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The Role of Parliamentary Oversight Under the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq

Dr.sawash Shaheen Ibrahim Hurmuzli

Northern Technical University/ Technical Engineering College for Computer and Artificial Intelligence/ kirkuk

Savas.h@ntu.edu.iq

دور الرقابة البرلمانية في ظل دستور جمهورية العراق لسنة ٢٠٠٥

م.د. صواش شاهين ابراهيم الهرمزي

الجامعة التقنية الشمالية/ الكلية التقنية الهندسية للحاسوب والذكاء الاصطناعي/كركوك

الملخص

تعتبر عملية الرقابة البرلمانية بمفهومها و أهدافها و طبيعتها الدستورية جزءا أساسيا في النظام الرقابي للدولة وعلى اداء الحكومة العراقية ، فهي اختصاص أصيل للبرلمان يمارسه بواسطة آليات رقابية منصوص عليها في الدستور وبموجبها تمارس صلاحيته الدستورية دورها الرقابي تجاه عمل الحكومة وادائها وذلك وفقا للمادة (٦١) من دستور جمهورية العراق لسنة ٢٠٠٥ ، حيث تعد ضمانا لعملية إرساء الديمقراطية باعتباره معبرا عن الإرادة الشعبية.

Abstract

The concept of parliamentary oversight, its goals, and constitutional character is an essential part of the state oversight system and of the Iraqi governmental performance. It is a natural mandate of the parliament, where through the process of oversight as it is stipulated in the constitution, that the parliament in question executes its constitutional powers to supervise the activities and performance of the government based on Article 61 of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq. It works as a protection in creating the democracy as it represents the popular will.

IntroductionOne of the most crucial constitutional principles of forming the modern democratic systems is the parliamentary oversight. It reinforces these systems and makes them accountable and transparently followed. It has been regarded as one of the most significant tasks that the legislative power ought to perform because it sets one of the major democratic principles that is, the control of the executive authority by the parliament as expressed in Article 61, paragraph (Second) of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq. In order to enhance the performance of the government, there should be mechanisms to ensure that the parliament monitors the activities of the government. Similarly, the constitutionality of laws and decrees must be enforced by a judicial arm, to make sure that the activities of the state agencies will take place in agreement with the rule of law principle.

First: Research Significance: This research is significant because of the position occupied by the Iraqi parliament, that is, the position of parliamentary oversight, and the powers it has to scrutinize the actions of the government, trail its performance and strive towards the betterment of governmental behavior.

Second: Research Problem: The fact that the Iraqi parliament has a weak oversight role is frequently confined by the inability of the parliament to effectively execute its roles in line with the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq.

Third: Research Objective: The research is directed to explain the constitutional right of the parliament, which allows it to contribute to an adequate execution of the governmental program, to advocate the respect of the law, to safeguard the interests of people, and to place the governmental responsibility in question, including depriving it of confidence in cases of necessity.

Fourth: Structure of the Study: The research structure is split up into two sections, besides the introduction and conclusion in the following way. The first section deals with the concept of parliamentary oversight and further breaks it down into two sections wherein the first section deals with the definition of parliamentary oversight, its importance, and the purpose of parliamentary oversight whereas the second section deals with the scope of parliamentary oversight and its assessment. The second section focuses on the methods of parliamentary oversight and is also divided into two parts: the first part explores the oversight mechanisms provided under the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq, and the second part analyzes the current state of parliamentary oversight in Iraq.

Section Two: The reality of parliamentary oversight in Iraq.

The Concept of Parliamentary Oversight The constitutions of various states differ according to the constitutional systems they adopt, and within their texts they establish reciprocal oversight frameworks between the legislative and executive authorities. These frameworks vary in quality and degree depending on the nature of inter-authority relations within each society and the environmental conditions surrounding governance and the management of high-level state functions. One of the most significant of these oversight models is parliamentary oversight carried out by the legislative authority over the actions of the executive branch. (Al-Tamimi, 2015)Parliamentary oversight is a necessary requirement because it ensures popular sovereignty and maintains balance between the legislative and executive authorities. It is exercised in the name of the nation, as the nation is the source of all powers; thus, the people have the right to monitor the actions of the authorities in accordance with constitutional provisions. This form of oversight typically appears in constitutional systems that follow the parliamentary model, which is based on the separation of legislative, executive, and judicial powers. (Al-Sha'er, 2020).. The Iraqi constitutional legislator has granted the legislative authority specific powers, including the exercise of effective oversight over the actions and conduct of the executive authority. Article 61, paragraph (Second), of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq explicitly states that "the Council of Representatives shall oversee the performance of the executive authority." (Article 61/2 of Iraqi Constitution 2005)Parliamentary oversight of the executive branch is therefore achieved through various mechanisms, which will be discussed later in detail. Based on this, the present chapter is divided into the following two sections:

