

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FREEDOMS AS INDICATORS FOR DETERMINING THE POLITICAL REGIMES OF TODAY

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Summary

Economic and political freedoms are often used as key indicators to classify types of political regimes. These freedoms, which include freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and economic freedoms such as freedom of business and freedom of trade, significantly affect how a country is perceived as a democracy or an autocracy. Democracies are typically characterized by high levels of these freedoms, allowing open expression and market regulation that encourages competition and fair trade. In contrast, autocratic regimes often impose restrictions on both speech and economic activity, limiting the scope of political discourse and centralizing economic control. These freedoms not only reflect, but also shape the political landscapes of modern states. The synthesis of freedoms with political governance not only determines the internal dynamics of nations, but also affects their relationships on the global stage. Ensuring the development and protection of these freedoms is of paramount importance to the development of stable, prosperous and just societies around the world. Economic and political freedoms are the foundation of democratic government and are essential to the personal and economic well-being of citizens. The purpose of the work is to conduct a study of the influence of the scope of economic and political rights and freedoms on the formation of the political regime in the country. The object of the research is economic and political freedoms as key criteria for the classification of types of political regimes. The subject of the research is social relations that arise, change and cease in the process of consolidation and implementation of economic and political rights and freedoms and their influence on the formation and functioning of democratic and autocratic political regimes. Research methodology includes methodological approaches (active, systemic, comparative, axiological), general scientific methods of thinking (analysis, synthesis, abstraction, generalization), philosophical (dialectical, metaphysical, hermeneutic, epistemological), general scientific (historical, synergistic, functional, structural) and specifically scientific (formal-legal, comparative-legal) methods. As a result of the study, problematic issues related to the problem were analyzed with the realization of economic and political freedoms as key indicators of the country's political regime, which significantly affect the trajectory of its development and international position.

Key words: economic freedoms, political freedoms, political regime, democratic political regime, autocratic political regime.

1. Introduction

The political regime as one of the elements of the state form is a key characteristic of the modern state. If you examine the main components of the political regime of any state, you can determine the state of guaranteeing, implementation and protection of rights and freedoms in this state, the ratio of branches of government, the direction of relations with other states of the world. In this sense, the state of protection and implementation of political and economic rights and freedoms is of key importance. The purpose of the work is to conduct a study of the influence of the scope of economic and political rights and freedoms on the formation of the political regime in the country. Research methodology includes methodological approaches (active, systemic, comparative, axiological), general scientific methods of thinking (analysis, synthesis, abstraction, generalization), philosophical (dialectical, metaphysical, hermeneutic, epistemological), general scientific (historical, synergistic, functional, structural) and specifically scientific (formal-legal, comparative-legal) methods.

2. Freedom of speech and press, economic freedoms and anti-corruption freedoms and their impact on political regimes

Freedom of speech and freedom of the press are the foundation of democratic government. They allow the free exchange of ideas, which is important for the health of democracy. These freedoms allow citizens to criticize their governments and advocate for change without fear of reprisal. As indicators, the levels of these freedoms are directly correlated with the democratic state of the country.

In contrast, autocratic regimes often suppress free speech and control the press to maintain power. Mass media in such countries usually serve as mouthpieces for state propaganda, with virtually no tolerance for dissent or criticism. This lack of media freedom is a clear indicator of an autocratic regime where the government controls not only the economic aspects of the country, but also the information resources.

Indices such as the Press Freedom Index help quantify these freedoms and are used by researchers and policymakers to classify countries into categories such as «free», «partly free» and «unfree». These classifications are based on the legal environment that regulates the media, political pressures that influence reporting, and economic control over news sources.

Understanding the status of these freedoms in a country provides insight into its governance and political climate, offering a window into broader political dynamics and how they affect everything from individual rights to economic policy.

Economic freedoms encompass a range of rights and freedoms that allow individuals and

businesses to engage in economic activity with minimal government interference. Key components of economic freedom include business freedom, trade freedom, tax freedom, financial freedom, and property rights. These freedoms are necessary to create an environment in which economic activity can flourish, contributing to overall national prosperity.

