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## SOCIO-POLITICAL FACTORS OF THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT DEVELOPMENT IN UZBEKISTAN

**Abstract:** The article scientifically analyzes the features of the formation and development of the volunteer movement. The article also reveals the purpose of the volunteer movement in Uzbekistan, its legal foundations, forms of implementation, the main tasks in society. It was noted that the volunteer movement plays a special role in the formation and development of civil society in Uzbekistan.

**Key words:** volunteering, volunteering, deeds of the soul, UN, declaration, concept, freedom, kindness, humanity.

**Language:** English

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### Introduction

If you look at the history of human development, you will see how far the movement of volunteers has come in time. We know that human history is diverse. That is, despite the fact that humanity has experienced many social revolutions, armed conflicts and wars from the very beginning, you can find many pages rich in facts about how they helped each other in their daily lives.

Peaceful organizations aimed at establishing good-neighborly relations, both between representatives of social strata within the country and between peoples of different races, nationalities and countries, have played an important role in the development of noble ideas in the social life of countries around the world.

Historians note that the first major project related to volunteering in the modern sense was carried out in 1920 near Strasbourg, France. The project participants, French and German youth, were involved in the restoration of farms destroyed during the First World War. Volunteers were not paid for their work, but they were provided with housing, food and health insurance free of charge. This principle of organizing volunteer work has survived to this day.

In the 1960s, volunteer programs began to emerge that established good neighborly relations

between the peoples of Western and Eastern Europe. Decades later, environmental projects have become widespread. The most famous conservation organization with 14,500 volunteers around the world is Greenpeace, which aims to promote environmental protection, environmental education and sustainable lifestyles. Volunteering is widespread in Western countries such as the USA, Japan, UK, Germany and Canada. According to researcher Simsa's definition, "Burgerliches Engagement" refers to obligations that citizens must fulfill, that is, to actively participate in organized or separate socio-political processes while achieving positive changes in society [1:15]. After several years of research, the J. Hopkins Institute came to the conclusion that "volunteering is a complex of intangible complex activities based on leisure" [2: 224].

By definition, civic engagement is a form of socio-political activity based on bottom-up initiatives and participation of citizens, and this is recognized as an integral part of civil society.

Volunteering is a voluntary and personal commitment, and a volunteer determines the scope of work, where he will work, how long he will work. How long a volunteer works and how much or how little he or she works depends in many cases on the organization in which the volunteer works.

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It should be noted that according to international standards, the weekly workload of a volunteer should not exceed 20 hours. Because if he volunteers more than 20 hours a week, it can negatively affect his physical condition and health, especially if he remains in his main job in the first place.

Therefore, organizations involved in volunteering are strictly controlled based on legal requirements. For example, a jury can observe the volunteers. The volunteer service is voluntary and the member's responsibility is also voluntary.

As you know, December 5 is International Volunteer Day. This holiday has been celebrated since 1985 at the initiative of the UN General Assembly. Volunteers are a wealth of people, they are not just spectators, but grateful servants for people. They give generously and generously in public affairs and various events, without wasting their free time.

Volunteers rush to help, even if it means a risk to their lives. He organizes public places of his own free will and at his own expense, plants trees, clears the territory of garbage, builds gardens, helps the elderly and disabled, organizes trips for children at his own expense. We know that volunteering is a socially oriented, voluntary activity that is carried out on a voluntary basis in the interests of individuals or legal entities, is carried out on a voluntary basis and benefits society. The purpose of this activity is to assist individuals and legal entities, society as a whole, in protecting the environment, participating in socially significant events with the consent of their organizers, promoting civil relations, self-organization, social responsibility, solidarity, mutual assistance. Volunteering comes from the French word *volontaire*, which means "volunteer", "volunteer". The volunteer movement is widespread throughout the world. Recently, volunteering has revived in Uzbekistan, and the number of animal advocates is growing, especially in the areas of environmental and maternal nature, prevention of deforestation and the need for volunteer efforts. It is safe to say that volunteering is the fastest growing and most popular social movement today. At a regular meeting of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis on November 6, 2019, the draft law "On volunteer activities" was adopted in three readings. Approved by the Senate on November 30, 2019 and effective December 3, 2019. This law was developed by the deputies of the lower house of parliament to ensure the implementation of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated May 4, 2018 "On measures to radically increase the role of civil society institutions in the democratic renewal of the country."

It is no coincidence that the law was adopted in three readings simultaneously. In the end, the bill worked for almost six months. This has been discussed for months at meetings of factions and committees of political parties in the lower house of parliament. The proposals and comments of the

deputies were taken into account and improved, and then presented to the plenary session.

