

## Interactions between the state and political parties as the basis for building regional sustainability

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**Abstract.** In the presented study, the author proceeds from the position that the basis for building regional sustainability is a stable political system of the country, which is formed through the interaction of political parties and the state. Within the framework of constitutional law, the study of such interaction allows to determine its essential features, to identify the strengths and weaknesses. For the first time, an attempt to study the forms of interaction between political parties and the state in the electoral process was undertaken. The empirical material of regional election campaigns for the election of deputies of legislative (representative) bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation is used in the study. The use of scientific research methods allowed the author to formulate proposals aimed at improving the interaction of political parties and the state as the basis for building regional sustainability.

**Keywords:** state, political parties, political system, election, election commission, election documents

### 1. Introduction

Undoubtedly, the country's stable political system contributes to the socio-economic development of the regions. Accordingly, the construction of regional sustainability begins with the establishment of a positive relationship between government and society. Political parties play a crucial role in this process, since they act as a necessary institution of representative democracy, ensuring the participation of citizens in the political life of society, political interactions between civil society members and the state, affecting the integrity and sustainability of the political system [1]. The constitutional goal of any political party is participation in elections, which makes it possible to build a dialogue, define common goals, and achieve a positive result. The foregoing gives reason to believe that the most constructive way to build regional sustainability is the interaction of political parties and the state in the regional electoral process.

The science of constitutional law has repeatedly tried to answer the question of what is meant by the concept of constitutional-legal interaction. For example, V. Yu. Panchenko believes that this is an exchange of legally significant activity and its results by means of legal means, through which the mutual influence of the subjects of the right on each other is carried out [2]. R. A. Romashov defines interaction as a relationship regulated by law between entities that realize their multidirectional interests within the framework of this relationship [3] Analyzing the doctrinal sources, in turn, we come to the conclusion that constitutional legal interaction is the joint actions of constituent legal

relations subjects to achieve state-important goals regulated by the norms of law. It is the category of constitutional-legal interaction that allows us to formulate a theoretical model of ideal relations between political parties and the state. With this model, the formation and development of a multiparty system and political pluralism, and the construction of a stable political system of society will be possible.

Constitutional and legal interaction of political parties and the state is carried out in various forms, the classification of which is presented in a number of scientific papers [4, 5]. The proposed classifications are of a generalized nature and do not reflect particularities of political parties' activities. In this study, we have attempted to determine the forms in which the interaction of political parties and the election commission (as a representative of the state) in the electoral process is carried out.

## 2. Materials and Methods

In the present study, both general scientific and private scientific methods are widely used. Using the method of system analysis of legal phenomena, the formal legal method and the method of interpretation of legal norms should be noted.

Doctrinal sources of constitutional law, current legislation, legal positions of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, as well as empirical material of regional election campaigns for the election of deputies to the legislative (representative) bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation served as research material.

## 3. Results

The nomination and registration of candidates for deputies of the legislative (representative) body of a constituent entity of the Russian Federation is the stage of the election process, at which participants are elected. The political parties that nominated candidates and the election commission that ensures the election process become participants in constitutional relations on the implementation of the constitutional right to participate in managing the affairs of the state, the right to elect and be elected to state bodies. At the same time, they pursue a single state-significant goal, which is ensuring the power of the people through the formation of public authorities on the basis of democratic and fair elections. The stage of nomination and registration of candidates is characterized by the greatest interaction of political parties and the election commission. In this regard, we set ourselves the task of determining the legal forms of interaction between political parties and the election commission, to identify their strengths and weaknesses.

Interaction in the electoral process is carried out in two main forms: (a) substantive and procedural and (b) legal. The substantive form of interaction involves creating electoral documents reflecting the result of their interaction. At the stage of nomination and registration of candidates for deputies of the legislative (representative) body of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation, each joint action is subject to strict documentation, which determines the features of electoral documents. Such documents include using only the forms of documents recommended or approved by the election commission; certification of documents by joint signatures of an election commission and a political party; immediate direction or delivery of election documents.

