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THE ROLE OF ELECTIONS IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF AN INDEPENDENT STATE

Following the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kazakhstan claims to be a democratic state; the people of Kazakhstan are the only source of state power; the people exercise state power directly and through their representatives. Elections are one of the forms of direct exercise of state power by the population of the Republic, the central element of the political system, observing the democratic nature of the state. It is the basis for all representative authorities at the republican and local levels, municipal bodies, the head of state, and the head of regional executive power in some democratic states. Elections are recognized as one of the most effective forms of democracy, allowing citizens to interfere in the state's political life and participate in the management of state affairs. The article is devoted to disclosing the role of elections in the life of the state and society. To fulfill the corresponding task, the report reveals the importance of elections in the conditions of the democratic regime, examines its role in ensuring the legitimacy of the current state power as a whole, the function of elections. At the same time, for the institution of elections to fully comply with its purpose in the state's political system, the article considers the guarantees of the implementation, the integrity of electoral rights and justifies the need for their improvement.

Key words: state power, democratic state, political system, elections, people's elections, electoral rights, guarantees of electoral rights, voter, candidate, voting, absenteeism.

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Тәуелсіз мемлекеттің саяси өміріндегі сайлаудың рөлі

ҚР Конституциясына сәйкес Қазақстан өзін демократиялық мемлекет ретінде орнықтырады, Қазақстан халқы мемлекеттік биліктің бірден-бір бастауы болып табылады, халық мемлекеттік билікті тікелей және өз өкілдері арқылы жүзеге асырады. Сайлау – Республика халқының мемлекеттік билікті тікелей жүзеге асыруының бір нысаны, мемлекеттің демократиялық сипатын байқататын саяси жүйенің орталық элементі. Ол республикалық және жергілікті деңгейдегі барлық өкілді билік органдарының, муниципалдық органдардың, мемлекет басшысы мен біраз демократиялық мемлекеттерде жергілікті атқарушы билік басшысының қызмет етуінің негізі болып табылады. Сайлау азаматтардың мемлекеттің саяси өміріне араласуына, мемлекет істерін басқаруға қатысуына мүмкіндік беретін демократияның ең бір ықпалды нысаны ретінде танылады. Мақала сайлаудың мемлекет пен қоғам өмірінде атқаратын рөлін ашуға арналған. Тиісті міндетті орындау үшін мақалада сайлаудың демократиялық режимдегі мемлекеттердегі маңызы ашылып, оның әрекет етуші тұтастай мемлекеттік биліктің легитимділігін қамтамасыз ету рөлі, сайлаулардың функциялары қарастырылды. Сонымен қоса, сайлау институтының мемлекеттің саяси жүйесінде өзінің тағайымына толық сай келуі үшін мақалада сайлау құқықтарының іске асуының, бұзылмауының кепілдіктері қарастырылып, оларды жетілдіру қажеттігі негізделді.

Түйін сөздер: мемлекеттік билік, демократиялық мемлекет, саяси жүйе, сайлау, халықтық сайлау, сайлау құқықтары, сайлау құқықтарының кепілдіктері, сайлаушы, үміткер, дауыс беру, абсентеизм.

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Роль выборов в политической жизни независимого государства

В соответствии с Конституцией РК Казахстан утверждает себя демократическим государством, народ Казахстана является единственным источником государственной власти. Народ осуществляет государственную власть непосредственно и через своих представителей. Выборы – одна из форм непосредственного осуществления государственной власти населением республики, центральный элемент политической системы, наблюдающий демократический характер государства. Выборы являются основой функционирования всех представительных органов власти на республиканском и местном уровнях, муниципальных органов, главы государства и главы местной исполнительной власти в некоторых демократических государствах. Выборы признаются одной из наиболее влиятельных форм демократии, позволяющей гражданам вмешиваться в политическую жизнь государства, участвовать в управлении делами государства. Статья посвящена раскрытию роли выборов в жизни государства и общества. Для выполнения соответствующей задачи в статье раскрывается значение выборов в государствах демократического режима, рассматривается его роль в обеспечении легитимности действующей государственной власти в целом, функции выборов. Вместе с тем, для того, чтобы институт выборов полностью соответствовал своему назначению в политической системе государства, в статье рассмотрены гарантии реализации, неповрежденности избирательных прав и обоснована необходимость их совершенствования.

Ключевые слова: государственная власть, демократическое государство, политическая система, выборы, народные выборы, избирательные права, гарантии избирательных прав, избиратель, кандидат, голосование, абсентеизм.

