



Prospects of forming an intolerant attitude towards corruption in society based on raising the legal consciousness and legal culture of the population

Akbarkhon Azamov

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Tashkent State University of Law Master's degree student

Izzatullayevich2000@gmail.com

Abstract: This study investigates the prospects of developing an intolerant attitude towards corruption within society by enhancing legal consciousness and legal culture among the population. By examining the relationship between legal awareness, civic education, and anti-corruption sentiment, this research aims to identify key factors that contribute to fostering a zero-tolerance attitude towards corrupt practices. Using a mixed-methods approach, data were collected from surveys, interviews, and case studies across various demographic groups. The findings indicate that higher levels of legal consciousness and a robust legal culture significantly correlate with decreased tolerance for corruption. Furthermore, the study highlights the pivotal role of educational programs, media campaigns, and community engagement in cultivating a legally aware and ethically responsible populace. The implications of these findings suggest that targeted initiatives aimed at raising legal consciousness can effectively contribute to the eradication of corruption. This research underscores the importance of a comprehensive strategy that integrates legal education, public awareness, and institutional reforms to build a corruption-intolerant society.



Key words: Anti-corruption, economic growth, developing countries, governance, transparency, governance, accountability, ethical behaviour, corruption intolerance, public integrity, institutional reform.

In a world where trust is the currency of progress, corruption stands as the greatest thief of hope. Raising the legal consciousness and legal culture of the population is essential for nurturing a societal intolerance towards corruption and fostering an environment of transparency and integrity. The formation of a legal culture within a population is a dynamic and ongoing process that requires sustained efforts at multiple levels. By progressing through these stages - awareness, understanding, application, internalization, and empowerment - societies can cultivate a robust legal culture that promotes justice, fairness, and the rule of law. Effective legal culture formation involves a combination of education, practical engagement, institutional support, and cultural integration, ensuring that legal principles become deeply embedded in the fabric of society.

In our current life, raising legal awareness and fostering a legal culture in our society is crucial to ensuring the rule of law and constructing a truly democratic state founded on civil society and the rule of law. The primary characteristic of the rule of law, in addition to the indicator of its formation, which is based on the state of democracy and the development of institutions that support social and legal activity, as well as the level of society, citizens, and legal culture. Simultaneously, developing a system that works well is crucial for forming the public's legal culture and legal awareness. In this sense, the new Uzbek society also faces several issues, which are summed up as follows legal nihilism and infantilism; low legal awareness and legal culture in society; growing instances of legal disorder; lack of legal culture in all areas of life, including daily interactions with others (citizens lack the knowledge of the state's legal system and current legislation, making them unable to exercise their rights and obligations or protect their interests); insufficient activity



of the mass media, particularly in the area of underdeveloped investigative journalism; inconsistent legal education and upbringing of the populace, particularly the younger generation; and ineffective mass media activity.

Besides that, several factors can hinder the formation of legal consciousness among the population. For instance, lack of access to legal information, so when individuals lack access to understandable and comprehensive legal information, they may struggle to understand their rights and responsibilities within the legal system. Secondly complexity of legal language. Legal documents and terminology are often complex and difficult for the average person to comprehend. This linguistic barrier can alienate individuals from engaging with the legal system. Thirdly inadequate legal education. Insufficient education on legal matters in schools and communities can result in a population that lacks basic knowledge of their legal rights and the workings of the legal system. Fourthly, cultural and social norms. Cultural attitudes and social norms may prioritize informal dispute-resolution mechanisms over formal legal avenues, leading individuals to overlook or distrust the legal system. Furthermore, widespread corruption and inefficiency within the legal system can erode public trust and confidence, discouraging individuals from engaging with the law or seeking redress through legal channels. Addressing these factors requires a multi-faceted approach that includes improving legal education, enhancing access to legal information and services, promoting transparency and accountability within the legal system, and addressing systemic inequalities and discrimination. The prospects for developing legal consciousness and legal culture among the population as a means to combat corruption are promising and multifaceted. By fostering a deep understanding of legal principles and nurturing a culture that values transparency and accountability, societies can significantly reduce corruption. Based on my scientific research, I would like to offer as many solutions as possible to overcome the above-mentioned problems and the factors that hinder them. It seems to me that we should focus on enhanced public awareness and education. Implementing comprehensive civic education programs in schools and universities can



