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УЧУРДАГЫ КЫРГЫЗСТАНДАГЫ КОРРУПЦИЯ ЖАНА АГА САРЕСЕП

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КОРРУПЦИЯ В СОВРЕМЕННОМ КЫРГЫЗСТАНЕ И ЕЕ ПРОГНОЗ

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CORRUPTION IN CONTEMPORARY KYRGYZSTAN AND ITS PROGNOSIS

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Макалада коррупциянын азыркы Кыргызстандагы абалы, демократиялык процесстерге тийгизген таасири, коомдук коорупцияга каршы саясий аракеттер тууралуу каралат.

Негизги сөздөр: коррупция, саресеп, коопсуздук.

В статье анализируется влияние коррупции на процессы демократии в обществе, дает прогноз ситуации в связи с антикоррупционной политикой и совершенствовани- ем демократических институтов.

Ключевые слова: коррупция, прогноз, безопасность.

In this article author analyze the impact of corruption to the democratization of the society, provide prognosis of the situation related to anti-corruption policies and development of the democratic institutes.

Key words: corruption, prognosis, security.

In contemporary Kyrgyzstan, which after collapse of the USSR has gained the status of independent state, corruption penetrated all spheres of social life and poses direct threat to the democracy of the society. Granted at the beginning of 90-s a title of the “island of democracy” in Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan, due to expanding corruption, is running the risk to loose this status completely. Special attention should be paid to so-called political corruption which has become a main cause of presidents Akaev’s and Bakiev’s regimes collapse in March 2005 and April 2010. It is evident that young and embryonic democracy in Kyrgyzstan is extremely vulnerable to corruption.

Impact of Corruption

It is common knowledge negative impact of corruption to democratic institutions: aggression of constitutional rights, decay of political system, and demoralization of society, state and economy.

The preliminary conclusion is evident: corruption, especially at the highest levels of public authority, reached its apogee and poses direct threat to democratization process in Kyrgyzstan. Corruption, as a “cancerous growth”, penetrated both public authorities and oppositional parties. In contemporary Kyrgyzstan, entering third millennium, corruption has become one of the most disturbing issues, nationwide negative factor, which is undermining reputation of public authorities, corrupting statehood, weakening economy, and eventually posing threat to national security and stability. There is no doubt that corruption was main cause of March 2005 and April 2010 revolutions in Kyrgyzstan.

In the last years, almost all documents describing social, economical and political situation in Kyrgyzstan, have not avoided corruption. One of the recent resolutions of the Defense Council of Kyrgyz Republic says “Corruption phenomena and related criminal activities permeating deeply all spheres of economy, finance, state governance and service delivery are seriously hindering further development of social, economical, political and democratic reforms in Kyrgyzstan”.

Unquestionably, for the international community Kyrgyzstan appears to be a consistent fighter against corruption. At the same time, held measures are in a greater extent either purely formal or fall under policy of “double standards”. The impunity of corrupted high-level public officials disrupts trust of population in feasibility of democratic reforms. Therefore, corruption facilitates cutting of democratization processes. However powers and society in general not completely understand of threat of corruption for democracy in Kyrgyzstan.

Prognosis of Corruption in Kyrgyzstan:

1. Further development of corruption may result in its transformation to the systematical phenomena, i.e. it may become an inalienable element of political system and social life. There are two options of the corruption situation development:

First option: public authority is “sold” completely to the group of major economical clans agreed to ensure safety of their existence through political tools. The option may become feasible, if the following conditions are in place:

- Political power in the country is still unconsolidated;
- Finance and bureaucracy related groups under pressure of self-preservation instinct cease confrontation and come to the agreement;
- The oligarchy consensus is being reached between finance and bureaucracy related groups with political elite. This would lead to the cutting of the democracy and use of democratic procedures as disguising measures, the economy becomes completely primitive satisfying only the main demands of population in order to avoid social conflicts and satisfying fully only interests of minor oligarch groups.

Second option: failure to endeavor prevention of corruption will provide an opportunity for shadow and criminal elements of economy to reach power, measurable to the state power. Waken state authorities will get involved in decades of rigid open confrontation with mafia, creating its own state in the state. Economical

welfare will become not only unattainable, but even auxiliary task in the context of other problems. Constant political instability will widen chances for the dictatorship to be established as the result of the fight against corruption, and consequently possibilities of switching to African model would increase.

2. Currently, corruption in Kyrgyzstan is the usual and socially acceptable cultural and economical phenomena, related to the functioning of the state. Corruption trends and its extent, in our opinion, are getting closer to the first option. However, the development of the second option can not be excluded. State economy is continuing to stagnate and, despite optimistic declarations of public authorities, it is continuously disrupting stability of the country and impacting economy of other countries. All attempts for democratization and economy reforms in Kyrgyzstan, thanks to handful of corrupted officials, are under threat of failure.

3. The alternate option for development of the situation is the only one – development and implementation of the state anti-corruption policy based on consolidation of political powers and in close collaboration with institutes of civil society.

The following obstacles hinder launching and realization of the system of anti-corruption measures:

- there are public officials at sufficiently high-levels which can be brought to the criminal responsibility for corruption activities;
- there is a large group of public officials which are not interested in changing existing situation;
- old stereotypes envisaging simplified approaches in solving problems, including corruption, prevail at the level of political decision makers.

4. As process of decreasing corruption is undeniable with drastic reformation of the state machine, the realization of such program requires serious political insurance and specific political conditions, including consolidation of main parts of public elite. To overcome

these difficulties, the political will, not less strong, than the one demonstrated during the most difficult phases of previous transformations, should be demonstrated. At the same time, one should note that the dangerous situation during which corruption, as the top issue on the political agenda, may be used in confrontation of clans, rather than for real countermeasures, may remain.

Recommendations for Anti-corruption Policy

Anti-corruption policy should include measures aimed at following goals:

- Organization of corruption countermeasures at all levels;
- Constriction of conditions favoring corruption;
- Lessening profit for both parties of the corruption transaction;
- Increasing possibilities for disclosing corruption actions and punitive measures for afflicted damage;
- Motivation of corruption behavior should be impacted;
- Creation of the public non-acceptance of corruption in all manifestations.

The main reason of expansion of corruption during transition period – inconformity between old and new conditions, in which state machine functioned and has to function. Thus, main efforts of anti-corruption program should aim at harmonizing work of state machine in new conditions. At the same time, systematic changes in values, stereotypes, behavior, viewpoints of public officials and other citizens should be incorporated.

The adoption of the complex of measures aimed at prevention of assignment of public officials with marginal type of mentality and behavior, improvement of legal base, sufficient resources supply, relevant qualification and specialization of law enforcement and fiscal officers, as well as support of the public opinion – are the main conditions and requirements for increasing effectiveness of anti-corruption policy.

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