



ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION REPORT

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS JULY 2023 REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

BY: INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS CONGRESS

This report contains the findings of the International Parliamentarians' Congress Election Observation Mission, which visited the Republic of Uzbekistan to observe the Presidential Elections, held on 9th July, 2023.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS CONGRESS

Uzbekistan, a landlocked country situated in Central Asia, is known for its rich history, diverse culture, and geopolitical significance. The country has been making strides in recent years toward political and economic reforms, including changes to its electoral system. Uzbekistan's journey from a Soviet republic to an independent nation has been marked by various political transformations.

Elections in Uzbekistan play a crucial role in shaping the country's political landscape and determining its leadership. Due to elections, Uzbekistan has undergone changes to promote transparency, fairness, and inclusivity. While the country has taken steps to establish a multi-party system, the dominance of the ruling party remains prominent. The electoral process includes presidential, parliamentary, and local elections, each contributing to the broader democratic development of the nation.

Challenges of transitioning from an authoritarian past to the possibilities of more participatory democracy, the story of Uzbekistan's elections is one of evolving political dynamics and aspirations for a more representative government.

In 2021, the president announced to amend the Uzbek constitution to introduce democratic reforms in the country, resulting in a referendum that took place on 30th April 2023. After the amended constitution, the President of Uzbekistan called an early election on 9th July 2023.

At the request of the International Parliamentarians' Congress (IPC), the Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan accredited the IPC to exercise its Election Observation Mission (EOM) and observe the Uzbek Presidential election of 2023. To fulfill the mission, the two-member Delegation of IPC consisting of Secretary General IPC Senator Sitara Ayaz and Member IPC from Pakistan Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman visited Uzbekistan to observe the election process for President.

The International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) is a transnational network of individual parliamentarians who have come together to play a proactive role in promoting peace, prosperity, and sustainable development through collaboration and communication. The aim of the IPC is not restricted to the strengthening of democracy; the IPC intends to bring MPs together to work together on pressing social issues globally.

It is a source of great happiness that the IPC has grown in accordance with its original purposes and objectives, which included the formation of synergies within the parliamentary community in order to deal with the formidable challenges that humanity faces.

I take the opportunity to present this report, which is based on the experiences of the IPC EOM sent to the Republic of Uzbekistan to observe the Presidential election held on 9th July 2023. The following paper provides a detailed analysis of the 2023 Presidential elections as well as a full summary of the elections and their Presidential system. The report also includes the EOM's findings from their visits and further shares recommendations on the basis of their observation that could be used to further strengthen the current system.

Senator Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani
The President
International Parliamentarians' Congress (IPC)



INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS CONGRESS (IPC)

The International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC), established in 2019 through a resolution passed by the Senate of Pakistan, stands as a beacon of international cooperation and collaboration among individual parliamentarians from across the globe. With its headquarters nestled in the vibrant capital of Pakistan, Islamabad, IPC has emerged as a transcontinental organization committed to fostering progress and addressing critical global challenges through a diverse array of thematic areas by engaging individual parliamentarians from around the world.

Comprising individual parliamentarians hailing from an impressive roster of 50 countries, IPC is united by a shared vision of promoting peace, prosperity, and global development worldwide. This diverse assembly of representatives transcends borders and political divides, working collectively in pursuit of solutions to some of the most pressing global issues.

IPC's mission encompasses a wide range of thematic areas, including:

Climate Change and Food Security:

Recognizing the urgency of climate change and its profound impact on food security, IPC strives to advocate for meaningful policies and initiatives that mitigate environmental degradation and ensure a sustainable future for all.

Human Rights:

IPC places human rights at the forefront of its agenda, advocating for the protection and promotion of fundamental rights and freedoms, and seeking justice and equality for all individuals regardless of their background or beliefs.

Peace, Security, Conflict Resolution, and Interfaith Harmony:

IPC is dedicated to fostering global peace, security, and conflict resolution, while promoting interfaith harmony as a means to bridge cultural divides and build a more harmonious world.

Trade, Investment, and Developmental Cooperation:

Recognizing the crucial role of trade, investment, and developmental cooperation in driving economic growth and reducing inequalities, IPC actively engages in initiatives that promote economic prosperity and cooperation among nations.

Health Research, Standardization, Quality Control, and Human Development:

IPC recognizes the importance of health as a fundamental human right and endeavors to improve global health outcomes through research, standardization, quality control measures, and human development programs.