Introduction

Today, an important place in the Basic Law of the countries of the world and several international legal documents is occupied by a provision that establishes the status of the people as the only source of state power. This status of the people determines the democracy of the state and has its roots deep.

A Democratic state is a state whose structure and activities correspond to the people's will. Since democracy is based on the people's choice, in states with a democratic regime, the source of power is the people. Accordingly, democracy means that all power belongs to the people and their free exercise under their sovereign will and interests. Democracy manifests itself in the sovereignty of the people, the division of power, ideological and political diversity, and the recognition of local self-government. One of the manifestations of the democracy of the state is the variability and electability of officials.

Methods and materials

In a «true» democracy, the people are the sovereign source of state power, the subject of management. As the bearer of sovereignty, the people directly exercise the power it belongs to and transfers its exercise to a particular person or persons. The granting of the people's right to exercise control be-

longing to them is carried out by the will of the majority of the population through elections, formalized following the people's choice. Accordingly, a person (s) who has received the right to exercise state power from the people shall exercise the corresponding right on behalf of the people.

In the Constitution of 1995, the Republic of Kazakhstan, defining itself as a Democratic state, recognized that the people of the Republic are the bearer of state power and enshrined some sovereign rights in connection with the participation of the people in the exercise of state power and the management of State Affairs. The most influential of them is the right of citizens of the Republic to elect and be elected to state and local government bodies. Free elections are a way for the people to create institutions of power.

Discussion

Elections are the main element of democracy, the central institution. It is the main element that emphasizes the democratic character of the state. Elections are one of the most effective forms of people's participation in the state's political life, participation in the management of State Affairs.

Following the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the people are the sole source of state power. Subjects of state power acquire ability due to

popular elections, so to speak, based on the people's approval of them (their program) and their consent to them. Accordingly, in states with a democratic regime, elections are a form of observation of the people's approval of state power, coordination with their programs, and the authorities' primary mechanism for acquiring executive power. Consequently, elections are the essential tool for the legitimacy of state political power, the most effective means to legalize state political power.

Elections are a mass event. This mass measure determines that elected state entities acquire power due to the population's transfer of powers to them. In Kazakhstan, it is a form of formation by citizens of the state's head of state, legislative, representative, and self-governing bodies, in some countries, including judicial and executive bodies. By its very nature, elections are used for Public Administration and the formation of subjects of power. By participating in elections, citizens exercise the people's right, that is, on their behalf, to determine who governs the state and who decides state affairs. This is the nature of elections in states with a truly democratic regime. It can be argued that the function of elections in states under an authoritarian government is to give a legal character to pre-made elections by specific subjects.

Elections have a great place in truly democratic, rule-of-law states. In such conditions, elections and the electoral process are generally considered to ensure the legitimacy (legality) of elected, representative power, and the current state power as a whole. It can be justified in the order of formation of state governing power. As you know, in Kazakhstan, the president of the Republic, one of the links of representative legislative power – the Mazhilis – is directly elected by citizens of the Republic in the Republican general elections, and the Senate – indirectly. Although the executive and judicial branches of energy are not formed by direct expression of the will of citizens, they acquire power from persons who are representatives of the people – the head of state and the Parliament, who are directly elected in elections. At the same time, the Parliament, carrying out legislative activities, grants them legislative powers. Consequently, the Parliament, consisting of representatives of the people, participates in their formation and activities directly and indirectly. If so, elections are the basis for the legitimacy of general power.

The Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 1995, for the first time introducing a proportional representative electoral system, created prerequisites for political parties to participate in the state's

political life. Today, political parties are given priority in the elections of the President, Deputies of the Mazhilis, and maslikhats. «In particular, following articles 55, 87, 103 of the law» «on elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan», only one way of the right to nominate presidential candidates is established, that is, the nomination of presidential candidates belongs only to Republican public associations registered by the established procedure, and the right to nominate candidates for Deputies of the Mazhilis and deputies of maslikhats elected on party lists is inherent in political parties registered following the established procedure ([http://adilet.zan.kz/kaz/docs / Z950002464](http://adilet.zan.kz/kaz/docs/Z950002464)). The participation of political parties in the elections of the highest echelon of power is currently regulated in Kazakhstan and several countries. In general, elections, which allow political parties to participate equally in the formation of the political system of the state, are a powerful mechanism that provides legal opportunities for parties to fight for their goals, thereby positively affecting the active development of political diversity in the form, in other words, increasing the number of parties rather than decreasing, and contributing to the formation of genuine competition between political parties. The participation of political parties in forming government bodies is beneficial for states.

