

SECTION 1
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY
DEVELOPMENT. DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW. CHALLENGES FOR
DEMOCRACY IN WARTIME

MODERN PROBLEMS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC
SOCIETY. DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

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A state is generally considered democratic if it comprehensively and fully expresses the will of the people, and its organization and activities constantly align with the will of the people. The problem of developing a democratic society lies in the fact that many citizens do not have a clear understanding of their rights, and this affects not only their personal lives but also the lives of others. For example, the state grants a person the right to elect the president, political parties, but if a person abuses this right by not voting and follows the principle of “I don’t care,” it poses a significant threat to the democratic state, as Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine emphasizes that:

The citizens of Ukraine have the right to participate in elections to bodies of state power, local self-government bodies, and in referendums.

The second problem is insufficient legal awareness. If the people do not know their rights, political forces can use illegal methods to influence voters or falsify election results. The third problem is corruption, which is considered the main threat to a democratic state, as it undermines the people’s trust in state structures and also contributes to social inequality. This is because if a person has money, they can bribe someone and unfairly use the right to vote in their favor, which leads to social inequality, contrary to Article 24 of the Constitution of Ukraine, which states that:

Citizens have equal constitutional rights and freedoms and are equal before the law. There shall be no privileges or restrictions of citizens’ rights based on race, skin color, political, religious, or other beliefs, gender, ethnic and social origin, property status, place of residence, language, or other characteristics.

Globalization and the development of technology are changing the political and social structure of society, which, on the one hand, opens up new opportunities for the development of democracy, but on the other hand, creates new challenges for the legal system. One specific challenge is the fight against cyberattacks, the spread of fake news, and the manipulation of public opinion, which threatens the principles of democratic governance and electoral integrity.

Democracy through law is the foundation for creating the true ideal of a society where every citizen has equal rights and responsibilities. To prevent the usurpation of rights by the state, the Constitution includes the following articles:

Article 5 emphasizes that the bearer of sovereignty and the only source of power in Ukraine is the people. The people exercise their power directly and through the bodies of state power and local self-government. This article highlights the basic principle of democracy — people's sovereignty, where every citizen has the right to participate in the political process.

Article 6 states that "State power in Ukraine is exercised on the basis of the principles of division into legislative, executive, and judicial powers." This article reflects the principle of separation of powers, which is the foundation for the necessary checks and balances for a stable democracy.

Article 71 ensures transparency in the electoral process:

The elections of people's deputies of Ukraine, the president of Ukraine, deputies of local councils, and heads of rural, settlement, and city councils are held on the basis of universal, equal, and direct voting rights with secret voting. This article ensures the transparency of the electoral process, which is an important aspect of democracy.

Democratism means the presence of local self-government in the state, as the idea of political freedom lies at the core of democracy as a form of government and a way of governance.

For a country to be democratic, it must include rights and responsibilities not only for the population but also for the state authority. Only by adhering to the principles of the rule of law and the transparency of laws can a true and sustainable democratic society be created, where every citizen has equal opportunities and rights for development and self-realization.

References:

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PROCEDURAL AND TACTICAL FEATURES OF PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATION OF CORRUPTION CRIMES

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Introduction. Certain crimes have been and remain a problem in our country for a long time – corruption-related criminal offenses. They are improving, changing, taking into account events in the country, adapting to realities, continuing to exist, and the state must fight them.