Monitoring and Observation of Elections in the World:

IPC plays a vital role in promoting free and fair elections worldwide by monitoring and observing electoral processes, advocating for transparency, and ensuring democratic values are upheld.

Election Observation Missions (EOMs) around the world are one of the key thematic areas in which IPC actively working and further seeks recognition for collaboration as well as goodwill among other countries.

IPC conducted EOMs to examine free, fair, and transparent elections, and electioneering processes, and to seek guidance from the country's electoral procedures. The evolution of international election observation has been correlated with the growing strength of democratic governments.

Since its inception, IPC have been eager to fulfill the IPC's EOMs mandate, and have been sending delegations to observe elections in several countries after receiving accreditation from the election commission office of the country. The Election observation mission carried out by IPC Delegation is as follows:

Year 2019	United Kingdom General elections
Year 2020	Jordan General elections
Year 2021	Netherlands General elections
Year 2022	Colombia Presidential elections
Year 2023 (May)	Thailand General Elections
Year 2023 (July)	Uzbekistan Presidential Elections

IPC's mandate towards the thematic area of election observation mission around the world also includes the publication of the Election observation report, after approval from the respective country's government. Thus, IPC has published all the EOM reports after approval from the country's government.

Similarly, at the invitation of the Central Election Commission of Uzbekistan, IPC sent an Election Observation Mission (EOM) to Uzbekistan, headed by the Secretary General IPC Senator Sitara Ayaz, and member IPC Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman to oversee the 2023 Presidential Elections. The EOM was to analyze the electoral process to assess its compliance with the international commitment and to observe its electioneering process. The delegation was delighted to visit Uzbekistan, observe the elections, and meet with the electoral administration, civil society representatives, and organizations of national and international observers.

With its unwavering commitment to diverse thematic areas, IPC serves as a catalyst for positive change on the global stage. By fostering international collaboration and dialogue, IPC strives to make a world a more peaceful, equitable, and sustainable place for all, transcending borders and uniting the voices of parliamentarians from around the world in the pursuit of common

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of the International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) Election Observation Mission (EOM) of the Presidential Elections of Uzbekistan held on July 9th, 2023.

First and foremost, IPC would like to express its deepest appreciation to the Head of the distinguished delegation, Secretary General IPC Senator Sitara Ayaz, and esteemed IPC member, Senator Faisal Saleem Rahman, for their unwavering commitment to the principles of democracy and their invaluable contributions to the mission. Their leadership and presence greatly enriched the efforts.

IPC is immensely grateful to the Election Commission of Uzbekistan for their outstanding cooperation and facilitation throughout the visit. The Embassy of Uzbekistan in Islamabad played a pivotal role in orchestrating the visit with flawless coordination, and IPC commended their exceptional support.

IPC further extends its warmest thanks to the election commission officials and embassy personnel who meticulously scheduled the visit, including arranging crucial meetings with key figures such as the Election Commissioner of Uzbekistan and other officials. These meetings provided the delegation with invaluable insights and a comprehensive understanding of the electoral process.

A note of appreciation goes to Ms. Mehk Butt, Communication Manager at IPC, for her dedication to researching, writing and editing this comprehensive report. Her diligence efforts and professionalism were integral to our mission's success.

IPC look forward to continued collaboration in its shared mission of promoting democracy and fairness worldwide.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Uzbekistan officially known as the Republic of Uzbekistan is a particularly landlocked country located in the Central Asia region. The state came under Russian control in the 19th century. It was the first Central Asian state to declare sovereignty to end Russian control in June 1990. However, Uzbekistan declared official independence from Russian rule on 31st August 1991 and proclaimed 1st September as its official Independence Day.

Uzbekistan is rich in natural resources, it is one of the major producers and exporters of natural gas. Additionally, the country has sizeable resources of gas and petroleum. Apart from petroleum products, the country is the leading grower of cotton, fruits, and vegetables. Moreover, Uzbekistan is the main manufacturer of machinery and heavy equipment among Central Asian Republics (CARs).

According to chapter 18, article 76 of the Uzbek constitution, the country is a legal democratic state. The official head of state is the President of the country. Uzbekistan has a bicameral legislature system and the parliament of Uzbekistan is known as Oily Majlis which consists of two chambers; Upper and Lower. The lower chamber is called Legislative Chamber and the upper chamber is called the Senate of the Republic of Uzbekistan.¹ The Oily Majlis is responsible for the legislative functions of the country.