In democratic regimes, economic freedoms tend to be strong, with clear and consistent rules that promote fair competition and protect property rights. Democracies understand that economic empowerment of individuals and businesses drives innovation and growth. For example, fiscal freedom allows for reasonable taxation and government spending, which encourages investment and economic diversification.

Conversely, in autocratic regimes, economic freedoms are often severely restricted. The governments of these countries can impose strict regulations and take control of major industries, stifling entrepreneurship and keeping citizens economically dependent. Property rights are often unprotected because the state can expropriate property without fair compensation. Such economic control is a tool for autocrats to maintain power by limiting the economic independence of their citizens.

The relationship between economic freedoms and political regimes is thus reciprocal. Economic policy not only reflects the nature of the political regime, but also strengthens it. Economic freedoms encourage democratic participation by empowering citizens, while restricting them strengthens autocratic rule.

Freedom of investment is crucial to a country's economic development and is often seen as a thermometer measuring the health of political governance. Countries with high investment freedom attract significant foreign direct investment, which contributes to economic growth and job creation. Democracies usually promote open investment policies, providing a transparent and stable environment for both domestic and international investors. This openness not only stimulates economic growth, but also supports political stability by distributing economic power more widely among private actors and reducing susceptibility to corruption.

Freedom of labor means the ability of workers to form trade unions, conduct collective agreements and work without undue restrictions. In democratic regimes, labor rights are protected and workers are free to organize and express their interests, contributing to a more equitable distribution of economic gains. This freedom ensures that workers can advocate for fair wages and safe working conditions, which are fundamental to sustaining the middle class and promoting social stability. Conversely, autocratic regimes often impose strict controls on labor rights to prevent workers from organizing and mobilizing,

which could threaten their power. Restrictions on labor rights in such regimes are often accompanied by poor working conditions and unequal economic policies that favor elite groups over the general public.

Anti-corruption measures are also an important indicator of political regimes. Democracies tend to have more robust transparency and accountability mechanisms that help fight corruption. These measures include a strong legal framework, an independent judiciary, and an active civil society that monitors government actions and demands accountability. However, corruption often thrives in autocracies, and there are few mechanisms to hold leaders accountable. This lack of transparency not only undermines economic efficiency, but also undermines public trust in government.

The scope of these freedoms – investment, labor and anti-corruption – provides a critical understanding of the functioning and nature of political regimes. They highlight the interplay between economic policy and political power, showing how economic freedoms underpin democratic governance and how their absence can signal autocratic tendencies.

The relationship between economic and political freedoms is a defining characteristic that can clarify the nature of political regimes and their impact on public welfare. Taken together, these freedoms offer a comprehensive framework for understanding not only the governance of a country, but also its place on the world stage in terms of democracy, human rights, and economic prosperity.

Democratic regimes characterized by high levels of political and economic freedoms tend to demonstrate a strong rule of law, transparent governance, and active citizen participation. These attributes contribute to the creation of an environment where freedoms are protected and where citizens can fully participate in the political and economic life of their country. The presence of reliable freedoms is indicative of a healthy democracy, where checks and balances are respected and where the government is accountable to the people.

On the other hand, autocratic regimes often exhibit limited political and economic freedoms, where power is centralized and dissent is not tolerated. In this environment, freedoms such as freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, and economic freedoms such as freedom of business and trade are severely curtailed. Suppression of these freedoms is often justified by autocratic leaders as necessary to maintain order or economic stability, but in reality it serves to consolidate their power and suppress opposition.

The global landscape of political regimes shows that countries with broad freedoms tend to experience higher economic growth, more innovation and

improved quality of life. These countries attract more international investment, offer better opportunities for their citizens and play a more significant role in international affairs. Conversely, countries with limited freedoms often face economic stagnation, social unrest, and isolation on the world stage.

