



REFORMS IMPLEMENTED IN THE CREATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW NORMS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract. The article provides an understanding of international law, international legal norms, and highlights the participation of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the creation of international legal norms, the speeches of its first President Islam Karimov on international law, the proposals and plans made in the speeches of our Honorable President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in Geneva, and the views and comments of the Chairman of the Oliy Majlis on Human Rights, Akmal Saidov.

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Sources of international law It is customary to consider as a form of expression of an international legal norm. International legal norms are understood in two senses: material (material conditions of social life) and formal (form of expression of a legal norm). They are a form of manifestation of the result of coordination of the will, desires and wishes of a state recognized by states, as well as a form of recording an international legal norm. In international law, all sources are divided into two main groups: primary and auxiliary. There is no clearly established list of sources of international law. The main sources of international law are international treaties and customs. Some scholars include the UN Charter in the list of sources of international law.

The Statute of the International Court of Justice includes Article 38, which states: "The Court, which is obliged to decide the dispute before it in accordance with the rules of international law, shall have regard to: a) international conventions, Выпуск журнала №-23

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general and special, which establish rules and are recognized in a particular way by the States in dispute;

- b) customary international norms recognized as legal norms as evidence of general experience;
 - d) the generality of law recognized by civilized nations

principles; e) as an auxiliary tool for determining legal norms, judicial decisions and public legal teachings of qualified specialists of various nations (doctrine) and the commentary mentioned in Article 59. The role of resolutions of international organizations in interpreting existing norms is incomparable. General international conventions By "international treaties" is meant treaties to which all states are or are parties and which reflect norms that are of universal binding importance for the entire international community, that is, norms of general international law. Special treaties are understood to be treaties to which a certain limited number of participating states are party. International customs It constitutes the norms of international law, and it is such a rule of conduct that it appears as a product of the same type of behavior of subjects of international law, which is always repeated, and is recognized as a legal norm. Repeated similar behavior of the same type indicates their improvement. But international law does not specify at what period it is necessary to form customary norms. Through modern means of communication and transportation, states can immediately become aware of each other's actions. Of course, they will react to them by taking one form or another of action. This has led to the fact that the time factor is no longer as important in the process of the formation of customs as it was before. Decisions of international organizations, which are the agreed expression of states, can be the basis for the formation of customs. The process of the formation of customs does not end with the emergence of rules of conduct. Only when states recognize them as legal norms, certain actions of states become customs. Customary norms have the same legal force as treaties. Evaluating rules of conduct as customs is a complex issue. Unlike treaties, customs are not formalized in a single written act. Therefore, the existence of customs is determined by auxiliary means, namely court decisions, doctrines, decisions of



international organizations, unilateral acts and actions of states. Court decisions, which are considered auxiliary means, are based on The International Court of Justice of the United Nations, other international arbitration and judicial bodies include decisions. When referring disputes to the International Court of Justice of the United Nations and other international judicial bodies, states often ask to determine the existence of customary norms that are binding on the parties to the dispute. In its practice, the International Court of Justice of the United Nations has not limited itself to confirming the existence of customs, but has given them a certain degree of clarity (definition). An example is the decision of the UN International Court of Justice in the 1951 Anglo-Norwegian Fisheries Dispute, which stated that coastal states may use a straight line as the ultimate limit of their territorial waters when determining customary norms.

Akmal Saidov's "Call to Action for Human Rights" on the important tasks set by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in his speech at the High-level segment of the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council, which began its work in Geneva: Uzbekistan will consistently continue international cooperation within the framework of this UN initiative

In his speech at the High-level segment of the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council, which began its work in Geneva today, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev emphasized that over the past few years we have been striving to become a member of the Council, fully aware of our responsibility. As the Head of State noted, "Our democratic reforms are aimed at building a new Uzbekistan, and these changes have become irreversible." Uzbekistan began to fulfill its duties as a member of the UN Human Rights Council for the first time on January 1, 2021. Traditionally, our President participated and spoke for the first time as the head of a member state of the Council in the High-level Segment, which is being held in Geneva on February 22-24 as part of the spring session of the UN Human Rights Council. The purpose of the segment meeting is to discuss at a high political level urgent issues of protecting human rights in countries around the world, as well as developing international cooperation in this area and strengthening the mechanisms



and procedures of the UN Human Rights Council. The High-level Segment is the main political event of the Human Rights Council during the year. This Segment was established as a mechanism for developing and agreeing on common and mutually beneficial approaches of UN member states on the promotion and protection of human rights and freedoms. In connection with the coronavirus pandemic, the next meeting of the Council was held in the form of a video conference. The meeting's agenda included the most pressing issues related to the observance and protection of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. The event was attended by UN Secretary-General António Guterres, High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet, heads of state, government, foreign ministers and representatives of national human rights institutions from about 150 countries, as well as heads of a number of international and regional organizations. In his speech, the President of Uzbekistan spoke in detail about the further deepening of democratic changes in our country and the priority areas of our activities within the framework of the UN Human Rights Council.