The executive body of the country consists of the cabinet of the Republic of Uzbekistan and does the administrative functions. It provides guidance for the smooth and effective functioning of the economic, social, and spiritual spheres of the country. Additionally, the cabinet makes sure of the implementation of laws and other Oily Majlis decisions in the country. Moreover, it keeps an eye on the implementation of orders and decrees of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

2. Electoral History of Uzbekistan

The Republic of Uzbekistan is a presidential republic with legislative powers vested with both; parliament and president. President is the head of the state and executive authority of the country. The office of the Uzbek president was established in 1991 after the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) disintegrated. The office of the Uzbek president replaced the position of chairperson of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Uzbek SSR.



Figure 1:
The Map of Republic of Uzbekistan

¹ Political Structure System; The Formation of Statehood, <http://invest-in-uzbekistan.org/en/politicheskoe-ustrojstvo/> (Accessed on 10, 7, 2023)

Uzbek parliament known as Oliy Majlis, succeeded the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 1995. The parliament was unicameral till 2005 however, after the reforms of January 1995, a second chamber of the parliament was established. The lower house known as the legislative chamber has 150 members known as deputies, elected from all the constituencies of the country. Upper house known as the Senate has 100 members, 84 elected from the capital and the regions of the country and 16 nominated by the President of Uzbekistan. The Uzbek Parliament can call a referendum and adopt the budget, whereas the lower house can elect a Prime Minister upon the nomination of the President.

However, in the power share, the President has more powers than the Uzbek parliament as he could issue binding decrees and resolutions. Moreover, he nominates 16 members of the senate, the upper house of the Uzbek parliament. Additionally, he/she can solely nominate some other high-ranking officials such as members of the Supreme Judicial Council, the prosecutor general and the chairperson of the state security services.

After the independence of the country, Islam Karimov was the only president who remained in office for 25 years. During his tenure, he won three consecutive elections, however, all of these three elections are considered to have been rigged. After his death, president Shavkat Mirziyoyev was elected as the President of Uzbekistan through popular vote. He won the elections of 2021 with an overwhelming majority as 80% of the cast votes were in his favor.²

In 2021, during his inaugural speech, the president announced the amendment in the Uzbek constitution to introduce democratic reforms in the country. A consultation process was started that resulted in a referendum for the constitutional reforms, which took place on 30th April 2023. 90% of the voters cast their vote in favor of amendments to the Uzbek constitution.

The amended constitution establishes a secular and social state. Moreover, it addresses human rights issues in the country. The constitution puts an obligation on the Uzbek state to ensure the equality of all citizens before the law.³

Although, according to the previous constitution, the presidential term was to be ended in 2026. However, after the amended constitution, the President of Uzbekistan called an early election on 9th July 2023. He was off the opinion that the newly amended constitution calls for reforms and there must be a balance between different branches of the state. Additionally, the President signed a decree to shift the electoral system for the parliamentary elections from a full majority system to a mixed and proportional majority system.⁴

² Republic of Uzbekistan; Early Presidential Elections, Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/5/5/544492.pdf> (Accessed on 12, 7, 2023)

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

3. ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

The Republic of Uzbekistan has specified bodies for the administration of general elections in the country. These bodies include;

- Central Election Commission (CEC)
- District Election Commission (DEC)
- Precinct Commission (PEC)

3.1 Central Election Commission

CEC has the complete mandate of conducting elections in Uzbekistan and providing relevant guidelines for all the stakeholders and sub-bodies. The members of CEC are appointed by the Oily Majlis for an indefinite period of time. However, the proposal to allocate the CEC members is made by the regional representative bodies. The present CEC of Uzbekistan has 21 members including seven female members.

For elections in July 2023, CEC held a session in May to formally initiate election preparations, and announce the election period and the timeline to conduct the elections.

Moreover, CEC conducted training for the members of DEC and PEC. The training was aimed to control the irregularities on the Election Day. CEC is also responsible for publishing the results and publishing all the results on its official site on the same day of the elections.

3.2 District Election Commission

DEC is a sub-body of CEC that receives the mandate from CEC to conduct elections at the district level. It looks after the electoral process at the regional level. The members of DEC are appointed by the CEC on the recommendation of the regional representative bodies.

