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Honors US Government

27 March 2022

Current Events - Iraq

Iraq is a country in the Middle East that has had its problems over the years and still continues to face them. Its government runs on a federal parliamentary republic system, however, has massive political instability. In most recent times, they have struggled to elect their own president, problems with terrorists, and safety issues. Iraq has had its fair share of problems over the years, with political instability, terrorist problems, and safety issues, however, it seems to not be getting much better.

In recent times, Iraq has struggled numerous times to elect their own leaders. Even just this past month, the Iraq parliament failed to elect a new president due to “*a lack of quorum in parliament*,” ([France 24](#)). There have also been mass divisions among political groups within the country, which is making it much harder for the parliament to form a majority agreement. The same article also states, “*Saturday's failed session underscored the sharp divide in Iraqi politics between Sadr, the general election's big winner, and the powerful Coordination Framework, which had called for a boycott*,” ([France 24](#)).

Perhaps the most troubling thing Iraq has had to deal with over the years is the problem of terrorism within the country, which has also led to numerous military conflicts. Terrorism attacks still even to this day continue to happen in Iraq. For example, in January 2022, there was

a terrorist attack in Diyala. “The attack resulted in at least 11 deaths,” says a press statement released by the UN Security Council. Terrorism is causing a lot of damage within Iraq. The problem is that it is creating great divide and instability throughout all parts of the country. The more that it happens, the harder it is for the country to combat it. More on that point, the same press release also states that “*terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security*,” ([ReliefWeb](#)).

Safety is a very important thing in order to protect people, and in Iraq it is a big problem. Almost every big country in the world, such as Australia ([Smartraveller](#)), the United States ([US Department of State](#)), the United Kingdom ([gov.uk](#)), etc. all state that it is not safe to travel to Iraq, and if you do for any reason to practice extreme caution with everything you do there. The US Department of State goes on to say that those who are in Iraq “*are at high risk for violence and kidnapping. Terrorist and insurgent groups regularly attack both Iraqi security forces and civilians. Attacks using improvised explosive devices (IEDs) occur in many areas of the country, including Baghdad*,” ([US Department of State](#)).

Now let’s ask ourselves this question, is Iraq undergoing democratization? “As a democracy, Iraq has completely failed,” ([The Jerusalem Post](#)). The simplest way of answering this question is no. Their government runs on a federal parliamentary republic system; however, it is very clear that it is not working the way they want it to. They are having trouble electing their own leadership, having an overwhelming amount of terrorism attacks, as well as safety issues slapped on top of that. This is causing them many problems in terms of operating properly and safely, and it also poses as a threat to the rest of the world. The events happening in this country can affect other countries as well, even the United States. We’ve seen what happens when terrorism from Iraq moves on to other countries around the world, and that is one of the

biggest threats that we face. Keep in mind that since Iraq is a country that exports a lot of oil, that means they have lots of connections with other countries around the world. That is why their problems can also become our problems if the worst comes to worst. In light of that, we need to be prepared.