



Scientific and theoretical foundations of state youth policy and youth social adaptation

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ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the scientific-theoretical foundations of state youth policy, its formation stages, and its role in modern society. The content, goals, and legal-regulatory bases of youth policy are examined through a scholarly approach. Additionally, specific features of implementing youth policy in Uzbekistan, such as its integration with national values and the focus of practical programs on social sectors, are especially highlighted.

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Davlat yoshlar siyosati va yoshlarning ijtimoiy moslashuvining ilmiy-nazariy asoslari

ANNOTATSIYA

Kalit soʻzlar:

yoshlar siyosati,
ijtimoiy siyosat,
demografiya,
model,
yoshlar siyosati tamoyillari,
vertikal yondashuv,
gorizontal yondashuv.

Ushbu maqolada yoshlarga oid davlat siyosatining ilmiy-nazariy asoslari, uning shakllanish bosqichlari va zamonaviy jamiyatdagi oʻrni tahlil etilgan. Yoshlar siyosatining mazmuni, maqsadlari va huquqiy-meʼyoriy asoslari ilmiy yondashuv orqali oʻrganilgan. Bundan tashqari, Oʻzbekistonda yoshlar siyosatini amalga oshirishning oʻziga xos xususiyatlari, xususan, uning milliy qadriyatlar bilan uygʻunlashuvi hamda amaliy dasturlarning ijtimoiy sohalarga yoʻnaltirilganligi alohida eʼtibor bilan yoritilgan.

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Научные и теоретические основы государственной молодежной политики и социальной адаптации молодежи

АННОТАЦИЯ

Ключевые слова:

молодёжная политика,
социальная политика,
демография,
модель,
принципы молодёжной
политики,
вертикальный подход,
горизонтальный подход.

В данной статье анализируются научно-теоретические основы государственной молодежной политики, этапы ее становления и ее роль в современном обществе. Содержание, цели и нормативно-правовая база молодежной политики рассматриваются с научной точки зрения. Особое внимание уделяется специфическим особенностям реализации молодежной политики в Узбекистане, таким как ее интеграция с национальными ценностями и ориентация практических программ на социальную сферу.

INTRODUCTION

Viewing the younger generation as a driving force of social development has laid the foundation for youth policy formation in many countries. The United Nations played a pivotal role in this process. During the 1960s to 1980s, the UN adopted a series of documents that introduced new principles in addressing youth issues. The 1965 UN General Assembly's "Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding Between Peoples" marked the beginning of focused attention on youth problems. Under UNESCO's leadership, over a hundred documents addressing youth issues were adopted. In fact, following UNESCO's initiative, the World Youth Congress was launched in 1985, and the same year was declared the "International Youth Year" by the UN.

Under the UN General Assembly Resolution dated 14 December 1995, a World Program of Action for Youth was adopted for implementation up to and beyond the year 2000. Subsequently, on January 20, 2000, Resolution 54/120 approved the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programs, based on the outcomes of the 1998 World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth held in Lisbon.

These documents continue to serve as an international and national legal framework for ensuring the effective participation of youth and youth organizations in societal life.

Theoretical approaches to youth policy implementation

Youth policy implementation requires a blend of vertical, horizontal, intersectoral, and interdisciplinary approaches. These frameworks ensure collaboration among various government levels, systems, sectors, sciences, and social institutions.

- **Vertical approach (theory)** involves implementing policy in a harmonized manner from the central to local governance levels. Strategic national youth policies are adapted to local contexts and implemented accordingly.
- **Horizontal approach (theory)** reflects collaboration between government bodies, non-profit organizations, civil society institutions, and the private sector. Ministries of education, health, employment, culture, and sports coordinate efforts to address youth problems comprehensively.
- **Intersectoral approach (theory)** refers to the integration of economic, social, and political sectors in youth policy execution. It brings together education, healthcare,

crime prevention, ecology, and ICT to address youth issues through extensive cooperation.

- **Interdisciplinary approach (theory)** involves using knowledge and methods from multiple sciences—sociology, pedagogy, psychology, law, economics, political science—to create evidence-based strategies for youth development.

