

Sozialer Schutz der Bevölkerung: Verständnis und Haltung (nach den Materialien der soziologischen Forschung)

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Anmerkung. Der Artikel enthält eine Übersicht über Programme zur sozialen Absicherung der Bevölkerung Usbekistans, den rechtlichen Rahmen für diese Programme. Der Artikel analysiert einige der Ergebnisse einer öffentlichen Meinungsumfrage unter der Bevölkerung Usbekistans, die sich dem Verständnis der bestehenden Mechanismen des sozialen Schutzes widmet.

Schlüsselwörter: Sozialschutz, Sozialschutzprogramme, Sozialversicherung, Sozialdienste.

Social protection of the population: understanding and attitude (according to the materials of sociological research)

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Annotation: The article contains an overview of programs for social protection of the population of Uzbekistan, the legal framework for these programs. The article analyzes some of the results of a public opinion survey of the population of Uzbekistan, dedicated to understanding the existing mechanisms of social protection.

Keywords: social protection, social protection programs, social insurance, social services.

Since Soviet times, Uzbekistan inherited a comprehensive social protection system that was based on the principles of full employment, universal childcare and income security in old age, the latter being financed mainly by social insurance. The main contours of the national system have been preserved, however, obviously, there have been numerous changes in the conditions in which it operates, as well as changes in the mechanisms for managing the system and mechanisms for implementation.

Changing conditions have also led to the proliferation of new schemes - there are now a total of just under 30 programs (see Table 1.), as well as initiatives aimed at developing social services.

Table 1. Social protection programs for the population of Uzbekistan¹⁴

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
1	Social security programs (contributory)	
1.1	(State) old-age pension	Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 938 "On State Pension Provisions for Citizens" dated 03.09.1993; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 30 "On approval of the Regulations on the off-budget Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan"

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
		dated 19.02.2010; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 252 "On approval of regulatory legal acts aimed at further improving the procedure for the appointment and payment of state pensions" dated 09/08/2012; Resolution of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 18 (466) "On approval of the Regulations on the procedure for paying pensions to working pensioners" dated April 30, 2011
1.2	(State) disability pension	Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 938 "On State Pension Provision of Citizens" dated 03.09.1993; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 30 "On approval of the Regulations on the off-budget Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan" dated 19.02.2010; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 252 "On approval of regulatory legal acts aimed at further improving the procedure for the appointment and payment of state pensions" dated 09/08/2012; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 195 "On approval of normative legal acts aimed at further improving the procedure for examining citizens, establishing disability and the degree of loss of professional ability to work by medical and labor expert commissions" dated 01.07.2011; Resolution of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 18 (466) "On approval of the Regulations on the procedure for paying pensions to working pensioners" dated April 30, 2011
1.3	(State) survivor's pension	Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 938 "On State Pension Provision of Citizens" dated 03.09.1993; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 30 "On approval of the Regulations on the off-budget Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan" dated 19.02.2010; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 252 "On approval of regulatory legal acts aimed at further improving the procedure for the appointment and payment of state pensions" dated 09/08/2012.
1.4	Unemployment benefits ¹	Labor Code; Ministry of Labor of the Republic of Uzbekistan, "Regulations on the procedure for registering citizens with labor authorities, their employment, appointment and payment of unemployment benefits" (30.08.1999).
2	Employer's responsibility	
2.1	Temporary disability allowance	Labor Code; Order of the Minister of Labor and Social

¹ Unemployment benefits are listed here under social security and labor market programs . This is because, in theory, they provide for the payment of contributions, but in practice, the line between contributory and tax-funded programs is blurred: few of the unemployed eligible for benefits paid contributions due to widespread informality. the labor market, and benefits are mainly paid to those who have no work experience or a history of paying contributions.

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
2.2	Maternity leave; parental leave until the child reaches the age of three	Protection of the Population of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 21 "On approval of the regulation on the procedure for the appointment and payment of benefits for state social insurance"
2.3	(Lump-sum) childbirth allowance	Labor Code
2.4	Allowance for caring for a child until the age of two (working mothers)	
3	Social assistance programs (non-contributory)	
3.1	Childcare allowance until the child reaches the age of two (childcare allowance)	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the Regulations on the procedure for the appointment and payment of social benefits and material assistance to low-income families"
3.2	Benefit for families with minor children (between the ages of 2-14) (or benefit for families with children under the age of 14 or benefit for families with children)	
3.3	Benefit to low-income families (or material assistance to low-income families (material assistance))	
3.4	Burial allowance	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 174 (June 14, 2011) "On approval of the Regulation on the procedure for assigning and paying burial benefits"
3.5	Old age benefit (for elderly and disabled citizens who do not have the work experience necessary for the appointment of a pension) (social pension)	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 107 (04/07/2011) "On approval of regulatory legal acts necessary for the implementation of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan" On Amendments and Additions to the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On State Pension Provision of Citizens" and the Labor Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan".
3.6	Disability allowance (except for disabled people from childhood) (for elderly and disabled citizens who do not have the work experience necessary for the appointment of a pension) (social pension)	
3.7	Benefit in the event of the loss of a breadwinner (for elderly and disabled citizens who do not have the work experience necessary for the appointment of a pension) (social pension)	
3.8	Social allowance for people with disabilities from childhood (allowance for people with disabilities from childhood over 16 years old)	
3.9	Disabled child allowance	