3.3 Precinct Commission

PEC works under CEC and DEC. PEC has a mandate to conduct voting at the polling stations. Moreover, once the election is done, PEC is responsible for vote counting.

The members of PEC are appointed by the DEC members on the recommendation of the local councils who made the recommendations on the suggestion of Mohalla committees. One committee will not nominate more than half members of PEC



Figure 2:
The delegation of IPC meeting with the Chairman of Central Election Commission Uzbekistan Mr. NIZAMKHODJAEV ZAYNID-DIN MAKHAMATOVICH, presenting him the IPC's world Election Directory

4. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ELECTIONS

The state is a Presidential democracy therefore, the President of Uzbekistan is directly elected by popular vote through a single nationwide constituency. Previously, the elections were held according to the Election Code of 2019 constitution however, after amendments, July 2023 elections are held under the Election Code of 2023 amended constitution. The amended constitution introduced various changes in the Election Code.

According to the Election Code of 2023, the presidential term is increased from five years to seven years and these changes are applied from the current president in office to the next president. For valid election results, at least 33% of voters must participate and cast their vote in the elections.

As Uzbekistan is a presidential democracy and the President is elected through the general elections, therefore, the amendments also talk about a tie between two presidential candidates. According to the Election Code 2023, if no candidate obtains more than 50% of the votes then another round of the elections will be called between the two candidates with the highest votes. The second round will be called one month after the election day of the first round. However, for the second round, the constitution puts no condition on 33% of voters for the validity of election results. Moreover, the Election Code 2023 introduced a new clause putting a two-month deadline for holding early presidential elections and a three-month deadline for early parliamentary elections.

4.1 Candidate Registration for the Presidential Elections

To contest the presidential elections in Uzbekistan, the candidates must have to meet certain criteria according to the law of the land. Any candidate who wishes to run for president must be 35 years of age or older. In addition, he or she must be fluent in Uzbek and have lived in the country for at least ten years prior to the election. 32 days before the election, the Central Election Commission (CEC) registered the candidates.

However, the CEC first approves the authority of the parties to nominate presidential candidates, and even that has a set of requirements. Any party that wishes to put forth a presidential candidate must register with the CEC four months before the election.

The candidate must have support from at least 1% and not more than 8% of the electorate in one administrative unit in addition to party registration.



Figure 3:
Picture taken at one of the polling station in Tashkent

4.2 Voter Requirements

All citizens aged 18 or above are eligible to cast their vote in Uzbekistan. Citizens can verify their vote registration online and from the polling station 10 days before the election day. In case of any mistake, the voter could file a complaint in the Precinct Commission (PEC) and it has to be addressed by them within 24 hours.

4.3 Voter Registration

The voter registration process is based on the permanent or temporary residence of the voters. The Ministry for Digital Technologies and Communications (MTIDC) and CEC keep the record of voter registration through a Single Electronic Voter Register (SEVR). However, several other government agencies such as; the State Centre for Personalization, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Defense, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are involved in the data compilation for voter registration.

The data of voter registration on SEVR is updated after a regular time period. During the July elections, there were 22.2 million registered voters on the SEVR.

In addition to the eligibility criteria, the constitution of Uzbekistan has certain conditions to declare a person incapable of casting a vote. However, the conditions have changed after the recent amendments to the constitution. Previously, any citizen who committed a grave crime and served a prison sentence was declared incapable of casting a vote however, after the recent amendments court will decide to put the limitation on the voting rights of such citizens.

4.4 Voting Process

The Voting process starts at 8:00 am in morning and ends at 8:00 pm evening. After receiving the ballot paper from the polling station, the voter fills it in a secret room. To cast the vote in favor of any candidate, a voter has to put + or x on the empty square side on the right side of the surname of the specific candidate.

4.5 Voting Process for Overseas Voters

Polling stations in other countries are established for overseas voters. To be included in the voter list and to cast their vote, voters have to apply in writing



Figure 4:
Vote casting booths

to the polling station abroad or online on the official site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan at least 15 days before the elections. Voters get verification of their vote within three days of their application.⁵

After the registration, a voter may vote early and the polling usually takes place from 8:00 in the morning to 8:00 in the evening, as per the local time of the country in which they are residing.

4.6 Early Voting Procedures

The country has an early voting procedure for the voters who will not be at their permanent residence on Election Day. Early voting starts 10 days before the election day and ends 3 days before the election day. To cast the vote in early voting, the voter will receive a ballot from the PEC and cast the vote in a secret room. The voter will hand over the ballot in a completely sealed envelope to the PEC then two members of the election commission will sign and stamp the envelope.

