparency International. *Youth Integrity and Legal Awareness*. – Berlin: TI Publications, 2019. – 76 p.

1. Tursunov M. *Legal Culture and Civil Society: Issues of Interconnection // Uzbekistan Legal Studies*. – 2020. – No. 1. – pp. 17–22.

2. Rasulov F. *The Role of Political Institutions in Youth Legal Education // State and Society*. – 2021. – No. 4. – pp. 33–39.

3. European Commission. *Youth Participation in Democratic Life*. – Brussels: EC Publications, 2020. – 64 p.

4. Qodirova N. *Theoretical Analysis of Legal Consciousness and Legal Culture Concepts // Spirituality and Law*. – 2022. – No. 2. – pp. 12–18.

5. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). *Legal Empowerment of Youth: Policy Guide*. – New York: UNDP, 2021. – 88 p.