### The Role of Methodological Leadership in an Independent Democratic Society

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**Annotation:** This article describes in detail the existence and activities of public control over public authorities, the importance of a certain degree of public control in our national legislation.

Keywords: state, society, population, control, law, activity, citizen, media, information

The existence of public control over the activities of public authorities is one of the most important conditions for the establishment of civil society. Therefore, the activity of citizens, indifference to social events and a deep sense of the fact that every civil servant is under public control are of great importance in the formation of civil society.

Our national legislation defines the scope of subjects of public control, according to which the generally recognized subjects of public control are citizens, non-governmental non-profit organizations, public associations, citizens' self-government bodies, political parties, mass media (mass media), various public councils under public authorities, etc.

One of the main ways to establish public control over state power is to openly and truthfully inform the public about the activities of these bodies. The media, which is an important institution of civil society, plays a special role in fulfilling this very important task. In this regard, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan noted that "socio-political stability in the country is sufficiently dependent on the state of public opinion, and another social institution - the media - plays an important role in its formation. The media must be able to freely and impartially express different views on the processes taking place in the country, and be an impartial mediator between the government and the public."[1]

Indeed, the activities of the media create a unique influence on the state. This force of influence can create public opinion, the basis for the authorities to make appropriate decisions, to carry out the process of restoration or protection of violated rights, the formation of legal consciousness and culture in people. In addition, the media exercise public control by expressing their views on certain political and social processes, draft laws and government decisions on the issues of state and society building.

The media is not directly involved in lawmaking, but it is difficult to imagine the activities of government agencies in the preparation and implementation of important regulations without the participation of this institution. Therefore, together with political parties, public and non-governmental organizations, they play the role of creating social balance as a mediator in the system of relations between the state and the people.

Undoubtedly, such mediation is beneficial for both parties. In turn, it serves as an important bridge for the population to be informed about the policies of government institutions in this or that situation.

Newspapers, magazines, newsletters, newsletters, news agencies, television (cable, terrestrial cable) and radio broadcasts, documentaries, electronic information systems, as well as permanent, state-owned, independent and other periodicals are the media.

The media may publish applications in the manner prescribed by law.

The mass media in the Republic of Uzbekistan is free and operates in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, this law and other legislation.

The media shall have the right to seek, receive and impart information and shall be liable in accordance with the law for the accuracy and truthfulness of the information they publish.

The editorial board of a mass media is formed by the founder and operates in accordance with this law, other legislation and its charter.

An editorial staff member is a person who is on the editorial staff and collects, analyzes, edits and prepares materials. An editorial staff member has the right to conduct a journalistic investigation into a particular incident or situation that he or she has witnessed or received from appeals or other sources, and to use audio and video equipment to gather facts and testimony. Investigative journalism should not interfere with the investigation and trial. [2]

The editorial staff has the right to publish its personal opinion on a particular event or situation in the media, and if the investigation of the event or situation has not been completed, to publish the journalist's assumptions as a personal opinion after the court decision or verdict enters into force.

Legal entities and individuals of the Republic of Uzbekistan have the right to establish mass media. A media outlet can also be established by multiple founders.

The following may not be founders:

persons under the age of eighteen;

persons whose criminal record has not been completed or who have been declared incompetent by a court for an intentional crime;

public associations whose activities are prohibited by law.

Legal entities with a share of foreign investment in the charter capital of more than 30% are not allowed to establish mass media. The memorandum of association and the charter (charter) are the constituent documents of the media outlet. The memorandum of association between several founders contains the following information:

on the names of the founders;

on the type, subject and purpose of the established mass media, periodicity of speeches;

name, postal address of the established mass media;

on the amount of the charter capital of the media, sources of funding and the procedure for its formation;

on the rights and obligations of the founders to participate in the activities of the media;

on the procedure for managing the activities of the media;

on the procedure for distribution of profits;

on the procedure for reorganization, liquidation (termination of the media);

other conditions in accordance with the legislation.

If a person is a founder, he submits his charter to the registration authority.

In a society with a market economy, freedom of speech and pluralism, the media as a powerful tool of social power can withstand different political forces and implement the principle of balance in

the mechanism of state power. emerges as one of the main means of enhancement. It should be noted that the functioning of the media in this capacity largely depends on ensuring their independence.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan stressed the importance of public control, noting that its more effective provision depends in all respects on non-governmental public structures and associations, civil society institutions, and for this purpose, the independence of these structures in practice. He stressed the importance of opening up a wide range of opportunities for their development, as well as the development of organizational and legal mechanisms for their full support and assistance.

