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LOCAL GOVERNANCE: INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND KAZAKHSTAN

In the modern world, the welfare of the state is determined by the effective use of the ability of citizens. That's why most of the developed countries are striving to improve the models of local self-government.

The given level of government closest to the population, formed by population, it is under control of population and resolves issues to address basic needs of population. Rational construction of the local government allows not only spent best of local resources, but also significantly increases public confidence in the government.

At the current stage of development of our country President of Kazakhstan N. Nazarbayev set exactly this kind task in front of the Government. In November 2012, in accordance with his decree was adopted the Concept of development of local self-government in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Moreover, in accordance with the decision of the Head of the State in the current year in Kazakhstan will be introduced election of local councils (akim). In total, will be elected 2533 councils (akim), including the councils of rural districts, towns and also 50 councils in the town at the district level.

These resolutions are based on the study of best international practices in the area of local self-government. The values of democracy and the municipal government, enshrined by the European Charter of Local Self-Government are become a theoretical base for the constitutional and legal regulation of local municipal governments.

Currently, most often in academic literature is common the well-known classification of models of the organization of local authorities, which is based on the relationships between local government and central authorities.

According to this approach, there are four basic models of local government: the Anglo-Saxon, Continental, mixed and Soviet.

The Anglo-Saxon (classical) model became popular mainly in the countries like: UK, USA, Canada, India, Australia, New Zealand, etc.

The main features of this model are the formal autonomy and independence of local government, the absence of commissioners from the central government patronizing local governments.

I would like to highlight the United States of America in more details, as we go through the training in this state. The statehood building in the United States came from the need to ensure existence of the decentralized power. The federalism was elected as one of the methods of decentralization. The subjects of the federation are 50 states.

States are public formations. They all are equal; they do not have national sovereignty and e right to secede from the U.S. They adopt own constitutions, and none of the current constitutions do not have any significant similarities with the federal Constitution.

The system of local government and administration of the states is based on the administrative-territorial division, and the last one falls within the competence of the states. Therefore, the systems of local self-government in different states are different.

Most states are divided into counties. In total, in U.S. are more than 3 thousand counties. Their population elects the county councils and other officials – the sheriff in charge of public order, the public prosecutor or the Attorney – a representative of the state, treasurer, etc. Council decides mainly the local budget, determines the development program.

Cities are allocated from the county and have its own system of government. In the U.S., there are three systems of municipal government. In most cities, a «council – manager» system is used. Population elects council, which elects the mayor, but the mayor chairs in the council only and is not engaged in management activity. Management is carried out by specially hired contractor– official manager.

Counties are divided into Towns and townships. In small administrative territorial units the residents meetings are held, which are dealing with common issues and electing an Executive Committee (Board of 3-5 people).

Local government plays a big role in the U.S. In its agencies serve more than half of the administrative employees, the revenue of municipal budgets in approximately equals to 40% of the federal budget, even though the local budgets are benefit from the taxes from articles that provide small revenue.

During our study at Duke University, we visited many organizational divisions of the local government of North Carolina, Wake County, Raleigh and Durham. For example: the mayor office, the sheriff's office, treasurer, auditor, rescue mission, and many other services. This has helped us to form a genuine understanding of the work of local authorities in the United States.

Continental model of local power organization significantly differs from the Anglo-Saxon model, which is not only found in continental Europe (France, Italy, Spain, Belgium), but also in many countries of Latin America and Middle East.

The features of this model are: combination of local government and public administration in the field of election and appointment, a certain hierarchy of the system of local self-government divisions, lower entities are subordinate to the higher, presents of special representative of the central government at the local level, who authorized to exercise state control over the activities of local governments.

Along with discussed models, there are options for local authorities, which are to some extent incorporated the features of each of them and have their own specific features. These models are called mixed. These models include the local government in Germany, Austria, Japan, some post-socialist and developing countries.

So-called Soviet model of power organization is fundamentally different from the above mentioned models. It takes place only in a few countries, which still retain a socialist orientation (China, Cuba, North Korea), and in some states formed from the former Soviet Union (Belarus, Uzbekistan).

The main features of this model are: autocracy of the representative entities from top to bottom, rigid centralization of the system of representative and executive entities, the hierarchical subordination of all its components, absence of municipal ownership, local budgets.

The closest to Kazakhstan is an experience of decentralization of public administration and development of the system of local government in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, due to the fact that these countries also had to reform the old system of local councils, which were the foundation of the system of local governance in all countries of post-socialist space.

From the perspective of tasks, which are in front of Kazakhstan in terms of further improving its system of local self-government, it is important creatively use all this experience. We should not just copy system of local self-government of a the States, it is important to analyze the international experience in the complex and select the most appropriate components for Kazakhstan, which should be later introduced into the national system of local self-government in accordance with national, regional, and political characteristics of our country

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