

CLASSIFICATION OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS, PURPOSES OF VISITS OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS

Kurbanova Sevara

teacher of Andijan State Institute of Foreign Languages.

Kobilov Boxodirjon

the student of the 302-guide fellowship and translation activities of Andijan State Institute of Foreign Languages.

Abstract: *This article discusses about classification of foreign delegations, A delegation is a group of people who act as representatives of a larger group. If you're a member of Congress from the Sunshine State, you're a member of the Florida delegation. Ever seen the opening ceremonies of the Olympic Games? Each country's delegation enters the stadium as a group, marching behind its own flag. Delegation of Functions means when a function is to be carried out by a person or committee, the person, or the committee through its Chair, may delegate performance of the function to one or more qualified designees. delegation as a grant of authority by two or more states to an international body. to make decisions or take actions.*

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Most nations today participate in a dense network of international cooperation that requires them to grant authority to international actors. At varying levels this means that the individual state surrenders some autonomy to international bodies or other states by authorizing them to participate in decisionmaking processes and to take actions that affect the state. While some international agreements involve only commitments, in many cases they also include provisions that delegate some authority to a body to make decisions and take actions. The continued growth in international organizations and various standing bodies associated with international agreements suggests that states increasingly find international delegation useful in addressing the challenges associated with their growing interdependence.

Although delegation is often present in international cooperation, there has been little systematic thinking about how delegation differs from other cooperation and how it varies across cooperative ventures. There is little analysis, for example, of what constitutes international delegation and what features of such delegation may be important for understanding its causes, consequences, and legal validity. A better conceptualization of the institutional features of delegation may be useful for understanding how states weigh

the benefits and costs in making decisions concerning delegation. It may also be important in addressing the increasing concern with the legitimacy and accountability of global governance institutions.

Foreign delegations begin by presenting a definition of international delegation as a grant of authority by two or more states to an international body to make decisions or take actions. Foreign delegate is a person selected to represent a group of people in some political assembly of the United States.

There are various types of delegates elected to different political bodies. In the United States Congress delegates are elected to represent the interests of a United States territory and its citizens or nationals. In addition, certain US states are governed by a House of Delegates or another parliamentary assembly whose members are known as elected delegates. Prior to a United States presidential election, the major political parties select delegates from the various state parties for a presidential nominating convention, often by either primary elections or party caucuses.

All of the European Parliament's delegations foster relations with parliamentarians in other countries, regions and organisations. But just how and where they meet depends on the type of delegation. Parliamentary assemblies One group of delegations participate in 'parliamentary assemblies' - regular, formal meetings that bring together elected representatives from several parliaments, including the European Parliament. In most cases, the European Parliament's delegation is the largest single delegation at the assembly, with MEPs (Members of the European Parliament) accounting for about half the total number of delegates. Currently, 5 of the European Parliament's 44 delegations participate in parliamentary assemblies.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

The European Parliament's delegations to interparliamentary 'committees' meet their counterparts at regular, formal meetings. Most of these interparliamentary committees are bilateral: they involve the European Parliament and one other delegation, usually from a single country.

Interparliamentary committees may be called 'parliamentary association committees', 'parliamentary cooperation committees', 'joint parliamentary committees' or 'stabilisation and association parliamentary committees', depending on a number of factors.

All these committees were established under the terms of bilateral agreements between the EU and the partner country. The meetings follow strict rules of procedure.

The European Parliament currently has 15 delegations that participate in 23 interparliamentary committees. Examples include the Delegation to the EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee (D-MX) and the Delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee (D-UA).

Other interparliamentary delegations The largest group of delegations focus on relations with another country, or sometimes with a group of countries. These delegations meet their fellow legislators at ordinary interparliamentary meetings. The frequency varies according to the schedules and availability of the two partners. The meetings are not governed by their own rules, although the general provisions for delegations established by the European Parliament do apply.

Most of the European Parliament's delegations - about 25 of the 44 total - fall into this category of interparliamentary delegations. Two examples are the Delegation for relations with Japan (D-JP) and the Delegation for relations with Canada (D-CA) . For purposes of the typology developed here, we define international delegation as a grant of authority by two or more states to an international body to make decisions or take actions. Several aspects of this definition warrant clarification.

A Grant of Authority The first part of this definition requires that there be a “grant of authority . . . to make decisions or take actions.” Grants of authority for international delegations are typically contained in the agreement that establishes the international body. The United Nations (UN) Charter, for example, contains various grants of authority to the main UN organs. If an international body acts outside of its grants of authority, it can be said to be acting *ultra vires*. This focus on a “grant of authority” is consistent with definitions of delegation in the political-science literature. Hawkins et al., for example, define delegation as “a conditional grant of authority from a principal to an agent that empowers the latter to act on behalf of the former.”

3 Similarly, in *The Concept of Legalization*, the authors define delegation to mean “that third parties have been granted authority to implement, interpret, and apply the rules; to resolve disputes; and (possibly) to make further rules.”

4 A grant of authority is what distinguishes a delegation from other exercises of authority. A nongovernmental organization, for example, may take actions that are similar to those taken by an international organization created by states, but unless the actions of the nongovernmental organization stem from a grant of authority from states, the actions do not involve an international delegation. The existence of such a grant of authority is also what distinguishes delegations from mere commitments. Most of the terms of international agreements concern commitments, through which states promise to behave in certain ways and to subject themselves to “scrutiny under the general rules, procedures, and discourse of international law, and often of domestic law as well.”⁵ To take just one example, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families spends its first seventy-one articles detailing the facts.

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