



THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE REPUBLIC
OF UZBEKISTAN





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*This new version of the Constitution of the Republic
of Uzbekistan was adopted by a national vote in the referendum
of the Republic of Uzbekistan held on April 30, 2023*

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axborot-resurs markazi

“O‘ZBEKISTON”
TASHKENT – 2023

UDC 342.4(575.1)
LBC 67.400.1(5Uzb)
T 44

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T 44 The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan [Text]. Official
edition – Tashkent: “O‘zbekiston” publishing house, 2023. – 80 p.
ISBN 978-9943-9506-3-4

UDC 342.4(575.1)
LBC 67.400.1(5Uzb)

ISBN 978-9943-9506-3-4

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PREAMBLE

We, the united people of Uzbekistan:

solemnly declaring our adherence to human rights and freedoms, national and universal values, the principles of state sovereignty;

affirming our commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom and equality, social justice and solidarity;

being aware of our ultimate responsibility to the present and future generations for building a humane democratic state, an open and just society in which a human, their life, freedom, honour and dignity are of the highest value;

relying on more than three millennia-long historical experience in the development of our statehood, as well as the scientific, cultural and spiritual heritage of the great ancestors who made an invaluable contribution to world civilization;

being determined to multiply and protect the invaluable natural wealth of the country and to preserve a healthy environment for present and future generations;

based on the universally recognized norms of international law;

striving to strengthen and develop friendly relations of Uzbekistan with the global community, primarily, with neighbouring states on the basis of cooperation, mutual support, peace and harmony;

aiming to ensure a decent life for citizens, inter-ethnic and inter-confessional harmony, the well-being and prosperity of multinational Uzbekistan;

hereby adopt and proclaim this Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

SECTION ONE. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Chapter I. State Sovereignty

Article 1.

Uzbekistan is a sovereign, democratic, legal, social, and secular state with a republican form of government.

Both names of the state – the Republic of Uzbekistan and Uzbekistan – shall be equivalent.

Article 2.

The state shall express the will of the people and serve their interests. State bodies and officials shall be accountable to the society and the citizens.

Article 3.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall determine its national-state and administrative-territorial structure, the structure of its state authority and administration, and shall pursue independent domestic and foreign policy.

The state border and the territory of Uzbekistan shall be inviolable and indivisible.

Article 4.

The state language of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be Uzbek.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall ensure a respectful attitude toward the languages, customs and traditions of all nationalities and ethnic groups living on its territory, and create the conditions necessary for their development.

Article 5.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall have its state symbols – the flag, the emblem, and the anthem, approved by the law.

State symbols shall be under the protection of the state.

Article 6.

The capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be the city of Tashkent.

Chapter II. Democracy

Article 7.

The people are the sole source of state power.

State power in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be exercised in the interests of the people and solely by the bodies empowered by the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the laws passed on its basis.

Any seizure of powers belonging to state authority, suspension or termination of activity of the bodies of state authority, contrary to the procedure prescribed by the Constitution, as well as the formation of any new or parallel bodies of state authority shall be regarded as unconstitutional and punishable by law.

Article 8.

All citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan, regardless of their ethnic origin, shall constitute the people of Uzbekistan.

Article 9.

Major matters of public and state life shall be submitted for public discussion and put to a nationwide vote – a referendum.

The procedure for holding referendums in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be specified by the law.

Article 10.

The Oliy Majlis (the Parliament of the Republic) and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, elected by the people, shall have the exclusive right to act on behalf of the people.

No other part of society, political party, public association, movement, or individual shall have the right to act on behalf of the people of Uzbekistan.

Article 11.

The principle of the separation of power into legislative, executive, and judicial authorities shall underlie the system of state authority in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 12.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, public life shall develop on the basis of a diversity of political institutions, ideologies, and opinions.

No ideology may be established as the state ideology.

Article 13.

Democracy in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall rest on universal principles, according to which the ultimate value is the human being, their life, freedom, honour, dignity, and other inalienable rights.

Democratic rights and freedoms shall be protected by the Constitution and the laws.

Article 14.

The state shall carry out its activity based on the principles of legality, social justice, and solidarity, to ensure the people's well-being and the sustainable development of society.

Chapter III. Supremacy of the Constitution and Law

Article 15.

The Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have absolute supremacy in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the supreme legal force and direct effect, and constitute the basis of the single legal space on the entire territory of the country.

International treaties of the Republic of Uzbekistan, along with the generally recognized principles and norms of international law, shall be an integral part of the legal system of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

If an international treaty of the Republic of Uzbekistan establishes rules other than those stipulated by the law of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the rules of the international treaty of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall apply.

The state, its bodies, other organizations, officials, civil society institutions, and citizens shall act in accordance with the Constitution and the laws.

Article 16.

None of the provisions of this Constitution may be interpreted in a way that is detrimental to the rights and

interests of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the basic principles and norms stipulated in Section 1 of this Constitution.

Laws and other normative legal acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be adopted on the basis of and in fulfilment of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan. None of the laws or other normative legal acts may run counter to the norms and principles of the Constitution.

Chapter IV. Foreign Policy

Article 17.

The Republic of Uzbekistan is a full-fledged subject of international relations.

The foreign policy of Uzbekistan shall be based on the principles of sovereign equality of the states, non-use of force or threat to use force, inviolability of borders, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, and other generally recognized principles and norms of international law.

Article 18.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall pursue a peaceful foreign policy aimed at the comprehensive development of bilateral and multilateral relations with states and international organizations.

The Republic of Uzbekistan may enter into alliances, join commonwealths, and other inter-governmental structures, as well as withdraw from them on the basis of the supreme interests of the state, the people, its welfare and security.

SECTION TWO. BASIC HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND DUTIES

Chapter V. General Provisions

Article 19.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall recognize and guarantee human rights and freedoms in accordance with the generally recognized norms of international law and in accordance with this Constitution. Everyone shall enjoy human rights and freedoms from birth.

All citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the same rights and freedoms and shall be equal before the law, without discrimination by sex, race, ethnicity, language, religion, convictions, social origin, and social status.

Any privileges shall be granted solely by the law and must conform to the principles of social justice.

Article 20.

A citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the state shall be bound by mutual rights and duties.

Human rights and freedoms established by the Constitution and the laws shall be inalienable, and no one shall have the right to deprive or restrict them without a court decision.

Human rights and freedoms shall be directly applicable. Human rights and freedoms shall determine the essence and content of laws, the activities of state and self-government bodies, and their officials.

The measures of legal influence on the individual applied by state bodies must be based on the principle of proportionality and be sufficient to achieve the goals provided by laws.

All contradictions and ambiguities in the legislation that arise in the relationship between a person and state bodies shall be interpreted in favour of the person.

Article 21.

Every person has the right to the free development of his/her personality. No one shall be subjected to an obligation not established by law without his/her consent.

The exercise of rights and freedoms by a person must not encroach on the lawful interests, rights, and freedoms of other persons, the state or society.

Human rights and freedoms may be limited only in accordance with the law and only to the extent necessary to protect the constitutional order, public health, public morality, the rights and freedoms of other persons, and to ensure public safety and public order.

Chapter VI. Citizenship

Article 22.

Single citizenship shall be established on the entire territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Citizenship in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be equal for all, regardless of the grounds of its acquisition.

A citizen of the Republic of Karakalpakstan shall be a citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The procedure and grounds for acquiring and forfeiting citizenship shall be defined by law.

Article 23.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall guarantee defence and protection to all its citizens both on its territory and abroad.

A citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan may not be expelled from Uzbekistan or turned over to another state.

In accordance with the norms of international law, the state shall take care of maintaining and developing ties with compatriots residing abroad.

Article 24.

Foreign citizens and stateless persons, during their stay on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, shall be guaranteed rights and freedoms in accordance with the norms of international law. They shall perform the duties established by the Constitution, laws, and international agreements of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Chapter VII. Personal Rights and Freedoms

Article 25.