⁵ Central Election Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan, <https://saylov.uz/en/docs/ozbekiston-respublikasi-prezidenti-saylovi-da-muddatidan-oldin-ovoz-berish-taribi> (Accessed on 17, 7, 2023)

5. PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

5.1 Shavkat Mirziyoyev

Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the current President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, represents the Liberal Democratic Party in the presidential elections of 2023. He was born on July 24, 1957, in the Zomin district of Jizzakh province. Prior to becoming president, Mirziyoyev served as the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan from 2003 to 2016.⁶

During his stay in office, Shavkat Mirziyoyev introduced economic reforms in the country and the GDP of the country touched the historic figure of \$80 billion. Apart from the economic reforms, he also focuses on the educational reforms in the country.



Figure 5:
Mr. Shavkat Mirziyoyev

5.2 Ulugbek Inoyatov

As one of the Presidential candidates in Uzbekistan Presidential elections 2023, he represents the People's Democratic Party. He was born on 6th August 1962.⁷ During his political career, he served as the Chairperson of the Central Council of the People's Democratic Party and speaker of the Legislative chamber of Oliy Majlis. Moreover, he possesses a background in Public Administration, foreign policy, and law and justice.



Figure 6:
Mr. Ulugbek Inoyatov

5.3 Abdushukur Khamzaev

With a strong focus on environmental and judicial reforms, Abdushukur Khamzaev belongs to the Ecological Party in the Presidential elections of Uzbekistan. He was born on 9th November 1958.⁸

He has served as the first Deputy Chairperson of the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan, the Chairperson of the Judicial Panel for administrative cases, and head of the People's Reception Office. He contributed to the protection of women's rights during his stay in the reconciliation office.



Figure 7:
Mr. Abdushukur Khamzaev

⁶ Candidates for Presidential Election of Uzbekistan, The Diplomatic Insight, <https://thediplomaticinsight.com/candidates-for-presidential-election-of-uzbekistan/> (Accessed on 17, 7, 2023)

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

5.4 Robakhon Makhmudova:

Known for her advocacy of human rights and social justice, Robakhon Makhmudova is the presidential candidate of the Social Democratic Party Adolat. She was born on 10th December 1973.⁹

Before joining the Social Democratic Party Adolat, she was a member of the Ecological party. As a chairperson of the Executive Committee of the Central Council of the Ecological Party, she worked to enhance the scientific potential in forestry and promotion of international cooperation.



Figure 8: Ms. Robakhon Makhmudova

6. ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The Election Code has rules for the election campaign of the Presidential election. According to the rules, any candidate could start the campaign after his/her registration as presidential candidate with CEC. The candidate is not allowed to do the campaign on election day and a day before the election day. The rules regarding the election campaign ensure that all candidates must have equal opportunities to campaign and the dissemination of false information must be stopped at the earliest.

The Election Code makes it binding for the local government and other state bodies to provide free of charge venues to the candidates for the campaign. However, misuse of the state resources during the campaign is not allowed.

7. ELECTION FINANCE

The political parties having representation in the legislative chamber of the Oliy Majlis are entitled to get annual public funding. The parties got funding according to the proportion of seats in the last parliamentary elections. In addition to the public funds, the parties get funds from the state budget. However, parties entitled to the funding have to submit an interim campaign finance report to the CEC before the election day and a final report after the election day. The Election Code prohibits private funding and funding from foreign entities for the election campaign.

⁹ Ibid.

8. ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION

The International Parliamentarians Congress (IPC) conducted an election observation mission comprised of a two-member delegation and observed the Presidential elections of Uzbekistan, which took place on the 9th of July 2023. This mission aimed to ensure transparency, fairness, and adherence to democratic principles in the electoral process.

The delegation arrived in Tashkent, the capital city of Uzbekistan, two days before the Election Day to facilitate constructive engagement with electoral authorities and gain an in-depth understanding of Uzbekistan's electoral landscape.

Upon arrival, the delegation scheduled a meeting with officials of the Central Election Commission (CEC). This meeting, which took place before the elections, played a pivotal role in the mission's preparations. During this briefing, the delegation met with the Election Commission of CEC and received a comprehensive overview of the Uzbekistan constitution and the intricacies of the electoral system. This provided a solid foundation for a well-informed and effective observation mission.



