JOURNAL OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Volume: 3 Issue: 8 | Aug–2024 ISSN: 2720-6882

http://journals.academiczone.net/index.php/jiphr

On the Way to Building a "Welfare State" in Our Country

Umarova Iroda Mukhamedovna

Lecturer at the Department, Theory of State and Law, Tashkent State University of Law

Abstract: This article provides information about "welfare state", its formation in European countries, and the large-scale reforms being carried out to form it in the Republic of Uzbekistan. In the article, state is a governmental approach that seeks to provide social protection and public services to ensure a basic standard of living for all citizens, aiming to balance social equity and economic efficiency.

Keywords: welfare state, equality of opportunity, equitable distribution of wealth, gender equality, healthcare, education etc.

On the eve of the wonderful holiday of Independence Day of Uzbekistan, which gave our country endless opportunities to express itself on the world stage as an independent and strong state, I would like to note that through universal efforts our country has achieved great success in many areas. Thanks to the reforms, the state was able to reach consensus in international relations with closely neighboring neighboring countries in the fields of energy, logistics, politics and culture.

Over the past period, many legislative acts have been adopted, including the adoption of a new Constitution.

The most basic law of Uzbekistan, the New Constitution, was adopted on April 30, 2023 after a national referendum. This constitutional reform has become one of the most significant initiatives of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev aimed at modernizing the political system and strengthening the rights and freedoms of citizens. The main goal of the reform is to adapt the legal framework of Uzbekistan to modern realities, improve government management and improve the standard of living of the population. These changes are also aimed at attracting foreign investment, strengthening the rule of law and improving the image of Uzbekistan in the international arena. The reform of the Constitution was perceived as a positive step towards liberalization and democratization of the country.

Article 1 of the New Constitution states that the Republic of Uzbekistan is a sovereign, democratic, legal, social and secular state[1]. Thus, consolidating the form of the state in a certain direction. Sovereign, democratic, legal – all these definitions have long become familiar to us, accompanying our development policy for many years. The new words "social" and "secular state" became a new milestone in political development. It should be recognized that our state has always properly or at least tried to fulfill its social function, but the consolidation of this norm in the Constitution itself suggests that from now on, the priority will be the well-being of citizens, ensuring a decent life for the people, especially women and children.

So what does the phrase "welfare state" mean?

The welfare state, although it is an internally complex and diverse phenomenon, is a holistic entity in the sense of global influence on society. It represents a set of specific interventions and general redistribution mechanisms and has its own logic and development. The main purpose of the welfare state is to ensure social equality and justice, reduce poverty and ensure a high standard of living for all citizens. This model is often found in advanced economies such as Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Germany, where social welfare and protection programs are active.

[1] https://lex.uz/docs/6445147

Volume: 3 Issue: 8 | Aug–2024 ISSN: 2720-6882
http://journals.academiczone.net/index.php/jiphr

An analogy derived from regulation theory is useful here. The welfare state acts as a means of social and economic stabilization. Through various interventions (policies, legislation and financing conditions), it seeks to regulate the functioning of markets and the behavior of social actors in a manner consistent with the goals of risk prevention and equity. Any success it achieves in attempting to do this "basic thing" of regulation will also reinforce the conditions that promoted particular interventions. Incremental changes in the underlying conditions of a welfare regime are rare.

The development of specific types of welfare state is determined by factors such as economic and social policies, class relations, means of welfare provision, and political factors (for example, the interests of political parties). How these factors influence the shape of the welfare state is not an idiosyncratic development, but rather the result of specific decisions. This does not mean that the welfare state is simply a tool for the pursuit of various interests. After its existence, it has a reverse impact on the socio-economic structure and political superstructure.

Central to this definition is the issue of risk protection, since this is the main function of the welfare state. The concept of the welfare state is also closely linked to distributional issues and, in particular, to the call for public provision of services to reduce inequality and poverty. As we will see below, in practice there have been different types of welfare states that have emerged at different times and in different countries.

A simple and precise definition of a welfare state is as follows: "A set of institutions, including both public and private organizations, that provide a range of social services, primarily monetary and non-monetary, in an organized manner and are designed to protect citizens from cradle to grave from social and economic risks that are expected to exist in the absence of such services."