The right to life is an inalienable right of every human being and shall be protected by law. Infringement on human life shall be regarded as the gravest crime.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the death penalty shall be prohibited.

Article 26.

Human honour and dignity are inviolable. Nothing may be the basis for their derogation.

No one shall be subjected to torture, violence, or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.

Nobody shall be subjected to medical and scientific experiments without their consent.

Article 27.

Everyone shall have the right to freedom and inviolability of the person.

No one may be arrested, detained, imprisoned, taken into custody, or otherwise restricted in freedom except on lawful grounds.

Arrest, commitment, and confinement are allowed only by court decision. Without a court decision, a person may not be detained for more than forty-eight hours.

During detention, the person must be informed about his/her rights and the reasons for detention in a language he/she understands.

Article 28.

Everyone accused of committing a crime shall be presumed innocent until proven guilty by a public trial in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law and established by a court verdict that has entered into legal force. The accused person shall be given every opportunity for his/her defence.

All doubts about guilt, if the possibilities of eliminating them are exhausted, shall be resolved in favour of the suspect, accused, defendant or convicted person.

A suspect, accused or convicted person shall not be obliged to prove his/her innocence and may exercise the right to remain silent at any time.

No one shall be obliged to testify against himself/herself or his/her close relatives.

A person may not be convicted or punished if a confession of guilt is the only evidence against him/her.

The persons deprived of their liberty shall be entitled to humane treatment and respect for the honour and dignity inherent in the human person.

A person's criminal record and the legal consequences arising therefrom cannot be grounds for restricting the rights of his/her relatives.

Article 29.

Everyone shall be guaranteed the right to receive qualified legal assistance. In cases stipulated by law, legal assistance shall be provided at the expense of the state.

Each person shall have the right to legal counsel of his/her choice at any stage of the criminal proceedings, and where the person concerned is detained, as soon as his/her right to freedom of movement is restricted.

The suspect, accused or defendant shall have the right to be informed about the essence and grounds of the accusation, to demand the interrogation of persons giving evidence against him/her or in his/her favour, and to use the assistance of an interpreter.

No evidence obtained in violation of the law shall be admitted in the administration of justice.

A person convicted of a crime shall have the right to appeal the sentence to a higher court in accordance with the procedure established by law, as well as the right to request a pardon or a reduced sentence.

The rights of victims of offences shall be protected by law. The state shall provide victims with legal defence and access to justice and create conditions for compensating the harm caused to them.

Article 30.

No one shall be convicted, punished, deprived of property, or any other right on the basis of a law that is not publicly promulgated.

No one shall be retried for the same offence.

Article 31.

Everyone shall have the right to inviolability of private life, personal and family secrets, and protection of honour and dignity.

Everyone shall have the right to privacy in correspondence, telephone conversations, postal, electronic, and other communications. This right shall be restricted only in accordance with the law and on the basis of a court decision.

Everyone shall have the right to the protection of his/her personal data, as well as to demand the correction of inaccurate data, and the destruction of data collected about his/her illegally or no longer having legal grounds.

Everyone shall have the right to the inviolability of the dwelling.

No one shall have the right to enter into dwelling against the will of the persons residing in it. Entry into the dwelling, as well as seizure and inspection therein, shall be permitted only in cases and in the manner prescribed by law. A search of the dwelling shall be permitted only in accordance with the law and on the basis of a court decision.

Article 32.

Everyone legally staying in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to freedom

of movement within the country, choice of place of stay and residence, subject to restrictions established by law.

Everyone shall have the right to freely leave Uzbekistan, subject to restrictions established by law. A citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to return to Uzbekistan without hindrance.

Article 33.

Everyone shall be guaranteed freedom of thought, speech, and convictions.

Everyone shall have the right to seek, obtain, and disseminate any information.

The state shall create conditions for accessing the Internet.

Restrictions on the right to seek, obtain, and disseminate information shall be allowed only in accordance with the law and only to the extent necessary to protect the constitutional order, public health, public morality, the rights and freedoms of others, and to ensure public safety, and public order, as well as to prevent the disclosure of state secrets or other legally protected secrets.

Article 34.

The state bodies, organizations, citizens' self-governing bodies, and their officials must allow everyone access to documents, resolutions, and other materials relating to their rights and legitimate interests.

Article 35.

Freedom of conscience shall be guaranteed to all. Everyone shall have the right to profess or not to profess any religion. Any compulsory imposition of religion is not allowed.

Chapter VIII. Political Rights

Article 36.

All citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to participate in the management and administration of public and state affairs, both directly and through representation. They may exercise this right by way of self-government, referendums and democratic formation of state bodies, as well as public control over the activities of state bodies.

The procedure for public control over the activities of state bodies shall be defined by law.

Article 37.

Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have equal rights to access the civil service.

Restrictions related to the civil service shall be established by law.

Article 38.

Citizens have the right to carry out their public activity in the form of rallies, meetings, and demonstrations in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The authorities have the right to suspend or prohibit these events only for justified security reasons.

Article 39.

Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to form trade unions, political parties, and any other public associations, and to participate in mass movements.

No one may infringe on the rights, freedoms, and dignity of the individuals, constituting the minority

opposition in political parties, public associations, and mass movements, as well as in representative bodies of authority.

Article 40.

Everyone shall have the right, both individually and collectively, to submit applications and proposals and to lodge complaints with competent state bodies and organizations, citizens' self-governing bodies, officials, and public representatives.

Such applications, proposals and complaints shall be considered in accordance with the procedure and within the time limit specified by law.

Chapter IX. Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights

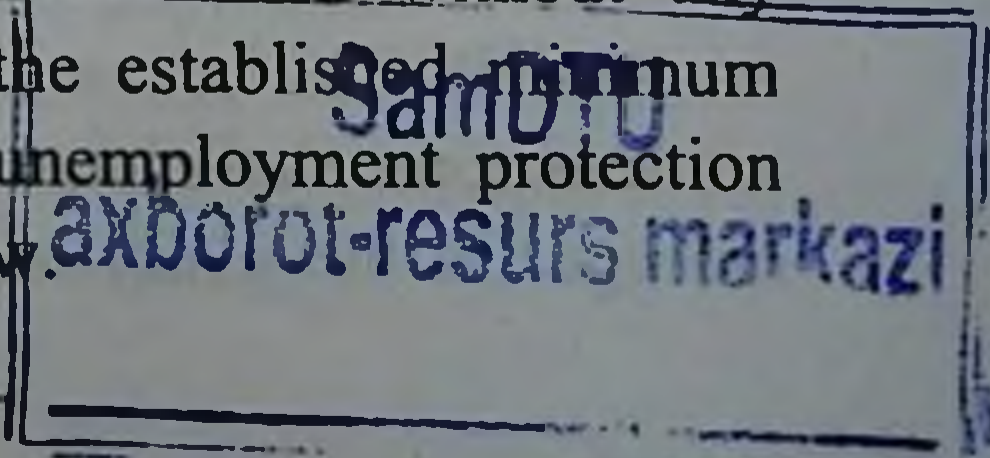
Article 41.

Everyone shall have the right to own property.

The privacy of bank operations, deposits and accounts, as well as the right to inheritance shall be guaranteed by law.

Article 42.

Everyone shall have the right to decent work, free choice of profession and occupation, favourable working conditions that meet the requirements of safety and hygiene, fair remuneration for work without any discrimination and not below the established minimum wage, as well as the right to unemployment protection in the manner prescribed by law.



The minimum wage shall be determined taking into account the need to ensure a decent standard of living for a person.

It shall be prohibited to refuse to hire women, dismiss them from work or reduce their wages on the basis of pregnancy or having a child.

Article 43.

The state shall take measures to ensure the employment of citizens, to protect against unemployment, and to reduce poverty.

The state shall organize and promote vocational training and retraining of citizens.