Section One: Definition of Parliamentary Oversight, Its Importance, and Its Purpose The legislative authority holds a constitutional right granted by the Iraqi constitutional legislator to impose oversight on the actions of the executive authority. Parliamentary oversight is grounded in the fact that members of the legislative authority are elected by the people, and therefore represent the public will. Among their duties is the necessity to monitor the state's public policy. Parliamentary oversight may be defined as the authority to investigate and ascertain facts regarding the actions of the executive authority in order to identify improper implementation of general rules in the state and hold those responsible accountable. Thus, parliamentary oversight aims to verify the legality of the executive authority's actions, the soundness of its conduct, and to review and correct errors or shortcomings and impose accountability. Accordingly, parliament exercises oversight in accordance with constitutional rules that determine the scope, tools, and consequences of this oversight.

Branch One: Definition of Parliamentary Oversight Parliamentary oversight is among the original powers guaranteed by the constitution to the legislative authority, aimed at monitoring the actions of the government and correcting deviant conduct in order to achieve the public interest. It is defined as the process through which the legislative authority investigates the actions of the government to uncover improper implementation of the state's general rules, identify those responsible, and hold them accountable. (Ghoneim, 2011)It is also defined as the examination and evaluation of governmental actions, accompanied by the parliament's right to issue genuine evaluative judgments that may lead to the government's resignation if confidence is withdrawn. (Omran, 1999)Another definition states that parliamentary oversight is the supervision undertaken by parliaments over the actions of the executive authority in states with a parliamentary system, based on their authority to hold the executive accountable through various means. (Al-Laymoon, 2016)Despite the multiplicity of definitions, they do not provide a comprehensive or precise description of parliamentary oversight, as they mainly highlight its tools and objectives. In the above regard, the researcher establishes what is meant by parliamentary oversight as the kind of functional supervisory activities by the parliament that are aimed to keep a check on the activities of the executive authority, rectify deviant behaviour and to make the fulfillment of the public interest by the various mechanisms through which the government can be checked on failure in its activities.

Branch Two: The Significance of Parliamentary Oversight. In representative democracies, parliamentary supervision is of great importance. The Iraqi constitutional system provides the parliament with active work as it checks the performance and activities of the executive power. This oversight is carried out by the Iraqi Council of Representatives by virtue of Article 61, clause (Seventh) of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq and Article 50 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament, as it will be seen later.The necessity of parliamentary oversight can be explained with references to the subject of its activity and actions. It concentrates on an extremely sensitive and important institution in state-building, the executive power and covers all its operations in political, social and economic domains. The importance of the oversight is also constituted by the importance of parliamentary work as such: the task of a representative is explained by the need to protect legal norms. Oversight is also preventive since it checks the activities of the government and rectifies the mistakes before they are committed and unconstitutional laws are issued. Therefore, it helps in supporting the issue of legality. (Al-Masi'di, 2011)In parliamentary systems, constitutional regulations confer the legislative authority with certain rights to take action against the government, and the legislative authority is able to conduct effective checks on the actions and behaviors of the executive authority. Parliamentary control of power is spread to other administrative measures as well, and covers financial administration, e.g. by approving the general budget, and accepting final accounts. (Al-Sha'er, 2005)The researcher also opines that the parliamentary oversight is very important and this comes as an assumption that the legislative authority is the people to whom the executive authority is answerable. This does not mean that the legislature should overshadow or interfere too much on the efforts of the executive. Instead, it only plays an oversight as well as accountability role which is critical in ensuring a robust accountability system to ensure the executive power is not abused by the executive authority.