Figure 9:
IPC Delegation member Secretary General IPC Senator Sitara Ayaz observing the ballot box at the polling station

On the day of the elections, the delegation embarked on its mission by visiting multiple polling stations in Tashkent. These visits were conducted under the vigilant supervision of the CEC, ensuring the mission's impartiality and neutrality. The delegation's primary objective was to closely observe the entire electoral process, from the casting of votes to the counting of ballots. This in-depth scrutiny allowed for a comprehensive assessment of the electoral proceedings.

In addition to observing the mechanics of the election, the delegation actively engaged with citizens present at polling stations. These interactions were conducted with respect and sensitivity, providing an opportunity to collect diverse viewpoints on the election process and the candidates. These conversations enriched the delegation's understanding of the electoral climate, reflecting the aspirations and concerns of the Uzbekistani populace.

As per the information shared by the CEC with the delegation, the total voter turnout for the presidential elections stood at an impressive 79%. This high turnout underscores the significant

and successful engagement of Uzbekistani citizens in the democratic process, reflecting their commitment to exercising their voting rights.

Furthermore, the total vote count for the elections was reported as 15,651,405, out of a registered voter base of 22.2 million, based on data obtained from the State Election Voter Registry (SEVR). These figures underscore the substantial civic participation and the profound influence of the electorate in shaping the nation's future leadership.



Figure 10:
The Delegation of IPC observing the vote casting process

In conclusion, the IPC's election observation mission for the Presidential elections of Uzbekistan in July 2023 reflects IPC's commitment to promoting democratic values and electoral transparency. The delegation's meticulous observations, engagement with electoral authorities, and interactions with citizens have provided valuable insights into the electoral process and the aspirations of the Uzbekistani electorate.

9. RESULTS

Shavkat Mirziyoyev, achieved a resounding victory with 87.05% of the vote in the Presidential elections and has been re-elected as the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, thereby securing another seven-year term to lead the nation. The election turnout was impressive with 79.88%, demonstrating the keen participation and engagement of the Uzbekistani people in the democratic process.

Among the candidates who contested the elections, Shavkat Mirziyoyev's victory was significant, but it is worth acknowledging the contributions and efforts of the other candidates as well. Abdushukur Khamzaev, the candidate of the Ecological Party of Uzbekistan, garnered a notable 3.74% of the votes. Robakhon Makhmudova, from the Social Democratic Party Adolat, received 4.43% of the votes, and Ulugbek Inoyatov, the candidate of the People's Democratic Party, secured 4.02% of the votes.

S. No	Candidate Names	Political Party	Votes	%
1	Shavkat Mirziyoyev	Liberal Democratic Party/ Independent	13,625,055	87.71%
2	Robaxon Maxmudova	Justice Social Democratic Party	693,634	4.47%
3	Ulugbek Inoyatov	People's Democratic Party	629,116	4.05%
4	Abdushukur Xamzayev	Ecological Party of Uzbekistan	585,711	3.77%
		TOTAL	15,533,516	100.00%

Political Party	Votes	%
VALID VOTES	15,533,516	99.25
INVALID/BLANK VOTES	117,889	0.75
TOTAL VOTES	15,651,405	100.00
REGISTERED VOTERS/TURNOUT	19,593,838	79.88

10. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The overall administration of the elections was characterized by a high degree of efficiency and professionalism. However, it was noted that during the earlier hours of the day, there was a relatively slower voter turnout at certain polling stations within the capital. It is noteworthy that as the afternoon progressed, the voter participation notably increased, and the electoral authorities effectively managed the surge in a proficient manner.
- IPC delegation observed an absence of a presidential candidate campaign in the capital city of Uzbekistan. In light of this observation, IPC recommends the implementation of a comprehensive presidential election campaign in Uzbekistan, inclusive of the capital city. As per IPC's opinion, conducting a presidential election campaign in the capital city of any country is essential to uphold the principles of democracy, promote transparency, and engage a diverse and influential urban population. It contributes to the overall legitimacy and integrity of the electoral process and fosters a stronger, more inclusive democracy in the nation. Therefore, it is of paramount importance to hold campaigns.

Uzbekistan conducted its presidential elections with a commendable commitment to transparency and openness, allowing the observation missions present to meticulously scrutinize every phase of the electoral process, including the voting procedures.






GALLERY







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