instil a strong foundation of legal knowledge and ethical behaviour from an early age. And also stronger legal frameworks. Moreover, legal reforms can affect. Updating and enforcing robust anti-corruption laws and regulations can provide a clear legal framework that discourages corrupt practices. So, enhancing the capacity of judicial and law enforcement institutions to effectively address corruption cases ensures that legal principles are upheld. In the meantime civic participation, facilitating greater involvement of citizens in governance and decision-making processes fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility towards maintaining a corruption-free society. And also I can say without any doubt that legal clinics are a powerful tool for increasing citizens' legal knowledge. They provide accessible, practical, and personalized legal education, especially to underserved communities. By empowering individuals with the knowledge of their rights and the legal process, legal clinics foster a more legally informed and proactive citizenry. To maximize their impact, it is essential to support and expand these clinics, ensuring they reach as many people as possible and address a wide range of legal issues. Besides that in our modernized life media outreach is also an important factor. Leveraging traditional and social media to disseminate information about legal rights and the consequences of corruption can influence public perceptions and behaviour. Utilizing technology for transparency, such as e-governance platforms, can reduce opportunities for corrupt practices by streamlining processes and increasing accountability. By pursuing these prospects, societies can develop a strong legal consciousness and legal culture that collectively work towards eradicating corruption. The key lies in a comprehensive approach that combines education, legal reform, community engagement, and the effective use of technology and media. Such efforts can lead to a more informed, responsible, and ethically conscious population, ultimately contributing to a transparent and accountable society.

The Roman Empire's legal culture stands out in ancient times due to its comprehensive development of legal principles, extensive codification efforts, and lasting influence on subsequent legal systems around the world. The sophistication of Roman law,



coupled with its emphasis on rights, duties, and procedural fairness, set a high standard for legal culture that continues to resonate in modern legal traditions. The countries with the most legally literate populations typically have robust legal education, transparent legal systems, and strong civic engagement. In Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Canada many people have a high level of legal culture. The reason for these high results is the above-mentioned facts. The main reason is the result of the combination of strong educational systems, transparent and accessible legal frameworks, and cultural norms that emphasize the importance of the rule of law and civic engagement. These factors together create an environment where legal literacy is high and citizens are well-informed about their rights and responsibilities.

The formation of an intolerant attitude towards corruption in society hinges critically on raising the legal consciousness and legal culture of the population. Through comprehensive educational programs, public awareness campaigns, and community engagement, individuals can be empowered with the knowledge and understanding of legal principles and their rights. Stronger legal frameworks, institutional reforms, and the utilization of media and technology play pivotal roles in disseminating legal knowledge and promoting transparency. Furthermore, fostering partnerships with civil society and international organizations, coupled with ethical leadership and continuous monitoring, can amplify these efforts. As the populace becomes more legally conscious and culturally attuned to the principles of justice and accountability, a collective intolerance towards corruption can be achieved. This shift not only enhances the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures but also builds a resilient society where integrity and ethical behavior are the norm. Therefore, the prospects for developing a corruption-intolerant society through elevated legal consciousness and culture are not only promising but essential for sustainable development and good governance.



While it's difficult to predict the precise trajectory of legal culture development in the future, several overarching trends suggest that legal systems will continue to evolve in response to changing societal, technological, and environmental dynamics. Increased globalization, advancements in technology, shifting social norms, demographic changes, environmental challenges, and governance reforms are likely to shape the future landscape of legal culture. Flexibility, adaptability, and a commitment to fundamental principles of justice and fairness will be essential for legal systems to effectively address emerging challenges and meet the evolving needs of societies.

References:

1. Rose-Ackerman, S. (1999). *Corruption and Government: Causes, Consequences, and Reform*. Cambridge University Press.
2. OECD. (2017). "Preventing Policy Capture: Integrity in Public Decision Making."
3. Zúñiga, N. (2020). "The Role of Civil Society in Combating Corruption." Transparency International.
4. Johnston, M. (2014). *Corruption, Contention, and Reform: The Power of Deep Democratization*. Cambridge University Press.
5. "The Influence of Roman Law on Modern Legal Systems" by Michael H. Hoeflich
6. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (2004). United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). Retrieved from https://www.unodc.org/documents/brussels/UN_Convention_Against_Corruption.pdf