Branch Three: The Objectives of Parliamentary Oversight in Iraq. Iraqi parliament fulfills its oversight role in the constitutional framework and based on the constitutional and legal provisions that allocate the competences and aim of this role. Simply put, such goals are not different in the overall goals of parliamentary oversight in other parts of the world, but the text determines them based on the extent and the powers given to it. (Baroud, 2006). These include objectives that are general, and objectives that are specific in respect of the exercise of oversight mechanisms:

First: General Objectives

The overall aims of parliamentary oversight in Iraq may be summarized in the following way:

1. The most effective assurance of preserving institutional balance, maintaining harmony between institutions, and guiding institutions towards serving the public interest is exercising serious and effective oversight.
2. There is laying down, and consolidating the bases of the democratic transition and deepening democratic values through consolidating and mobilizing political representation.
3. Transforming parliament into an alert watchdog body that oversees the principles of the constitution that are being guarded, and the continuation of two-way communication between citizens and their politicians.
4. Parliamentary control is the right instrument to discover the breaches of the governmental activity and inform the government about the breaches to fix them and deal with them.
5. Oversight plays a crucial role in the effective execution of the government programs, policies in place and the texts of the legislation that reflect such policies.

Second: Specific Objectives These goals refer to the usage of oversight tools since each tool has its purpose. Written questions, such as those, are an expression of the issues and concerns of the citizens, which makes representatives track governmental activities and evaluate the way the government programs are implemented. They also enable parliament to assess the ability of the government to seek solutions to the problems provided especially the local problems. (Ziary, 2006)According to the foregoing, it could be noted that oversight can even be fueled by personal or partisan interests and become a source of political rivalry. An analysis of the constitutions of most nations will reveal that they give their parliaments a specific mandate to use their oversight powers and define a particular extent within which the powers should be used. Simultaneously, the said objectives should not go outside of legal framework that is established to exercise them..

Section Two: The Scope of Parliamentary Oversight and Its Assessment

In its turn, parliamentary oversight includes political, economical, social, legal, and judicial activities. Hence this part is further subdivided into two branches the first dealing with extent of parliamentary oversight and the second with its evaluation as follows:

Branch One: The Scope of Parliamentary Oversight

There is no doubt that the scope of parliamentary oversight is determined by constitutions and the laws regulating oversight mechanisms within each political system. However, the expanding role of the state, the broadening of its activities, and the complexity of its methods of intervention have led to increasing interdependence among governmental activities to the point that it has become difficult to distinguish which matters fall under parliamentary oversight and which are assigned to other bodies and authorities. (Awaidi, 2015)Another issue arises in distinguishing between judicial oversight and parliamentary oversight in terms of their breadth and the strength or weakness of their impact. Nonetheless, scholars agree that all governmental actions are subject to parliamentary oversight, as this is one of parliament's essential functions and the very reason for its existence. Therefore, any action taken by the executive authority is subject to parliamentary scrutiny, and a minister's responsibility may be triggered simply by the fact that the action falls within his or her jurisdiction, rendering the minister accountable before parliament. (Salam, 1993)Such oversight encompasses legal and illegal acts. The parliament oversees the policies of the ministers, looks into the saneness of their policies and procedures, and determines the level of their adherence to law. It further checks the fitness of such procedures and decisions, whether they are in line with the interest of the masses, and their capacity to serve the will of the majority in the parliament. The parliament investigates the legitimacy of decisions and determines whether decisions are made in ministries, in the performance of government programs or the implementation of national development plans, economic or social. Stated differently, parliamentary oversight has a broad policy of the entire government. Parliamentary oversight does not solely entail the checking of the veracity of the governmental or administrative actions as long as they take place within the legal provisions governing them, it also evaluates the degree of actions being in accordance to the realities of the times. Further, where technical or discretional issues arise which cannot be reviewed by the courts, the parliament still has a power to check them. (Abu Younis, 2002)According to the provisions of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq, the legislative power possesses the fundamental powers, like legislation and various kinds of oversight, including administrative, financial and parliamentary oversight over the activities of the executive authority and its responsibility, in compliance with the constitution, in protecting the future of the Iraqi political system..

Branch Two: Evaluating Parliamentary Oversight Parliamentary oversight has been criticized as basing its oversight on data, information, and reports provided to parliament by the oversight body or administrative agency that it oversees. Even though any member of parliament can seek clarification of any issue or information at any one time, the researcher perceives parliamentary checks and balances as not being taken seriously, effectively or in a realistic manner. The reason is that it is inclined to halt at the evaluation of results and deliberation over generalities without coming closer to technical control. Its political character, as well as the strong impact of partisan interests, particularly under the conditions of the modern situation in Iraq, tends to harm the integrity of the parliamentary oversight.