Thus, understanding the levels of political and economic freedoms can provide valuable information about predicting the trajectory of nations in terms of development, peace, and security. International organizations and politicians use indices measuring these freedoms to develop foreign policy, distribute aid, and enter into diplomatic relations.

In summary, economic and political freedoms are not only basic human rights, but also important indicators of the country's political regime. They shape the political landscape and influence economic and social dynamics within and between nations. As the world continues to evolve, the promotion and protection of these freedoms remain essential to the development of democratic values, economic prosperity and global peace.

3. Challenges and opportunities in diverse political regimes

The diversity of political regimes around the world creates both challenges and opportunities, especially in the exercise and protection of economic and political freedoms. Understanding these dynamics is critical to international relations, global business strategies, and efforts to promote human rights and democratic governance around the world.

In autocratic regimes, the main challenge is the concentration of power, which often leads to human rights violations and suppression of economic freedoms. The absence of free speech and a free press can stifle opposition and impede the free flow of information, keeping the population uninformed and often misinformed about the true state of affairs. Economic challenges in these regimes include limited access to markets, limited entrepreneurship, and heavy reliance on state-owned enterprises, which can lead to inefficiency and corruption.

In addition, the international community faces difficulties in engaging with these regimes due to their unpredictability and ethical dilemmas in dealing with governments that violate human rights. International sanctions and diplomatic isolation are tools often used to pressure these governments, but they can also have unintended consequences for civilians, exacerbating their suffering under repressive governments.

Conversely, democratic regimes offer numerous opportunities due to their openness and respect for freedoms and rights. Economically, these countries create a favorable environment for business and investment. Property rights protection, contract enforcement, and a competitive market environment

attract foreign investment and encourage domestic innovation.

Politically, democracies tend to be more stable and predictable, making them attractive partners for international trade and diplomatic relations. Their commitment to human rights and the rule of law also makes them leaders in the fight against global challenges such as climate change, international crime and human trafficking.

Democracies also provide opportunities for conflict resolution through dialogue and legal means rather than through violence and repression. This helps not only in solving internal conflicts, but also in international disputes, where democratic countries can act as mediators and facilitate peaceful solutions.

For politicians, NGOs, and international organizations, navigating the landscape shaped by these diverse regimes involves a delicate balance. Promoting and protecting freedoms around the world requires diplomatic tact, strategic alliances, and sometimes a tough stance against human rights abuses. Economic sanctions, diplomatic pressure and, in some cases, international intervention are strategies used to influence political regimes toward greater freedom and democracy.

However, these actions must be carefully vetted to avoid harming the very people they are supposed to help and to prevent the establishment of autocratic leaders who can use external pressure as a pretext to further suppress freedoms.

International organizations and coalitions play a key role in shaping political regimes, promoting economic and political freedoms. These actors, which include the United Nations, the European Union, the World Trade Organization, and various regional and global human rights organizations, use a combination of diplomatic, economic, and sometimes military tools to influence countries toward democratic governance and respect to human rights.

Diplomatic efforts of international organizations often involve dialogue, negotiation and protection of interests. These organizations serve as platforms where global issues are discussed and resolutions are passed that set norms and expectations for member states. For example, the United Nations Human Rights Council works actively to address human rights abuses and promote freedom and democracy by participating in fact-finding missions, issuing reports and providing recommendations to member states.

Economic instruments are powerful levers of influence on political regimes. International organizations such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank provide financial aid and development programs to countries that adhere to certain standards of governance, including economic transparency and democratic practices. In contrast,

sanctions are used against regimes that violate international norms or oppress their own populations, with the goal of isolating them economically and pressuring them to reform.

4. The role of international organizations and coalitions

International organizations are also involved in capacity building and educational programs to strengthen democratic institutions and develop civil society. These programs include training for journalists, support for fair elections, and training in human rights and democratic values. By empowering individuals and institutions, these organizations lay the groundwork for lasting political and economic reforms.

Coalition building is another important strategy where groups of countries come together to address specific global issues, such as climate change, trade disputes, or regional conflicts. These coalitions can exert considerable pressure on individual governments to change their policies and align them with international standards. For example, coalitions formed in the European Union have played an important role in promoting environmental legislation and protecting human rights in member states.

