



Current Status of Local Self-Government of KR: POLITICAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES in the Development of Local Communities



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Stages of LSG development in KR

- **At the first stage**, on 19 April 1991, the Law “On Local Self-Government in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan” was adopted, and the Soviets of people’s deputies were established, which obtained substantial rights and freedoms. In 1994-1995, the first elections of deputies of rural, township and city keneshes took place. Representative bodies of LSG of a new type were significantly different from previous local Soviets of people’s deputies
- **At the second stage in 1996**, a number of amendments were made to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic. For example, the LSG bodies gained the right to own, use and dispose of communal property. In the same year, in the rural (township) keneshes, qualitatively new executive and administrative bodies were formed - aiyi okmotu (village and township councils). At the same time, many of the social infrastructure of the village were transferred to municipal ownership
- **At the third stage (1998-2007)** an independent system of executive bodies of LSGs emerged against the background of a gradual increase of opportunities for members of local communities to actively influence local self-government



These days

- **Since April 2010, a new stage in the development of local self-government has started.** The Constitution of the KR on June 27, 2010 made some changes and amendments to the section "Local self-government", in Article 111 it was determined that the system of local self-government bodies consists of:
 - Local keneshes - representative bodies of LSG;
 - Aiyi okmotu and city councils - executive bodies of LSG.
- A new legal framework could create the widest conditions for the development of political, administrative and financial opportunities for LSGs, but everything turned out, although:
 - a two-tier budget was re-introduced,
 - state agency for local self-government affairs was restored,
 - institute of municipal service was improved,
 - state system of professional development was created,
 - Union of Local Self-Governments has a new life today.



Public policy in the area of LSG

- The goal of the state is to synchronously develop and use political, administrative and financial opportunities of LSGs, ensure a clear delineation of functions between the state bodies and LSGs, develop and implement a clear regulation of their interaction, provide LSGs with resources
- The LSG Development Program of KR for 2018-2022 is developed and pending approval. The Program recognizes the importance of role of all subjects of local self-government - bodies of local self-government, local communities and citizens
- Interests of local communities are fully taken into account in decision-making at the national level. To ensure a balance of interests, special mechanisms, dialogue, negotiation process are required.



Two equally important and urgent tasks

- strengthen the interaction of LSGs with state bodies as parts of a unified governance system, linking the powers of the state and LSG bodies in such a way that decisions and execution take place on every issue of development without delays and achieve the desired result;
- development and implementation of mechanisms for inclusion of local communities in the decision-making process; mechanisms of searching and finding a balance of interests between the interests of the nation and the interests of local communities.



SALSGIR:

- Introduces fundamental changes in a number of RLAs, including solution to the problem of financing delegated state powers
- The rules of interaction between LSG bodies and state bodies are developed
- Proposals are being formulated to create a single integrated system for planning socio-economic development



Interaction is a two-way process!

- LSG bodies should show political maturity, prove that they are able to effectively take advantage of the political opportunities and economic resources provided by the state
- The Union of LSG created by the will of the LSG bodies should operate effectively:
 - express the consolidated opinion of LSG bodies. In order to become a partner to the Government, the Union must build such an internal system of management and coordination of opinions, in which no one will doubt the legitimacy of its position
- Interaction is a two-way process, it requires efforts from two sides, mutual responsibility, equal workload shared. Then we will consider victories and achievements as common