A welfare state is a state, or what we consider to be government as a whole, that helps provide welfare to the people. Welfare usually concerns health, education and other needs such as food and work. The most basic thing about a welfare state is that the government, on behalf of collective responsibility for personal needs and care, expands the rights of citizens, including the right to social security and the right to a living wage, as well as the provision of the right to work and a decent standard of living for citizens, i.e. social security. This will result in people who are less fortunate in the country being able to live compared to others who are more fortunate. This is due to the actions of the welfare state, which eliminate the differences that arise in the standard of living between different racial communities and minority groups. However, the real wake-up call for the welfare state came when, during a series of lectures held in 1941, Beveridge identified five "giant evils" in society: want, disease, ignorance, squalor and idleness[2]. He believed that these were the main causes of poverty, and that poverty was the main cause of social inequality that limited the quality of life of workers and their families. This declaration led to proper planning for the UK government's future post-World War II efforts to lift Britain out of want and poverty and to provide a better and fairer standard of living for all, even in the face of rapid technological change.

In his speech, then Prime Minister Winston Churchill famously said: "Never was so much owed by so many to so few."[3] This illustrates the need for a welfare state and welfare action to help alleviate the "plight" of ordinary people. Thereafter, there are many differences in the definition of a welfare state. This is because the countries that will implement the welfare state may come from different backgrounds in terms of culture and society, and its implementation may require different approaches. But in general, as it is said, the welfare state includes all efforts of the government to improve the physical, social and economic well-being of the people on the basis of the principle of equality of opportunity. This means that everyone, regardless of race, gender, etc., will have the same

[2] Beveridge, William. "Social Insurance and Allied Services". British Library. BL. Archived from the original on 2014-07-14. Retrieved 8 July 2014.
[3] "8 of Churchill's greatest speeches". historyextra.com. Retrieved 10 April 2022.

Volume: 3 Issue: 8 | Aug–2024 ISSN: 2720-6882
http://journals.academiczone.net/index.php/jiphr

opportunities to develop and ultimately improve their standard of living. Ensuring the right to work and a decent standard of living for citizens, i.e. social security, is the basic essence of the welfare state according to this definition.

In the context of a globalizing economy, it is interesting to note how many countries are now seeking to reconsider the impact and nature of their social security provisions. As people's career patterns become less predictable and less secure, a critical concern arises as to whether existing social security systems can continue to provide adequate support and protection for citizens facing an increasingly diverse range of social risks.

Thus, taking into account the experience of developed social states, our country is building its own model of a social state based on its economic capabilities. It should be noted that the creation in the country of all conditions for the free, comfortable and prosperous life of the people, primarily women, is determined to be the highest priority task of the state and society. According to the Uzbekistan 2030 Strategy[4], the country is implementing large-scale measures aimed at increasing the political, social and economic activity of women, protecting motherhood and childhood, promoting gender equality, as well as ensuring the rights and interests of women. These measures include:

1. **Increasing the political activity of women**: Strengthening the representation of women in government and local government, as well as supporting their participation in the political life of the country.
2. **Increasing social and economic participation**: Creating conditions for women's greater participation in economic life, including support for women's entrepreneurship, access to education and vocational training, and improved working conditions.
3. **Maternal and child health**: Implementation of programs aimed at improving health and social services for mothers and children, including providing access to quality medical care, supporting motherhood and creating favorable conditions for raising children.
4. **Promoting gender equality**: Adopting legislative and institutional measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of sex, protecting the rights of women and girls, and promoting equal opportunities in all areas of public life.
5. **Ensuring the rights and interests of women**: Development and implementation of programs and initiatives aimed at protecting women's rights, increasing their legal literacy, and ensuring safety and protection from violence.

These initiatives are part of Uzbekistan's broader sustainable development strategy, aimed at creating a fair and inclusive society where women and men have equal rights and opportunities to realize their potential. Building a “welfare state” is a dynamic and continuous process that requires taking into account the economic, social and political realities of each country. Successful implementation of such systems requires flexibility, innovation, and constant monitoring to adapt to changing conditions.

References:

1. Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. https://lex.uz/docs/6445147
2. Beveridge, William. "Social Insurance and Allied Services". British Library. BL. Archived from the original on 2014-07-14. Retrieved 8 July 2014.
3. “8 of Churchill's greatest speeches”. historyextra.com. Retrieved 10 April 2022.
4. Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, dated 11.09.2023 No. UP-158 https://lex.uz/ru/docs/6600404

[4] Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, dated 11.09.2023 No. UP-158 https://lex.uz/ru/docs/6600404