Although international organizations and coalitions are important in promoting economic and political freedoms, they face challenges and criticism. Sovereignty issues often arise when some states resist external influence on their internal affairs. In addition, the effectiveness of these organizations can be hindered by geopolitical interests, financial constraints and different levels of commitment between member states.

In addition, there are criticisms about the consistency and impartiality of these organizations. Developing countries sometimes view them as instruments of Western influence, arguing that interventions are not always applied uniformly and may be biased by strategic interests.

The influence of international organizations and coalitions on political regimes manifests itself differently in different regions, shaped by the historical, cultural and political context. Examining these regional influences provides a clearer picture of the effectiveness and challenges of global governance initiatives in promoting freedoms.

In Eastern Europe, the post-Cold War period marked a significant transition from autocratic regimes to democratic rule, largely influenced by the European Union and NATO. The prospect of EU membership has become a strong incentive for countries such as Poland, Hungary and the Baltic states to implement significant political and economic reforms. These reforms included strengthening the rule of law, liberalizing the economy, and improving human rights protection. Despite the recent challenges

of democratic backsliding, the overall trajectory of Eastern Europe's development underscores the transformative power of international engagement.

Sub-Saharan Africa presents a more complex picture, where the effects of international efforts are mixed. While some countries have made notable progress in democratic governance, others continue to struggle with political instability, corruption and authoritarianism. International organizations such as the African Union and various UN programs focus on election monitoring, conflict resolution, and economic development initiatives. However, deep-seated challenges, including poverty and ethnic conflict, often undermine these efforts, requiring a more tailored and sustainable approach.

Southeast Asia exhibits a variety of political regimes, from vibrant democracies like Indonesia to autocratic governments like the government of Myanmar. International efforts in the region have often focused on trade agreements, disaster relief and human rights protection. Although criticized for its *laissez-faire* policy, ASEAN has gradually begun to play a more active role in addressing regional issues such as the Rohingya crisis and territorial disputes in the South China Sea. The strategic importance of the region attracted considerable attention of major powers, which affected the dynamics of international efforts.

The Middle East remains one of the most difficult regions to promote political and economic freedoms due to entrenched authoritarian regimes, ongoing conflicts, and complex geopolitical interests. Efforts by international organizations to promote democracy and human rights have often been complicated by oil politics, terrorism, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Success stories are rare and usually tempered by failures, as seen in the aftermath of the Arab Spring, when the initial gains of freedom were largely curtailed.

The regional implications of international efforts to promote economic and political freedoms underscore the complexity of global governance. Success depends not only on the strategies of international organizations and coalitions, but also on local conditions and the willingness of local authorities and society to accept changes. While progress may be slow and non-linear, the continued commitment of the international community remains critical to fostering an environment where freedoms can flourish.

5. Future directions for promoting economic and political freedoms

Looking to the future, the trajectory of advancing economic and political freedoms around the world will be influenced by both ongoing challenges and new opportunities. The international community must adapt to changing global dynamics, including technological progress, changes in economic power and the changing political landscape, in order to

effectively uphold and strengthen democratic norms and economic openness.

Technologies play a key role in shaping the future of economic and political freedoms. Digital platforms offer unprecedented opportunities for free speech and political mobilization. However, they also pose significant challenges, such as disinformation, surveillance, and the potential for digital authoritarianism. International organizations and coalitions must focus on promoting digital rights and ensuring that technology supports, not stifles, freedom and democracy.

Economic inequality remains a significant obstacle to full economic freedom and political participation. As the global economy continues to grow, there is an urgent need to ensure that economic growth benefits all sections of society. This includes advocating for policies that support fair trade, labor rights and fair access to resources. International efforts should also focus on supporting small and medium-sized enterprises and promoting entrepreneurship in order to expand people's economic opportunities and strengthen their political activities.