The first priority: implementation of the principle of "leaving no one behind" In recent years, Uzbekistan has achieved a number of important results in the field of human rights protection. In particular, in the elections held at the UN General Assembly session on October 13, 2020, Uzbekistan was elected to the UN Human Rights Council for the first time in the history of our national statehood for the period 2021-2023. In the words of our Head of State, "ensuring fundamental human rights and freedoms is the most important thing in the reforms in Uzbekistan." In this sense, the UN Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 are being implemented in our country based on the principle of "leaving no one behind", and special attention is paid to ensuring the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of every person in our country. A vivid example of this is the results of the comprehensive work being carried out within the framework of the National Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Human Rights, developed with the participation of experts from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. The National Strategy, adopted on June 22, 2020 at the initiative of the Head of our state, is of great



importance in improving the mechanism for protecting human rights and forming a human rights culture in our country. This document clearly indicates a systematic approach to the issue of human rights and the elimination of existing gaps and shortcomings. By a joint resolution of the Council of the Legislative Chamber and the Council of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted on September 25, 2020, the Parliamentary Commission on Compliance with the International Obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Field of Human Rights was established and its composition and Regulations were approved. The main goal of the Parliamentary Commission is to facilitate compliance with the international obligations of our country in the field of human rights and the implementation of the National Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Human Rights.

Another important achievement in the field: According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 22, 2020, the "For the Protection" of Human Rights" badge was established. For the first time, this badge was awarded to a group of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan and two foreign citizens for their services in the protection of human rights and freedoms, their activity in promoting human rights, their contribution to human rights education, the development of traditions of human rights protection among young people, significant achievements in the development and management of human rights organizations, and effective scientific activities in the field of human rights. Please note: every 5 years, on December 10, the day the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was proclaimed, the UN Human Rights Award ceremony is held. This award was established in 1966 to honor people who have made a significant contribution to the protection of human rights. Now Uzbekistan has also established its own human rights award. Since 2020, annually on December 10 - International Human Rights Day, the laureates of the "For the Protection of Human Rights" badge have been solemnly awarded. Thus, ensuring the rights and freedoms of citizens in our country and implementing international standards on human rights in national legislation and law enforcement practice have become the main criterion for democratic reforms aimed at creating prosperous and decent living conditions for the people. Today, the norms of more than 80



international documents ratified by Uzbekistan in the field of human rights and freedoms are reflected in national legislation. All this, undoubtedly, indicates that state policy in this area is being effectively implemented due to the adoption of a longterm strategy in the field of human rights. This, in turn, contributes to the formation of an attitude of respect for human rights and freedoms in our society, further strengthening the reputation of our country in the international arena, including improving the position of the Republic of Uzbekistan in economic and political-legal ratings and indices. The second priority: resolute continuation of gender policy In our country, intensive work is being carried out to strengthen the socio-political position of women within the framework of an active gender policy. As our President noted at the 75th anniversary session of the UN General Assembly, "Gender equality policy has become a priority issue for us. The role of women in state governance is becoming increasingly important. The number of female deputies in our new Parliament has doubled. " Indeed, as a result of the recent elections to the Oliy Majlis, for the first time, the UN recommendations on the number of women in the Uzbek parliament (at least 30 percent) were fully implemented. The election of 32 percent, that is, 48 women deputies, to the Legislative Chamber, in turn, ensured the rise of the Uzbek parliament to 37th place among 190 parliaments in the world. Although in 2014 our country was in 128th place according to this indicator. That is, before, the issue of gender equality did not seem to be a priority for us. As a result, we have fallen far behind in this regard. Recent analyses have shown that the role and influence of women in our society, their participation in government bodies, are completely unsatisfactory. Therefore, in the last 4 years, 2 important laws have been adopted in our country - the law "On Guarantees of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men" and the law "On the Protection of Women from Harassment and Violence". In 2020 alone, 15 regulatory legal acts were adopted in Uzbekistan aimed at increasing the role of women in government and society, ensuring their employment, developing women's entrepreneurship, and supporting women in need. On this basis, large- scale work is being carried out. For example, on the one hand, special centers for the rehabilitation and adaptation of victims of violence are being established in



