

## Legal Regulation of the Electronic Government System: International and National Experience

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**Annotation:** The article discusses issues of legal regulation of the e-government system in Uzbekistan. This study includes a study of key international documents and OECD recommendations on e-government issues, a comparative analysis of national legislation, initiatives and strategies regarding e-government with the legal frameworks of individual foreign countries. The main trends and challenges in the legal support of the transition to an electronic state are studied.

**Key words:** e-government, legal regulation, OECD, UN, digital difference, digital exclusion, inclusive digital future, Uzbekistan.

### Introduction

In the context of the rapid development of information technology and digitalization of public life, the e-government system is becoming an important tool for increasing the efficiency of public administration and improving the quality of services for citizens. E-government involves the use of digital technologies to provide government services, interact with citizens and businesses, and increase the transparency and accountability of government agencies. However, the successful implementation of e-government requires a strong legal framework that governs all aspects of its functioning.

The relevance of the topic of legal regulation of e-government is due to the need to ensure data security, protect the rights of citizens and create a trusting environment for users of electronic services. In this context, the question arises as to which regulation – international or national – plays a more significant role in shaping the legal framework for e-government.

The purpose of this study is to analyze the legal basis of the e-government system with an emphasis on comparing international and national experience. The objectives of the study include: identifying key international documents and standards governing the e-government system; analysis of national legislative initiatives and strategies; as well as conducting a comparative analysis of the effectiveness of various approaches to legal regulation.

There are many studies in the scientific space devoted to certain aspects of e-government, however, in our opinion, a number of issues in this area remain insufficiently studied, in particular, issues of joint legal regulation at the international and national levels are subject to further analysis.

### Methods

The article uses methods such as analysis of legislative acts, case stage method, and literature analysis. It examines the key international conventions, directives and recommendations related to e-government created by international organizations such as the UN, OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development). An analysis of national legislation regulating the use of digital

technologies in government processes is also provided. The article discusses international experience in the successful implementation of e-government using the example of individual countries around the world. Analysis of scientific publications, reports and analytical materials on e-government issues helps to better understand the theoretical and practical aspects of the legal regulation of this area. These methods together make it possible to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the legal basis of e-government, highlighting both international and national aspects of its regulation.

## Results and discussion

The study showed that the legal basis of e-government is multi-level and includes both international standards and national legal regulations. "Through legal regulation, social order is established and maintained, necessary for the normal development of civilized and cultural forms of social life, resolution of contradictions and conflicts, blocking destructiveness in individual and group activity" [1, p. 25]. Much research has been devoted to the issues of legal regulation of individual systems adjacent to the e-government system. Among such studies, we note the work [2], which examines the issues of legal regulation of electronic payment systems, which we have the right to consider one of the advanced technologies of the e-government system in the context of digital transformations.

Electronic government is "a system of organizational and legal measures and technical means aimed at ensuring the provision of public services to individuals and legal entities, as well as interdepartmental electronic cooperation" [3]. E-government is an important tool for increasing the efficiency and accessibility of government services. It helps improve interaction between citizens and government agencies, between government agencies and business entities, interdepartmental interactions, simplifying the process of obtaining services and reducing time costs. In addition, e-government supports transparency and accountability in the work of government agencies, which in turn strengthens citizens' trust in government.

The e-government system in our country must develop comprehensively, comprehensively and systematically. The following factors require urgent acceleration of this process:

- the processes of rapprochement of states and peoples, economies and views around the world are increasingly accelerating;
- information flows circulate at an unprecedented speed, and information arrays accumulate and increase day by day;
- there is a long overdue need for the formation in our country of a full-fledged national information system that meets international standards and requirements;
- the need for widespread introduction of advanced, modern information and communication technologies and telecommunications means into all spheres of life in our country, in particular in the economic, political and social spheres, in order to use resources most efficiently;
- the desire to stabilize well-being, immediately eliminate citizens' problems, and ensure their constitutional rights to information; the need to provide simple, fast and free access to open databases;
- ensuring openness of the activities of government bodies and establishing dialogue with the population as a factor in comprehensive development;
- the need to create favorable and effective conditions for full use of the opportunities of the global information society and the speedy entry into this society and a number of other factors [4, p. 124].