Each of these theories holds individual value, and their combination forms an effective and beneficial strategy for youth engagement.

Youth policy in Uzbekistan

In Uzbekistan, youth policy is among the highest priorities of the state. It was formulated based on the “Uzbek model” of national development and underpinned by a solid legal framework.

Youth policy refers to a system of measures implemented by the state to facilitate the social integration and self-realization of youth in alignment with national interests. It supports the country’s development, competitiveness, and national security.

This policy forms a part of the internal policy and is aimed at aligning state-youth relations.

The main objective of Uzbekistan’s youth policy is to create socioeconomic, legal, and organizational conditions for the social formation and development of young people.

As Kirnitsky emphasizes, youth represent a social-demographic group distinguished by age-related characteristics, a specific social status, and a dynamic cultural and social identity. Youth are active agents in the socialization process, shaping their personal and collective identities through social norms and cultural values. “Modern age boundaries” of youth are defined not just biologically but also socially and culturally. In today’s society, young people occupy increasingly complex social roles and actively contribute to societal transformation. Therefore, youth should be viewed as a vital segment of society with specific interactions and roles in the social system.

According to sociologist Mohammad Taghi Sheykhi, youth form one of the most cohesive and influential social groups. Targeted investments in education, science, and moral development play a key role in enhancing youth capacity and enabling their active engagement in economic, social, and cultural life. Thus, creating suitable conditions for youth development is vital for societal well-being.

Youth participation in defining youth policy is essential. International experience shows that involving youth representatives from NGOs and the private sector in policymaking has been a critical success factor. Young people are best positioned to understand the needs and interests of their peers.

Before examining the unique features of youth policy in modern Uzbekistan, key conceptual categories - such as “Youth Policy”, “Models of Youth Policy”, “Principles of Youth Policy”, and “Subjects and Objects of Youth Policy” - should be clearly defined, and the methodological tools of political science applied.

Methodology is a critical component of any scientific discipline. Political science methodology includes the methods and approaches used, their history, significance, and function. In studying youth policy, one must refer to broader political categories such as state policy, social policy, and youth policy.

This analytical framework allows for a comprehensive understanding of the structure and elements of youth policy. Since becoming an official policy priority, the concept of youth policy has gained institutional recognition in the social sciences.

Since the early 1990s, both broad and narrow interpretations of youth policy have been widely discussed. The concept has evolved, playing an important role at both state and societal levels, particularly in promoting social justice, equality, opportunity, and youth engagement.

Documents like the UN's "Youth Declaration" and the European Union's youth strategy reflect the global scope of youth policy. The UN defines youth policy as an integral part of state activity aimed at comprehensive youth development.

Youth policy is not limited to government institutions. It also includes political parties, social movements, civil society institutions, and other entities concerned with youth issues.

As noted by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev: "Youth education has always been important and relevant. However, in the 21st century, it is becoming a matter of life and death". His early presidential efforts made youth policy one of the country's top strategic priorities.

Youth play a crucial role in the nation's future. Literature highlights that "the greatness of a nation is closely linked to its awareness of national identity, political maturity, and unity".

Historical context

In ancient Rome, the average life expectancy was 27 years. In early 19th-century England, 12-year-olds were legally treated as adults under labor laws. In late 19th-century Russia, average life expectancy was around 48 years.

After Uzbekistan's independence, youth policy retained its relevance. On 20 November 1991, the country adopted the Law "On the Fundamentals of State Youth Policy in the Republic of Uzbekistan." This law laid the legal foundation for youth policy during the early independence years, ensuring protection of youth rights, access to education, healthcare, social support, vocational training, and employment.

It also defined the state's responsibility for youth development and integration into social life. Youth policy became a major pillar of Uzbekistan's subsequent national reforms.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the essence of state youth policy lies in fostering young generations as contributors to societal development. Achieving this requires a systematic, phased approach based on the theoretical frameworks mentioned above and built around meaningful dialogue with youth. Today's youth are agile, influential, and capable of driving change-making their effective development a national imperative.

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