Article 44.

Any forced labour shall be prohibited, except as punishment under the court decision or in some other instances specified by law.

Any form of child labour that poses a threat to the health, safety, morality, mental, and physical development of the child, including those that prevent him/her from getting an education, shall be prohibited.

Article 45.

Everyone shall have the right to rest and leisure time.

Employees shall have the right to rest and leisure time by establishing the length of working hours, days off and non-working holidays, and paid annual leave.

Article 46.

Everyone shall have the right to social security in old age, in the event of disability, unemployment, and

loss of the breadwinner as well as in some other cases specified by law.

The amount of pensions, allowances, and other types of social welfare established by law may not be set lower than the officially fixed minimum consumer expenditure.

Article 47.

Everyone shall have the right to housing.

No one may be deprived of his/her home except by a court decision and in accordance with the law. In the cases and in the manner prescribed by law, the owner, deprived of his/her dwelling, shall be provided with preliminary and equivalent compensation for the cost of the home and the losses incurred by him/her.

The state shall encourage housing construction and create conditions for the exercise of the right to housing.

The procedure for providing the vulnerable categories of the population with housing shall be determined by law.

Article 48.

Everyone shall have the right to health and qualified medical care.

Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to receive guaranteed, extensive medical assistance in the manner prescribed by law at the expense of the state.

The state shall take measures to develop the healthcare system, its state and non-state forms, and various types of medical insurance, ensuring the sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population.

The state shall create conditions for the development of physical culture and sports and the formation of a healthy lifestyle among the population.

Article 49.

Everyone shall have the right to a favourable environment and reliable information about its condition.

The state shall create conditions for the implementation of public control in the field of urban planning activities in order to ensure the environmental rights of citizens and prevention of harmful environmental impact.

Draft urban planning documents shall be subject to public discussion in the manner prescribed by law.

The state, under the principle of sustainable development, shall implement measures to improve, restore and protect the environment, and maintain ecological balance.

The state shall take measures to protect and restore the ecological system, as well as the social and economic development of the Aral Sea region.

Article 50.

Everyone shall have the right to education.

The state shall ensure the development of a continuous education system, its various types and forms, including state and non-state educational organizations.

The state shall create conditions for the development of pre-school education and upbringing.

The state shall guarantee general secondary and basic vocational education free of charge. General secondary education shall be compulsory.

Pre-school education and upbringing, and general secondary education shall be under state supervision.

Inclusive education and upbringing shall be provided for children with special educational needs in educational institutions.

Article 51.

Citizens shall have the right to receive higher education in state educational organizations on a competitive basis at the expense of the state.

Higher educational institutions shall have the right to academic freedom, self-government, and freedom of research and teaching in accordance with the law.

Article 52.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the work of a teacher shall be recognized as the basis for the development of society and the state, the formation and education of a healthy, harmoniously developed generation, and the preservation and enhancement of the spiritual and cultural potential of the people.

The state shall protect the honour and dignity of teachers, their social and material well-being, and professional development.

Article 53.

Everyone shall be guaranteed the freedom of scientific, technical and artistic creativity, and the right to enjoy the achievements of culture. Intellectual property shall be protected by law.

The state shall promote the cultural, scientific, and technical development of society.

Chapter X. Guarantees of Human and Civil Rights and Freedoms

Article 54.

Ensuring human rights and freedoms is the highest goal of the state.

The state shall ensure the human and civil rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution and laws.

Article 55.

Everyone shall have the right to defend his/her rights and freedoms by all means not prohibited by law.

Everyone shall be guaranteed judicial protection of their rights and freedoms and shall have the right to appeal to court against any unlawful decisions, acts, or omissions of state bodies and other organizations and their officials.

Everyone shall be guaranteed the right to have his/her case examined by a competent, independent and impartial court within the time limits established by law in order to have his/her rights and freedoms restored.

Everyone shall have the right, in accordance with the legislation and international treaties of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to apply to international bodies for the protection of human rights and freedoms if all available domestic remedies have been exhausted.

Everyone shall have the right to compensation by the state for damage caused by unlawful decisions, acts, or omissions of state bodies or their officials.

Article 56.

National human rights institutions shall supplement the existing forms and means of protecting human rights and freedoms, promote the development of civil society, and enhance the culture of human rights.

The state shall create conditions for organising the activities of national human rights institutions.

Article 57.

The rights of incapacitated and lonely elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and other socially vulnerable categories of the population shall be protected by the state.

The state shall take measures to improve the quality of life of vulnerable categories of the population, enable them to fully participate in social and public life, and enhance their ability to provide for their basic necessities of life independently.

The state shall create the conditions for the full access of persons with disabilities to social, economic, and cultural facilities and services, promote their employment and education, and shall ensure unrestrained access to information.

Article 58.

Women and men shall have equal rights.

The state shall ensure equal rights and opportunities for women and men in the administration of public and state affairs and in other spheres of social and state life.

Chapter XI. Duties of Citizens

Article 59.

All citizens shall perform the duties established by the Constitution.

Article 60.

Citizens shall be obliged to observe the Constitution and laws and to respect the rights, freedoms, honour, and dignity of others.

Article 61.

It is the duty of citizens to protect the historical, spiritual, cultural, scientific, and natural heritage of the people of Uzbekistan.

The historical, spiritual, cultural, scientific, and natural heritage shall be protected by the state.

Article 62.

Citizens shall be obliged to protect the environment.

Article 63.

Citizens shall be obliged to pay taxes and fees prescribed by law.

Taxes and fees must be fair and must not hinder citizens from exercising their constitutional rights.

Article 64.

The defence of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the duty of every citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Citizens shall be obliged to perform military or alternative service in the procedure prescribed by law.

SECTION THREE. SOCIETY AND THE INDIVIDUAL

Chapter XII. Economic Foundation of the Society

Article 65.

Various forms of property form the basis of the economy of Uzbekistan, aimed at increasing the well-being of citizens. The state shall create the conditions for the development of market relations and fair competition and guarantee the freedom of economic activity, enterprise, and labour, taking into account the priority of consumer rights.

Equality and legal protection of all forms of property shall be ensured in Uzbekistan.

Private property shall be inviolable. An owner may not be deprived of his/her property except in the cases and according to the procedure prescribed by law and on the basis of a court decision.

Article 66.

An owner, at his/her discretion, shall possess, use, and dispose of his/her property. The use of any property must not be harmful to the environment or violate the rights and legitimate interests of other persons, society or the state.

Article 67.

The state shall ensure a favourable investment and business climate.

Entrepreneurs, in accordance with the law, shall have the right to conduct any activity and choose its direction independently.

The unity of the economic space and the free movement of goods, services, labour and funds shall be guaranteed on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Monopolistic activities shall be regulated and limited by law.

Article 68.

The land, its minerals, waters, flora and fauna, and other natural resources shall constitute the national wealth and shall be rationally used and protected by the state.

Land may be privately owned on the terms and in the manner prescribed by law, which shall ensure its rational use and protection as national wealth.

Chapter XIII. Civil Society Organizations

Article 69.

Civil society organizations, including public associations and other non-governmental non-profit organizations, bodies of self-government of citizens, and the mass media shall form the basis of civil society.

The activities of civil society organizations shall be conducted in accordance with the law.

Article 70.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, public associations are recognized as trade unions, political parties, scientific societies, women's organizations, organizations of veterans, youth and persons with disabilities, creative

unions, mass movements, and other organizations of citizens.

The dissolution, prohibition, or restriction of the activity of public associations shall take place only on the basis of a court decision.

Article 71.

Establishment and functioning of political parties and other non-profit non-governmental organizations, aiming to do the following, shall be prohibited: changing the existing constitutional system by force; coming out against state sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of Uzbekistan; instigating war and social, national, racial, and religious hostility; encroaching on the constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens; encroaching on the health and morality of the people, as well as armed associations and political parties based on national and religious principles.

