European Journal of Innovation in Nonformal Education (EJINE)
Volume 5 | Issue 2 | Feb - 2025 ISSN: 2795-8612

Normative-Legal Foundations of Information and Library Activities

Nilufarxon Saydaliyeva
Fergana regional branch of Uzbekistan State Institute of Arts and Culture

A B S T R A C T

General Background: Libraries play a fundamental role in societal development by providing access to knowledge and fostering intellectual growth. In Uzbekistan, information and library activities have undergone significant transformations, particularly in response to digital advancements and policy reforms.

Specific Background: Since gaining independence, Uzbekistan has introduced a series of legislative measures to modernize its library system, enhance access to information, and integrate digital technologies. Key regulations such as Presidential Decree No. PQ-4354 (2019) and Cabinet of Ministers Resolutions (2017–2023) have aimed to improve library services and promote a reading culture.

Knowledge Gap: Despite these advancements, challenges persist in the full-scale implementation of digitalization, accessibility, and preservation of library resources. The adaptation of modern technologies and global best practices remains a critical area requiring further exploration.

Aims: This study analyzes the normative-legal foundations governing Uzbekistan's library sector, assessing their impact on service quality, digital transformation, and accessibility. It aims to highlight the strengths and limitations of existing policies while identifying opportunities for further development.

Results: The findings reveal that recent legislative efforts have significantly improved library services, enhanced digital resource accessibility, and facilitated the integration of modern information technologies. However, the need for systematic policy execution, staff training, and increased international collaboration remains evident.

Novelty: This study presents a comprehensive evaluation of Uzbekistan's legal framework for library activities, providing a unique perspective on policy effectiveness and the sector's modernization trajectory.
Implications: The study underscores the importance of sustained policy implementation, technological integration, and global cooperation to ensure Uzbekistan's libraries remain competitive and relevant in the digital era.

Hosting by Innovatus Publishing Co. All rights reserved. © 2025

A R T I C L E I N F O

Article history:
Received 01 Jan 2025
Received in revised form
15 Jan 2025
Accepted 22 Feb 2025

Keywords: Information-library, normative-legal document, information, internet, service, electronic resource, collection, institution, decree, order, reader.

Introduction

The study explores the normative-legal foundations governing information and library activities in Uzbekistan, emphasizing the role of legislative decrees in modernizing library institutions. Despite various reforms, a knowledge gap remains regarding the effectiveness of these regulations in enhancing digital transformation and public [1] accessibility to library resources. Employing a qualitative method,

the study reviews key legal documents and evaluates their impact on library services. Findings reveal significant advancements in digitalization and resource management; however, challenges persist in fully integrating modern information technologies. The results highlight the need for further legislative improvements to ensure efficient access to information and library services, ultimately contributing to the nation's intellectual and cultural development.

Methodology

This study examines the normative-legal foundations of information and library activities in Uzbekistan, addressing a critical knowledge gap regarding the impact of government decrees and resolutions on library services. The research employs a qualitative approach, analyzing legal documents, government policies, and relevant literature to evaluate the evolution of library institutions. The findings highlight the effectiveness of legislative measures in modernizing information services, promoting digital transformation, and ensuring public access to knowledge. The results demonstrate that strategic governmental support has significantly enhanced library functions, reinforcing their role in education and research. The implications suggest that continuous policy updates and technological integration are essential for sustaining progress in the information and library sector. [2]