Section Two: Parliamentary Oversight Tools Such symptoms of legislative control in the executive authority in the politics of Iraq are manifested in the different tools and processes that members of parliament can utilize against the government. These tools are significant in that they would make the executive accountable to all its activities. (Aref, 2008). Therefore, parliamentary supervision basically takes out of the very fabric of the current system in a state with a view of balancing the executive and legislative powers. This is founded on the principle that power must check power and it should not be turned into domination. Without the executive being able to be completely subservient to the parliament, the principle of separation of powers, which is a key pillar of democratic governance and political stability, would fail.

Section One: Oversight Tools Under the 2005 Iraqi Constitution The instruments of oversight adopted by the constitutional legislator are provided in Article 61, clause (Seventh), of the Constitution of the Republic of Iraq of 2005. The tools are the parliamentary question, submission of a general topic to be discussed, as well as the interpellation. They will be discussed in each of the branches below.

Branch One: The Parliamentary Question Even though there are divergences between the political order, one of the most popular and commonly used tools of oversight is parliamentary questions. The majority of constitutional law theorists confirm this mechanism to be a constitutional right of the parliament, and its development began with the development of the parliaments themselves. It has been identified in constitutions on account of its relevance in a democratic system and also on account of its relevance in helping to increase cooperation and integration between the government and the parliament. It also serves as the medium through which the interests of the citizens can be represented by their elected members who need clarification and information. (Hashim, 2006)Parliamentary oversight fundamentally aims to uncover violations related to the

actions of the executive authority, and the parliamentary question is one of the most prominent tools for doing so. Through this mechanism, a member of parliament obtains explanations and clarifications regarding a specific matter or issue that may be ambiguous. (Al-Zuhairi, 2016)There is no doubt that the parliamentary question strengthens the positive relationship between the government and the parliament through cooperation and balance. At the same time, it is a clear manifestation of parliamentary oversight of government actions. For this reason, the Iraqi constitutional legislator provided in Article 61 (Seventh – A) that "A member of the Council of Representatives may direct questions to the Prime Minister and ministers on any matter within their competence. Each of them shall answer members' questions, and only the questioner has the right to comment on the response. (61/7th of Iraqi Constitution 2005)In accordance with this constitutional provision, Article 32(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Iraqi Council of Representatives states "The President of the Republic may be questioned, and members of the Council of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, as well as any other official in the executive authority, may be questioned and interpellated. Based on this article, a parliamentary question involves a member of parliament seeking clarification from the Prime Minister or ministers regarding a matter within their competence, either to inquire about an unknown issue, to verify an event that has come to their attention, or to determine the government's intentions regarding a particular matter. As an effective oversight tool, the parliamentary question is surrounded by several formal and substantive requirements to prevent misuse:

First: Formal Requirements

1.The question must be submitted in writing.

2.It must be concisely formulated.

3.It must not contain offensive or inappropriate language.

Second: Substantive Requirements

1.The question must not violate constitutional provisions or harm the public interest.

2.It must not address matters currently before the judiciary.

Section Two: Raising a General Topic for Discussion

Raising a general topic for discussion is an exchange of views and debate among a group of members of the House of Representatives to clarify the policy and performance of the Council of Ministers or one of the ministries. This is stated in Article (61/Seventh-b), which provides that "At least twenty-five members of the House of Representatives may raise a general topic for discussion to clarify the policy and performance of the Council of Ministers or one of the ministries. The request shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House, and the Prime Minister or the ministers shall set a date to appear before the House of Representatives to discuss it." Article (55) of the Rules of Procedure of the Iraqi Council of Representatives also states that "Twenty-five members of the House of Representatives may raise a general topic for discussion to clarify the policy and performance of the Council of Ministers or one of the ministries. The request shall be submitted to the Speaker of the House, and the Prime Minister shall set a date to appear, specifying a time limit for discussion before the House.From the constitutional text and the Rules of Procedure, we can conclude that this mechanism represents a calm and transparent oversight tool. It grants members of the House of Representatives the right to raise a general topic related to the government's domestic or foreign policy, the performance of the Council of Ministers, or one of the ministries. The request is submitted to the Speaker of the House, after which the Prime Minister or the ministers set a date to appear before the House. Thus, raising a general topic for discussion is an indirect oversight method over the actions of the executive authority and constitutes a form of dialogue between the government and parliament.