The law covers a number of important aspects. In particular, this document provides for the introduction of forms and methods of volunteering (through the formation of volunteer organizations, the formation of volunteer programs), the definition of the rights and obligations of volunteers. It is also envisaged that the Ministry of Justice will introduce a register of volunteer activities and will regularly update it. In addition, it is planned to implement a "voluntary agreement".

In recent years, civil society and its institutions have been actively developing in Uzbekistan. The social activity of the population is growing. The feeling of people's involvement in the ongoing democratic reforms in society is growing, and a civic position is being formed. Volunteering is also an important part of civil society and an indicator of its development. Volunteers are true patriots who are dedicated to serving the country. In our country, as in foreign countries, volunteering is widespread during various national and international events. For example, charity events and events are held. Volunteers are also actively involved in organizing sports competitions, major social and political events, in particular, elections. Legal regulation of volunteering serves to deepen the principles of social justice in society, to create equal legal conditions for all citizens engaged in this activity.

There has been a volunteer movement in Uzbekistan for a long time. But so far this issue has not been regulated at all. This was the main reason for the development of this bill. In this regard, the purpose of the law is to regulate relations related to the implementation of volunteering in the country, increase the efficiency of the activities of non-governmental organizations, further develop civil society in the country, ensure and develop volunteering in accordance with modern requirements. As far as we know, today there are large professional volunteer organizations in more than 80 countries around the world. Thanks to the great support provided by the state, the volunteer sector is becoming an important component of the country's socio-economic development. Volunteers provide a number of important social services during their activities, produce certain goods, satisfy low-income strata of society at their own expense, perform certain functions of state bodies, which allows saving budget funds. Volunteering, in particular, encourages young people to actively participate in the life of society, acquire the necessary work experience, develop skills and abilities in accordance with the requirements of the labor market, and increase their activity in social relations [3: 2]. In our country, volunteering is developing as a sector and system with great potential in the field of socio-economic and political development. Because volunteering has centuries-old

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values that are deeply rooted in the minds and minds of our people. In particular, “hashar” and “community volunteering” are common forms of volunteering. In the last century, the words hashar and hasharchi were widely used. The work done on a community basis is called hashar. I mentioned at the event that the participants in the community-run hashar are hashars in our language. Hashar participants are today's volunteers. Did we have volunteers? You see, it really was. The Jadids raised money to educate talented children abroad. Relatives built a house for a new family through hashar.

Bridges, roads, wells, schools, madrasahs were built through hashar. In subsequent years, hashar farmers took part in the cotton harvest in order to timely harvest the crop without destroying it. At the initiative of our government, farmers encouraged them and allocated funds. Volunteers are people who work in non-governmental non-profit organizations that are widespread in our country and officially pass through the relevant government bodies. In addition, according to some sociological studies, about 90 percent of non-governmental non-profit organizations effectively use volunteers to carry out their activities. The most active of them are the Youth Union of Uzbekistan, the Women's Committee of Uzbekistan, the Republican Center for Spirituality and Education. Governments are also actively recruiting volunteers as translators and observers at major international conferences, seminars, sporting events and other social events. Volunteering is also becoming increasingly active through a range of social media platforms. For example, there is a Facebook group “volontyory.uz” with over 12,000 members. Group members exchange information about charity events, promotions and assistance. They help to find missing people, clear areas of debris, protect homeless animals; buy medicines for that in need and raise funds for expensive medical operations, as well as other non-discriminatory measures to provide assistance [4: 3]. In 2017, the Youth Union of Uzbekistan established the World Youth Association of Uzbekistan. The main activity of this association is related to volunteering. It should be noted that the difference between the activities of volunteers in our country and in developed countries is the absence of a law regulating the implementation of these activities. This type of social activity is only partially described in the Sponsorship Law. Currently, the number of documents in the national database of legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan. There are over 46,000, and 12 regulations contain the concept of “volunteer” [5: 4]. Thus, in our country there was a situation where the activities of volunteers developed without a legal basis. Such gaps in legislation create a “wide field” for various categories of people, as well as for foreigners who are actively trying to “unite” the youth of our country in this area on the basis of values that are incompatible with state policy and national mentality.

The adoption of this bill will legislatively regulate relations in the field of organizing and implementing volunteering, form a single set of legal concepts for volunteering, and contribute to the further activation of volunteering. Volunteering today covers the following aspects:

**First**, there is a growing number of volunteers and those involved in this activity around the world. According to the Charites Aid Foundation, in 2014 alone, more than 1 billion people over 18 volunteered to work in the nonprofit sector (21%) in 145 countries, and 2.2 billion people (48.9%) donated to strangers. Opinion polls show that the number of people engaged in such activities in the world, and those who are interested in it, is growing from year to year. For example, in 2014, 23 million (19%) of Russians volunteered at least once a year for nongovernmental and non-profit organizations, while every third Russian (32%) provided humanitarian assistance to people in need. [6:13].