Secret societies and associations shall be banned.

Article 72.

The state shall safeguard the rights and lawful interests of non-governmental non-profit organizations and provide them with equal legal possibilities for participating in public life.

Interference by state bodies and officials in the activities of non-governmental non-profit organizations, as well as interference by non-governmental non-profit organizations in the activities of state bodies and officials, shall be impermissible.

Article 73.

Trade unions express and protect the social and economic rights and interests of workers. Membership in trade unions is voluntary.

Article 74.

Political parties shall express the political will of various sections and groups of the population and through their democratically elected representatives, and participate in the formation of state authority. Political parties, in accordance with the established procedure, shall submit to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan or to the body authorised by it, public reports on the sources of financing their activity.

Article 75.

Religious organizations and associations shall be separated from the state and be equal before the law. The state shall not interfere in the activities of religious organisations.

The state shall guarantee the freedom of activities of religious organizations functioning in compliance with the law.

Chapter XIV. Family, Children and Youth

Article 76.

The family is the primary unit of society and is under the protection of society and the state.

Marriage shall be based on the traditional family values of the people of Uzbekistan, their free consent, and the equality of those entering into marriage.

The state shall create social, economic, legal, and other conditions for the full development of the family.

Article 77.

Until the children are of legal age, parents and guardians shall be obliged to support them and take care of their upbringing, education, healthy, full, and harmonious development.

The state and society shall ensure the support, upbringing, education, health, full and harmonious development of orphans and children deprived of the guardianship of their parents and encourage charitable activities to this end.

Article 78.

Children are equal before the law regardless of their parents' origin and civil status.

The state shall take responsibility to ensure and protect the rights, freedoms, and legitimate interests of the child and to create the best conditions for his/her full physical, mental, and cultural development.

Motherhood, fatherhood, and childhood shall be protected by the state.

The state and society shall foster in children and young people a commitment to national and universal human values, pride in the country, the rich cultural heritage of the nation, and a sense of patriotism and love for the Motherland.

Article 79.

The state shall ensure the protection of personal, political, economic, social, cultural, and ecological rights of young people, and encourage their active participation in the life of society and the state.

The state shall create conditions for the intellectual, creative, physical, and moral formation and development of young people and the exercise of their rights to education, health care, housing, recruitment, employment, and recreation.

Article 80.

Able-bodied children, who are of legal age, shall be obliged to care for their parents.

Chapter XV. Mass Media

Article 81.

The mass media shall be free and act in accordance with the law.

The state shall guarantee the freedom of the media to act and exercise the right to seek, receive, use, and disseminate information.

The mass media shall be responsible for the reliability of the information they provide.

Article 82.

Censorship shall not be permitted.

Obstruction or interference in the activity of the mass media shall entail liability in accordance with the law.

SECTION FOUR. ADMINISTRATIVE- TERRITORIAL AND STATE STRUCTURE

Chapter XVI. Administrative-Territorial Structure of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Article 83.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall consist of regions, districts, cities, towns, settlements, kishlaks and auls, as well as the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Article 84.

Alteration of the boundaries of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions, and the city of Tashkent, as well as the formation and annulment of regions, cities, towns, and districts, shall be sanctioned by the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Chapter XVII. Republic of Karakalpakstan

Article 85.

The sovereign Republic of Karakalpakstan is part of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The sovereignty of the Republic of Karakalpakstan shall be protected by the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 86.

The Republic of Karakalpakstan shall have its own Constitution.

The Constitution of the Republic of Karakalpakstan must be in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 87.

The laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be binding on the territory of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Article 88.

The territory and boundaries of the Republic of Karakalpakstan may not be altered without the consent of Karakalpakstan. The Republic of Karakalpakstan shall be independent in determining its administrative and territorial structure.

Article 89.

The Republic of Karakalpakstan shall have the right to secede from the Republic of Uzbekistan on the basis of a nationwide referendum held by the people of Karakalpakstan.

Article 90.

Mutual relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Karakalpakstan, within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, shall be regulated by treaties and agreements concluded by the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Disputes between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Karakalpakstan shall be settled through conciliation procedures.

SECTION FIVE. ORGANIZATION OF STATE AUTHORITY

Chapter XVIII. Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Article 91.

The supreme state representative body shall be the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which exercises legislative power.

The Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan consists of two chambers – the Legislative Chamber (the lower chamber) and the Senate (the upper chamber).

The term of powers of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan is five years.

Article 92.

The Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall consist of one hundred fifty deputies elected in accordance with the law.

The Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be the chamber of territorial representation and consist of members of the Senate (senators).

Members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be elected in equal quantity – four persons each – from the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions, and the city of Tashkent by secret ballot at relevant joint sessions of deputies of Jokargy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, representative bodies of state authority of regions, districts, cities, and towns from among these deputies.

Nine members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan from among the most renowned citizens with extensive practical experience and special merits in the spheres of science, art, literature, manufacture, and other spheres of state and public activity.

A deputy of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as a member of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, may be a citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan who has reached twenty-five years of age on the date of the elections and has been permanently residing on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for at least five years. Requirements for candidates to be a deputy shall be determined by law.

The same person may not be simultaneously a deputy of the Legislative Chamber and a member of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 93.

The joint competencies of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall include:

1) adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, introducing amendments;

2) adoption of the Constitutional laws and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, introducing amendments;

3) ratification and denouncement of international treaties;

4) adoption of a decision on holding a referendum of the Republic of Uzbekistan and designation of its date;

5) determination of the guidelines of domestic and foreign policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and adoption of strategic state programs;

6) determination of the structure and powers of the bodies of the legislative, executive, and judicial authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

7) admission of new state formations into the Republic of Uzbekistan and approval of decisions to secede from the Republic of Uzbekistan;

8) legislative regulation of customs, currency, and credit systems;

9) approval of the state budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, introducing amendments;

10) determination of the maximum size of public debt of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

11) determination of taxes and other compulsory payments;

12) legislative regulation of the administrative and territorial structure and alteration of the boundaries of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

13) formation, annulment, and renaming of districts, towns, cities and regions, and alteration of their boundaries;

14) institution of state awards and titles;

15) formation of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

16) election of an Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights (Ombudsman) and the Deputy Ombudsman;

17) ratification of the decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the announcement of the

condition of war in case of an attack on the Republic of Uzbekistan or the necessity of implementation of contractual obligations on mutual defence from aggression;

18) ratification of decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the announcement of general and partial mobilization, introducing, prolonging, or discontinuing the state of emergency;

19) hearing the annual National Anti-Corruption Report;

20) conducting a parliamentary investigation;

21) exercising other powers specified by the Constitution and laws.

The matters falling under the joint competencies of the chambers shall be considered, as a rule, first by the Legislative Chamber and then by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 94.

The exclusive powers of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall include:

1) monitoring the execution of the State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

2) hearing the report of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

3) consideration and approval of the candidature of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the representation of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

4) hearing the reports of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan on current issues of social and economic development of the country as well as the

members of the Cabinet of Ministers on issues of their activities;

5) consideration and approval of the candidates to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on representation by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

6) hearing the annual report of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the key issues of the social and economic life of the country;

7) submission of parliamentary inquiries to the officials of state bodies and implementation of other forms of parliamentary control;

8) election of the Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the deputies of the Speaker, chairpersons of committees, and their deputies;

9) addressing the issues of depriving a deputy of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan of immunity on the representation of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

10) adoption of decisions on matters relating to the organization of the chamber's activities and its internal order;

11) adoption of the resolutions on certain issues in the field of political, social, and economic life, as well as the issues of domestic and foreign policy of the state;

12) exercising other powers stipulated by the Constitution and laws.

The Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan may be entitled to dissolve itself by not less than two-thirds majority of the total number of deputies.

Article 95.