Result and Discussion

After Uzbekistan gained independence, significant changes took place in all spheres of societal development. In particular, implementing substantial reforms in library science became a necessity of the time. A number of measures have been implemented to bring the activities of information and library institutions to the level required by the times. These include reorganizing collections and catalogs with printed and electronic publications that meet modern demands, ensuring their preservation, and providing efficient services to a wide readership based on these resources. Due to the increased attention of our President to the field of library science, innovative developments have been introduced in this sector. The Presidential Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PQ-4354, issued in 2019, "On Further Improvement of Information and Library Services for the Population of the Republic of Uzbekistan," outlines several measures aimed at enhancing information and library services for the public and [3] developing the activities of information and library institutions. Since the library is an integral part of society, its activities are regulated by the laws adopted in the country. First and foremost, over the years, several decrees and orders have been introduced by our esteemed President to promote reading culture and encourage book readership in our country. In particular, the laws "On Information and Library Activities" and "On Copyright and Related Rights", as well as several presidential decrees, have played a crucial role in the development of the sector. These include: Presidential Decree No. PQ-3271, issued on September 13, 2017, "On the Comprehensive Program of Measures for the Development of the Publishing and Distribution System of Book Products, the Promotion of Reading, and the Enhancement of Reading Culture. "Presidential Decree No. PQ-4354, issued on June 7, 2019, "On Further Improvement of Information and Library Services for the Population of the Republic of Uzbekistan." Cabinet of Ministers' Resolution, issued on December 14, 2020, "On the Approval of the National Program for the Development and Support of Reading Culture for [4] 2020-2025." Cabinet of Ministers' Resolution No. 176, issued in 2023, "On the Approval of Certain Administrative Regulations for the Provision of Public Services in the Information and Library Sector." These regulations have established clear objectives for creating an efficient system of information and library services for the population. As a result, they have facilitated a new stage of development in the sector, strengthened the role of libraries in raising the level of socio-informational culture, and enabled the development and implementation of modern innovative and educational technologies that enhance Uzbekistan's competitiveness in the global market.

Based on Resolution No. 198 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, issued in 2011, "On the Approval of the Model Regulation on the Electronic Library and the Schedule for Creating a Full-Text Electronic Information and Library Resource Collection in Information-Library and Information-Resource Centers and Libraries," libraries have digitized existing literature and introduced modern online services for readers.[5]

Additionally, in 2022, Resolution No. 522 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, "On the Approval of Certain Normative-Legal Documents in the Field of Accounting, Preservation, and

Decommissioning of Information and Library Resources in Information and Library Institutions," served as a foundation for properly organizing normative documents within the information and library system.

The resolution outlines several essential tasks for information and library institutions, including the accounting of information and library resources, ensuring the security of library collections, as well as their preservation and decommissioning. This plays a crucial role in improving and enhancing the efficiency of the system's operations. Based on the aforementioned normative-legal documents, the following tasks have been defined in a generalized manner for information and library services:

1) Raising library and information services for users to a qualitatively new level, promptly meeting their scientific, educational, informational, and cultural interests through modern information technologies. [6]

2) Along with providing traditional services, creating information resources and expanding access to global scientific, educational, and information resources for users.

3) Forming, preserving, and providing access to universal information resources, national and foreign publications (printed materials, audiovisual, electronic, and other formats).

Taking into account the essence of the economic, political, spiritual, and cultural reforms being implemented in our country, issues related to the information and library sector such as the collection, accounting, preservation, and utilization of information and library documents, as well as matters concerning the information and library fund have been reflected accordingly. [7]

Today, with the increasing exchange of information, especially due to the expansion of internet technologies, the information space has widened, enabling the global dissemination of all types of data, information, and electronic resources to users. Accordingly, the information and library sector must operate based on internationally adopted documents that contribute to the improvement and efficiency of this field. "The implementation of new technologies, the execution of information dissemination functions by library and information institutions, and ensuring access to information depend on the scale and pace of automation and computerization."

Within the framework of implementing legal norms in information and library activities, systematic efforts are being carried out to expand literature collections and ensure the public's free access to information and library resources. Certain measures are being implemented to ensure the efficient operation of information and library institutions through the integration of modern information and communication technologies. Today, information and library institutions provide services to users both offline and online. The development of information and internet technologies has enabled libraries to organize their resources, create electronic databases, collaborate on information resources, and ensure free access to and utilization of these resources. [8]

Currently, all libraries provide users with essential information, data, and electronic versions of literary works through their websites and channels on social media platforms while maintaining copyright compliance.

The powers of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of information and library activities are aimed at ensuring citizens' constitutional rights to free access to information, including benefiting from national values, world culture, and both practical and fundamental knowledge. The priorities include creating a qualitatively new system of information and library services for the population, preserving and enriching the national cultural heritage stored in libraries, and improving the organization of information and library institutions through the widespread implementation of information and communication technologies.

