Wah Academia Journal of Social Sciences
Volume 5, Issue 3, Sep 2026, pp. 271-282
ISSN – E 2958-8731 P 2958-8723
https://doi.org/10.63954/7n8da329

The Socio-Philosophical Content of The Genesis and Evolution of Political Parties

Nuraliyev Sardor Sarvar ugli [1]

Abstract

This article examines the genesis and evolution of political parties. Drawing on the political system of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the author seeks to provide a socio-philosophical analysis of the activities of political parties. Based on the works of philosophers of Antiquity and the Modern Era, the article substantiates the role and place of political parties within the political system. Particular attention is also paid to the importance of taking public interests into account in organizing the activities of political parties. As dynamic structures, political parties not only reflect existing ideas and interests but also contribute to shaping the broader socio-economic environment. The article highlights their influence on civic engagement and democratic participation.

Keywords: Uzbekistan, political party, system, interests, people, youth, ideology

Introduction

Political parties serve as important organizations within democratic systems, representing societal interests and facilitating citizens' political participation. They embody ideological perspectives and policy objectives, acting as intermediaries between voters and state authorities. As modern societies face increasingly complex social and economic conditions, political parties are also evolving to reflect changing public opinion and societal priorities. As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, has emphasized, "Any political party can survive as a political force only if it keeps pace with the times and responds to its pressing demands". (Mirziyoyev, 2017, p. 549) This, in turn, encourages a broader understanding of political parties—not merely in terms of their electoral

[1]Independent researcher, Andijan State Pedagogical Institute – Uzbekistan

functions, but also in terms of their role in shaping political discourse and social movements.

The study of political parties is crucial for understanding governance processes and the representation of diverse interests within society. Political parties serve to bring together the views of citizens whose individual perspectives may differ, integrating them into a unified political platform and thereby shaping the political landscape. Furthermore, they play an important role in the processes of political socialization, increasing civic engagement, and fostering a sense of civic responsibility. As noted, "The main functions of political parties with a democratic character today include consolidating the interests of individual citizens, social strata, and groups, elevating them to the level of a comprehensive set of political interests, representing the interests of the social groups on which they rely within the political system, actively participating in the formation of government through elections, legitimizing state decisions and ensuring their acceptance by society, as well as facilitating the political socialization of citizens".(Jalilov, 2020, pp. 50–51)

Literature review and methodology. By examining the historical development and socio-philosophical context of political parties, scholars can gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of power relations and governance systems. This is particularly relevant to contemporary analyses that integrate institutional structures through a critical examination of institutional analysis applied in political contexts, as emphasized in recent studies. Such approaches highlight the importance of examining the interaction between political parties and broader socio-economic factors, thereby providing deeper insights into their enduring influence on democracy and societal development.

The earliest forms of political organization were characterized by various structures that laid the foundations for modern political parties. Initially, communities were formed on the basis of kinship and tribal ties, with leaders emerging through social relationships and collective consensus. These rudimentary structures became increasingly complex as societies transitioned from nomadic to sedentary lifestyles, enabling the development of governance systems capable of coordinating agricultural and economic activities. As ideological differences began to emerge, particularly between liberal and conservative currents, interactions among civic groups became crucial in shaping political discourse.

CC BY

Philosophers such as John Locke and Montesquieu advocated the principles of democracy and the separation of powers, influencing the development of political structures that prioritized citizen participation and accountability. (Beshta, 2023, p. 9) The Enlightenment encouraged the critical examination of political ideologies and emphasized the importance of rational thought in social life. In this way, it contributed to the development of political parties as associations advocating specific ideas based on Enlightenment principles. These transformations demonstrate the enduring influence of Enlightenment ideas on the formation of modern political values.

The emergence of early political parties provides important insights into the social and philosophical foundations of political organization. The examples of the Federalists and Democratic-Republicans in the United States demonstrate how political groups shaped systems of governance and societal values. The Federalists advocated a strong central government based on the principles of order and progress. In contrast, the Democratic-Republicans defended individual liberties and agrarian values, highlighting the tension between governmental authority and personal freedom. These ideological differences were not merely theoretical; they resonated deeply with the public, influencing voter behavior and civic identity.