However, we cannot entirely approve of the high priority given to parties in building the state's political system. In Kazakhstan, the focus is on political parties in the election (candidates) for elected positions. The right to nominate a presidential candidate in the elections of the president of the Republic of Kazakhstan belongs only to Republican public associations and only to parties in the elections of Deputies of maslikhats. Only political parties have the right to elect 98 of the 107 Deputies of the Mazhilis. It can be argued that such a procedure for nominating candidates restricts the weak suffrage of citizens and the freedom of choice of voters concerning the relevant positions. For example, in the presidential election, voters choose a candidate only from among the candidates nominated by competing parties (Public Associations).

At the same time, in the elections of Deputies of the Mazhilis and maslikhats, voters cannot even choose candidates approved by the parties; they choose only concerning one of the parties on the ballot. And, depending on the winning place, who will go to the Mazhilis or maslikhats will be selected by political parties that are not voters. In this regard,

in political science, «elections are a kind of political procedure that does not have a decisive impact on the state's political processes. It shows only the manifestation of citizens' participation in making political decisions. This interpretation is based on the fact that the nomination of candidates for elected positions is mainly a prerogative of political parties» (Bobkova 2003: 118-120).

Once again, the participation of political parties in elections does not, in all cases, strengthen the democracy of the state. It depends on the place in the state to be given to political parties, on the state of political diversity. In particular, we can say that in states with a single-party system or in conditions where only one party is dominated, the level of influence of the population on power, that is, the level of democracy, is insignificant. This is because the lack of competition between political parties in the struggle for power limits the freedom of choice of the population in the election of a particular position. Accordingly, in countries with such a system, new political forces do not come to power following the true wishes of the people. Consequently, the role of elections in the state's political life is not the same in all countries.

Fair and honest elections give a reality rather than a formality to the constitutional norm, which asserts that the people are the only source of state power. In other words, fair, democratic elections reflect the level of application and viability of the norms of Article 3 (Article 1) of the Constitution of the Republic, which stipulates that the people are the only source of state power. In states under a purely democratic regime, citizens are genuinely involved in state power, participating in elections directly and through their electing. Such elections greatly influence the growth of the scale of interference of the population in power and the resolution of State Affairs. Because fair, democratic elections, as subjects of political relations, allow citizens and political parties to understand better the technology of fighting for power (technology of political struggle) and conduct it effectively. Such a feature of elections has a positive effect on the absence of absenteeism in the course of elections, that is, on the broad participation of the population in the elections, and allows the will of citizens to have a tangible impact on the results of the voting, as well as ensure the proportionality of representation of various segments of society in elected representative bodies. Therefore, accurate popular elections reveal the essence of the democracy of the state. Accordingly, citizens form democratic institutions of the state, exercising their electoral rights.

An important aspect of fair and honest elections is that electoral fairness strengthens confidence in democracy. Election fairness is a tool that allows us to resolve electoral conflicts in social peace and political stability, which are the main conditions for democratic governance. It is also the best guarantee of society to protect political rights and ideological pluralism that ensures the legality of the electoral process (Hernán 2006: 6).

Elections are a more critical, more common, and more common mass event in the state and public life than other institutions of democracy. It extends to many institutions and levels, starting with the head of state. In particular, elections are the basis for all representative authorities at the Republican and local levels, municipal authorities, the head of state, and regional executive power in some Democratic states.

The scale of elections is not limited to state power; it is also a mechanism for the legality of some non-state public institutions. An example of this is elections in political parties, professional unions, public organizations, Joint-Stock Companies, and many other free associations. It is impossible not to mention the positive side of such a feature of elections, that is, the breadth and scope of their application. The wide variety of elections, in turn, opens up vast opportunities for citizens to become politically active, to participate in state life as the only source of state power, and to influence public affairs.

In genuinely democratic states, the next important aspect of elections is that they affect the effectiveness of state power, being the basis for its formation, that is, its functioning. It should be noted that in such states, persons who can govern and rule based on the support of the people after their election do not conduct their activities in the interests of the people; that is, they do not take into account and represent the interests of the people and voters in their performance of their functions, the people may replace them with other subjects in the upcoming elections. Therefore, fair and democratic elections will allow the population to replace existing power with opposition groups. Accordingly, in such a situation, the right to manage state affairs may pass from a particular person (s) serving to other entities that the population considers most worthy, i.e., have the support of voters.

