
New Speaker Ryan Calls on US House Committees to Retake Lead on 'All Major Legislation'

WASHINGTON, October 29 (Sputnik) - Committees in the US House of Representatives should lead the way in proposing all major bills, Congressman Paul Ryan said in his acceptance speech after being elected as new House speaker on Thursday. "The committees should retake the lead in drafting all major legislation," Ryan stated. "We need to let every member contribute, not once they've earned their stripes, but now." On Thursday, the US House elected Ryan as the 62nd speaker, who will succeed departing speaker John Boehner. In his address, Ryan argued that congressional committees know the issues the best and should be the ones to write the bills on the major issues facing the country. "Let's open up the process. Let people participate, and they might change their mind," he suggested. Ryan also noted that a neglected minority Democrats in the House will "gum up the works," but a minority of Democrats that are respected will work with Republicans and might even change their minds on the issues. "Instead of trying to stop the majority [Republicans], they [Democrats] might try to become the majority," Ryan warned. "In other words, we need to return to regular order." Moreover, Ryan said congressmen must stop passing legislation that Americans do not understand, and must start "studying up" on issues to better serve the citizens. "[Americans] are the people that make this country work, and this House should work for them," Ryan concluded. Ryan has served as chairman of the US House Ways and Means Committee since January 2015. Previously he served as chairman of the US House Budget Committee for four years. Ryan also ran as the Republican Vice President nominee during 2012 US presidential election.