2005 Constitution

Executive branch

The President of Iraq acts as the Head of State and represents the sovereignty and unity of the country. The election of the President is undertaken by the legislature by a two-thirds vote. Once elected, the President has a 4 year term, with the option for only a single re-election. However, his term may only last as long as the legislature’s. If their term expires before his own, his term carries over into the next legislative session only until the next President is elected within 30 days of the first meeting of the legislature. The President has fairly limited powers, including the power to grant pardons on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, to ratify treaties after approval by the legislature, ratifying laws, convening the legislature, awarding honors, accepting ambassadors, acting in a ceremonial role as the Commander-in-Chief, and issuing presidential decrees, including the ratification of death penalties.

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