The legal basis of e-government includes a set of legislative and regulatory acts aimed at resolving the problems of using information and communication technologies in the provision of public services in various spheres of life of the population. Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On

the further development of computerization and implementation of information and communication technologies” No. UP-3080, issued in May 2002, laid the foundation for information legislation [5]. The purpose of this decree was the formation of a national informatization system, mass introduction and use of modern information technologies, computer equipment and telecommunications in all spheres of the economy and social life, the most complete satisfaction of the growing information needs of citizens, the creation of favorable conditions for reaching the global information community and expanding access to global information resources [5]. In 2003, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Informatization” was adopted, regulating relations in the field of informatization, the use of information resources and information systems. Initially adopted in 2003, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Electronic Digital Signature” was adopted in a new edition in 2022. The purpose of this law is naturally to regulate relations in the field of using electronic digital signatures, in turn recognized considered an integral part of electronic document management processes in the context of digital transformation. In general, according to [6], in Uzbekistan, the tasks of forming an e-government system and the issues of introducing modern digital technologies into public administration are reflected in more than thirty legislative acts, collectively referred to as “electronic” laws or information legislation (laws “on e-government”, “on electronic digital signature”, “on electronic document management”, “on e-commerce”, “on electronic payments”, “on the openness of the activities of public authorities and management”, etc.)

In the body of national legislation, a special place is occupied by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the openness of the activities of public authorities and management” adopted in 2014 [7]. This act plays a key role in the development of the e-government system by helping to increase the transparency and accountability of government agencies, thereby strengthening citizens' trust in the government. The law sets requirements for access to information, improves interaction between citizens and the government through electronic platforms, and encourages the use of digital technologies for effective management and service delivery.

The fundamental law regulating relations in the field of e-government in Uzbekistan is the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Electronic Government”, which was adopted in December 2015 [3]. The main goal of this law is aimed at increasing the efficiency, transparency and responsibility of government bodies, as well as improving public services for citizens and business entities. The implementation of these tasks ensures constant interaction between government agencies and society, and allows optimization of processes through automation and the introduction of modern technologies. This in turn contributes to the development of e-commerce, improved access to government services and the development of non-cash payments, which ultimately improves the quality of life of the population and stimulates economic growth.

In order to further increase the competitiveness of the economy of Uzbekistan through the widespread introduction of modern information technologies in sectors of the economy and the public administration system and the expansion of telecommunications networks, the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On measures for the widespread introduction of the digital economy and e-government” No. PP-4699 was adopted in 2020 [8]. This act defines the following tasks for the further development of the digital economy and e-government of the country, such as: “ensuring the most complete modernization of the country’s digital infrastructure and the availability of modern telecommunications services in the regions”; “accelerated formation of the digital economy”; “ensuring the most complete modernization of the country’s digital infrastructure and the availability of modern telecommunications services in the regions”; “development of the e-government system through the creation and integration of government information systems and resources, unification of information in government databases, optimization and streamlining of procedures for the provision of public services”; “development of “digital entrepreneurship” through the production of software products and the creation of technological platforms”; “the widespread introduction of

digital technologies at all stages of the education system, increasing the level of digital knowledge necessary for the modern economy, improving the educational infrastructure" [8]. The same resolution approved the architecture of the "Electronic Government" system and lists of priority projects for the further development of e-government, the widespread introduction of modern information and communication technologies in the real sector of the economy for the specified periods," as well as specified legal guidelines and created the prerequisites for solving many relevant tasks for the development of the country's e-government system.

The world's first e-government law was adopted in the United States in 2002. This law has become an effective management tool through the use of information technologies throughout the state in order to harmonize and increase the efficiency of the provision of electronic services [9]. It is noteworthy that in the countries of the European Union, legislation in the field of regulation of the e-government system covers both technical aspects and political issues that determine the responsibilities of government bodies to protect the rights of citizens and organizations in the new conditions of providing public services by electronic means [10].

A kind of legislative act called the "Digital Republic" Law was adopted in 2016 in France. This law contains the following provisions: transparency of publicly available data; secure access to sensitive data for scientists and government statisticians; Free access to government research results and permission to analyze texts and data; non-discriminatory access to the network; data transfer; reliability of information for consumers; protection of personal data; combating unwanted content; digital death; the right to maintain an Internet connection; promoting charity via SMS; increasing the speed of digital coverage of the territory; digital accessibility; strategy for the development of digital use and services at the territorial level; official recognition of eSports as a competitive professional practice in video games [11].

