

On Political System Concept: History Review

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Abstract. The political process developing in Kazakhstan includes any actions to implement governance of people, community and public affairs. This article contains a historic review of political system formation, and identifies its elements. The author has analyzed foreign scientists' opinions on the "political system" concept. Then, concluded that in order to ensure stability of a political system it's necessary to consider the interests of all political players and contradictions arising among them, coordinated efforts of classes and social groups existing in the society and political parties representing their interests. As a result, the author made a complex comparative analysis and revealed the key elements of a political system. The analysis of a political system concept allowed him to establish a specific definition of the term.

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Introduction

A political system is a component of the state system. The political process developing in Kazakhstan includes any actions to implement the ruling of people, community and public affairs in governance.

The term "political system" consists of two components - in particular, "politics" and "system."

The word "politics" if translated from Greek means the art of state governance, or a certain method to attain the objectives of the state both domestically and internationally. Aristotle stressed a specific feature of politics meaning its direct or indirect connection with authority [1]. "Politics" as a term means relationships among classes, "the area of all the classes and strata attitude to the state and to the government" [2]. Vladimir Lenin considered "the structure of state power" as the most important thing in the politics. In our opinion, these statements by Lenin have the most important methodological meaning for identification and analysis of the relations among the subjects of political system of any state.

The word "system", when translated from Greek, means something whole, made of components which are connected [3]. It is a multitude, naturally interrelated elements (subjects, phenomena, views, etc).

The term "system" was introduced into scientific language by German biologist Ludwig von Bertalanffy in the 20th century to identify metabolic processes between the cell of the environment. He considered the system an

aggregate of interdepending elements as an integrity comprising of "elements involved into interaction" [4]. The relations of interdependence mean that if one element of the system changes, the entire integrity would change.

Talcott Parsons, an American sociologist transferred the term "system" to society research, he presented society as interaction of four subsystems: economic, political, social and moral which are interdependent and exchange mutual relations. Every subsystem performs certain functions, responds to requirements it receives from inside and outside and together they ensure existence of society in general [5].

A systematic approach allows one to distinguish between political life and public life as a separate subsystem in addition to a political system, social, economic, ethnic, legal, cultural and other systems exist in human society.

According to Albert Pigolkink, in a class-based society, political systems express the will and the interests of ruling class first, while in modern socialist society it should express and protect the will and the interests of the whole nation [6].

American scientist David Easton was one of the first political scientists to survey political system. In his monographs "Political System" [7], "Threshold of Political Analysis" [8] and "Systemic Analysis of Political Life" [9]. he studied the fundamentals of political system theory. According to Easton, a political system is a developing and self-regulating

organism composed of a variety of components which, in aggregate, create an integrated whole. The system has its entry which receives outside impulses or the requirements impulses or support impulses. Political decisions, underpinning political actions are at the exit of the system [10].

Modern theory on state and law pays huge attention to the political system of society considering it as objectively developing unity of various social institutions, mutual connections of a certain type. So, according to Valentin Lubashits, a political system is a system of interacting norms and political institutes, institutions organized of functioning based thereon [11].

Modern literature contains a variety of political system definitions. Webster's Dictionary mentions ten dozens definitions of a political system. Some scientists consider a political system to be a set of ideas underpinning politics, others think of it as a system of interactions. Yet a third group of scientists considers it to be an aggregate of certain elements, subjects of politics, etc. The desire to reach universal interpretation of political life, its independence from history, social situation is natural for all these definitions.

A political system can provide a different response to the demands from the population. While a democratic system uses them to improve its performance, a totalitarian suppresses them, creating the image of powerful and infallible authority. That is why the term "political System" is used to characterize relations of the state and society, various subjects at non-governmental level

Albert Pigolkin posits that a political system of society is a complex set of state institutions, political parties and public associations, where political life of society is developing and state and public authority is implemented.