**Table 1.** Election documents created by political parties and an election commission when nominating and registering candidates for deputies to the legislative (representative) body of state power of a subject of the Russian Federation

Stage	Political party	Election Committee	Final election document
Decision to start an election campaign	The decision to nominate candidates; List of candidates; Candidate's statement of consent to run; Decision on the	List of political parties eligible to vote; List of political parties exempted from signature collection; Notification on detecting incomplete information about	Decision to certify a list of candidates or to refuse to certify it; Nomination Notice

	appointment of an authorized representative.	candidates or non-compliance with the requirements of the law to the paperwork.	
Support	Signature sheets; Protocol on the results of collecting voter signatures; List of voters collecting signatures.	Decision on the number of signatures of voters in support of the nomination of a candidate; Decision on the number of verified voter signatures; Decree on establishing a working group to verify voters' signatures; Protocol of randomly selecting voter signatures for verification; Statements of checking the relevant subscription lists.	Final protocol at the end of verification process (subscription lists)
Registration	Candidate's statement about withdrawing his/her candidacy; Decision to withdraw a candidate.	Decision to cancel registration of a candidate	Decision on registration of a candidate (list of candidates) or refusal to register

The greatest number of disputes between political parties and the election commission arises when checking the subscription lists in support of the nomination of candidates, since non-compliance with both formal requirements and content requirements of these electoral documents leads to the denial of admission to participate in elections.

The procedural-legal form of interaction in an electoral process is a sequence of procedures established by electoral legislation aimed at achieving a legally significant result. This form should include:

1. Meetings of the election commission, which can be attended by political parties (for example, checking voter's signatures, considering the issue of registering a candidate, lists of candidates);
2. Electoral disputes, by which we propose to understand the expression of disagreement by participants in the electoral process with actions of an electoral commission that results from the application, interpretation or violation of electoral law. An electoral dispute can be resolved both by the election commission itself and by the court.

The close interrelation of both forms of interaction draws attention. The lack of constructive interaction in any of these forms can lead to instability of the political situation, and the emergence of protest moods. We would like to give an example from the practice of organizing an election campaign for the deputies of the Legislative Assembly of the Novosibirsk Region in 2015. Fifteen political parties applied for participation in the elections. A total of five "parliamentary" political parties were exempt from collecting voter signatures. Two political parties submitted the required number of reliable signatures, eight political parties were not registered. Only two political parties did not agree with the decision of the election commission, namely the political party "The Republican Party of Russia – the Party of People's Freedom" and the political party "Rodina." The election commission rejected the submitted lists due to the presence of invalid signatures. At the same time, political parties could not appeal against the decisions of the election commission either to the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation or to the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation. As a result, both forms of interaction proved ineffective and political parties could not take part in the elections.

After analyzing the law enforcement practice [6, 7], we identified a number of typical mistakes made by political parties when interacting with the election commission in the above election campaign, as well as similar election campaigns taking place in other constituent entities of the Russian Federation during that period. In the lists were such errors: (a) absence of an active electoral right of a voter who gives his/her signature in support of the candidate; (b) incomplete address of the

voter's residence; (c) voter's deregistration at the address indicated in the lists. In the subscription lists were such errors: (a) absence of voter's name and patronymic; (b) using an identity document not provided for by the federal law; (c) the provided signature is of a deceased person; (d) discrepancies between the information contained in the subscription lists and the data of GAS "Vybory"; (e) presence of unspecified corrections in the information about a person collecting voters' signatures, (f) presence of unspecified corrections in the date of making signatures by voters or the writing of dates by one person. With the constructive interaction of the election commission and political parties, these errors could be eliminated; consequently, political parties could to participate in elections. Ineffectiveness of such interactions in the procedural legal form was the lack of legal regulation of the electoral dispute resolved by the election commission. This implies the need to consolidate procedural rights and obligations of the parties to the electoral dispute, setting deadlines for considering complaints, objections, appeals, petitions of political parties. Subject to regulatory settlement, the resolution of electoral disputes will become less popular judicial procedure for resolving them.

#### 4. Discussion

This study is one of the first steps towards building a theory of constitutional and legal interactions as the basis for the formation of a stable political system, ensuring regional sustainability. Various forms of constitutional-legal interaction of political parties and the election commission in the electoral process proposed in this study, as well as proposals for their improvement, enrich the scientific discussion and stimulate further research on this issue. The reliability of our findings obtained is achieved by applying general scientific and private scientific methods, understanding insights from theoretical framework, studying regulatory materials and law enforcement practice.

#### 5. Conclusion

Constitutional and legal interactions of political parties and the state become a fundamental element in building regional sustainability. Lack of interaction leads to protest moods in a region, and can lead to blocking elections. Interaction problems should be solved in the legal field by using and improving the forms of interaction proposed in this study.

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