The exclusive powers of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall include:

1) election of the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the head of the republican anti-corruption body, and the head of the republican anti-monopoly body on representation of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

2) consideration and approval of the candidates for the posts of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the chairperson of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

3) conducting consultations on the candidature proposed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the post of the Chairperson of the State Security Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

4) on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the appointment and dismissal of the heads of diplomatic missions and other representations of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign states and at international organizations;

5) on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the appointment and dismissal of the Chairperson of the Board of the Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

6) ratification of decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the establishment and abolition of ministries and other republican bodies of executive power;

7) adoption of amnesty acts on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

8) hearing the reports of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Chairperson of the Board of the Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

9) hearing the reports of the heads of diplomatic missions and other representations of the Republic of Uzbekistan in foreign states and international organizations on the issues of their activities;

10) submission of parliamentary inquiries to the officials of state bodies and carrying out other forms of parliamentary control;

11) assistance to the representative bodies of state power on the ground in the performance of their activities;

12) rescission of the decisions of representative bodies of state power on the ground in the case of their inconsistency with the norms of legislation;

13) election of the Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and his/her deputies, chairpersons of committees and their deputies;

14) adoption of decisions on deprivation of a member of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan from immunity on the representation of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

15) adoption of decisions on matters relating to the organisation of the chamber's activities and its internal organisation;

16) adopting resolutions on certain issues in the field of political, social and economic life, as well as on issues of domestic and foreign policy;

17) exercising the powers of the Oliy Majlis to legislate, with the exception of the Constitution and constitutional laws, during the dissolution of the Legislative Chamber;

18) exercising other powers stipulated by the Constitution and laws.

The Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan may be entitled to dissolve itself by not less than two-thirds majority of the total number of senators.

Article 96.

The Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, after the expiry of their terms of power, shall continue their activity until the beginning of the work of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the new convocation accordingly.

The first sittings of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be convoked by the Central Election Commission accordingly, not later than two months after the elections to the Legislative Chamber and not later than one month after the formation of the Senate.

Sittings of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be convoked during sessions. Sessions shall be convoked, as a rule, from the first working day of September until the last working day of June of the next year.

Sittings of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be convoked as required, but not less often than three times a year.

Sittings of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be empowered if more

than half of the total number of deputies and senators participate in their work.

At the adoption of the constitutional laws, the presence of not less than two-thirds of the total number of deputies and senators shall be obligatory.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Prime Minister, members of the Cabinet of Ministers, the Chairperson of the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court and the Supreme Judicial Council, the Prosecutor General of the Republic, and the Chairperson of the Board of the Central Bank shall have the right to attend sittings of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as sittings of their bodies. The Chairperson of the Senate shall have the right to attend sittings of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its bodies, the Speaker of the Legislative Chamber – sittings of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and its bodies.

The Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall convene separately.

The joint sittings of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be convoked upon taking the oath by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, making speeches by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on major matters of social and economic life, domestic and foreign policy of the country, and making speeches by heads of foreign states. As agreed by the chambers, the joint sittings of the chambers may be convoked on other matters.

Article 97.

The Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall adopt resolutions on matters falling within their powers.

Resolutions of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be adopted by a majority of votes of the total number of deputies of the Legislative Chamber or members of the Senate, except for cases stipulated by this Constitution.

Article 98.

The right of legislative initiative shall be entitled to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Karakalpakstan in the person of its higher representative body of state authority, the deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The right of the legislative initiative also belongs to the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, and the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan on issues within their jurisdiction.

The right of legislative initiative shall be exercised through the introduction of a bill by subjects of the right of legislative initiative to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the right to vote, in the amount of at least one hundred thousand people, the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights (Ombudsman), and the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right, in the

manner of a legislative initiative, to submit legislative proposals to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The procedure for the introduction and consideration of bills, and legislative proposals shall be determined by law.

Article 99.

A law shall come into effect when it is adopted by the Legislative Chamber, approved by the Senate, signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and issued in the official publications, as specified by law.

A law adopted by the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, not later than ten days from the date of adoption, shall be passed to the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The law shall be considered by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan within sixty days and, if approved, shall be passed to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for signature and promulgation no later than ten days.

In the case that the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan does not make a decision on approval or rejection of the law within sixty days, it shall be sent to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for signature and promulgation by the Legislative Chamber.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall, within sixty days, sign the law and promulgate it.

The law, rejected by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, shall be returned to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In case of a second consideration of the law rejected by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and approval of the law by the Legislative Chamber by a majority of two-thirds of votes of the total number of deputies, it shall be considered to be adopted by the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and passed by the Legislative Chamber to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for signing and promulgation.

In the case of a law rejected by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, on a parity basis, the Legislative Chamber and the Senate may form a conciliatory commission to overcome disagreements among deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate. If the chambers accept the proposals of the conciliatory commission, the law shall be subject to consideration in the ordinary procedure.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to return the law with his/her objections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In case of approval of the law in its previously adopted edition by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes of the total number of deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan accordingly, the law shall be subject to signing by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan within fourteen days and promulgation.

The promulgation of laws and other normative-legal acts shall be an obligatory condition for their enforcement.

Article 100.

The Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall elect from its composition

the Speaker of the Legislative Chamber and the deputies of the Speaker.

The Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and his deputies shall be elected by a majority of votes of the total number of deputies by secret ballot for the term of powers of the Legislative Chamber.

One and the same person may not serve more than two consecutive terms as Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis.

The Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Deputy of the Speaker may be prematurely recalled by a decision of the Legislative Chamber, adopted by more than two-thirds of the votes of the total number of deputies of the Legislative Chamber by secret ballot.

The Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

1) convoke sittings of the Legislative Chamber and preside at them;

2) exercise the general direction over a preliminary review of matters to be submitted for consideration by the Legislative Chamber;

3) coordinate the work of the committees and commissions of the Legislative Chamber;

4) organize the control over the implementation of laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and resolutions of the Legislative Chamber;

5) direct the work on inter-parliamentary relations and the activity of the groups of the Legislative Chamber connected with the work of international parliamentary organizations;

6) represent the Legislative Chamber in interrelation with the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, other state bodies, foreign states, as well as international and other organizations;

7) sign resolutions of the Legislative Chamber;

8) exercise other powers provided for by this Constitution and legislative acts.

The Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall issue ordinances.

Article 101.

The Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall elect the Chairperson of the Senate and his/her deputies from among its members. The Chairperson of the Senate shall be elected upon the nomination of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

One of the Deputy Chairpersons of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be a representative from the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

The Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and his/her Deputies shall be elected by a majority of the votes of the total number of senators by secret ballot for the term of powers of the Senate.

One and the same person may not serve as Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for more than two terms in a row.

The Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan may be recalled before the appointed time by a decision

of the Senate adopted by more than two-thirds of the votes of the total number of senators by secret ballot.

The Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

- 1) convoke sittings of the Senate and preside at them;
- 2) exercise the general direction over a preliminary review of matters to be submitted for consideration by the Senate;
- 3) coordinate the work of the committees and commissions of the Senate;
- 4) organize the control over the implementation of laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and resolutions of the Senate;
- 5) direct the work on interparliamentary relations and the activity of the groups of the Senate connected with the work of international parliamentary organizations;
- 6) represent the Senate in interrelation with the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, other state bodies, foreign states, as well as international and other organizations;
- 7) sign resolutions of the Senate;
- 8) exercise other powers provided for by this Constitution and legislative acts.

The Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall issue ordinances.

Article 102.

The Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall elect the committees for drafting laws, preliminary consideration and preparation of matters to be submitted to the Legislative

Chamber, control over the implementation of laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and decisions to be adopted by the Legislative Chamber from among deputies of the Legislative Chamber for the term of its powers.

The Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, for the term of its powers, shall elect from among senators the committees for preliminary consideration and preparation of matters to be submitted to the Senate, control over the implementation of laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and decisions to be adopted by the Senate.

The Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in case of necessity for the implementation of concrete tasks, shall organize commissions from among deputies and senators.

Article 103.

