

THE ESSENCE AND WAYS OF LEGITIMIZING POLITICAL POWER IN UKRAINE

Relevance of the topic. This topic is relevant because many people have heard about legitimacy but I am not sure that all of us know the real essence of this political term. And after understanding the definition of legitimacy we should know about ways of legitimizing political power, especially in Ukraine, to warn yourself against illegal actions.

Purpose: to study the ways of legitimizing political power in modern Ukraine.

Tasks:

- to learn types of legitimacy by Max Weber
- to study the sources of political legitimacy
- to find out the ways of legitimizing political power
- to discover the legitimizing situation in Ukraine

Discourse of the topic. First of all, to find the answer to this problem we have to understand everything correctly. So, legitimacy is commonly defined in political science and sociology as the belief that a rule, institution, or leader has the right to govern.

As legitimacy is a need that is considered as a basic condition of rule, there are three legitimacy types according to Max Weber: traditional, charismatic and rational-legal. The first one is traditional type. German philosopher said that this one is about accepting those political actions that derives from social custom and habit because of the history and authority of tradition. This type is usually used in tribes and monarchical states where people accept traditions. Charismatic type comes from leader's ideas and charisma. This person must have an authority among people, he can persuade nation with his psychological tricks to rule the country. He can speak confidently, can choose words properly and cautiously. This type of legitimacy makes a weak government because of the fact that all institutions listen to a certain person who will be changed one day. That is why charismatic type is more temporary than others. And the last type is rational-legal. It is used in democratic countries. Principle is simple: everything is controlled by laws and rules and everything can be changed by people.

Many researchers are trying to study the fact that usually in democratic countries all legitimacy is based on trust. But they also discovered that even when people have distrust or they disagree with ruling government their amount only decreasing and they rarely declare about their positions.

There are also different sources of legitimacy in democratic states. For example, it is consent. It means that agreement of those governed is a necessary condition for the legitimacy of political authority but it is not a direct condition for legitimacy, and those governed by that authority are under an obligation to consent. The next one is results which means all actions made from government have to be worthy. I think that sometimes people can deal with problems made by government if they can be sure in better future.

Next one is about the ways of legitimizing political power. According to means of mobilizing influence, political legitimacy can be democratic and authoritarian. The first one is about formal procedures as elections or referendums and about compliance with legal norms, free and honest media, about gaining trust and making public performances to be open to people. This way of legitimizing is used in many countries in order to understand wills of their people and to make sure that they trust the government, accept it and listen to its rules. On the other hand, there is an authoritarian legitimacy which sounds unclear due to the definition of legitimacy. This way is about manipulating and intimidation of people. Political power is legitimized by real power, so people in this situation do not have all rights to change it or to express their opinion against the government.

And finally, about Ukraine. Nation do not trust our politicians so people are not aware of all mechanism that is formed in country. So, in Ukraine as in democratic state there are elections – the President and the senate elections. If we are talking about the strategy politics, I think we do not have one because many decisions are made in hurry or due to the circumstances. Everyone, who comes to politics, has their own strategy so every 5 years we can see reforms which usually differ from previous ones. Legitimacy of ruling power is directly connected with its efficiency where we have problem with the government that do not have clear demarcation of its branches. We also have a lot of different points of view about the certain situations in politics life or actions so it is hard to understand the problem fully. That is why Ukrainians choose to be away from politics. Each year politicians make steps to become more open to people to gain trust which means to legitimize their power. But unfortunately, we still have problems with our political power, that is why we also have many questions to politician's legitimacy in Ukraine. For example, many of politicians use such methods as promises, blackmail and compulsion. They often use manipulative legitimacy.

Conclusions. Legitimacy is one of the main points of political power. It has collective effects when it is widely shared in a society. In domestic political life, these effects may include a stable social order. And Ukrainian process of legitimizing is based on decreasing the level of trust. Even with democratic elections, free access to e-declarations made by our politicians. But at the same time, we start the process of legitimizing our politics so I believe in the future we will have positive results. And finally, I have learnt the types of legitimacy and its sources and have discovered the ways of legitimizing political power in Ukraine.

Literature

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