The effectiveness of international efforts to promote freedoms often depends on the strength and cohesion of multilateral institutions. In an era of growing unilateralism and nationalism, increasing the importance of multilateral frameworks is crucial. These institutions must be reformed and strengthened to remain relevant and effective in addressing today's global challenges, from climate change to international security, that affect economic and political freedoms.

As the influence of developing economies grows, engaging these powers becomes essential to the global advancement of freedoms. Countries such as India, Brazil and South Africa play a crucial role in their regions and around the world. Their participation in international coalitions can help balance the influence of more autocratic forces and contribute to a more multipolar world where democratic ideals are more widely accepted and implemented.

Finally, one cannot fail to notice the intersection of economic development and political freedoms. Sustainable development that respects environmental constraints and provides for future generations is an integral part of preserving and expanding freedoms. International strategies must integrate economic, social and environmental objectives to support holistic and sustainable approaches to development that support political stability and freedom.

Summarizing the above, it can be stated that economic and political freedoms are key indicators of the country's political regime and significantly influence its development trajectory and international position. The synthesis of freedoms with political governance not only determines the internal dynamics of nations, but also affects their relationships on the global stage. Thus, ensuring the development

and protection of these freedoms is of paramount importance to the development of stable, prosperous and just societies around the world. Economic and political freedoms are the foundation of democratic government and are essential to the personal and economic well-being of citizens. These freedoms enable the innovation, investment and broad-based growth that is critical to sustainable development.

Autocratic regimes pose serious challenges to the global advancement of freedoms. These regimes often limit freedom of control, leading to political and economic stagnation. Addressing this requires a delicate approach that balances pressure and engagement to encourage reform without harming the population.

International organizations and coalitions play a key role in promoting freedoms. They provide a platform for dialogue, set international standards and can offer both the whip and the gingerbread to encourage democratic practices and economic openness.

The digital revolution, economic inequality and the rise of nationalism are modern challenges that affect freedoms. Effectively addressing these challenges requires adaptive strategies that use new technologies and economic models to promote inclusive growth and protect individual rights.

A multifaceted, cooperative approach is essential to advancing economic and political freedoms around the world. International organizations, national governments, civil society and the private sector should work together to: Expand multilateral cooperation: strengthen existing international structures and institutions to better address global challenges that affect freedoms; using powerful technologies to enhance democratic engagement and economic opportunity while protecting against abuse; focusing on policies that reduce inequality and ensure that the benefits of economic growth are widely shared; protection and expansion of legal regulations regarding the protection and guarantee of personal rights and freedoms.

6. Conclusions

The analysis of economic and political freedoms as indicators for determining political regimes reveals profound insights into the fundamental structures that govern nations. As demonstrated throughout this research, the extent and nature of these freedoms are not merely reflections of current governance but are also pivotal forces shaping the trajectory of nations' development and their international relations.

Democratic versus Autocratic Regimes: The study confirms a clear dichotomy between democracies and autocracies in terms of the breadth and application of political and economic freedoms. Democracies, characterized by substantial freedoms in speech, business operations, and political engagement, show a direct correlation with higher levels of economic performance and societal well-being. Conversely,

autocracies restrict these freedoms, often leading to economic inefficiency and social unrest.

Impact on Global Stability and Development: The freedoms analyzed are crucial for fostering international stability and economic growth. Countries that maintain high levels of political and economic freedoms tend to attract more global investments, participate more actively in international affairs, and exhibit stronger economic growth. Such environments encourage innovation and equitable growth, which are vital for sustainable development.

Role of International Indexes and Measures: Indices such as the Press Freedom Index and the Index of Economic Freedom are vital tools for policymakers and researchers. They provide objective measures to assess and compare the status of nations globally, influencing international policy, aid distribution, and diplomatic relations.

Implications for Global Governance: The findings underscore the importance of international efforts in promoting and protecting economic and political freedoms worldwide. The role of global and regional organizations, such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the European Union, is critical in this endeavor. Through diplomatic engagement, these bodies can advocate for reforms, mediate in conflicts, and provide a platform for dialogue among nations.