Furthermore, the development of these parties demonstrates that political affiliation is often intertwined with broader social issues. This reflects debates over property rights and privileges, which, in turn, are closely linked to fundamental conceptions of human nature and legal structures, as emphasized by Bertram et al. (Bertram, 2013). Therefore, these examples clearly illustrate the complex relationship between early political parties and the evolving social philosophies that continue to shape democratic practices today.

The relationship between social dynamics and political parties is a crucial aspect of understanding the development of political systems. Political parties serve not only as instruments of political representation but also as a mirror reflecting the social foundations of their constituencies. As noted, “Political parties operate by representing the worldviews and interests of various social groups within society, thereby creating the conditions for citizens to participate actively in governance and political processes. Moreover, it is through citizens’ socio-political engagement that their political culture develops and advances.” (Rakhimov, 2020, p. 47) They are

CC BY

shaped through interactions among various social groups, a process that can either contribute to social cohesion or lead to social fragmentation.

The complex relationship between social class and party affiliation reveals underlying tensions within the contemporary political landscape. This is particularly evident as political parties seek to adapt to the changing values of society. Historically, class dynamics played a crucial role in shaping the identities of political parties and their electoral strategies. The development of political parties is closely intertwined with the dynamics of social movements, which serve as catalysts for ideological change and political renewal. Social movements often emerge in response to perceived injustices, bringing citizens together around shared grievances and aspirations.

At this point, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan criticized political parties, stating: “Today, we cannot say that political parties are fully and effectively fulfilling the promises they made to their electorate and the commitments outlined in their pre-election programs. They have still been unable to establish a strong position in the socio-political life of our country and in the consciousness of citizens.” This collective dynamic may hinder political parties from adapting their programs, reflecting the values of contemporary society, and accommodating diverse perspectives. The historical context of these movements demonstrates that parties must not only respond to demands for change but also transform themselves in the process, leading to shifts in political alliances and electoral strategies.

Analysis and Results. The relationship between gender and political parties is an important factor in understanding the development of political parties. Historically, political parties have often reflected prevailing gender-role norms in society, which has resulted in the insufficient participation of women in leadership positions and decision-making processes. However, in recent decades, there has been a shift toward more inclusive practices, with political parties increasingly recognizing the importance of gender diversity in ensuring equal representation. As noted, “Today, as a result of our wide-ranging democratic reforms, the participation of women in socio-political processes is steadily increasing. The fact that a woman serves as the Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis and that women have begun serving as heads of districts is a noteworthy development not only in our region but also at the international level.

CC BY

The interplay between gender and political parties constitutes a critical analytical lens for understanding the evolution, institutional transformation, and democratic development of political parties. Historically, political parties have tended to reproduce and reinforce prevailing gender norms and socially constructed gender roles, which, in turn, have contributed to the persistent underrepresentation of women in party leadership, political decision-making, and other positions of political influence. Such patterns of exclusion have not only limited women's substantive participation in political processes but have also constrained the diversity of perspectives represented within party institutions.

Over the past several decades, however, political parties in many contexts have increasingly moved toward more inclusive institutional practices. This shift has been accompanied by a growing recognition that gender diversity is an essential component of representative democracy and that the meaningful participation of women in political institutions can contribute to more inclusive and responsive decision-making. Consequently, gender equality has increasingly emerged not merely as a question of numerical representation, but as an important dimension of political party institutionalization, internal democracy, and democratic legitimacy. In Uzbekistan, these developments have become increasingly visible in the context of the country's broader democratic reforms. As noted in an official statement:

"Today, as a result of our wide-ranging democratic reforms, the participation of women in political and social processes is steadily increasing. The fact that the Chairperson of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis is a woman, together with the appointment of women as district governors, represents a noteworthy development not only for our region but also in the international context. According to the results of the parliamentary and local council elections held in December 2019, 48 of the 150 deputies elected to the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, representing 32 percent, were women, while women accounted for 25 percent of the membership of the Senate and local councils. This figure demonstrates that, for the first time in the history of Uzbekistan, the proportion of women in the national parliament had reached a level consistent with the recommendations established by the United Nations." (O'zbekistonning ma'rifatparvar ayollari, 2021)

The increasing political representation of women in Uzbekistan should therefore be understood as part of a broader process of institutional and political transformation rather than merely as an increase in the number of women occupying elected

positions. Greater female participation may indicate an ongoing reconfiguration of political party structures, recruitment practices, leadership patterns, and policy priorities. In this sense, the incorporation of women into political decision-making can contribute to the diversification of political agendas and to the representation of a broader range of social interests and perspectives.