Parliamentary inquiry may be conducted by a joint decision of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis to investigate facts and cases that threaten human rights, freedoms and the interests of society and the state and which may have a negative impact on the foundations of security, and the sustainable development of the country.

To conduct the parliamentary inquiry on a parity basis from among the deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, a special commission shall be established, which shall carry out its activities in accordance with the law.

Article 104.

Deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall receive compensation for expenses connected with their deputy or senator activities in the established procedure.

Deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate, working in the Senate on a permanent basis for the period of their powers, may not be engaged in other paid activities except for research, creative, and pedagogical activities.

A deputy of the Legislative Chamber and a member of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right of immunity. They may not be brought to criminal responsibility, arrested, or subject to measures of administrative penalty imposed in the judicial order without the consent of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate accordingly.

Chapter XIX. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Article 105.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the head of state and ensures a coordinated functioning and interaction of the state authorities.

Article 106.

A citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan not younger than thirty-five years of age, being in full command of the state language and permanently residing on the territory of Uzbekistan for at least 10 years, immediately

preceding the elections, may be elected as President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. One and the same person may not be the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for more than two consecutive terms.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be elected by citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot for the term of seven years. The procedure for electing the President shall be defined by the law of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 107.

The President, during his/her term of office, may not hold any other paid post, serve as deputy of a representative body, or engage in commercial activity.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall enjoy personal immunity and protection under the law.

Article 108.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be regarded as having assumed office upon taking an oath of the following content at the sitting of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

“I do solemnly swear to faithfully serve the people of Uzbekistan, to strictly follow the Constitution and laws of the Republic, to guarantee the rights and freedoms of its citizens, and to conscientiously perform the duties vested on the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.”

Article 109.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

1) guarantee the observance of the rights and freedoms of citizens, the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, sovereignty, security and territorial integrity of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the implementation of decisions regarding its national-state structure;

2) represent the Republic of Uzbekistan within the country and in international relations;

3) conduct negotiations and sign treaties and agreements of the Republic of Uzbekistan, ensure the observance of the treaties and agreements negotiated by the Republic, and the assumed obligations;

4) receive letters of credence and recall from accredited diplomatic and other representatives;

5) present to the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan nominees for appointment as heads of diplomatic and other representative offices of the Republic of Uzbekistan to foreign states and international organizations;

6) have the right to address the people and the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on major matters of domestic and foreign policy of the country;

7) form and abolish ministries and other republican bodies of executive authority with subsequent submission of decrees on these matters for approval by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

8) represent to the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan a nominee for the election as Chairperson of the Senate;

9) appoint, with the approval of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the members of the Cabinet

of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan and dismiss them from their posts;

10) appoint and dismiss heads of committees, agencies, and other republican state bodies in accordance with the legislation;

11) appoint and dismiss the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Chairperson of the Chamber of Accounts of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the approval of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

12) appoint, after consultation with the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Chairperson of the State Security Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan and dismiss him/her;

13) present candidates to the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as for the posts of Chairperson of the Board of the Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan, head of the national anti-corruption authority, and head of the national anti-monopoly authority;

14) appoint and dismiss, upon the submission of the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons of courts in regions and the city of Tashkent, the Chairperson of the Military Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan; approve members of the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

15) appoint and dismiss, upon the submission of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Khokims

of districts and cities of their posts in accordance with the law. The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to dismiss, by his/her decision, Khokims of districts and cities of their posts, should they violate the Constitution, laws or perform acts discrediting the honour and dignity of a Khokim;

16) suspend and revoke acts of republican executive bodies and Khokims; have the right to chair the meetings of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

17) sign and promulgate laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan; have the right to return a law, with his/her objections, to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the second discussion and vote;

18) announce a condition of war in case of an attack on the Republic of Uzbekistan or as part of contractual obligations on mutual defence from aggression, general or partial mobilization, and within seventy-two hours submit the adopted decision for approval by the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

19) in exceptional cases (real outside threats, mass disturbances, major catastrophes, natural calamities, epidemics), in the interests of ensuring citizens' security, introduce the state of emergency on the entire territory or in the particular localities of the Republic of Uzbekistan and within seventy-two hours submit the adopted decision for approval by the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Conditions and the procedure for introducing the state of emergency shall be set by law;

20) serve as the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan, appoint and relieve the supreme command of the Armed Forces of the post, and confer the highest military ranks;

21) award orders, medals and certificates of honour of the Republic of Uzbekistan, confer qualification and honorary titles of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

22) rule on matters of citizenship of the Republic of Uzbekistan and granting political asylum;

23) put to the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan submission on the adoption of acts of amnesty and pardon of persons sentenced by courts of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

24) form and head the Security Council at the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, form the Presidential Administration, as well as consultative, advisory and other bodies at the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in order to ensure the implementation of one's powers;

25) exercise other powers stipulated by this Constitution and laws.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall not have the right to delegate one's powers to state bodies or officials.

Article 110.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall issue decrees, resolutions and ordinances binding on the entire territory of the Republic on the basis of and for the enforcement of the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 111.

The Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan may be dissolved by the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan adopted as agreed with the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan in case of insuperable disagreements within the Legislative

Chamber or the Senate, putting under threat their normal functioning or numerous adoption by them of decisions contradicting the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as insuperable disagreements between the Legislative Chamber and the Senate, putting under threat the normal functioning of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In case of dissolution of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the new elections shall be held within three months.

The Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan may not be dissolved during the state of emergency.

Article 112.

If the incumbent President of the Republic of Uzbekistan is incapable to fulfil one's duties, his/her duties and powers shall be temporarily assigned to the Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, subject to holding the election of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan within three months in full accordance with the law.

Article 113.

The President, upon completion of one's term of office, shall be a lifetime member of the Senate.

Chapter XX. Cabinet of Ministers

Article 114.

The executive authority shall be exercised by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The

Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be composed of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan, his/her deputies and ministers. The Head of the government of the Republic of Karakalpakstan shall be a member of the Cabinet of Ministers.

The Cabinet of Ministers shall carry out its activities within the framework of the main directions of the executive authority, determined by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 115.

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

1) take responsibility for the conduct of effective economic, social, fiscal and credit policies; the development and realization of programs on the development of science, culture, education, healthcare and other areas of the economy and social sphere;

2) take measures to ensure sustainable economic growth, macroeconomic stability, poverty reduction, creation of decent living conditions for the population, food security, creation of a favourable investment climate, integrated and sustainable development of territories;

3) ensure the effective functioning of the system of social protection of the population, including persons with disabilities;

4) ensure the implementation of a unified state policy in the field of environmental protection, conservation of natural wealth and biological diversity, combating climate change, epidemics, pandemics, and mitigating their consequences;

5) ensure the implementation of the state youth policy, take measures to support, strengthen and protect the family, and preserve traditional family values;

6) take measures to support the institutions of civil society, ensure their participation in the development and implementation of programs for socio-economic development and social partnership;

7) take measures to protect the economic, social, and other rights and legitimate interests of citizens;

8) ensure the implementation of the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, decisions of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis, decrees, resolutions, and orders of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

9) coordinate and direct the work of executive authorities, and exercise control over their activities in the manner prescribed by law;

10) take measures to ensure openness and transparency, legality and efficiency in the work of executive authorities, countering corruption in their activities, improving the quality and accessibility of public services;

11) submit to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan annual reports on the most important issues of the socio-economic life of the country;

12) exercise other powers provided for by this Constitution and laws.

Article 116.

The Cabinet of Ministers, within the framework of constitutional norms and in accordance with legislation, shall issue decisions and orders that are binding on all bodies, enterprises, institutions, organizations, officials,

and citizens throughout the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Cabinet of Ministers, in its work, shall report to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The incumbent Cabinet of Ministers shall resign before the newly elected Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, but in accordance with the decision of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, continue its activities until the formation of a new composition of the Cabinet of Ministers.

