**MOTIVATION TO VOTE IN TRANSITION COUNTRIES: CASE OF KYRGYZSTAN**

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**ABSTRACT**

This paper investigates the motivation of citizens to vote in transition countries, using Kyrgyzstan as a case study. Despite being an emerging democracy, voter turnout in Kyrgyzstan remains low, particularly in the wake of recent political crises. Using a mixed-methods approach, this study draws on survey data and interviews with citizens and election observers to identify factors that influence voter turnout in Kyrgyzstan. Our findings indicate that a lack of trust in the political system, dissatisfaction with political parties and their leaders, and a perception of corruption in elections are the main reasons for low voter turnout. Additionally, we find that demographic factors such as age, education, and income level also play a significant role in shaping voter behavior. Finally, the study provides recommendations to increase voter participation in Kyrgyzstan, including efforts to improve transparency and accountability in the electoral process, increase access to information, and promote civic education among the population. Overall, this research contributes to a better understanding of the factors that shape electoral participation in transition countries and provides insights for policymakers and practitioners seeking to strengthen democracy in Kyrgyzstan and other emerging democracies.

**Key words:** Election, Voter Motivation, Vote, Electoral Behaviour, Political Participation