Accordingly, the relationship between gender and political parties should be examined not solely through the quantitative dimension of women's representation, but also through the extent to which political parties create institutional mechanisms that facilitate women's meaningful participation, leadership, and influence. From this perspective, gender inclusiveness represents an important indicator of the capacity of political parties to adapt to changing social expectations, strengthen internal democratic practices, and enhance the representativeness and legitimacy of political institutions. The ongoing transformation of gender relations within political parties thus reflects a broader process through which political institutions reconsider their organizational structures and ideological orientations in order to accommodate a more diverse range of voices and perspectives.

The relationship between ethnicity and identity in party politics serves as a fundamental axis around which political loyalties and strategies are formed. Ethnic groups often unite around shared cultural narratives and historical experiences, which can significantly influence party platforms and electoral outcomes. This phenomenon underscores the need to recognize diverse identities within the political arena, as acknowledging cultural contexts can contribute to more inclusive forms of governance. (Davidov, 2022)

The philosophical foundations of political parties are crucial to understanding their origins and development, as they encompass diverse ideological frameworks that shape political thought and action. Political parties are not merely tactical organizations; rather, they represent a synthesis of social philosophies reflecting different worldviews and values. The interaction of these philosophical perspectives influences their formation and functioning, which are grounded in theories addressing the nature of governance, rights, and social obligations.

As emphasized in contemporary philosophical debates, the development of political parties can be examined in depth through their relationship with democratic principles and theories of justice. For example, key works on social contract theory

CC BY

provide insights into the social contracts underlying party ideologies, revealing the intrinsic relationship between political structures and moral considerations. (Klass, 2014)

Discussion. Political party ideology encompasses a system of beliefs, values, and normative principles that guides a party's activities, policy positions, and political objectives. Understanding ideological change is essential for examining the dynamics of political parties and, more broadly, the evolving nature of the democratic landscape. Ideologies shape party platforms, influence political decision-making, and frequently reflect broader societal transformations, shifts in public attitudes, and cultural change. Accordingly, the transformation of party ideologies can provide important insights into the underlying mechanisms of political adaptation and institutional change.

A notable example of such ideological and political transformation can be observed in Uzbekistan in 2025, when the parliamentary factions of the Movement of Entrepreneurs and Businesspeople — the Liberal Democratic Party of Uzbekistan (UzLiDeP) — and the Milliy Tiklanish Democratic Party jointly established the "Development Bloc" (Taraqqiyot Bloki) within the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis. At the same time, the People's Democratic Party of Uzbekistan declared its position as an opposition force in relation to the bloc.

This development illustrates how political platforms and ideological orientations that have evolved over the years may undergo transformation in response to changing political configurations and institutional dynamics. The emergence of the "Development Bloc" and the positioning of the People's Democratic Party as an opposition force demonstrate that party ideology is not necessarily static; rather, it may be reshaped by political alliances, changing institutional relationships, strategic considerations, and broader developments within the political system. From this perspective, the formation of parliamentary blocs and the emergence of opposition alignments can serve as important indicators of ideological repositioning and political adaptation. Examining these processes from both the bloc and opposition perspectives therefore provides an opportunity to assess how established political platforms and ideological positions are being reinterpreted and transformed in response to the changing configuration of Uzbekistan's contemporary party system. Theories of democracy and representation have evolved significantly, reflecting the changing values of society and the challenges of contemporary governance. Critical

CC BY

analysis reveals a tension between traditional representative democracy and emerging forms such as e-democracy, which aim to increase participation and transparency in political processes. Perspectives supporting the modernization of democracy focus on reducing the gap between decision-makers and stakeholders and encouraging direct communication with voters. The ethical dimensions of listening in democratic practices highlight the importance of recognizing diverse voices, particularly those of groups marginalized from social life.