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
	(allowance for disabled children under the age of 16 and HIV-infected people under the age of eighteen)	
3.10	Cash compensation for utility bills to vulnerable groups (or cash compensation instead of benefits for housing and utility bills)	
Social Assistance Programs In-kind benefits and subsidies		
3.11	Providing free places in public preschool institutions for children from low-income families	Joint Resolution of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Public Education dated August 23, 2016 "On approval of the Regulation on the procedure for paying fees for the maintenance of children in preschool institutions and boarding schools"
3.12	Provision of subsidized places in private (PPP) kindergartens for children from families in need of social support (training of a certain number of pupils from families in need of social support and directed by the district (city) department of preschool education, with the establishment of preferential parental fees for them (in amounts not exceeding those established for state preschool educational institutions in a given area))	Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-3651 "On measures to further stimulate and develop the preschool education system"
3.13	Provision of free winter clothing for schoolchildren from low-income families (free provision of primary school students from low-income families with a set of winter clothes)	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 409 of 20.08.97 "On additional measures to improve the material living conditions of teachers and students"
3.14	Provision of residential care for children left without parental care (provision of state support for children deprived of parental care)	Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On guardianship and guardianship" (2013), The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the prevention of neglect and delinquency among minors" (2010), Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 263 "On improving the system of social support for children left without parental care" (2016) Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 269 "On approval of normative legal acts on the implementation of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan" On guardianship and trusteeship "(2014) Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 110 "On approval of the Regulation on the procedure for submitting information about children left without parental care to the guardianship and

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
		guardianship authorities"; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 230 "On Approval of the Regulation on the Mehribonlik House"; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 158 "On approval of the Regulations on family-type children's homes"
3.15	<p>Provision of state support for children with disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducting a needs assessment and referral to specialized services - social adaptation and integration of children with disabilities - Consultations for parents and relatives of children with disabilities on the integration and rehabilitation of children - Free medical treatment in specialized institutions - Free education in boarding schools for children with disabilities 	<p>Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 171 on children's homes; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 256 on state specialized educational institutions (boarding schools) of the sanatorium type; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 240 on specialized boarding schools for disabled children</p> <p>Joint resolution of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Finance (June 25, 2016) on the procedure for paying fees for the maintenance of children in preschool institutions and boarding schools</p>
3.16	<p>Social rehabilitation of minor children with problematic behavior (Children in conflict with the law, street children, children who drop out of school and experience difficulties with behavior</p> <p>Social rehabilitation of minors in a difficult social situation)</p>	<p>The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the prevention of neglect and delinquency among minors" (2010), Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 13 "On additional measures to improve the activities of commissions on juvenile affairs" (2011) and Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures for further improving the system of crime prevention and combating crime "(2017)</p>
3.17	<p>State support of lonely elderly citizens and invalids in boarding homes "Sakhovat" and boarding homes for disabled people "Muruvvat"</p>	<p>Law of Uzbekistan No. 3PY-415 dated 26.12.2016 "On social services for the elderly, disabled people and other socially vulnerable categories of the population" (http://www.lex.uz/docs/3083194).</p> <p>Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 455 of 03.07.2017 "On measures to further strengthen social support for disabled people and the elderly living in boarding houses" Muruvvat "and" Sakhovat "http://www.lex.uz/ru/docs/3258047) ...</p> <p>Order of the Ministry of Health No. 2785 of 05/12/2016 "On approval of the rules for registration of lonely elderly and disabled people in the Republican boarding house for war and labor veterans, Sakhovat and Muruvvat boarding houses of the system of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan" (http:// www.lex.uz/ru/docs/2953857).</p>
3.18	<p>Provision of free drugs (13 categories of vulnerable groups of the population)</p>	<p>Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 265-I of August 29, 1996 "On the protection of the health of citizens" (http://www.lex.uz/docs/41329);</p> <p>Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 3PY-399 dated 04.01.2016 "On medicines and pharmaceutical</p>