Therefore, in a genuinely democratic state, such elected persons try to change their course according to the people's wishes not to lose their power in the future. If so, elections occupy an important place in a genuinely democratic state. In such a state, elections

are the most crucial factor that indirectly affects the effectiveness of state authorities' activities and the effectiveness of fundamental reforms carried out in the form. This can be seen from one scientific point of view: «... if unnecessary or poor-quality legislation is adopted in the future, if elected officials of the government are incompetent or ineffective, or if the government suffers from widespread corruption, then such tragic results are the result of voters' decision to entrust state powers to a specific elected person» (Blackwell 2009: 107).

In the political system of society, elections perform some essential socio-political functions. Among them, political scientists distinguish mainly the following parts of elections. First, elections are for individual citizens and social groups ... it is a political institution that allows you to formulate your requirements. An election campaign supports political leaders whose positions and views correspond to the relevant requests (conditions). In Democratic states, elections are a kind of Special Political market in which candidates for the role of power replace their programs, platforms, and promises with voters' powers. Secondly, elections are one of the mechanisms for resolving political conflicts. Thirdly, elections are a reliable tool for legitimizing (legalizing) the political regime, as they (elections) contribute to the organization, involvement of the population in electoral associations, individual political parties, and other socio-political organizations, as well as elections as a democratic basis for the recognition and support of elected leaders and institutions of power, depending on how various channels of interaction and interaction with voters are formed.

The widespread use of mass media, as well as party programs and platforms for the implementation of citizens' electoral rights, the creation of pre-election organizations, campaigning, and propaganda, to some extent, create conditions for the active involvement of citizens and their associations in the political process, in addition, to directly or indirectly contributing to the political enlightenment of the masses. Therefore, electoral functions can also be attributed to the political socialization of the population (<https://all-politologija.ru/knigi/politologiya-uchebnoe-posobie/vybory-kakpoliticheskij-Institut>).

By revealing the essence and functions of Elections above, we have justified the fact that in a Democratic state, it is an important and valuable institution. No matter how important elections are for the development of the state and society, there

are often facts of violations of electoral rights. Even in developed democracies, violations of electoral rights are a common phenomenon. In general, actions that violate citizens' electoral rights, «widespread offenses such as the exclusion of ballots in elections and the intimidation of voters, undermine citizens' confidence in the representative nature of the institutions they create» (Margie 1995: 483).

As Alexis de Tocqueville pointed out, when one of the most democratic, developed states in the United States lost its true meaning due to the destruction and distortion of the electoral institution: «it is customary for modern America to attract famous, famous people to state posts rarely. And it is necessary to recognize that this is happening in terms of the development of democracy, the level of development. It is clear that over the past half-century, American statesmen have been significantly crushed» (Tocqueville 1992: 148).

Therefore, although elections are considered one of the main manifestations of the democracy of the state, their legal regulation is not the only criterion for defining the state as purely democratic. Accordingly, the constitutional and legal recognition and consolidation of citizens' rights to form Republican and local authorities (elected bodies) is not the only prerequisite for their practical implementation. If electoral rights are not implemented or violated even on their performance, they are meaningless.

We should focus on the following point of view of I. L. Buravchenko: «the basis of the legal status of the voter is undoubtedly his rights and legal obligations. However, the normative consolidation of rights and obligations without creating guarantees for their implementation makes them a declaration» (Buravchenko 2010: 17).

At the same time, only their legal regulation, without creating guarantees of the legality and authenticity of elections, the exercise of electoral rights, does not determine the democracy of the state and does not make it possible for decent and responsible persons, leaders to come to power per the will of the people.

Indeed, like any other right, the right to vote manifests itself as a value only when recognized and implemented in real life. In other words, only if the institution of general elections is protected by law and, accordingly, implemented within the framework of the law, if a system of guarantees necessary for the exercise and non-violation of electoral rights is created, it is possible to talk about the fact that, along with other rights of citizens, the right to vote

is the highest treasure of the state. The election fully corresponds to its purpose. The guarantee of electoral rights by the state creates conditions for the protection and free exercise of citizens' electoral rights and objective determination of the results of their voting, respectively, the legitimacy of state power.