South Korea is one of the world leaders in the development of e-government. Its success is largely due to the presence of a solid legal framework, which ensures the effective operation of government information systems and stimulates their further development. The South Korean experience serves as an example for other countries that seek to develop their e-government systems (see [12], [13]).

However, the adoption of the above and other documents does not solve certain problems that we currently face. The world community is hotly discussing questions such as: "Is the security of our data ensured? Will they leak? Are there regulations governing processes in the field of data protection? The fact is that the e-government system stores huge amounts of confidential information about citizens and businesses, which makes it an attractive target for cybercriminals. For example, "in one of the technological centers of the world, in the USA, similar problems were also discovered. LexisNexis, known as the first LegalTech organization, has repeatedly suffered from hacker attacks" [14]. In Uzbekistan, this issue also remains open, because it is difficult to resolve it, but for the safety of citizens it is necessary to work on this issue and take all possible measures.

Of course, it is worth noting the fact that the development of artificial intelligence and its implementation in the public administration system opens up new challenges for us. This is due to the need to develop new legal norms regulating issues of transparency, responsibility and protection of citizens' rights in the context of the rapid penetration of artificial intelligence products into all spheres of life. The next problems that we face are the problems of implementing legislative and regulatory acts and law enforcement. Even when good legislation is in place, its effective implementation can be difficult due to a lack of qualified personnel, insufficient funding, poor coordination between government agencies and a lack of enforcement mechanisms.

The fundamental foundations of the legal regulation of the national e-government system are still international documents that have defined the general principles and standards of e-government, contributing to the harmonization of legislation and simplification of international cooperation.

National legislation takes into account the specifics of the country, its legal system and national interests, while at the same time agreeing with international standards.

The OECD has developed a number of recommendations on e-government, covering the principles of accessibility, transparency, accountability, data protection, digital citizenship, etc. [15]. The OECD recommendations to governments around the world are the main guidelines in solving systemic problems in developing and implementing digital government strategies. These recommendations emphasize the need to ensure transparency, openness and inclusiveness in government processes. Adopting the OECD recommendations to ensure the above principles as the main goals of national strategies will increase the level of citizens' trust in government bodies and strengthen their participation in public life. Announcing rules of accountability and transparency, taking into account the diverse contexts and expectations associated with digital technologies, are designed to adapt government practices to modern realities and challenges. It is also important to take proactive measures to eliminate digital divides and prevent digital exclusion, which will promote equal access to digital services and opportunities for all citizens. Thus, the implementation of these recommendations will create the basis for a more effective, fair and inclusive digital government that can meet the needs of modern society and ensure sustainable development.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, we also note that with the transition to an electronic state in the context of digital transformation, some challenges and risks may arise, such as worsening inequality, weakening the role of the state, vulnerabilities in systems and technologies for data protection (personal, strategic), leading to hacking of digital systems. To prevent such situations, in our opinion, it is necessary to adhere to the main trends in the legal support of the transition to an electronic state, which are: the formation of institutional structures for managing e-government processes; creation of a regulatory framework for the development, implementation and use of digital technologies and artificial intelligence; personalization of digital management, allowing the elimination of bureaucratic barriers; social orientation of the development of e-government, which represents the full implementation of the social function of the state, overcoming the digital divide in society; etc. (see [8], [16]-[19]).

We also note that the legal regulation of the e-government system is a multifaceted and dynamic process, provided both at the international and national levels. International organizations such as the UN and OECD play an important role in developing recommendations and standards that promote harmonization of approaches to digital technologies and electronic services. These organizations create a framework for sharing best practices, which helps accelerate the implementation of effective e-government mechanisms.

At the national level, legal regulation of the e-government system includes the concept of government programs, laws and regulations aimed at creating a legal environment for the use of digital technologies in government processes. An important aspect of this regulation is to protect the rights of citizens, ensure their access to electronic services and respect the principles of confidentiality and data security.

Thus, the successful development of the e-government system requires clear legal regulation that takes into account international trends and accommodating them to national realities. This helps create more transparent, efficient and accessible government services, which in turn strengthens public trust in government and helps ensure a fair and inclusive digital future.

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