Challenges in Advancing Global Freedoms:

Resistance from Autocratic Regimes: One of the significant challenges is the resistance from autocratic leaders who view economic and political freedoms as a threat to their control. International strategies must carefully balance pressure and engagement to encourage liberalization without provoking severe crackdowns on freedoms.

Complexity in Implementation: The diverse cultural, economic, and political backgrounds of countries make a one-size-fits-all approach ineffective. Tailored strategies that consider local contexts and leverage regional influences are necessary for promoting sustainable changes.

Future Directions: Looking forward, the promotion of economic and political freedoms will increasingly intersect with digital rights and cybersecurity. As digital platforms become central to political expression and economic transactions, protecting digital freedoms will be crucial. Additionally, addressing the rise of nationalism and populism that challenges multilateralism will be imperative for maintaining the global order that supports these freedoms.

Call to Action: The global community must remain vigilant and proactive in promoting economic and political freedoms to ensure a just, prosperous, and stable international system. Continuous commitment to these principles, robust support for

international institutions, and strategic engagement with all stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, will be crucial.

By understanding and leveraging the interplay between economic policies and political freedoms, nations and international bodies can forge paths toward more democratic and equitable societies. This study advocates for an unwavering commitment to these freedoms, recognizing their indispensable role in shaping a world where peace, prosperity, and justice are attainable for all.

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ЕКОНОМІЧНІ ТА ПОЛІТИЧНІ СВОБОДИ ЯК ІНДИКАТОРИ ДЛЯ ВИЗНАЧЕННЯ СУЧАСНИХ ПОЛІТИЧНИХ РЕЖИМІВ

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Анотація

Економічні та політичні свободи часто використовуються як ключові показники для класифікації типів політичних режимів. Ці свободи, які включають свободу слова, свободу преси та економічні свободи, такі як свобода бізнесу та свобода торгівлі, суттєво впливають на те, як країна сприймається як демократія чи автократія. Демократичні країни зазвичай характеризуються високим рівнем цих свобод, що дозволяє відкрите вираження поглядів і ринкове регулювання, яке заохочує конкуренцію та чесну торгівлю. На противагу цьому автократичні режими часто накладають обмеження як на слова, так і на економічну діяльність, обмежуючи сферу політичного дискурсу та централізуючи економічний контроль. Ці свободи не лише відображають, але й формують політичні ландшафти сучасних держав. Синтез свобод із політичним управлінням не лише визначає внутрішню динаміку націй, але й впливає на їхні стосунки на глобальній арені. Забезпечення розвитку та захисту цих свобод має першорядне значення для розвитку стабільних, процвітаючих і справедливих суспільств у всьому світі. Економічні та політичні свободи є основою демократичного правління та мають важливе значення для особистого та економічного добробуту громадян. Мета роботи – провести дослідження впливу обсягу економічних та політичних прав і свобод на формування політичного режиму в країні. Об'єктом дослідження є економічні та політичні свободи як ключові критерії для класифікації типів політичних режимів. Предметом дослідження є суспільні відносини, що виникають, змінюються та припиняються в процесі закріплення та реалізації економічних та політичних прав і свобод та їх вплив на формування та функціонування демократичного та автократичного політичних режимів. Методологія дослідження включає методологічні підходи (діяльнісний, системний, порівняльний, аксіологічний), загальнонаукові методи мислення (аналіз, синтез, абстрагування, узагальнення), філософські (діалектичний, метафізичний, герменевтичний, гносеологічний), загальнонаукові (історичний, синергетичний, функціональний, структурний) і конкретно науковий (формально-юридичний, порівняльно-правовий) методи. У результаті дослідження проаналізовано проблемні питання, пов'язані з реалізацією економічних та політичних свобод як ключових показників політичного режиму країни, що суттєво впливають на траєкторію її розвитку та міжнародне становище.

Ключові слова: економічні свободи, політичні свободи, політичний режим, демократичний політичний режим, автократичний політичний режим.