The ideological foundations of political parties serve as the cornerstones that shape their beliefs, policies, and overall role in society. These foundations not only reflect historical circumstances but also demonstrate how changes occurring over time influence the development of political parties. For example, as states grapple with contemporary issues such as globalization and national identity, political parties are often compelled to reshape their ideological positions in accordance with current public opinion. The opposition between traditionalism and modernity, examined by Anthony Smith, clearly illustrates the tension between established forms of national identity and emerging socio-political structures formed within this context. (Kaufmann, 2002, p. 112) The transformational approach demonstrates how domestic reforms and international agreements can reshape party ideology, thereby strengthening the interrelationship between internal processes and external influences.

The concept of the public interest is closely linked to the formation of party platforms and serves as a fundamental principle guiding political ideologies and legislative programs. Political parties often build their platforms around the idea of the public interest, promoting policies that they claim will improve the well-being of society. This framework reflects a broader philosophical debate concerning the nature of collective and individual interests, in which party platforms serve as a means of articulating collective needs. Furthermore, networked information technologies demonstrate that the design and regulatory measures implemented can influence collective citizenship and social norms, emphasizing the need for the concept of the public interest to evolve alongside technological progress.

When examining the ethical dimensions inherent in party politics, it is necessary to recognize the complexities of the ideological diversity that shapes political thought and action. The interaction among different civic groups, such as liberal and conservative movements, represents an important ethical arena in which competing

CC BY

values struggle for dominance. As illustrated by the political life of Uzbekistan, the struggle between these ideologies not only reflects diverse ethical perspectives but also calls into question the idea of a unified societal agenda.

Furthermore, it broadly reflects the principle of fairness in political representation, in line with theorists who emphasize the need for equitable policies that serve the interests of all parties. These ethical negotiations constitute the foundation for the development of political parties and their role in society.

From a socio-philosophical perspective, the development of political parties reveals profound insights into human nature and collective identity. In the process of their formation, political parties embody the moral obligations that govern interpersonal agreements. This demonstrates the delicate relationship between individual preferences and collective responsibilities. This dynamic is closely associated with the study of legal consciousness, whereby contractual obligations may be based not only on cost-benefit calculations but also on deeper moral structures and social instincts that bind individuals together within society. Furthermore, the system of individual rights and collective expectations forms a complex legal framework within which political parties operate. This reveals the intricate relationships among various rights and obligations that determine governance and economic relations. Ultimately, political parties serve not only as instruments of representation but also as essential structures through which we discuss and negotiate our collective values and aspirations within an ever-changing political environment.

The study of the socio-philosophical aspects underlying the emergence and development of political parties provides important insights into the interaction between societal norms and political structures. The main conclusions indicate that the development of political parties is not only a reflection of the changing political environment but also an expression of fundamental social norms and ethical values. This process combines the evolution of norm formation with more elitist approaches. Furthermore, the application of institutional analysis within the framework of ecological economics sheds light on how political parties can address environmental issues. This demonstrates the importance of the adaptability of political structures in addressing complex social issues. Ultimately, these conclusions emphasize the need for a nuanced understanding of political parties as structures shaped by both historical and contemporary social philosophies.

CC BY

Conclusion. In contemporary society, political parties' function as important institutions that facilitate democratic participation and represent various social groups. They not only provide institutionalized channels for political engagement but also contribute to the development and strengthening of collective identity in different societies. By rejecting violence and favoring democratic participation, these organizations underscore the importance of political parties in mediating between citizens and the state, participating in policymaking, and improving governance.