Article 117.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

- 1) organize and direct the activity of the Cabinet of Ministers, being responsible for the efficiency of its work;
- 2) preside at sittings of the Cabinet of Ministers and sign its decisions;
- 3) represent the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan in international relations;
- 4) exercise other functions stipulated by the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 118.

The candidacy of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan for consideration and approval by the Legislative Chamber shall be submitted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan following consultations with all factions of political parties within a month after the election of officials and the formation of the bodies of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan or within a month after the release from

office or resignation of the Prime Minister and the current composition of the Cabinet of Ministers.

The Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall consider the candidacy of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan submitted by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan within ten days from the date of the submission.

The nominee of the Prime Minister, while considered at the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, shall present a program of the Cabinet of Ministers for short and long-term perspectives.

The nominee of the Prime Minister is to be considered approved if receives more than half of the total number of votes of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In case of a triple rejection of the submitted candidate for the post of the Prime Minister, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall appoint the Prime Minister and have the right to dissolve the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Members of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan after the approval of their candidatures by the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to dismiss the Prime Minister, the current composition or a member of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to hear a report from a member of the Cabinet of Ministers of

the Republic of Uzbekistan regarding his/her activities. Based on the results of hearing the report of a member of the Cabinet of Ministers, the Legislative Chamber shall have the right to propose for consideration to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan a motion on his/her resignation.

The members of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be obliged to respond to parliamentary inquiries and requests of a deputy of the Legislative Chamber, a member of the Senate in the manner prescribed by law.

The procedure for organizing activities and the competence of the Cabinet of Ministers shall be determined by law.

Article 119.

In case, when firm contradictions arise between the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan against the proposal officially presented to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan by the deputies of the Legislative Chamber in a quantity of not less than one-thirds of a total number, issues of vote of no confidence to the Prime Minister shall be introduced for discussion to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

A vote of no confidence to the Prime Minister shall be considered as approved if not less than two-thirds of the total number of the deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan respectively vote for it. In this case, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall make a

decision on the removal of the Prime Minister from his/her post. Meanwhile, the whole composition of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall resign together with the Prime Minister.

Chapter XXI. Fundamental Principles of Local Bodies of State Authority. Self-government Bodies of Citizens

Article 120.

The Kenghashes of People's Deputies, led by Khokims, are the representative bodies of authority in regions, districts, cities, and towns (except towns subordinate to district centres).

The Kengash of People's Deputies shall be headed by a Chairperson elected in accordance with the law from among its deputies.

A person holding the position of Khokim of a region, district or city may not hold the position of Chairperson of the Kengash of People's Deputies at the same time.

The term of office of the Kengashes of People's Deputies shall be five years. One and the same person may not be elected as Chairperson of the Kengash of People's Deputies of the same region, district or city for more than two terms in a row.

The procedure for the election of deputies of the Kengashes of People's Deputies and the organization of the activities of the Kengashes of People's Deputies shall be determined by law.

The elections to the Kengash of People's Deputies in the newly formed administrative-territorial units shall be held for a period not exceeding the period remaining

until the next general election to the Kengash of People's Deputies.

Article 121.

The executive authority in the relevant territory shall be headed by the Khokim of the region, district, and city.

The term of office of Khokims shall be five years. One and the same person may not be appointed as Khokim of the same region, district, or city for more than two terms in a row.

The procedure for organizing the activities of Khokims shall be determined by law.

Article 122.

The powers of the Kengashes of People's Deputies shall include:

1) consideration and adoption of relevant local budgets and control over their execution;

2) approval of programs for the socio-economic development of territories and the social protection of the population;

3) approval of the Khokim's appointment, hearing reports about their activities;

4) exercising other powers provided for by this Constitution and laws.

Article 123.

The powers of Khokims of regions, districts, and cities shall include:

1) execution of the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and decisions of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis, decrees, resolutions, and orders of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, decisions

of the Cabinet of Ministers, higher Khokims and relevant Kengashes of People's Deputies;

2) implementation of measures aimed at ensuring the economic, social, cultural, and environmental development of the territories;

3) formation and execution of the local budget;

4) exercise of other powers provided for by this Constitution and laws.

Article 124.

The Khokim of a region and the city of Tashkent shall be appointed and dismissed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan in accordance with the law.

The Khokims of districts and cities shall be appointed and dismissed by the Khokim of the region and the city of Tashkent and approved by the relevant Kengash of People's Deputies.

The Khokims of towns subordinate to district centres shall be appointed and dismissed by the Khokim of the district and approved by the district Kengash of People's Deputies.

Article 125.

The Khokim of a region, district, city, and town shall exercise his/her powers in accordance with the principle of sole authority and shall bear personal responsibility for the decisions and actions of subordinate bodies.

The Khokim of the region, district, city and town shall present to the relevant Kengash of People's Deputies the reports on key matters of the socio-economic development of the region, district, and city. The Kengash of People's Deputies shall take relevant decisions on the basis of the Khokim's report.

Article 126.

The Kengash of People's Deputies and the Khokim, within their powers, shall make decisions mandatory to all organizations, as well as officials and citizens in the respective territory.

Article 127.

The self-governing bodies are gatherings of citizens in settlements, kishlaks, and auls, as well as in makhallas of cities, settlements, kishlaks, and auls, which shall elect a Chairperson.

The self-governing bodies of citizens shall not be included in the system of state authorities and, in accordance with the law, shall have the right to independently resolve issues of local importance based on the interests of citizens, historical features of development, as well as national values, local customs and traditions.

The state shall create the necessary conditions for the implementation of the activities of self-governing bodies of citizens and assist them in the exercise of the powers determined by law.

The procedure for the elections, organization of the work and powers of self-governing bodies shall be regulated by law.

Chapter XXII. Electoral System

Article 128.

Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to elect and be elected to the representative bodies of state authority. Each voter shall have one vote. The

right to vote, equality and freedom of expression of will shall be guaranteed by law.

The elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and to the Jokargy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, to the representative bodies of state power of regions, districts, and cities shall be held, respectively, in the year of the expiration of their constitutional term of office – on the first Sunday of the third decade of October. Elections are held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot. Citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan who have reached the age of eighteen have the right to vote.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to call early elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be elected by secret ballot at relevant joint sittings of deputies of the Jokargy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, the representative bodies of state authority in regions, districts, cities, and towns from among these deputies within a month after their election.

Citizens recognized by a court as legally incompetent, as well as persons serving prison terms under a court sentence, may not be elected.

Citizens recognized by the court as legally incompetent, as well as persons serving prison terms under a court sentence for committing grave or especially grave crimes, may be deprived of the right to participate in elections only in accordance with the law and on the basis of a court decision. In any other cases, direct or indirect restriction of citizens' voting rights is not allowed.

A citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan may not simultaneously be a deputy in more than two representative bodies of state authority.

The procedure for conducting elections shall be determined by law.

Article 129.

To organize and hold the elections of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, elections to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and elections to the representative bodies of state power of regions, districts, and cities, as well as referendums of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be formed by the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which shall function on the principles of independence, legality, collective nature, publicity, and fairness.

The Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall carry out its activities on a permanent basis and comply with the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Members of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be elected by the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the recommendation of the Jokargy Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional and Tashkent city Kenghashes of People's Deputies.

The Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be elected from among its members upon the nomination of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the meeting of the Commission. One and the same person may not be elected

as Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan for more than two consecutive terms.

Chapter XXIII. Judicial Authority

Article 130.

The justice in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be administered only by the court.

The judicial authority in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall function independently from the legislative and executive authorities, political parties, and other institutions of civil society.

Article 131.

The judicial system and the procedure for the activities of courts in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be determined by law.

The formation of extraordinary courts shall be inadmissible.

Article 132.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall hear cases on the compliance of the acts of the legislative and executive authorities with the Constitution.

The Constitutional Court shall be elected by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan upon the submission of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan from among specialists in the sphere of politics and law, recommended by the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the representative of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Judges of the Constitutional Court shall be elected for ten-year terms without the right to re-election.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall elect from among its members the Chairperson of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan and his/her deputy for a five-year term.