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
		activities" (http://www.lex.uz/docs/2856466); Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 204 of July 22, 2013 "On measures to further improve the procedure for providing certain categories of persons with medicines on a preferential basis" (http://www.lex.uz/docs/2211624); Resolution of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance No. 2522 of 13.11.2013 "On approval of the list of medicines intended for preferential provision in outpatient treatment" (http://www.lex.uz/docs/2270349).
3.19	Provision of free prosthetic and orthopedic products (for 3 categories of disability)	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 204 dated July 22, 2013 "On measures to further improve the procedure for providing certain categories of persons with medicines on a preferential basis" (http://www.lex.uz/docs/2211624).
3.20	Free travel in city or suburban public transport within the administrative district (for 7 categories of vulnerable groups of the population)	Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 278-I of 30.08.1996 "On the regulation of free use of urban passenger transport" (http://www.lex.uz/ru/docs/39857).
3.21	Providing single pensioners with free food (9 types of basic products)	The procedure for the provision of social assistance to lonely elderly people, pensioners and disabled people No. 900 dated. 02/23/2000 (http://lex.uz/ru/docs/515427).
3.22	Provision of free textbooks for 1) students of boarding schools for children with disabilities and 2) those who study in schools for children with special needs (the cost of providing textbooks for students from among the pupils of Mehribonlik homes, specialized schools and boarding schools)	Regulations on the procedure for providing secondary schools with textbooks and teaching aids, approved by Joint Resolution No. 2577 of the Ministry of Public Education, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Culture and Sports, the Uzbek Agency for Press and Information 04/28/2014
3.23	Social assistance at home for lonely citizens in need of constant care	The procedure for the provision of social assistance to lonely elderly people, pensioners and disabled people No. 900 dated. 02/23/2000 (http://lex.uz/ru/docs/515427).
4	Labor market programs	
4.1	Public Works	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 799 dated October 5, 2017 "On organizing the activities of the Public Works Fund under the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan"
4.2	Vocational training and retraining of the unemployed	Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-616 of April 6, 2007 "On measures to increase employment and improve the activities of bodies for labor and social protection of the population"
4.3	Unemployment benefits	Labor Code; Ministry of Labor of the Republic of Uzbekistan, "Regulations on the procedure for

No.	Name of social protection scheme / program	Relevant legislation
		registering citizens with labor authorities, their employment, appointment and payment of unemployment benefits" (30.08.1999).

Overall, these changes have led to a shift from a predominantly universal program system to a mixed system that combines both non-contributory and non-contributory funding sources with inclusive and targeted elements.

The Constitution of Uzbekistan speaks of social protection as a fundamental human right not only in case of loss of a breadwinner, but also in terms of the rights to social protection in old age, disability and in other cases provided for by law.² The main goals of the system are defined in legislative acts, decrees and decrees of the President. However, despite the priority given to social protection issues in Uzbekistan, the country has neither an officially accepted definition of social protection, nor a dedicated institution to design, coordinate and manage the various programs that currently exist. The social protection system is distributed among different institutions and none of them has overall responsibility for coordinating, monitoring or integrating different types of interventions.

In addition, attempts are being made to optimize a number of social protection programs at the same time, but the links between individual programs and their impact on the population and the system as a whole are not fully developed. This circumstance complicates the effective implementation of these programs, since international experience shows that optimization at the level of one program may not be optimal from the point of view of the entire system and / or an individual beneficiary.

A well-coordinated strategic framework is needed to consolidate and strengthen Uzbekistan's social protection system at the strategic, organizational / managerial and programmatic levels. The need for institutional consolidation, harmonization and expansion of programs is also recommended in the national report on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [2] The report highlights the potential linkages between the SDGs and the National Development Strategy 2017-2021, including prioritizing social protection. In addition, it highlights social policy as one of the "acceleration platforms" for achieving the SDGs [3].

The National Development Strategy defines broad goals for the development of the social sphere. The priority of improving the social protection system means the need to solve the problem of the lack of a long-term strategic vision for the development of the system, to strengthen its elements of social insurance, social assistance and labor market programs with the establishment of strong links between social insurance and social services systems; and improved coordination between different agencies at the horizontal and vertical levels.

² Article 39 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

However, in order to make this important contribution, the social protection system must have a clear vision with short, medium and long term goals, and must be provided with sufficient resources.

Currently, after undergoing numerous changes, the system is facing a number of structural problems. These include the lack of a clear strategy and overall coordination of the system, limited coverage of the population with key programs, and problems with the financing of the system. In recent analyst reports, it has already been noted that the system is facing implementation problems, which leads to sub-optimal results for users.^[6] Without appropriate and timely action, there is a risk that the ongoing reform process will exacerbate the long-term challenges facing the current system, limiting its ability to respond flexibly to new challenges.