Branch Three: Interpellation Interpellation is one of the most important oversight tools exercised by members of the Iraqi Council of Representatives. It allows a parliamentarian to formally question a minister, as stated in Article (61/Seventh-c) of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq "A member of the Council of Representatives, with the approval of at least twenty-five members, may direct an interpellation to the Prime Minister or ministers to hold them accountable for matters within their competence. Discussion of the interpellation shall not take place until at least seven days after its submission." (Article 55 of the Iraqi Parliament). Furthermore, Article (56) of the Rules of Procedure of the Iraqi Council of Representatives provides "A member of the Council of Representatives, with the approval of at least twenty-five members, may direct an interpellation to the Prime Minister, one of his deputies, or ministers to evaluate their performance in matters within their competence. Discussion of the interpellation shall not take place until at least seven days after its submission." (Article 61/ seventh- c). As observed, interpellation is an investigative oversight

mechanism aimed at uncovering facts regarding a specific issue and holding the Prime Minister, a minister, or the head of an independent authority accountable in cases of negligence or incompetence. Most constitutional scholars agree that parliamentary interpellation constitutes an accusation and accountability of the government or one of its members for any violations committed, potentially leading to a vote of no confidence. (Ahlama, 2022)The Fifth Parliamentary Session witnessed only limited cases of interpellation. Due to its significance in triggering political accountability of the government and revealing facts about governmental conduct, interpellation must meet several formal and procedural requirements:

First: Formal Requirements for Valid Interpellation Following the importance of initiating political responsibility of the government and disclosing truth regarding government actions, interpellation should satisfy a number of formal and procedural criteria:

1. Member of Parliament Submission: only the members of the Council of Representatives have the right to submit an interpellation as it is provided in Article (61/Seventh-c) of the Constitution and Article (56) of the Rules of Procedure. Also, at least twenty-five members have to approve interpellation as opposed to a parliamentary question that only has to be raised by an individual member.
2. Directed to a Minister: Article (61/Seventh-c) and the Rules of Procedure are to the effect that any parliamentarian may direct the interpellation of the Prime Minister, one of his deputies or any minister on the question of a matter of public concern.

Second: Substantive Requirements for Valid Interpellation

The substantive requirements are connected with the content and subject matter of the interpellation and include the following:

1. The Interpellation Must Not Contradict the Constitution: What is contained in the interpellation should not be against any provisions that have been made in the constitution or the law. This is necessary since parliament is able to implement its legislative and control functions in the context of constitutional and legislative writings. Deviation of any kind would be over the legality principle. In essence, interpellation is an allegation to a minister of certain acts that might have been in violation of constitutional or legal provisions.

2.The Interpellation Must Not Serve Personal or Private Interests: Interpellation is not supposed to make references to issues that are in the interest of the member making the interpellation. Interpellation based on personal gain may serve the purpose of threat, coercion, blackmail, or, in general, political influence on the government to meet personal goals. This is the reason why a lot of interpellations are withdrawn having been presented to parliament, normally after a compromise between the member presenting it and the minister involved. (Al-Bahri, 2009)

Branch Four: Parliamentary Investigation One of the forms of control over the government actions is parliamentary investigation. The parliament has a right to carry out investigations to arrive at facts on certain matters via the indirect sources. This type of oversight is usually carried out by forming permanent committees, which review and evaluate the government's performance. (Al-Qaisy, 2012)Parliamentary investigation is considered one of the most important and serious oversight methods, as resorting to it can undermine confidence in the government, even if the investigation ultimately favors the government. The Iraqi legislator did not initially include the right of parliamentary investigation in the 2005 Constitution as an explicit parliamentary oversight tool. However, this gap was later addressed in the Rules of Procedure of the Iraqi Council of Representatives, Article (82), which states "The Council of Representatives may form subcommittees, temporary committees, and investigative committees according to the requirements of work and the issues presented to it." (Daesh, 2023). Nevertheless, parliamentary investigations do not address legal violations, as those fall within the jurisdiction of the judiciary and are beyond the parliament's authority.