For elections to be accurate, democratic, and fair in any state, the organization and conduct of elections must be based on certain legally established principles. Among them, we can highlight the principles of legality, voluntariness, equality, justice, universal equality of elections, equality, democracy, and non-interference in expressing voters' will. Guarantees of electoral rights are also crucial in this context. After all, they ensure the actual implementation of the principles of electoral law, which are the basis for the fairness and authenticity of elections.

In general, in science, guarantees of electoral rights are understood as conditions aimed primarily at implementing electoral rights of persons participating in the electoral process, ensuring the freedom of election of citizens. In some countries, the definition of guarantees of electoral rights is given in their legislation. Accordingly, the content is disclosed, for example, in the Russian Federation and the Kyrgyz Republic. «Familiarization with the federal law of the Russian Federation» «on basic guarantees of the rights and freedoms of citizens to participate in the referendum of the Russian Federation» «shows that the guarantees of electoral rights are defined in it in a somewhat vague general nature, as in the Kyrgyz Republic». That is, guarantees of electoral rights per the relevant law are conditions, rules, and procedures established by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, regulations, and other normative legal acts that ensure the exercise of electoral rights by citizens of the Russian Federation (Articles 2, 11 p.).

At the same time, the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic provides for the content of guarantees in the norm, which defines guarantees of electoral rights of citizens. According to the relevant standard, guarantees of citizens' electoral rights in the Kyrgyz Republic are organizational, legal, informational, and other methods of ensuring the electoral rights of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic (<http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/203244>). As we can see, this law of the Russian Federation does not clearly define the conditions that ensure the implementation of guarantees of electoral rights-electoral rights and, most

importantly, limit them to legal regulation. The requirements (promises) that provide the exercise of electoral rights per the relevant norm of the appropriate law must be established in legal acts, legal regulation.

Of course, most of the guarantees of electoral rights are regulated and controlled by the electoral law. Still, it is unnecessary to limit them to legal regulation, conditions, and methods that ensure citizens' electoral rights are fully implemented. And their complete legal rule is not possible. For example, economic, political guarantees of electoral rights, ideological guarantees. We believe that the definition of guarantees of electoral rights only concerning legal regulation does not fully reveal its essence or meet its purpose. We can say that the purpose of the appointment of guarantees of electoral rights is to create the necessary environment and conditions for the implementation and non – violation of the rights of citizens and public associations arising in the course of the electoral process. Accordingly, the legal establishment of guarantees of electoral rights does not guarantee the proper implementation of electoral rights in practice.

The exercise of citizens' voting on a free, equal basis, as established by law, also depends on other circumstances. For example, the economic situation of the state, the state of political stability, etc. it can be traced from the point of view of the scientist L. D. Voevodin, who divided the guarantees of General rights and freedoms into two groups: «conditions» and «means» of realization of constitutional rights and freedoms. He points out that «the first group of guarantees aims to create a favorable environment, conditions for exercising fundamental rights and freedoms and performing duties».

And as «tools» for the implementation of constitutional rights and freedoms, the relevant scientist considers methods, methods, and methods of protecting and ensuring the rights and freedoms of the individual and shows that they (the second group of guarantees) provide state bodies, Local Self-Government Bodies, Public Associations, citizens themselves with effective means in the struggle for the proper implementation of fundamental rights and freedoms (Voevodin 1997: 229).

From the point of view of the relevant scientist, who determines why the guarantees of the first group are aimed, it can be seen that the legal regulation of warranties is not mandatory and cannot be fully regulated. This is since the creation of a favorable environment and conditions for the exercise of fundamental rights and freedoms and the

performance of duties also provides conditions that are not subject to legal regulation (peace, political stability in the state, economic state of the state, etc.).

The next scientist M. S. Mateikovich L.D., considers Voevodin's stressed guarantees to specific electoral rights; the first group of contracts includes economic, social, political, information guarantees and shows that these guarantees can be created only when civil society is formed. Its institutions are strengthened and when state regulation of the economy is maintained to ensure social justice, competition and protect the interests of domestic producers and service providers. «I don't know», he said ... «tools» include procedures for exercising and protecting electoral rights, i.e., legal guarantees, enshrined in legal norms, he writes (Mateikovich 2003: 34-35).

As we can see, the relevant scientific approach also shows the impossibility of full legal regulation of the guarantees of electoral rights – «conditions» for the implementation of electoral rights. It connects only the second group of promises, only «tools» for implementing electoral rights, with legal regulation.

