



## FEATURES OF THE PROCESS OF INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE PARTY SYSTEM

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### ABOUT ARTICLE

**Key words:** institutionalization, party system, democracy, legal regulation, electorate, election, party competition and democratic institutions.

**Abstract:** This article is devoted to the analysis of the concept of institutionalization and the views of a number of well-known scientists on the institutionalization of the party system.

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## PARTIYAVIY TIZIMNI INSTITUTSIONLASHTIRISH JARAYONINING XUSUSIYATLARI

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### MAQOLA HAQIDA

**Kalit so'zlar:** institutsionlashuv, partiyaviy tizim, demokratiya, huquqiy tartibga solish, elektorat, saylov, partiyaviy raqobat va demokratik institutlar.

**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqola institutsionlashuv tushunchasi va bir qator taniqli olimlarning partiyaviy tizimning institutsionlashuvi haqidagi fikrlari tahlili bag'ishlangan.

## ОСОБЕННОСТИ ПРОЦЕССА ИНСТИТУЦИОНАЛИЗАЦИИ ПАРТИЙНОЙ СИСТЕМЫ

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**О СТАТЬЕ**

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<b>Ключевые</b>	<b>слова:</b>	<b>Аннотация:</b>
институционализация, партийная система, демократия, правовое регулирование, электорат, выборы, конкуренция и институты.	анализу понятия институционализации, взглядов ряда известных ученых на институционализацию партийной системы.	Данная статья посвящена анализу понятия институционализации, взглядов ряда известных ученых на институционализацию партийной системы.

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**INTRODUCTION**

In general, institutionalization is understood as the process of formation, establishment of any new state and public institutions as sustainable forms of organizing people's activities, as well as the process of defining and consolidating social norms, rules, statuses and roles, bringing them into a system that is capable of acting to satisfy social need. The process of institutionalization leads to the formation of a status-functional systematization of the state, to the structuring of society. In politics, institutionalization means that political actors have clear and stable expectations about the behavior of other actors. As Huntington stated, "Institutionalization is the process by which organizations and procedures acquire value and stability". To express the interests of society as a whole, political institutions are necessary, since only they are capable of providing the necessary level of trust in modern society, achieved through institutional efforts to overcome differing (and often competing) interests.

**THE MAIN RESULTS AND FINDINGS**

Party systems vary on many dimensions, but social scientists strive to identify the most important among them to facilitate categorization and comparison. Sartori's seminal book identified two dimensions of party systems as particularly important: the number of relevant parties and the degree of ideological polarization. However, he inadequately conceptualized an equally important property of party systems: their level of institutionalization. In his discussion of the difference between consolidated party systems and non-systems, Sartori was prescient in recognizing the importance of party system institutionalization (which he called "consolidation").

In addition, when institutionalizing political parties, important are not only the issues of including in the constitution the basic principles of the status of political parties, the legal regulation of political parties in the law in the future, but also the problem of forming a certain perception of political parties in the minds of citizens. In our opinion, the definition of the institutionalization of political parties as the process of transforming them into an effective political and legal institution by regulating a set of relations related to the formation, organization of the activities of political parties, and the liquidation of political parties on the basis of legislative regulation can be considered not entirely complete.

Party systems characterized by a low degree of institutionalization can be called fluid or weakly institutionalized. Institutionalization is a continuous variable that goes from institutionalized to fluid party systems. The institutionalization of a party system depends not only on how many parties compete in elections, but also on the consistency with which parties gain votes from election to election. The less the share of votes a party receives changes, the higher the degree of institutionalization of the party system. If new parties participate in elections, and the electorate flows from party to party, this indicates a high degree of variability in the party system.

An institutionalized party system, then, is one in which actors develop expectations and behavior based on the premise that the fundamental contours and rules of party competition and behavior will prevail into the foreseeable future. In an institutionalized party system, there is stability in who the main parties are and how they behave. Many prominent scientists conceptualize four dimensions of party system institutionalization.

First, more institutionalized systems manifest considerable stability in patterns of party competition. This is the easiest dimension of institutionalization to measure, and perhaps the most important because institutionalization is conceptually very closely linked to stability.

Second, in more institutionalized systems, parties have strong roots in society and most voters, conversely, have strong attachments to parties. Most voters identify with a party and vote for it most of the time, and some interest associations are closely linked to parties.

Third, in more institutionalized systems, political actors accord legitimacy to parties. They see parties as a necessary part of democratic politics even if they are critical of specific parties and express skepticism about parties in general. Legitimacy helps stabilize party systems and hence is a meaningful attitudinal dimension of institutionalization.

Finally, in more institutionalized systems, party organizations are not subordinated to the interests of a few ambitious leaders; they acquire an independent status and value of their own. The institutionalization of political parties is limited as long as a party is the personal instrument of a leader or a small coterie. When the electorally successful parties are personal vehicles, system-level institutionalization is low on this fourth dimension. Solid organizations reflect and reinforce parties' penetration in society. Although we diverge from Sartori in thinking of institutionalization as a continuum rather than a dichotomy, he deserves great credit for recognizing that there are profound differences in party systems according to the level of institutionalization.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the institutionalization of the party system has had a significant impact on the political landscape of many countries around the world. Institutionalized party systems help to provide a clear choice for voters, facilitate the representation of diverse interests, and ensure accountability and transparency in the political process. Hence, the institutionalization of the party system is a complex and dynamic process that requires ongoing attention and reform to ensure that political parties remain responsive, accountable, and representative of the interests of the people. By promoting a strong and inclusive party system, countries can strengthen their democratic institutions and foster a more stable and prosperous society for all.

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