**Secondly**, volunteering is a positive movement in all its theoretical and practical aspects, it focuses on the problem of special social significance, and there is a need for this movement in the development of certain sectors of society, and today the directions and types of volunteering are expanding. At the same time, there is a constant need for volunteers in society today. Especially today, when globalization and market relations deepen and enter our life (ecological, economic, social, cultural, political, etc.), They play an important role in finding positive solutions to problems.

**Thirdly**, volunteering is an integral part of civil society and its integral part. This factor is one of its main problems. If civil society develops, there will be ample opportunities for the development of the volunteer movement. If he faces a crisis, volunteering will also be hit hard. Thus, we can say that the development of civil society and the development of the volunteer movement are closely interrelated. It depends on the efforts of countries that are on the path to building and developing civil society in the world.

Fourth, the volunteer movement is not limited to different states, their territories or specific regions. Today it transcends local, national and regional boundaries and becomes an international movement of global significance. It also plays a unique role in ensuring intercultural communication and shaping mutual harmony in the world.

**The goals and objectives of volunteering are as follows:**

The goals of volunteering are to help individuals and legal entities, society as a whole to protect the environment, to participate in socially significant events with the consent of their organizers, to promote civic engagement, self-organization, social responsibility, solidarity, mutual assistance and this to form feelings of compassion.

The objectives of volunteering are:

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- formation of mechanisms for involving citizens in various public events aimed at improving the quality of life of the population;
- assistance to society in solving social problems;
- development and support of civil initiatives aimed at organizing volunteering;
- formation of healthy lifestyle skills among the population, fostering a sense of patriotism;
- the acquisition by citizens of the skills of self-expression and self-organization to solve social problems [7: 1].

Volunteering can take the following forms:

- individual volunteering;
- volunteering as part of a group of volunteers;
- Volunteering through a volunteer organization.

Volunteering is carried out in the following areas:

- volunteering to support the poor, unemployed, large families, homeless, homeless, as well as those in need of social rehabilitation;

- caring for the sick, disabled, lonely, elderly people and those who need support and assistance due to their physical, material or other characteristics;

- assistance to citizens affected by natural or man-made emergencies, special regimes, states of emergency, social conflicts, accidents, as well as victims of crimes, refugees;

- assistance to persons whose rights and legitimate interests are limited due to their physical or other characteristics;

- carrying out activities related to environmental protection, preservation of cultural heritage, historical and cultural environment, burials;

- assistance in holding events of national and international importance in connection with the organization of mass sports, cultural events and other public events;

- Provision of volunteer assistance to the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan, other military departments, law enforcement agencies, local authorities during a special period and a state of emergency.

- Volunteering can be carried out in other areas not prohibited by law [7: 2].

We know that a volunteer is a person who thinks about others, selflessly serves their happiness and interests, and at the same time carries out voluntary, grateful, non-discriminatory, socially significant activities. In addition, he can be as active, cheerful, kind-hearted, kind, attentive, schoolboy, student or

ordinary worker as you are, that is, for such people (volunteers) the word "help" is not only invaluable, but also has a special meaning and value. Volunteering is not just a paper project. This is one of the largest social projects in the world, bringing together people not only from different cities, but also from different countries and entire continents. International forums, exchange programs, championships, summits, Olympiads and thousands of other projects increase the number of people around the world who have chosen the path of goodness.[8] The main goal of the World Youth Association is to work with young people who are citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, study and work abroad, protect their rights and interests, as well as implement their ideas and initiatives on the basis of voluntary labor. Today, in foreign countries, the Association has its own coordinators who voluntarily, with gratitude, free of charge, selflessly serve for the benefit and interests of their compatriots. The main goal of the volunteer movement is to build a civil society by involving the population, especially young people, in tolerance, mutual assistance, respect, patience, indifference to the problems of others, a sense of belonging and other qualities Marked. This is why the whole world is promoting non-discriminatory volunteering. [9]

The European Union has taken the first step in this direction by declaring 2001 the Year of Volunteering. If in 1987 the number of volunteers was 80 million, then by 2009 it was 130 million. Especially in today's COVID-19 pandemic, their number has surpassed 300 million. Most of them are young people. Volunteering, on the other hand, begins with the individual actions of a person who wants it: for example, for free, keeping graves clean and tidy, repairing architectural monuments, helping builders with the elderly or disabled, and so on. Sure, it can be good for a good job, but volunteering starts with little things like that. Thus, international practice and experience shows that stimulating youth volunteerism, maybe effective only if youth volunteering is develop as a system of knowledge and skills throughout the country. Problem is that while many organizations are positioning their focus on working with young volunteers, however, as a rule, this work is carried out in the form of holding separate actions, in which a limited number of adolescents or young people are involved.

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