Judicial branch

The judicial powers of the Iraqi federal government are divided between a Supreme Court, a federal Court of Cassation or Appeals, a public prosecutor, a judicial oversight committee, and other federal courts created by law. The independence of the judiciary is overseen by a higher judicial council that has the authority to manage and supervise the system, as well as nominate the Chief Justice and members of the Court of Appeals and other judicial officials for appointment by the Parliament. The Supreme Court is the highest federal court, consisting of judges with expertise . The Parliament maintains a check on the judicial branch with the power to determine the number, selection procedure, and work of those judges by a two-thirds vote. The court’s jurisdiction extends to constitutional review and interpretation, hearing cases involving federal law questions, settling disputes between and involving branches of the government and other governments, hearing cases involving the President, Prime Minister, or other Ministers, ratifying election results, and settling disputes between judicial bodies.

The Constitution also provides for the creation of independent commissions, including those for human rights, elections, and public integrity. Each of these commissions is overseen and monitored by the legislature, and there is a public service council with the ability to create more commissions according to need. Some other existing commissions include a communications and media commission, a public audit and federal revenue commission, and a Foundation of Martyrs commission.