

THE NEW CONSTITUTION IS THE BASIS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17855762>

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Abstract

the adoption of Uzbekistan's new constitution in 2023 represents a pivotal reform aimed at fostering comprehensive societal development through enhanced legal frameworks that prioritize economic stability, social welfare, and human rights protections. This article examines how the constitutional amendments establish Uzbekistan as a social state, thereby creating institutional mechanisms that support sustainable economic growth, reduce poverty, and promote equitable resource distribution across various sectors of society. Ultimately, the analysis demonstrates that such constitutional evolution not only strengthens governance structures but also catalyzes long-term societal progress by aligning legal principles with modern economic imperatives and international standards.

Keywords

New Constitution, Uzbekistan Reforms, Societal Development, Economic Growth, Social State, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Welfare Policies, Institutional Frameworks, Sustainable Development

Introduction

Constitutions serve as foundational documents that outline the principles governing a nation's political, social, and economic systems, providing a stable environment essential for long-term societal advancement and prosperity in diverse global contexts. In the case of Uzbekistan, the recent constitutional overhaul introduced in 2023 marks a significant departure from previous frameworks by emphasizing the role of the state in safeguarding citizens' welfare and promoting inclusive growth strategies. This shift reflects broader trends in constitutional economics where legal structures influence resource allocation, investment

climates, and overall productivity levels within emerging economies. Scholars have long argued that effective constitutions mitigate uncertainties in economic transactions by enforcing property rights and contractual obligations, which in turn stimulate entrepreneurial activities and foreign direct investments. Furthermore, the integration of social protections within constitutional texts ensures that development benefits are distributed equitably, preventing social disparities that could hinder national progress. Uzbekistan's approach exemplifies how tailored constitutional reforms can address historical legacies of centralized planning while transitioning toward market-oriented policies that enhance competitiveness on the international stage [1].

Beyond mere legal texts, constitutions embody the collective aspirations of a society, shaping the trajectories of economic policies and institutional reforms that underpin sustainable development over extended periods. The 2023 amendments in Uzbekistan expand the scope of state responsibilities, including commitments to environmental sustainability and technological innovation, which are crucial for adapting to global economic challenges such as climate change and digital transformation. By declaring Uzbekistan a sovereign, democratic, legal, social, and secular state, the new constitution lays the groundwork for policies that foster human capital development through improved education and healthcare systems. Economic theorists posit that such provisions create positive externalities by boosting workforce productivity and reducing dependency on volatile commodity markets. Additionally, the emphasis on judicial independence within the constitution helps curb corruption, thereby improving the ease of doing business and attracting multinational corporations seeking reliable legal environments. This holistic framework not only addresses immediate societal needs but also positions the country for resilient growth amid geopolitical uncertainties [2].

Historical precedents from various nations illustrate how constitutional revisions can accelerate societal development by aligning governance with evolving economic realities and public expectations. For instance, post-Soviet states like Uzbekistan have navigated transitions from command economies to mixed models, where constitutional updates play a critical role in institutionalizing market reforms and protecting minority rights. The 2023 Uzbek constitution introduces mechanisms for greater parliamentary oversight, which enhances accountability and reduces executive overreach that might otherwise stifle economic diversification efforts. This development is particularly vital in resource-rich economies, where constitutional safeguards prevent rent-seeking behaviors and promote transparent fiscal management. Moreover, by incorporating international human rights standards, the constitution facilitates access to global financial

institutions and aid programs that support infrastructure projects and poverty alleviation initiatives. Overall, these elements collectively form a robust basis for societal progress, ensuring that economic policies are responsive to demographic shifts and technological advancements [3].

Main Body

Exploring the historical evolution of Uzbekistan's constitutional framework reveals how successive amendments have adapted to shifting socioeconomic landscapes, ultimately positioning the 2023 version as a cornerstone for contemporary development. Originating from the 1992 constitution adopted post-independence, earlier iterations focused on establishing sovereignty amid the dissolution of the Soviet Union, yet they often lacked comprehensive provisions for market liberalization and social equity. The recent reforms build upon these foundations by incorporating feedback from public consultations, thereby enhancing legitimacy and public trust in governmental institutions. Economically, this evolution underscores the importance of adaptive legal systems in fostering resilience against external shocks, such as global commodity price fluctuations that impact Central Asian economies. Furthermore, the integration of sustainable development goals within the constitutional text aligns national policies with United Nations frameworks, promoting long-term investments in renewable energy and agricultural modernization. Such strategic alignments not only diversify economic bases but also mitigate environmental risks that could impede societal progress [4].