As a continuation of the above, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan emphasizes the role of the media in the system of these institutions, that is, in his opinion, the functioning of a free press in real conditions, social, economic and political life. It must boldly raise current issues, bring all issues of concern to the people to public discussion, critically evaluate the decisions and activities of government and administration, as well as objectively. [3]

Public scrutiny of the media ensures that human rights and freedoms are not only guaranteed by the state, but also give priority to the activities of public authorities.

Important aspects and features of public control over the activities of public authorities through the media are reflected in the following principles:

- > the priority of the interests of society and the individual;
- > the comprehensiveness of such public control, that is, it is social implementation in all spheres and spheres of life;
- its popularity, that is, for every citizen and group of citizens

the possibility of participating in the control without exception;

- Transparency in it, that is, the process of its implementation, as well as its results both openness to all and the fact that this control is in the public eye and under observation;
- control is voluntary and impartial;
- ➤ In the process of its implementation, government agencies, officials, the economy not to interfere directly in the activities of business entities, etc. [4]

Also, public control exercised by the media:

- 1. in elections to public authorities;
- 2. during a referendum;
- 3. public discussion of legislation;
- 4. in the practical activities of public authorities and officials;
- 5. in the exercise of the rights and freedoms of citizens, etc.

areas. [5]

Unlike the subjects of state control, the media do not apply legal sanctions (criminal, administrative, disciplinary, etc.) in the exercise of control. After all, public control is one of the social phenomena that occurs by the order of duty and conscience. Violations detected through public scrutiny cannot be hidden from the public.

The legal basis of public control over the media in our country is the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Law "On Guarantees and Freedom of Information", the Law "On Mass Media", the Law "On Protection of Journalism". and a number of other normative legal acts. In particular, Article 5 of the Law on Mass Media stipulates that everyone has the right to appear in the media, to express his or her views and beliefs openly, and to protect the activity of journalists. Article 9 guarantees the right to conduct a journalistic investigation.

The effective functioning of the system of public control by the media leads to the following results:

- > transparency and accountability of public authorities increase;
- ➤ There are negative cases of corruption in government to prevent leakage;
- > increase the efficiency of government;
- increase of public confidence in the authorities;
- > expanding the scope of citizen participation in public administration;
- > joint solution of socio-economic problems and others.

It should be noted that one of the important conditions for the effective implementation of public control is that citizens have information about the activities of public authorities and administration. Timely and full awareness of citizens about the activities of government agencies allows them to influence the activities of government agencies in order to protect their human and legal freedoms, to ensure the effective management and provision of public services. In other words, the full access of individuals and legal entities to public information resources is the basis for public control over the activities of public authorities and administration. In this regard, the development and adoption of the draft law "On transparency of public administration", one of the legislative initiatives put forward by the President in the "Concept of further deepening democratic reforms and further development of civil society in the country". is of particular importance.

Today, the media of our country plays an important role in establishing effective cooperation between government agencies and the public. They are becoming a "fourth power" in practice, objectively fulfilling the tasks of exercising public control over the activities of public authorities and administration.

The need to adopt the law "On transparency of public administration" in the "Concept of further deepening democratic reforms and further development of civil society in the country" was a logical continuation of the ongoing reforms in this area. This initiative is well thought out, finally relevant and of great social significance.

At the same time, we believe that in order for public oversight of the media to be more effective, special attention should be paid to the following aspects:

- ➤ In the current legislation on the activities of the media, when providing materials on topics related to the activities of government agencies and the actions of officials, to establish clear rules on the timing and procedure for their explanation and interpretation of these materials and the return of relevant responses;
- > Further revitalization of the media of political parties and public organizations operating in the political system of our society and increase their impact on socio-political realities;
- ➤ Clearly define the status of the institutes of "journalistic inquiry" and "journalistic investigation", which are one of the methods of public control of the media, in the relevant legislation and create effective mechanisms for their implementation;

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Extensive use of all types of genres covering the social reality in the media, in particular, critical and analytical materials on the activities of public authorities and officials, feuilletons, express surveys of citizens;

Achieving specialization of journalism in various spheres of social life, etc.

The implementation of these important social tasks requires the media to have such qualities as professionalism, impartiality, initiative, courage and civility. As the head of state noted, "it is necessary to strengthen the role, place and essence of non-governmental and social, self-governing organizations and civic institutions, public control over their state-owned enterprises"

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