

DIGITAL COURT PROCEEDINGS AND ONLINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SYSTEMS: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF UZBEKISTAN AND INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES

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Annotation: In the modern era, digitalization has significantly transformed legal systems worldwide, including court proceedings and dispute resolution mechanisms. The integration of technology in judicial processes aims to enhance efficiency, accessibility, and transparency. This article examines digital court proceedings and online dispute resolution (ODR) systems, with a focus on Uzbekistan's legal framework and comparative insights from international practices.

Keywords: digital court proceedings, online dispute resolution (ODR), E-Justice, E-Sud system, smart courts, artificial intelligence in law, electronic case management, remote court hearings.

Аннотация: В современную эпоху цифровизация значительно трансформировала правовые системы во всем мире, включая судебные разбирательства и механизмы разрешения споров. Интеграция технологий в судебные процессы направлена на повышение эффективности, доступности и прозрачности. В данной статье рассматриваются цифровые судебные процессы и системы онлайн-разрешения споров (ODR) с акцентом на правовую систему Узбекистана и сравнительный анализ международного опыта.

Ключевые слова: цифровые судебные процессы, онлайн-разрешение споров (ODR), электронное правосудие, система E-Sud, умные суды, искусственный интеллект в праве, электронное управление делами, дистанционные судебные заседания.

Digital Court Proceedings in Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan has undertaken legal and institutional reforms to modernize its judicial system by incorporating digital technologies. The Law "On Electronic Government" and other legal acts provide the foundation for e-justice initiatives. Key developments include - **E-Sud System**. A platform enabling the electronic submission of claims, case tracking, and digital document management. The E-SUD system is Uzbekistan's national electronic case management platform, developed in 2013 to modernize and streamline civil court proceedings. It enables

electronic submission of claims, case tracking, and digital document management, thereby reducing bureaucracy and expediting legal processes. By 2017, all 75 civil courts in Uzbekistan were integrated into the E-SUD system, reflecting a significant advancement in the country's judicial digitalization efforts.¹ Users can file claims and applications online, attach necessary documents, and receive notifications regarding hearing dates and times, minimizing the need for physical court visits.² The E-SUD system represents a major step forward in the digital transformation of Uzbekistan's judiciary. By enabling electronic case management, it has significantly improved accessibility, efficiency, and transparency in civil court proceedings. The integration of all civil courts into this system by 2017 highlights its success in reducing bureaucracy and expediting legal processes. However, to maximize its potential, continuous improvements in cybersecurity, digital literacy among legal professionals, and system infrastructure are essential. With ongoing advancements, the E-SUD system can serve as a model for other nations looking to modernize their judicial systems through digital solutions.

Digital Court Proceedings in Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan has been actively integrating digital technologies into its judicial system, backed by key legal frameworks such as the **Law "On Electronic Government" (2015)**, the **Law "On Courts,"** and **amendments to the Civil Procedure Code**. These laws establish a foundation for electronic case management, digital evidence recognition, and remote court proceedings, ensuring a more efficient and transparent legal system.

Additionally, **Decree No. PD-6003 (2020)** sets guidelines for **video conferencing in court proceedings**, ensuring remote participation in hearings. This aligns with international best practices, including **CEPEJ guidelines**, which focus on procedural fairness, data protection, and access to justice through digital means.

Video Conferencing in Court Proceedings: Ensuring remote participation of parties, which became particularly relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic. Video conferencing has become an integral component of modernizing judicial systems worldwide, offering remote participation in court proceedings and enhancing access to justice. In Uzbekistan, significant strides have been made to incorporate video conferencing into the judicial process, reflecting a commitment to digital transformation. **Digital Platforms:** The Uzbek judiciary has developed dedicated portals, such as the video conferencing system accessible at vka.sud.uz, to support online participation in court sessions. These platforms provide user-friendly interfaces for citizens to apply to courts remotely and join hearings via video links.³

Image 1 : modern courtroom image from 2025 showcasing video conferencing technology in legal proceedings.

¹ [E-SUD as an innovative system of transparent and open justice](#)

² [E-documentation system helps Uzbekistanis defend own rights in court](#)

³ [Judicial reforms of Uzbekistan - a new era, new approaches | Uzbekistan](#)



European Union: The European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) has issued guidelines to ensure that the use of video conferencing in judicial proceedings aligns with the right to a fair trial as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights. These guidelines address procedural, technical, and data protection considerations to maintain the integrity of remote hearings.⁴ The guidelines issued by the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) play a crucial role in ensuring that video conferencing in judicial proceedings upholds fundamental principles of fairness, transparency, and data security. By addressing procedural, technical, and privacy concerns, these guidelines help maintain the integrity of remote hearings while safeguarding the right to a fair trial as outlined in the European Convention on Human Rights. As digital court proceedings continue to evolve, adherence to these standards will be essential in balancing technological advancements with judicial fairness and accessibility.

International Practices in Digital Courts and ODR.

Many countries have successfully implemented digital court systems and ODR mechanisms. Some notable examples include:

United States, The Federal and State Courts employ electronic case management systems (CM/ECF) and video conferencing for hearings. The American Arbitration Association (AAA) offers online mediation and arbitration services. **United Kingdom,** The Online Civil Money Claims service allows parties to file claims and settle disputes online without physical court appearances. **China,** The "Smart Court" initiative integrates AI and blockchain technology for case management and automated rulings in minor disputes. **European Union,** The European Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) platform facilitates cross-border consumer dispute resolution without the need for litigation. The successful implementation of digital court systems and ODR mechanisms in various countries demonstrates the potential of technology to enhance judicial efficiency, accessibility, and fairness. From AI-driven case management in China to online arbitration in the United States, these innovations have streamlined legal processes and reduced the burden on traditional courts. The European Union's cross-border ODR platform further highlights the role of digital solutions in resolving disputes efficiently. As digital transformation

⁴ [Guidelines on videoconferencing in judicial proceedings](#)

continues to shape the legal landscape, adopting best practices from these systems can help other nations modernize their judicial frameworks and improve access to justice.

Challenges and Prospects for Uzbekistan.

For Uzbekistan to enhance its digital judicial services, it should consider; **Legislative Improvements** - Updating procedural laws to fully recognize digital evidence and e-trials. **Infrastructure Development** - Expanding internet access and secure digital platforms. **Public Awareness and Training** - Enhancing digital literacy among judges, lawyers, and citizens. **International Cooperation** - Learning from global best practices and engaging with organizations such as UNCITRAL and the Hague Conference on Private International Law. To conclude, To fully realize the benefits of a digital judiciary, Uzbekistan must adopt a comprehensive approach that includes legal reforms, infrastructure development, digital literacy enhancement, and international collaboration. While significant progress has been made, addressing these challenges will be crucial for ensuring an accessible, transparent, and efficient justice system. By learning from global best practices and investing in modern digital solutions, Uzbekistan can position itself as a leader in judicial digitalization within the region.

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