Article 133.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

1) determine the conformity of the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and decisions of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, decrees, resolutions, and instructions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, decisions of the government, local state authorities, interstate treaties, and other obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

2) determine the conformity of the constitutional laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan – until they are signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan on ratification of international treaties of the Republic of Uzbekistan – until they are signed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

3) determine the conformity of the issues to be submitted to the referendum with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

4) determine the conformity of the Constitution of the Republic of Karakalpakstan to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the laws of the Republic of Karakalpakstan to the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

5) interpret the norms of the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

6) consider an appeal filed at the initiative of the courts on the compliance of normative legal acts to be applied by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan in a particular case with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

7) annually submit information on the state of constitutional legality in the country to the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the results of the generalization of the practice of constitutional court cases;

8) hear other cases relating to its competence in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The citizens and legal entities shall have the right to file a complaint to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan on compliance with the Constitution of the law applied to them by the court in a specific case, whose consideration in court has been completed, and provided that all other remedies have been exhausted.

Judgments of the Constitutional Court shall take effect upon publication.

They shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Organization and procedure for the work of the Constitutional Court shall be specified by law.

Article 134.

The Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be the supreme judicial body for civil, criminal, economic, and administrative proceedings.

The acts adopted by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be final and binding on the entire territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the right to supervise the administration of justice by the lower-level courts.

The Chairperson of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan and his/her deputies shall be elected on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for a five-year term. One and the same person may not be elected as Chairperson, or deputy Chairperson of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan for more than two terms in a row.

Article 135.

The Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall act as a body of the court community and render support in observation of the constitutional principle of independence of the judiciary in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Chairperson of the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Deputy Chairperson shall be elected on the proposal of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan by the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for a five-year term. One and the same person may not be elected as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan for more than two terms in a row.

The procedure for the organization and work of the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be defined by law.

Article 136.

Judges shall be independent and subject solely to the Constitution and the law. Any interference in the work of judges in administering the law shall be inadmissible and punishable by law. Judges shall not be accountable in specific cases.

Judges shall have immunity.

The state shall ensure the safety of the judges and their family members.

Suspension of a judge from hearing a specific case, termination or suspension of his/her powers, or transfer to another position shall be allowed only in accordance with the procedure and on the grounds stipulated by law. Reorganization or liquidation of a court may not serve as grounds for relieving a judge from office.

Judges may not be senators or deputies of the representative bodies of state authority.

Judges may not be members of political parties, participate in political movements, or engage in any other paid activity except for research and teaching.

Article 137.

Proceedings in all courts shall be open to the public. In camera hearings shall be allowed only in cases prescribed by law.

Article 138.

Court verdicts shall be binding on all state bodies, organizations, officials, and citizens.

Article 139.

Legal proceedings in the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be conducted in Uzbek, Karakalpak or in a language spoken by the majority of the population in the locality,

or in another language as required by law. Persons participating in court proceedings, who do not speak the language in which it is being conducted, shall have the right to be fully acquainted with the materials of the case, participate through an interpreter in proceedings, and address the court in their native language.

Article 140.

Courts shall be financed only from the State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan and ensure the possibility of a full and independent administration of justice.

Chapter XXIV. Legal Profession

Article 141.

The legal profession shall operate to provide professional legal assistance to individuals and legal entities.

The legal profession shall function on the basis of the principles of legality, independence, and self-government.

Organization and procedure for the work of the Legal profession shall be specified by law.

Article 142.

Interference in the work of a lawyer in the exercise of their professional duties shall not be permitted.

Lawyers shall be ensured the conditions for unimpeded and confidential meetings and consultations with their clients.

A lawyer, his/her honour, dignity, and professional activity shall be under the protection of the state and protected by law.

Chapter XXV. Prosecutor's Office

Article 143.

The Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan and subordinate prosecutors shall supervise the strict and uniform observance of laws on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 144.

The Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall direct the centralized system of bodies of the Prosecutor's Office.

The Prosecutor of the Republic of Karakalpakstan shall be appointed by the supreme representative body of the Republic of Karakalpakstan as agreed with the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Prosecutors of regions, districts, cities, and towns shall be appointed by the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The term of office shall be five years for the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Prosecutor of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and prosecutors of regions, districts, cities, and towns.

One and the same person may not hold the position of Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan for more than two terms in a row.

Article 145.

Bodies of the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall exercise their powers independently of any state bodies, public associations or officials and shall

be subject solely to the Constitution and the law of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Prosecutors shall suspend their membership in political parties and other public associations pursuing political goals for the term of their office.

Organization, powers and procedure for the work of bodies of the Prosecutor's Office shall be specified by law.

Article 146.

The establishment and functioning of private organizations, public associations and their branches independently conducting any operational work, investigations, inquiries, or other functions connected with combating crime on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be prohibited.

Public associations and citizens may assist the law-enforcement bodies to safeguard legality and order, rights and freedoms of citizens.

Chapter XXVI. Financial, Monetary and Banking Systems

Article 147.

The Republic of Uzbekistan has independent financial, monetary, and banking systems.

Article 148.

The State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall consist of the national budget, the budget of the Republic of Karakalpakstan and local budgets.

The procedures for the formation and execution of the State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be carried out on the basis of the principles of openness and transparency.

Citizens and civil society organizations exercise public control over the formation and execution of the State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The procedure and forms of participation of citizens and civil society organizations in the budgeting process shall be established by law.

Article 149.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall have a single taxation system. The right to determine taxes shall belong to the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 150.

The monetary unit of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the soum.

The soum is the only unrestricted legal tender on the entire territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall have the sole right to issue and withdraw banknotes from circulation as legal means of payment on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Article 151.

The banking system of the Republic of Uzbekistan consists of the Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan and banks.

The Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall develop and implement monetary and currency policy.

The Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall regulate the activities of banks and ensure the stable functioning of banking and payment systems in the country.

The Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be independent in carrying out its tasks.

The procedure for organizing the activities of the Central Bank of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be established by law.

Chapter XXVII. Defence and Security

Article 152.

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be formed to defend the state sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Uzbekistan, peaceful life and security of its population.

The structure and organization of the Armed Forces shall be specified by law.

Article 153.

The Republic of Uzbekistan shall maintain the Armed Forces to ensure its security at a level of reasonable sufficiency.

SECTION SIX. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

Article 154.

The Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be amended by the constitutional law adopted by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total number of deputies of the Legislative Chamber and members of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan accordingly, or by referendum of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The provisions of Article 1 of this Constitution and the second paragraph thereto shall not be subject to revision.

The Constitutional Law on Amendments and Additions to the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan may provide for the specifics of the application of its norms, as well as the norms of the Constitution.

Article 155.

The Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan may adopt a law on amendments and additions to the Constitution within six months after submission of a relevant proposal, with regard to its broad discussion. Should the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan reject a proposal on amendments to the Constitution, it may be renewed not earlier than one year.

*National Database of Legislation,
No. 03/23/837/0241 dated 01.05.2023*

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THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Official edition

Editor *Mukhiddin Omonov*
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Corrector *Dildora Abduraimova*
Page editor *Shahlo Buriyeva*

Certificate No. 4642. 07/22/2020.

Released on 20th July 2023. Size 60x90 1/16.

Offset paper. Offset printing on Times New Roman typeface.

Conditional printing plate 5,0. Publishers account plate 3,5.

Circulation 2 250 copies. Contract No. 56-1/23. Order No. 2099.

Agency of Information and Mass Communications under
the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Prepared by "O'zbekiston" publishing house.

100011, Tashkent, Navoi street, 30.

Phone: (71) 244-34-38, (71) 244-24-91.

Printed in the printing house of LLC "KolorPak".
100206, Tashkent, Yangishahar Street, 1-A.

“O‘ZBEKISTON”