Measures have been introduced to significantly influence information and library activities, including providing services to readers, replenishing and preserving collections, automating library processes, conducting scientific research and organizational-methodological activities, training, retraining, and incentivizing personnel, as well as expanding international cooperation.[9]

"The reform of the republic's library sector has necessitated the development of legal and regulatory documents defining information-resource and information-library activities, the revision of key methods and forms of library work, and the transition from traditional practices to new, highly advanced, and

efficient methods that incorporate digitalization." The library's work plan is an operational program that serves as a tool for mobilizing specific tasks over a defined period, ensuring the efficient use of labor resources and allocated financial funds. The work plan defines the content, scope, sequence, execution timeline, and responsible personnel. Plans can be strategic or current. A strategic plan outlines the key indicators of the library's development over an extended period.

The annual plan is developed based on a specific framework and is mandatory for all libraries. It includes a textual section specifying control indicators, execution deadlines, and responsible personnel. The quarterly work plan is developed based on the annual plan, determining the themes of events and incorporating new topics reflecting the latest developments in social life. Based on the quarterly work plan, a library's operational plan is developed for a specific period (month, ten-day period, week), reflecting all aspects of its activities. Additionally, plans can also be created for significant events related to the country's political and social life. In conclusion, it is appropriate to note that within the framework of implementing documents aimed at developing the sector, new standards for accessing information are being established in our Republic by information and library institutions through the use of modern, highly efficient information and communication technologies. Efforts are being actively carried out to create favorable conditions and a vast information resource base to fully meet the intellectual, educational, spiritual, moral, and cultural needs of the population, especially the youth. The level of service in information and library institutions is continuously improving, with new projects being implemented in practice.

Each decision and decree issued regarding the activities of information and library institutions in our country serves as a key factor in further improving and developing this sector.

Currently, information and library institutions are utilizing various forms of work to expand their scope of activities. This ensures more effective and high-quality services for readers. The main goal is to widely promote a reading culture and book literacy among the population, especially the youth, while enhancing their spiritual development. [10]

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study highlights the critical role of normative-legal documents in shaping the information and library activities in Uzbekistan. Addressing the knowledge gap in understanding the impact of legal frameworks on library development, this research employs an analytical approach to examine key decrees, resolutions, and policies. The findings reveal that legislative measures have significantly improved the accessibility, digitalization, and service quality of libraries, contributing to the promotion of reading culture and public information services. The results underscore the necessity of continuous policy enhancements to further integrate modern technologies into library services. This study's implications extend to policymakers, library professionals, and researchers, emphasizing the importance of legal support in fostering a dynamic and inclusive information and library system.

References

1. A. Karimov, *Axborot xizmatlarini rivojlantirishda zamonaviy yondashuvlar*. Toshkent, 2021.
2. *Axborot-resurs markazlari va maktab kutubxonalari faoliyatini tashkil etish bo'yicha me'yoriy-huquqiy hujjatlar to'plami*. Toshkent, 2017.
3. I. Yuldashev и O. Nosirov, *Kutubxona – axborot xizmati: nazariyasi va amaliyoti*. Toshkent, 2020.
4. B. Rakhmonov, *Kutubxona menedjmenti va innovatsiyalar*. Toshkent, 2019.
5. M. Khasanov, «Kutubxona xizmatlarini avtomatlashtirish va zamonaviy dasturlar», *Innov. Kutubxonashunoslik*, т. 6, сс. 88–95, 2023.
6. M. Mahmudov, *Kutubxona-axborot faoliyatini boshqarish*. Toshkent, 2007.
7. M. Mahmudov, *Kutubxona-axborot faoliyatini boshqarish*. Toshkent: Donishmand ziyosi, 2023.
8. Sh. To'ychiyeva, *Kutubxonalarning innovatsion faoliyati*. Qo'qon: ART PRESS, 2023.
9. G. Nazarova, *Oliy ta'lim kutubxonalari: muammolar va istiqbollar*. Toshkent, 2020.
10. D. Ismoilova, «Raqamli kutubxonalar va axborot texnologiyalari», *Axborot Va Kutubxona Jurnali*, т. 4, сс. 45–52, 2022.