Guarantees of electoral rights, along with the exercise of electoral rights, indicate an established, stable mechanism for its protection. In general, guarantees of electoral rights are social-economic, political, legal, material, organizational, etc., conditions, legal methods, methods for the implementation, protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens, and public associations arising during elections, their protection from various offenses. It should be noted that the guarantees of electoral rights – conditions that ensure freedom of elections, exercise, and non-violation of electoral rights-do do not act effectively independently, individually, in isolation, that is, do not fully fulfill their assignment. They are practical and effective only if connected and act as a single mechanism that complements each other. After all, the guarantees of electoral rights only in their totality create the necessary environment for fair elections based on the law.

Each state enshrines guarantees of electoral rights to a certain extent in its legislation. In the Constitution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the constitutional legislation of the Republic enshrines certain guarantees of electoral rights and freedoms of citizens, public associations. «In the neighboring state of Russia, the federal law» «on basic guarantees of rights and rights to participate in the referendum of citizens of the Russian Federation» «was adopted,

which is aimed at regulating the guarantees of electoral rights of citizens». This Act provides for a wide variety of guarantees of electoral rights of citizens of the Russian Federation. The scientific and practical explanation given to the relevant law (subparagraph 11 of Article 2) indicates that the variety of such guarantees is primarily justified by a large number of rights of citizens concerning elections, and provides that the subject of the central warranties is the following rights of citizens in connection with elections: rights related to the appointment of elections; formation of electoral infrastructure (registration of voters and preparation of voter lists, electoral districts, and polling stations, election commissions); to nominate candidates ..., rights related to the receipt and dissemination of election information; rights related to the voting process, the determination of voting results and the appeal of violations of election laws (http://cikrf.ru/law/federal_law/comment/st2.php).

Due to its importance, guarantees for the exercise of electoral rights are the most necessary and valuable element of the electoral institution. At the time, the Convention on standards of democratic elections, electoral rights, and freedoms in the Commonwealth of Independent States established that one of the standards of democratic elections is the guarantee of the exercise of electoral rights and freedoms by participants in the electoral process (Lysenko V. I. 2008: 100).

Today, as a result of the recognition of the electoral institute as the leading indicator of the legality of the state, state power, and the power of the people, the right to vote is recognized as the fundamental right of citizens. The state guarantees it under various circumstances (political, legal, material, etc.). This is both necessary and important. After all, for the legality (legitimacy) of power, the establishment of the electoral rights of citizens on paper and the actual implementation of these rights in practice is essential for establishing Kazakhstan as a genuinely democratic state governed by rule law. «Thus, the protection of human rights in general, including electoral rights, the formation of guarantees for citizens to live a decent life, live a Standard Life, and participate in the management of the state should be a noble goal and task set for independent Kazakhstan» (Umbetov 2016: 32).

Since gaining sovereignty and declaring independence, the Republic of Kazakhstan has taken steps to protect and guarantee citizens' electoral rights and freedoms. This shows that Kazakhstan

respects the right of its citizens to participate in the exercise of state power directly, including through elections and representatives elected by them in free elections, and is interested in the actual implementation and non-violation of these rights. The main reason for this is that the will and will of citizens expressed in fair elections are the basis of the legality of state power.

Conclusion

In the article's content, we revealed the essence of elections. We demonstrated the state's place in political life, justifying the fact that in a genuinely democratic state, it is a vital and valuable institution. The institution of elections occupies a special place in the state's life. In a political system, it can be evaluated as a determining factor. The fact is that the permanent establishment and accurate implementation of the voting of citizens in the life of the state determine the establishment of the following institutions and values in the form: the fact that the will of the majority of the population (voluntary citizens)

is a determinant in determining the policy of the state (the institution of people's power); the priority of human rights and freedoms (interests) over the interests of the state; the recognition of human and civil rights and liberties by the state; the diversity of forms of protection of citizens' rights and freedoms; the duty of the state to ensure their implementation; equality of citizens, the legality of power.

However, for the state power to be entirely legitimate, for the permanent establishment and actual implementation of citizens' electoral rights in the life of the state, it is necessary to create guarantees of legality and authenticity of elections, the implementation of electoral rights, their final establishment and continuous improvement. After all, guarantees of electoral rights are a prerequisite for the authenticity of the electoral institution, an integral element of it. Suppose a system of guarantees is created that ensures the exercise and non-violation of electoral rights. In that case, we can say that the people are actually the only source of power, and the elections fully correspond to their purpose.

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