



“UZBEKISTAN AND KYRGYZSTAN: CURRENT STATE AND PROSPECTS OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION”

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ABOUT ARTICLE

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Abstract: in this article, using current sources and published literature, the author reveals the importance of inter-parliamentary cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy in the development of economic, social and humanitarian spheres between the countries of Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

“O‘ZBEKISTON VA QIRG‘IZISTON: PARLAMENTLARARO HAMKORLIGINING HOZIRGI HOLATI VA ISTIQBOLLARI”

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MAQOLA HAQIDA

Kalit so‘zlar: parlament, davlat, munosabat, xalq diplomatiyasi, madaniy, gumanitar, iqtisodiy soha.

Annotatsiya: ushbu maqolada muallif tomonidan joriy manbalardan va nashr etilgan adabiyotlardan foydalangan holda O‘zbekiston va Qirg‘iziston davlatlari o‘rtasida iqtisodiy, ijtimoiy, gumanitar sohalarini rivojlantirishda parlamentlararo hamkorlik masalalari, parlament diplomatiyasining ahamiyati ochib berilgan.

«УЗБЕКИСТАН И КЫРГЫЗСТАН: СОВРЕМЕННОЕ СОСТОЯНИЕ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ МЕЖПАРЛАМЕНТСКОГО СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА»

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О СТАТЬЕ

Ключевые слова:	парламент, государство, отношение, дипломатия, культурная, гуманитарная, экономическая сфера.	Аннотация:	в данной статье, используя современные источники и опубликованную литературу, автор раскрывает значение межпарламентского сотрудничества и парламентской дипломатии в развитии экономической, социальной и гуманитарной сфер между странами Узбекистана и Кыргызстана.
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INTRODUCTION

Cooperation between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan has a solid foundation. The similarity of our common history, cultural and spiritual values is important in the relations between the two countries.

Multifaceted relations between the Uzbek and Kyrgyz peoples are well established, and huge positive changes have taken place since the last 5-6 years. Effective cooperation is based on the national interests of the two countries and the constant dialogue between the heads of state based on mutual trust[1].

Both countries gained independence on the same day, August 31, 1991. Diplomatic relations were established in 1993, and since then 213 documents regulating mutual relations have been adopted.

Among them, the Agreement on Eternal Friendship dated December 24, 1996 and the Declaration on Strategic Partnership, Friendship, Good Neighborhood and Confidence Building dated October 5, 2017 should be mentioned.

Currently, mutual cooperation has developed in many areas and has reached a new level of strategic partnership. The bilateral relations between the two countries are developing at an unprecedented level.

Looking at trade and economic relations, we can see that they are growing dynamically. In the period from 2016 to 2022, Uzbekistan's turnover with Kyrgyzstan grew by 7 times, from \$ 167.5 million to \$ 1 billion 260 million. In the coming years, countries plan to bring the amount of mutual turnover to \$ 2 billion.

Interparliamentary relations also play an important role in multifaceted cooperation between the two countries[2].

THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS

Globalization has transformed international relations into a multi-level and complex system. In modern foreign affairs, not only governments but also other actors influence the status quo. As classic diplomacy becomes rare, new forms of global cooperation emerge in the international arena, such as economic, cultural, and public diplomacy. Parliaments simply do not

have a choice but to get involved in the new world politics. That is how the new phenomenon “parliamentary diplomacy” emerged[3].

Today, parliamentary diplomacy also plays an important role in strengthening international relations and pursuing a constructive foreign policy. The current stage of development of parliamentarism is characterized not only by its representation, legislative activity, but also its active participation in foreign policy relations. In addition, this type of people's diplomacy is an effective tool for building mutual trust and solidarity between the countries of the world[4]. At the same time, attention will be paid to the wide use of the opportunities of friendship groups with the parliaments of foreign countries[5]. Over the past short period, our national parliament has become an active participant in many influential international inter-parliamentary organizations. In this regard, relations with the parliaments of foreign countries are becoming stronger in our country.

The inter-parliamentary groups of the Oliy Majlis include more than 90 members of parliament, and more than 230 parliamentarians in cooperation with the parliament of Uzbekistan abroad. The parliaments of about 40 countries have established various structures of cooperation with the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The aim is to establish direct dialogue and unite members of parliament. Within the framework of the inter-parliamentary groups, memorandums of cooperation were signed with the parliaments of the United Kingdom, Italy, Canada and Latvia. At the same time, from 2015 to 2018, mutual visits of more than 50 parliamentary delegations were organized. Meetings of the Uzbekistan-EU Parliamentary Cooperation Committee are held annually. To date, more than a dozen events have been organized within the committee[6].

Since October 2017, our country has restored its membership in the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and our delegation is actively participating in the sessions of this organization. It is noteworthy that the participation of parliamentary delegations of the Oliy Majlis in the sessions of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is ensured. This means that parliamentary diplomacy, as an integral part of the foreign policy of our country, has a significant impact on the content, level and prospects of international relations. In this regard, parliamentary diplomacy is the reliable protection of the rights and interests of the state and its citizens abroad through the implementation of the goals and objectives of the foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the development of mutual understanding and trust between states, the formation of a positive international image. is an important mechanism of doing[7].