Delving into the core principles enshrined in the new constitution highlights its declaration of Uzbekistan as a social state, which fundamentally alters the government's role in economic redistribution and welfare provision. This designation mandates the state to prioritize poverty eradication and social justice, creating a policy environment conducive to inclusive growth where marginalized groups gain better access to opportunities. From an economic perspective, this approach reduces income inequalities that often lead to social unrest and decreased productivity, as evidenced by comparative studies in transitional economies. By embedding these principles, the constitution encourages fiscal policies that allocate resources toward human development, such as expanded healthcare and education funding, which in turn boost labor force participation rates. Additionally, the emphasis on protecting vulnerable populations fosters consumer confidence and stimulates domestic markets, essential for sustaining economic momentum in a post-pandemic world. This multifaceted strategy ensures that societal development is not merely growth-oriented but holistically balanced [5].

Assessing the impact of extended presidential terms under the 2023 amendments shows how such changes can provide continuity in implementing long-term economic reforms, avoiding disruptions from frequent leadership transitions. With terms lengthened to seven years, policymakers gain the stability needed to pursue ambitious projects like infrastructure megadevelopments and regional trade integrations. Economic analyses indicate that stable governance correlates with higher investment inflows, as investors perceive reduced political risks in environments with predictable leadership. Moreover, this provision allows for consistent application of anti-corruption measures, which are critical for maintaining transparent economic systems and attracting foreign capital. The constitution's reset of term limits for the incumbent further enables the consolidation of ongoing reforms, ensuring that initiatives in sectors like digital economy and tourism reach fruition. Consequently, this structural adjustment supports sustained societal advancement by aligning political timelines with economic cycles [6].

Investigating the enhanced protections for human rights within the constitution demonstrates their direct linkage to economic empowerment and societal cohesion. By explicitly guaranteeing freedoms such as speech, assembly, and information access, the document creates an enabling environment for innovation and entrepreneurship, key drivers of economic diversification. In economies transitioning from authoritarian legacies, such rights facilitate the emergence of a vibrant civil society that holds institutions accountable, thereby improving governance efficiency. Economic models suggest that stronger human rights frameworks lead to better human capital outcomes, as individuals invest more in education knowing their efforts will be protected. Furthermore, these provisions align with international standards, easing Uzbekistan's integration into global value chains and trade agreements that demand compliance with labor and ethical norms. This synergy between rights and economics propels societal development toward more equitable and dynamic pathways [7].

Examining the constitution's provisions on property rights reveals their pivotal role in stimulating private sector growth and attracting investments essential for societal progress. The amendments strengthen legal assurances for ownership and inheritance, reducing ambiguities that previously deterred entrepreneurial ventures in key industries like manufacturing and services. From a constitutional economics viewpoint, secure property rights incentivize long-term investments by minimizing expropriation risks, leading to higher capital accumulation and technological adoption. This framework also supports land reforms that enhance agricultural productivity, a cornerstone of Uzbekistan's

economy employing a significant portion of the workforce. Moreover, by facilitating easier business registrations and dispute resolutions, the constitution lowers transaction costs, fostering a competitive market environment. These elements collectively contribute to broader societal benefits, including job creation and improved living standards [8].

Considering the emphasis on environmental sustainability in the new constitution illustrates how it integrates ecological considerations into the fabric of economic planning for enduring societal development. Mandating state responsibilities for natural resource preservation, the document promotes policies that balance industrial growth with environmental protection, crucial in a region prone to water scarcity and climate variability. Economic research highlights that sustainable practices enhance resilience, preventing costly environmental degradations that could derail development trajectories. By encouraging green technologies and renewable energy investments, the constitution positions Uzbekistan to capitalize on global shifts toward low-carbon economies. Additionally, these provisions support rural communities through eco-friendly agricultural incentives, reducing migration pressures and stabilizing social structures. This forward-looking approach ensures that economic gains are sustainable across generations [9].

Reviewing the judicial reforms outlined in the constitution underscores their importance in upholding the rule of law, a fundamental prerequisite for economic stability and investor confidence. Enhancements to judicial independence and efficiency aim to expedite legal proceedings, addressing longstanding issues of bureaucratic delays that hampered business operations. In the realm of constitutional economics, a robust judiciary enforces contracts and resolves disputes impartially, thereby reducing uncertainties in commercial activities. This reform also combats corruption by introducing transparency mechanisms, which economic indicators link to improved GDP growth rates in reforming nations. Furthermore, by aligning judicial practices with international benchmarks, Uzbekistan enhances its appeal for cross-border trade and partnerships. Such institutional strengthening forms the bedrock for societal development rooted in fairness and accountability [10].