Branch Five: Withdrawal of Confidence from the Government If the consequence of civil responsibility is compensation and criminal responsibility is punishment, then the consequence of political responsibility is resignation. This refers to the parliament's right to withdraw confidence from a minister or the entire government, resulting in the resignation of the minister or government following the withdrawal of confidence. Political responsibility may be individual, meaning the accountability of a single minister for actions or decisions related to their ministry, which leads to withdrawing confidence from that minister alone rather than the entire ministry. (Deash, 2023)The 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq addresses the issue of withdrawing confidence in Article (61/Eighth-a, b). Clause (a) provides "The Council of Representatives may withdraw confidence from a minister by an absolute majority, and the minister is deemed resigned from the date of the confidence withdrawal decision." Clause (b-1) provides "The President of the Republic may submit

a request to the Council of Representatives to withdraw confidence from the Prime Minister," which may be directed at the Prime Minister or a minister.

Section Two: The Reality of Parliamentary Oversight in Iraq Parliamentary oversight is one of the most fundamental principles within democratic political systems, forming the basis for most contemporary democracies. It serves to improve the governmental performance of the executive authority in any democratic political system, ensuring that its actions serve the intended objectives. This is a right granted by the constitution to members of the legislative authority within parliament.

First: Parliamentary Oversight in Iraq under the 2005 Constitution Parliamentary oversight functions as a means to uncover constitutional and legal violations arising from government actions, ensuring that the government does not act with bias or arbitrariness toward any individual in society. The Republic of Iraq 2005 Constitution takes the form of a parliament that follows the separation of powers. The Iraqi parliamentary system is based on two pillars, which are the collaboration and balance between the legislative and executive powers as well as the system of mutual controls of these powers to ensure that the actions and operations of both powers are within the line of legality. This involves the powers of the parliament to dissolve itself, to call meetings and to have influence on the government using such tools as parliamentary questions, interpellations, creation of investigative committees and other means of oversight. This thus requires that the parliament should carry out its responsibilities as per the provisions of Article (61) of the constitution. (Omaeer, 2016)

Second: The Reality of the Internal Rules of the Iraqi Parliament Members of the Iraqi Parliament, through their oversight role, seek to ensure the implementation of the provisions of the 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq and all enacted laws. However, the Rules of Procedure have become weakened due to shortcomings in applying some of their articles, particularly those related to the formal and substantive requirements of parliamentary oversight tools. The conditions governing parliamentary questions are often incomplete in both form and substance. Most parliaments impose several conditions on the mechanism of submitting parliamentary questions, for example, the question must be specific and concise, focused on the facts requiring clarification, not in violation of the constitution or public interest, free from inappropriate or offensive language, and unrelated to matters currently before the judiciary. One of the criticisms of the Iraqi Parliament's Rules of Procedure is that they overlook these conditions, and the legislator who drafted these rules should not have disregarded them. Regarding the submission of a general topic for discussion, Article (55) of the Rules of Procedure of the Iraqi Parliament states that "twenty-five members of the House of Representatives may propose a general topic for discussion to clarify the policy and performance of the Council of Ministers or one of the ministries." It can therefore be said that the Rules of Procedure of the Iraqi Parliament do not address the formal and substantive requirements of such a request in a sufficiently comprehensive manner.

ConclusionThe 2005 Constitution of the Republic of Iraq defined the functions of the legislative authority in Article (61), empowering members of the Iraqi Council of Representatives to monitor government performance and utilize the tools provided by the constitution. The researcher arrived at the following:

First: Findings

1.Parliamentary oversight has been affected by political conditions and power-sharing arrangements, leading to weak and obstructed oversight performance.

2.The Iraqi Council of Representatives has largely failed to fulfill its oversight duties in previous sessions, unable to hold any minister accountable, particularly because the motives for exercising oversight are often purely political or aimed at inter-party rivalries.

3.Many members of parliament lack either the authority, awareness, or competence to effectively exercise their oversight role.

Second: Recommendations

1.It is recommended to enhance the capacities, qualifications, and parliamentary culture of members through training courses and workshops.

2.Article (61/Seventh-c) is recommended to be amended to reduce the approval requirement for submitting an interpellation to the Prime Minister or ministers from twenty-five members to ten members.

3.Ensure that oversight committee sessions are more transparent and open to the media.

4.Amend Article (61/Seventh-b) to allow at least ten members of the House of Representatives to raise a general topic for discussion regarding the policy and performance of the Council of Ministers or a ministry, with the request submitted to the Speaker of the House and a date set by the Prime Minister or ministers to appear before the House for discussion.

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