Undoubtedly, one of the most effective ways to implement parliamentary diplomacy is to establish cooperation groups with the parliaments of foreign countries and to coordinate their activities[8].

Thanks to the political will of the heads of state, today there is an unprecedented increase in Uzbekistan-Kyrgyzstan bilateral relations, including in the direction of inter-parliamentary cooperation, which covers all aspects of cooperation.

During the visit of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Kyrgyzstan in 2017, a memorandum on inter-parliamentary cooperation was signed between the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Dzhokorgu Council of the Kyrgyz Republic.

An Inter-Parliamentary Commission was established in 2020 in order to bring the cooperation between the parliaments of the two countries to a higher level. To date, this Commission has held 2 meetings (in 2018 in Fergana and in 2019 in Osh).

The state visit of our head of state to Kyrgyzstan in September 2017 made a radical change in bilateral relations. In particular, he enriched the trade-economic and cultural-humanitarian relations between not only the two countries, but also the countries of the entire region with a completely new content and accelerated the process of bringing them to a higher level. After all, during the visit, an agreement on the state border between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan was signed[9].

According to it, about 85 percent of the mutual border was determined. After signing this agreement, 18 checkpoints were opened on the Uzbek-Kyrgyz border. This made the citizens of the two countries much more comfortable.

During 2017-2022, delimitation and demarcation works were carried out in the remaining 15 percent (disputed) sections of the border. Separate commissions were formed from both sides, meetings and negotiations were held several times, sometimes in Uzbekistan, sometimes in Kyrgyzstan. It should be noted that the commission considered very complex issues and achieved great results.

Finally, on November 3, 2022, in Bishkek, the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan signed the Agreement on separate sections of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz State border and a separate agreement on the joint management of water resources of the Andijan (Kampirabad) reservoir.

In accordance with this agreement, the delimitation of the border line with a total length of 302.29 km, including 35 sections of the Uzbek-Kyrgyz State border, was completed. In December 2022, this agreement and the agreement were ratified by the parliaments of both countries.

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's state visit to this country on January 26-27, 2023 was a logical continuation of multilateral Uzbek-Kyrgyz relations, which have become more active in recent years.

During the meeting held at the state residence "Ala-Archa" in Bishkek, it was noted with pleasure that in the last two years, mutual relations have been brought to a completely new level, and the delimitation of the Uzbekistan-Kyrgyz border has been completed.

During the talks, bilateral political, trade-economic, investment, transport-communication, water-energy and development of interregional cooperation issues were discussed.

At the same time, it was noted at the roundtable that it is necessary to use all possibilities for the full implementation of high-level agreements, including a number of urgent tasks before the Inter-Parliamentary Commission. In particular, based on the current, very positive dynamics of mutual relations, it is necessary to pay attention to the following issues.

First, it is advisable for the Inter-Parliamentary Commission to update its plans, to make additions aimed at strengthening the mechanisms of parliamentary control over the implementation of high-level agreements. After all, in the Declaration on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership signed between the two countries, it is recommended to consistently continue inter-parliamentary relations.

Secondly, this year marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. In this regard, it is necessary to make every effort to hold the events planned for this date at a high level with the participation of representatives of the general public, in particular, businessmen, intellectuals, intellectuals, youth. This will give a new impetus to Uzbekistan-Kyrgyzstan cooperation and bring the two peoples closer to each other.

On March 17 of this year, the next meeting of the interparliamentary commission on cooperation between the Oliy Majlis and Jogorku Kenesh was organized in Uzbekistan. A delegation headed by Nurlanbek Azigaliev, deputy of the Jogorku Council of the Kyrgyz Republic, visited our country to participate in it.

During the meeting, with the support of members of parliament, the relations between the regions of the two countries are actively developing, as a result of which joint projects are being promoted. At the same time, during the dialogue, attention was paid to the dynamics of inter-parliamentary cooperation, its further acceleration in the future, and the need to use the opportunities that have not yet been used.

Chairman of the Senate Tanzila Norboeva emphasized that all efforts will be continued to strengthen the cooperation with the Kyrgyz Jogorku Kenesh and to maximize the existing potential of mutually beneficial bilateral relations. "We see that the main task of the parliaments

of the two countries at the current stage is to help and support the implementation of high-level bilateral agreements. The Inter-Parliamentary Commission on the cooperation between our parliaments lives up to the expectations expressed to it. I think that with the support of our parliaments and the work of the commission, we can achieve concrete results. From this point of view, the agenda of the meeting of the commission covered political, economic, cross-border, regional and cultural-humanitarian cooperation issues that are relevant for the parties.

In his turn, Nurlanbek Azigaliev emphasized that inter-parliamentary relations, which have been rapidly developing in recent years, play an important role in the relations between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

“We are interested in further expansion of cooperation. As you rightly pointed out, it is necessary to strengthen relations not only between parliaments, but also between committees. "Dialogue between our parliaments will be an important factor not only in expanding wide-scale relations between our countries, but also in improving the legislation in order to legally strengthen the cooperation actions of the two countries in all important directions”.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it can be said that inter-parliamentary cooperation gives a positive impetus to the further expansion of political, trade-economic, investment, transport, inter-regional, cultural-humanitarian relations between the two countries. In general, it creates a basis for further deepening of strategic partnership relations between the two brotherly countries.

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