places, and women are being issued special "Protection Orders". On the other hand, today our sisters are effectively working in state administration departments. As a result, the share of women in management positions has increased to 26.6 percent. Since last year, at the initiative of the head of our state, the opportunities for girls in need of social protection have been further expanded, and 4 percent state grants have been allocated to higher educational institutions. Based on this new system, 950 girls in need of social protection were admitted to study in 2020. Advisory councils on gender equality issues have been established in all ministries and departments. More importantly, in his Address to Parliament, our President put on the agenda the task of establishing a Public Council of Women of the Republic under the leadership of the Chairman of the Senate. This Council will be responsible for creating a comprehensive system aimed at further improving the status of women in society and in public administration in our country. The main task of the Council is to improve the status of women in society, thoroughly study their problems, find practical solutions to many socio-economic problems that torment women, and help them get out of the "iron book" and "women's book". These facts and figures alone indicate that women in our country are taking their rightful place in society. Consequently, comprehensively ensuring the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of women and youth is one of the priority areas of the fair policy pursued by the President of Uzbekistan. It is not for nothing that the President of Uzbekistan, in his speech at the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council, emphasized the firm continuation of gender policy in our country. This is also evidenced by the fact that this year our country plans to organize a dialogue of leading women of Central Asian countries, as well as a regional women's business forum. The third priority area: ensuring the rights of persons with special needs. On October 15, 2020, the Law "On the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" was adopted in our country. This Law, which entered into force on January 17, 2021, replaces the Law "On Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities in the Republic of Uzbekistan" adopted in 2008. In developing this Law, the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as the laws of more than 10 foreign countries, such as the USA, Great Britain,



Germany, Switzerland, Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, etc., were studied. Today, work is being carried out in the chambers of the Oliv Majlis on the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. At the same time, the new Law, which provides for the international standards and requirements of the Convention, as well as the use of the term "person with disabilities" instead of the word "disabled", serves to express the rights and interests of representatives of the above category of our country. The new Law is the main legislative document defining the rights of persons with disabilities. Considering that currently more than 700 thousand persons with disabilities live in Uzbekistan, including more than 100 thousand children with disabilities under the age of 16, the relevance and importance of this Law is clearly demonstrated. The state provides material, advisory and other assistance to families caring for children with disabilities, in short, it provides comprehensive support to persons with special needs. As stated in the Address of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to the Oliy Majlis, Uzbekistan will gradually transition to a "social model" of disability recognition in line with world standards. A new system will be introduced to provide the needy population with prosthetic and orthopedic products and rehabilitation equipment. About 50 thousand people will be able to use this opportunity. The new initiative of the President in this regard - the proposal to establish a Regional Council on issues of full realization of the abilities of persons with disabilities - is also aimed at similar noble goals. The fourth priority area: protecting the rights of youth The issue of youth is indeed an important factor in the development of the new Uzbekistan. The fact that 9 deputies under the age of 30 were elected to the Legislative Chamber in the last parliamentary elections is a vivid confirmation of this. Today, young people make up 6 percent of the composition lower house of our parliament, while this figure 2 percent worldwide. As our President noted at the 75th anniversary session of the UN General Assembly, " More than half of the population of our country is young people. In our republic, great work is being done to ensure that every young man and woman takes their rightful place in society and demonstrates their potential." Youth parliaments and the Agency for Youth Affairs are operating in Uzbekistan. The Head



of our state, speaking from the UN rostrum, once again called on everyone to support Uzbekistan's initiative to adopt the UN Convention on the Rights of Youth. The draft convention is receiving special recognition from the entire world community. In particular, positive opinions were expressed on the draft convention at the Samarkand Forum on Human Rights held last year. The international conference adopted the Samarkand Resolution "Youth-2020: Global Solidarity, Sustainable Development and Human Rights". The document, among other things, notes that youth rights are rights that everyone should have, but some are deprived of such an opportunity due to their young age. The Samarkand Resolution serves to comprehensively confirm the need for greater involvement of young people in all processes related to the development of modern states. Uzbekistan not only took the initiative to prepare this draft convention, but also raised the youth issue to the level of a priority direction of state policy today. In our country, an Agency for Youth Affairs has been established, funds have been created, and permanent measures are being taken to ensure the employment of young men and women. Speaking about youth organizations established in our country in the recent period, it is also appropriate to note the introduction of the position of Deputy Human Rights Ombudsman of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan - Representative for the Rights of the Child. The Decree "On Additional Measures to Improve the System of Protection of the Rights of the Child", signed by our President on May 29, 2020, defined the main tasks and areas of activity of the Ombudsman for the Rights of the Child. In his speech, the Head of State announced that this year has been declared the "Year of Youth Support and Strengthening Population Health" in Uzbekistan: firstly, to hold the World Conference on Youth Rights under the auspices of the UN; secondly, to present a draft Convention on the Rights of the Youth at the Tenth Forum of the UN Economic and Social Council; thirdly, he put forward initiatives to establish the institution of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of the Youth. If we take into account that today there are more young people in the world than ever before in human history more than 2 billion, it is clear that these ideas of the President of Uzbekistan are extremely relevant and useful.

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