In this context, it is important to conduct scientific research of the social protection system, to understand the mechanisms of functioning and response of the real beneficiaries of this system - the population.

To assess public understanding of the social protection system, the Republican Center for the Study of Public Opinion "Ijtimoiy Fikr" from 14 to 18 September 2021 conducted a public opinion poll "**Citizens of the social protection of the population: status, expectations and prospects**", in which the surveyed respondents aged from 18 years and older, of which 54.9% are men and 45.1% are women.^[7]

Understanding of the essence of social protection by the population contributes to the formation of a specific request for assistance among members of society. In the course of a telephone survey, the content of social ideas of Uzbeks about social protection was revealed (*Table 1*). A third of respondents (33.8%) were unable to define the concept of "social protection", and almost every tenth respondent found it difficult to answer (12.8%). In other words, almost every second respondent lacks an understanding of the category of social protection.

Table 1. **Representatives of respondents about social protection,%**

No.	Answer options	%
1	Measures to protect the entire population	25.9
2	Protecting vulnerable populations	10,7
3	Measures to ensure the quality of life of the entire population	10.5
4	Measures to ensure equal access to social protection for all who need it throughout their lives	4.5
5	Poverty reduction measures	4.3
6	Providing the population with work	4.3
7	Legal protection of the population	3.4
8	Measures to Protect the Disabled Population	1.9
9	Measures for social protection and provision of social assistance, services and insurance	1.9
10	Measures for the Protection of Minor Children	0.9
11	Do not know	33.8
¹²	I am at a loss to answer	12.8

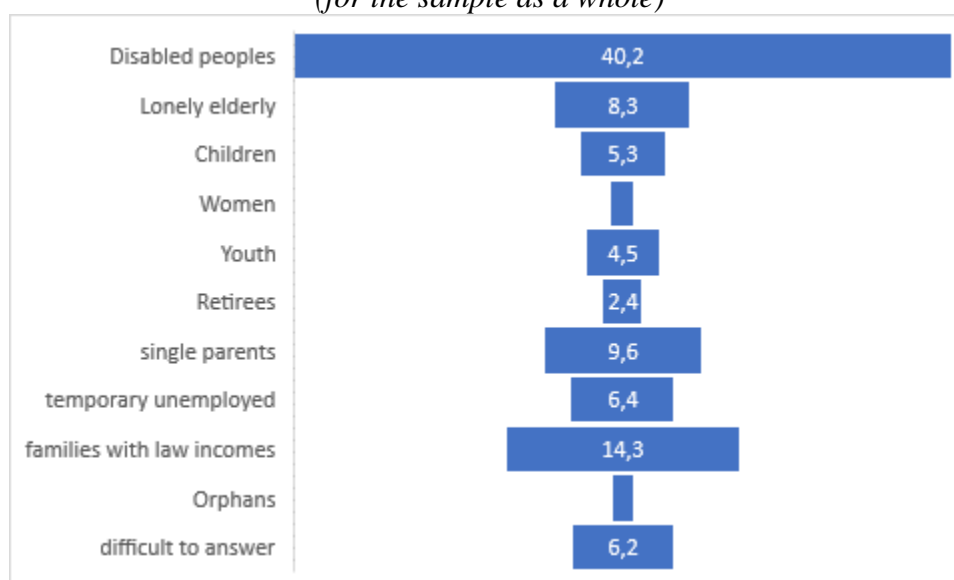
* respondents were given the opportunity to give more than one answer option

To a greater extent, the respondents are of the opinion that social protection can be defined through measures to protect the entire population (25.9%), its vulnerable layers (10.7%) or ensure the quality of life of the entire population (10.5%).

A meaningful analysis of the remaining answers shows that the respondents, when defining social protection, indicated either specific services (for example, providing the population with work, legal protection), or potential recipients of services (for example, the disabled population, minor children, strata of the population in need of social protection) ...

The respondents believe that, first of all, people with disabilities should be provided with social protection (20.2%) (*Fig. 1*). In addition, the focus of the social protection system, according to the respondents, should be low-income families (14.3%), single parents with children (9.6%) and single elderly people (8.3%).

Fig 1. Representatives of respondents about the population groups that should be provided with social protection in the first place, %
(for the sample as a whole)



Thus, the respondents' awareness of social protection ranges from complete ignorance of its characteristics to its definition as measures to provide assistance to the entire population. At the same time, the survey recorded the adherence of the respondents to the idea that social protection should primarily be focused on persons with disabilities, as well as low-income families, single parents with children, single elderly people.

References

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