Analyzing the social welfare commitments embedded in the constitution shows their potential to transform Uzbekistan into a welfare-oriented state, directly impacting economic inclusivity and human development indices. Provisions for expanded social protections, including pensions and unemployment benefits, aim to cushion vulnerable populations against economic shocks, fostering social stability. Economic theories posit that comprehensive welfare systems boost

consumer spending by providing safety nets, stimulating demand-led growth in domestic markets. Moreover, these measures address demographic challenges like aging populations, ensuring workforce sustainability through health and education investments. By prioritizing equity, the constitution mitigates risks of social fragmentation that could undermine economic reforms. This integrated strategy elevates societal development to encompass not just material wealth but overall well-being [11].

Probing the implications for foreign policy and international relations in the constitution reveals how it facilitates economic diplomacy essential for global integration and societal advancement. By affirming commitments to peaceful cooperation and multilateralism, the document supports trade agreements and regional initiatives that expand market access for Uzbek exports. Economic studies demonstrate that open foreign policies correlated with constitutional mandates lead to diversified trade portfolios and reduced dependency on single partners. Furthermore, alignment with international human rights norms attracts development aid and technical assistance, accelerating infrastructure and technological upgrades. These external engagements also promote knowledge transfers, enhancing domestic innovation capacities. Overall, this outward orientation propels Uzbekistan toward a more interconnected and prosperous societal framework [12].

Evaluating the role of education and innovation policies under the new constitution highlights their contribution to building a knowledge-based economy for sustained development. The amendments mandate state support for educational access and research, recognizing human capital as a driver of economic competitiveness in the digital age. From an economic development lens, investments in education yield high returns through skilled labor forces capable of adapting to technological changes. This focus also addresses youth unemployment by aligning curricula with market needs, fostering entrepreneurship and startup ecosystems. Moreover, constitutional protections for intellectual property encourage innovation, attracting venture capital and partnerships with global tech firms. Such provisions ensure that societal progress is innovation-driven, resilient to future disruptions [13].

Scrutinizing the fiscal and monetary policy frameworks implied in the constitution demonstrates their alignment with prudent economic management for long-term stability. By emphasizing balanced budgets and transparent resource allocation, the document curbs inflationary pressures and fiscal deficits that could erode societal gains. Economic literature links constitutional fiscal rules to enhanced macroeconomic stability, enabling countercyclical policies during

downturns. This approach also supports infrastructure financing through public-private partnerships, essential for connectivity and trade facilitation in landlocked nations. Additionally, provisions for independent central banking strengthen monetary policy credibility, attracting portfolio investments. These mechanisms collectively safeguard societal development against economic volatilities.

Reflecting on the gender equality provisions in the constitution illustrates their economic benefits in promoting inclusive labor markets and demographic balance. Mandating equal opportunities for women, the amendments aim to increase female workforce participation, which studies show boosts GDP growth by harnessing untapped talent pools. Economically, this reduces dependency ratios and enhances household incomes, driving consumption and savings rates. Furthermore, by addressing cultural barriers through legal enforcements, the constitution fosters diverse leadership in business and governance. Such inclusivity also improves decision-making processes, leading to more innovative and equitable policies. This dimension enriches societal development with broader participation and empowerment.

Appraising the anti-corruption measures strengthened by the constitution reveals their critical function in purifying economic environments for fair competition and growth. Establishing stricter accountability standards for public officials, the document deters rent-seeking behaviors that distort resource allocations. Economic analyses indicate that low corruption levels correlate with higher foreign direct investment inflows, as clean governance signals reliability. Moreover, these reforms enhance public service delivery, improving efficiency in sectors like healthcare and education. By institutionalizing whistleblower protections, the constitution encourages civic engagement in oversight. This anti-corruption ethos underpins trustworthy institutions vital for societal advancement.

Contemplating the regional development strategies embedded in the constitution shows how they address urban-rural divides to achieve balanced societal growth. Prioritizing decentralized governance, the amendments empower local authorities with fiscal autonomy, enabling tailored economic initiatives. In economic terms, this reduces spatial inequalities, promoting even distribution of infrastructure and services. Such decentralization also stimulates local entrepreneurship by aligning policies with regional strengths, like agriculture in rural areas. Furthermore, it mitigates migration-induced urban strains, preserving social cohesion. This localized approach ensures comprehensive development across Uzbekistan's diverse territories.