As political parties navigate the complexities of contemporary politics, future research should critically examine the evolving role of these organizations within the framework of social philosophy. Such research should focus on how political parties adapt to changing socio-political conditions in addressing issues of justice, representation, and responsibility. From this perspective, as emphasized in recent theoretical studies, examining the normative, instrumental, and substantive principles of communication in situations of risk may provide important insights into how political parties interact with their electorates and shape public opinion.(Austin et al., 2008) Furthermore, understanding the power dynamics in the relationship between political parties and voters may reveal more inclusive avenues for political participation, which are important in developed liberal societies. As political parties continue to emerge and evolve, the integration of these aspects will be crucial for strengthening democratic stability and accountability.

The study of the socio-philosophical implications of the emergence and development of political parties provides profound insights into the complex relationship between social institutions and values. As dynamic structures, political parties not only reflect existing ideas but also shape the broader socio-economic environment, influencing civic engagement and democratic participation. Their development, particularly in the socio-ecological context, demonstrates the importance of institutional analysis. As emphasized in a critical review of institutional analysis within the framework of ecological economics, there is a need to develop frameworks aimed at addressing contemporary challenges such as environmental sustainability and socio-economic equality. Understanding the historical development of political parties enables us to assess the effectiveness of current political systems and consider alternative models that may better serve diverse societies. Ultimately, this study encourages a reconsideration of how

CC BY

political structures can genuinely embody social philosophies that promote inclusive governance and the common good.

CC BY

References

Austin, B., Bakir, B., Beck, U., Boholm, Å., Boström, M., Boström, G., Bourdieu, P., et al. (2008). The constitution of risk communication in advanced liberal societies. Wiley. https://core.ac.uk/download/55427.pdf

Bertram, C. D. I. (2013). Property in the moral life of human beings. https://core.ac.uk/download/29026953.pdf

Beshta, N. (2023). Sravnitel'nyy analiz ponyatiya svobody u Dzh. Lokka i Sh. Montesk'e v kontekste razdeleniya vlasti [A comparative analysis of the concept of freedom in J. Locke and C. Montesquieu in the context of the separation of powers]. Istoriya Gosudarstva i Prava, (9), 9.

Davidov, U. (2022). Milliy o‘zlikni anglashda jadidchilik harakatining roli [The role of the Jadid movement in the development of national identity]. Oriental Renaissance: Innovative, Educational, Natural and Social Sciences, 2(Special Issue 23), 352. https://core.ac.uk/download/29026953.pdf

Jalilov, A. (2020). O‘zbekistonda yoshlar siyosiy madaniyatini rivojlanish jarayonlari [Processes of developing the political culture of youth in Uzbekistan] [Doctoral dissertation, Tashkent].

Kaufmann, E. (2002). Modern formation, ethnic reformation: The social sources of the American nation. Geopolitics, 7(2), 112.

Klass, G. (2014). Introduction to Philosophical foundations of contract law. Scholarship @ Georgetown Law. https://core.ac.uk/download/70375184.pdf

Mirziyoyev, Sh. (2017). Milliy taraqqiyot yo‘limizni qat’iyat bilan davom ettirib, yangi bosqichga ko‘taramiz [We will resolutely continue our path of national development and raise it to a new level]. Uzbekistan.

O‘zbekistonning ma’rifatparvar ayollari [Enlightened women of Uzbekistan]. (2021). (Vol. 1). Fan Publishing House, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. https://core.ac.uk/download/55427.pdf

Rakhimov, Sh. (2020). Jamiyatni demokratlashtirishda fuqarolar siyosiy faolligini oshirish (O‘zbekiston va Buyuk Britaniya misolida) [Increasing citizens’ political participation in democratizing society: The cases of Uzbekistan and the United Kingdom] [Doctoral dissertation, Tashkent].

Article Information:

Received	*19-Jun-2026*
Revised	28-Aug-2026
Accepted	21-Sept-2026
Published	30-Sep-2026

Declarations:

Author's Contribution:

- **Conceptualization, and intellectual revisions. Data collection, interpretation, and drafting of manuscript**
- The author agrees to take responsibility for every facet of the work, making sure that any concerns about its integrity or veracity are thoroughly examined and addressed

- **Conflict of Interest**: NIL
- **Funding Sources**: NIL

Correspondence:

Nuraliyev Sardor Sarvar ugli

nuraliyevSardor.Sarvarugli@gmail.com

CC BY