In our opinion, the views of Valeriy Kazakov that the factors setting certain characters of a political system of society, forming certain views are multidimensional, deserves support. They include not only organizations of state power, not only political establishments (parties, political movements and other public associations), their fight for powers and control over state institutions in own purposes including army, police, governing institutions, mass media, etc, but also other deeper layers of these factors [12].

Based on the analysis and generalization of existing opinions regarding the term "political system", we made a conclusion that a political system is first of all a mechanism of universal nature including several levels of communication and interaction of institutes of state and society.

According to Midkhat Farukshin, thanks to the mechanisms of a political system, society as a whole (or the ruling elite) opposed to destructive social forces, respond to infringements on the principles and foundations of a state system. A politically literate and socially active person should know how a political system looks like and how it functions, what are its external attributes and hidden mechanism, what are the real factors impacting its dynamics [13].

In contrast to Farukshin, we believe that a political system of any society, as a complex mechanism, is characterized with the presence of certain sub-mechanisms, guaranteeing its existence. Such sub-mechanisms allow it to settle social contradictions and conflicts, coordinate the efforts of various public groups, organizations and movements, harmonize public attitudes, and reach consensus with the regard of the key values, objectives and directions in social development. In the research of the term "social system," special attention is devoted to its elements as concepts and their meaning.

Foreign and Soviet literature often refers to the four key groups of elements of a political system. They are political institutes (organizations and institutions), political relations, political principles, political consciousness and political culture

The state is a central part of a political system. It's the state that serves as the key governance link in policies ensuring unity of various components. It is designed to be not only an independent subject of political relations. It also performs the tasks to manage public affairs but also to create necessary conditions for a real provision of constitutional principles of political system organization and functioning, real enforcement of a citizen's political rights and freedoms. A central link of any political system is a state.

State power is the backbone of a political system. By definition of Marxist theory founders, it is a sense of politics and political struggle.

Identification of state power as a fundamental element of a political system allows the establishment of the system's

components – in other words, the identification of its structure and borders.

First of all, a political system includes the institutes (organizations, institutions, parties) related to political authority's function. The rate of its involvement in political life, the practice of powers makes it possible to identify three types of organizations: directly political, non-directly political and non-political.

According to Farukhshin, a political system of society includes directly political and non-directly political organizations. The latter relates to a political system with the aspects of their activities directly related with the participation in political authority practice [13].

Political principles and norms are significant elements of a political system. They compound its regulatory framework. Political regimes (for instance totalitarianism and political pluralism) differ from each other to the same extent as the principles and norms underpinning the functioning of appropriate political systems.

The elements of a political system of society include political consciousness and political culture [14]. Mirroring and forming first of all under the impact of certain social and political practice, the ideas, value orientations of political life of participants, their emotions and prejudices have a significant impact on their behavior and the entire political dynamic. It is extremely important to consider political moods of masses in the process of managing and governing society.

The renowned Russian scientist Vladimir Strykh, in our opinion, correctly identifies the following elements of a political system including religious organizations, local self-governance authorities, labor groups and criminal organizations. Religious organization is a voluntary association of citizens, other persons permanently and legally residing in the territory of Russian Federation established with the aim of joint practicing and spreading their beliefs and registered as a legal entity.

Conclusions

Based on the survey and generalization of opinions with the regard to the political system concept, we concluded that to ensure stability and appropriate functioning of a political system it's necessary to consider the

interests of the political life of participants and contradictions arising among them, reaching an optimum alignment of interests, coordinated efforts of classes and social groups existing in the society and political parties representing their interests. A political system must integrate various elements of social and national structures on the basis of consensus on the key values and ideals as they are understood, first of all, by leading political forces in society.

The preceding allowed us to formulate the following definition of a political system: A political system of modern society is a complex universal mechanism ensuring a mutual relationship between the state and society, interaction of state authorities, political parties in state power practicing with the participation of religious associations, local self-governance bodies, labor groups, etc.

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