Surveying the digital governance aspects in the constitution underscores their role in modernizing administrative processes for economic efficiency. Mandating e-

government implementations, the document facilitates streamlined services that cut bureaucratic red tape, enhancing business climates. Economic benefits include cost savings and faster transactions, boosting productivity across sectors. Additionally, protections for data privacy build trust in digital economies, encouraging fintech and e-commerce growth. By integrating cybersecurity norms, the constitution safeguards against digital threats that could disrupt development. This tech-forward stance positions society for the fourth industrial revolution.

Inspecting the labor rights enhancements in the constitution demonstrates their impact on workforce productivity and economic sustainability. Guaranteeing fair wages and safe working conditions, the amendments align with ILO standards, reducing exploitation and turnover rates. Economically, satisfied workers contribute to higher output and innovation, as motivation theories suggest. Moreover, these rights support union formations, enabling collective bargaining for better terms. By addressing child labor prohibitions, the constitution invests in future generations' education. This labor-centric framework fosters a harmonious society primed for enduring progress.

Pondering the cultural preservation elements within the constitution highlights their indirect economic value through tourism and soft power. Protecting multilingualism and heritage, the document promotes cultural industries that generate employment and revenue. Economic diversification via tourism relies on such preservations, attracting visitors to historical sites. Furthermore, cultural identity strengthens social bonds, reducing conflicts that impede growth. By integrating these with education, the constitution nurtures creative sectors like arts and media. This cultural-economic nexus enriches societal development holistically.

Weighing the emergency response provisions in the constitution illustrates their importance for economic resilience amid crises. Outlining balanced state powers during emergencies, the amendments prevent overreaches while ensuring swift actions, as seen in pandemic responses. Economically, this maintains supply chains and investor confidence during disruptions. Additionally, provisions for recovery funds support post-crisis rebuilding, accelerating return to growth. By emphasizing human rights even in crises, the constitution upholds societal trust. This preparedness enhances overall development trajectories.

Conclusion

Synthesizing the multifaceted impacts of Uzbekistan's 2023 constitution, it becomes evident that the reforms establish a robust legal foundation for economic diversification, social equity, and institutional integrity, driving comprehensive societal advancement. The emphasis on property rights and rule of law has fortified

investment climates, enabling Uzbekistan to attract substantial foreign capital and foster entrepreneurial ecosystems that contribute to GDP expansion and job creation. Human rights enhancements have empowered citizens, leading to improved human capital metrics and reduced social disparities that previously constrained productivity. Welfare state commitments have alleviated poverty, creating a more inclusive economy where resource distribution supports sustainable growth across demographics. Judicial and anti-corruption measures have elevated governance standards, minimizing inefficiencies and building trust in public institutions essential for long-term stability. Collectively, these elements underscore the constitution's role in harmonizing economic policies with societal needs, ensuring resilient progress amid global challenges.

Drawing from the analysis, four key conclusions emerge: first, the constitution's social state orientation catalyzes poverty reduction through targeted welfare policies, enhancing economic participation; second, strengthened rule of law provisions boost investor confidence, leading to accelerated economic diversification; third, human rights integrations promote inclusive development by empowering marginalized groups and fostering innovation; fourth, environmental and digital emphases position Uzbekistan for future-proof growth, mitigating risks from climate and technological shifts. These conclusions highlight how constitutional frameworks can transform societal trajectories by aligning legal principles with economic imperatives. The reforms not only address immediate developmental gaps but also lay pathways for intergenerational equity and global competitiveness. By embedding accountability and sustainability, the constitution ensures that progress is measurable and enduring. This strategic evolution reflects a commitment to holistic advancement, where economic gains translate into tangible societal benefits.

Recommendations

Based on the first conclusion regarding poverty reduction via welfare policies, policymakers should implement a national digital registry system for social assistance programs, integrating blockchain technology to ensure transparent and efficient distribution of benefits, thereby minimizing leakages and maximizing reach to underserved rural communities without relying on traditional bureaucratic channels.

Drawing from the second conclusion on rule of law enhancing investor confidence, authorities ought to establish specialized economic courts with international arbitration expertise, trained through partnerships with global legal institutions, to resolve commercial disputes swiftly and impartially, thus differentiating Uzbekistan as a premier investment hub in Central Asia.

Stemming from the third conclusion about human rights fostering inclusion and innovation, the government must launch a nationwide entrepreneurship incubator program specifically for women and youth from ethnic minorities, funded by public-private collaborations and offering mentorship from Silicon Valley experts to cultivate startups in high-tech sectors like AI and biotechnology.

Arising from the fourth conclusion on environmental and digital sustainability, Uzbekistan should adopt a green digital economy blueprint that mandates carbon-neutral data centers and incentivizes renewable energy adoption in industrial zones through tax credits tied to verifiable emission reductions, positioning the nation as a regional leader in eco-innovation.

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