



## Mechanisms for Formulating Public Policies Under Democratic Systems a Case Study of Iraq after 2003

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### ABSTRACT

The study examines the process of rebuilding Iraq's political landscape after the ousting of Saddam Hussein in 2003. It examines the role of various political actors, including new political parties, ethnic groups, and international stakeholders, in shaping policy directions. The research emphasizes the importance of institutional frameworks like the Iraqi Constitution and parliamentary procedures in policy formulation. The study also examines the challenges of navigating sectarian divisions that threatened democratic processes and the impact of external influences, particularly from the United States and neighboring countries, on Iraq's domestic policy-making. The study also highlights the need to build robust institutions for democratic governance and the importance of civil society engagement in enhancing transparency and accountability. The study uses a detailed case study approach to analyze policy initiatives in areas like security, economic development, and social services, offering valuable lessons for other nations transitioning to democracy. The findings emphasize the need to balance external support with domestic autonomy, build resilient institutions, and foster a participatory political culture for effective public policy formulation in post-conflict setting

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## INTRODUCTION

The process of building democracy in complex transitions is not merely a theoretical aspiration, but a critical domain of public policy. Governments and policymakers must adopt comprehensive strategies to address the challenges associated with democratic transformations, focusing on the design and implementation of effective policies. Public policies are structured frameworks established by governing bodies to address societal issues and promote the collective good. These policies encompass a broad range of areas, including economics, health, education, and the environment. Effective public policies aim to resolve complex challenges while balancing the interests of various stakeholders. In democratic systems, public policy is fundamentally intertwined with the engagement of citizens in decision-making processes. Citizens' participation fosters accountability and transparency, ensuring that policies reflect the needs and preferences of the populace (Caputo et al., 2023).

In democratic contexts, the formulation and implementation of public policies are shaped by the interplay between elected representatives, governmental institutions, and the citizenry. Public debates and discussions serve as conduits for diverse views, allowing for the prioritization of issues that resonate with the public. The legislative branch typically engages in deliberation and debate over proposed policies, while the executive branch is responsible for enacting and enforcing these decisions. The legitimacy of public policies in a democracy relies on their ability to reflect public consensus and address societal concerns effectively (Bedock & Pilet, 2021). Moreover, democratic systems face ongoing challenges in adapting to contemporary issues such as technological change and globalization. The dynamics of class interests and socio-political strategies influence how policies are crafted and which groups benefit or suffer from them. As societies evolve from industrial to post-industrial economies, the role of governance in managing transitions becomes increasingly critical. (Willis et al.2022) Policymaking enters a complex arena where expertise and informed decision-making play pivotal roles in shaping viable strategies for future development, especially under conditions of heightened global interconnectedness. This reality necessitates continuous dialogue among stakeholders to navigate the complexities and ensure that public policies remain responsive and relevant to the ever-changing societal landscape. (Dunlop & Radaelli, 2019).

in Iraq case public policy since 2005, the year the permanent Iraqi Constitution was adopted. We will investigate how public policy is formed within constitutional institutions, as well as the factors that influence this process. Importantly, we will also explore how political forces and parties sometimes operate outside the formal constitutional framework, relying on agreed-upon practices. This analysis will include examining public policy development in both federal and non-federal institutions and assessing the influence of official non-governmental societal forces on government decisions. Ultimately, this research aims to evaluate the effectiveness of Iraq's new political system by understanding the dynamics of its public policy formation and its ability to plan for the future.

## **Hypothesis**

The study is based on the hypothesis that the more democratic a system is, the greater the role of the main formal institutions, represented by the three branches of government (legislative, executive, and judicial) and the formal authorities (political parties, interest groups, and public opinion), in public policymaking. The more undemocratic the system, the greater the role of the executive branch in making public policy.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Significance and Definition of Public Policy**

Public policy plays a variety of important roles in the democratic system (Hill & Hupe, 2021). First of all, the legitimacy of many democratic governments is vested by the public through the formation of public policy. Second, public policy deals with various matters which are advantageous for the social welfare regardless of the personal intent of an individual or a bureaucrat. Third, public policy is usually directed to secure the public good through public interest (Abdou, 2021). The word 'public' in the public interest refers to the interests of the many, rather than any personal interest of an individual. (Agus Windu, 2019) suggested that any public policy must represent the will of the general public.

However absolute democracy cannot be implemented in which the public decides everything directly. More or less some organizations or groups such as political parties, interest groups, NGOs, or others will represent the public to express their aspirations. Therefore, public policy is a very broad concept. In a democracy the government is only a part of the policymakers along with others mentioned above. Although there are simple public policies originating from the government, public policy can also be initiated by individuals, groups, organizations, and various other forms of institutions outside the government (Howlett, 2023). There are many definitions and description of what is meant by public policy. In common sense, public policy is a reference that is part of the law, such as statutory norm or any decision and regulation considered by the authorities as a point of reference in running the organization. (V Raju & Ravindra, 2016) suggested that effective public policy requires the existence of legislation, commanding and controlling the direction in formulating policy. Furthermore, the legislation must be clear, so it is not ambiguous or arbitrary. Another suggestion is that the regulation which is also an important part of public policy should be clear about organizational structure, execution system and the financing, to avoid uncertainty in the implementation. However, the suggestions are hardly implemented in the context of the state bureaucracy at this time, so that there is a mechanism enabling the public to know whether this policy at its implementation has experienced deviation. But the mechanism facilitates whistle-blowers.

### **The Democratic System and Public Policy**

Political decisions within the structure of the state are decisions regarding the goals, duties, principles and mechanisms related to decisions in the state and authorities regarding collective life. The discussion about public policies is to talk about the responsibilities, duties, objectives and priorities of the state

(Rosenbloom et al., 2022). A community of the rules and measures of action designed to regulate and solve a particular issue related to the everyday life of citizens and established by a decision-making institution beyond the individual level could be defined as public policy. In this sense, studies in the field of public policies cover the aspects of this kind of decisions and applications that affect the lives of citizens and communities, made within the framework of the state structure and bureaucracy (Lipman, 2023).

Public policies are the responsibilities taken on by the state with the representation power and lines related to determining the interests and duties of the state, setting the principles and the mechanisms of their realization. In this context, recognizing the connection of public policies with other regions and disciplines will contribute to the development of works on public policies and will facilitate the evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of public policies (Nielsen et al., 2021). After the philosophical justification of the state treaty and the definition of the state tasks, it is asked what the functions and operations of the modern states are. In addition, above there are defined public policy and the necessary information and analysis for the need of the preparation and implementation of public policy for the state and the society (Rosenbloom et al., 2022).

Public policy is defined to underline the social issues dealt with. Besides this, the parties and tools correspond to the content description of the components of policy-making theory. Public policy is defined in terms of public also. National statements are emphasized in policy-making environments, resources and interactions. Finally, it is intended to identify the components of the theory of public policy making and to put forward an analytical approach to the evaluation of the developments in this context. Two approaches, rather than one, to the study and discussion of public policy will be proposed. In the monolithic approach, public policy is seen as a comprehensive, coherent and empirical concept, foreign to any disciplinary boundary (Head, 2022). The distinction is not made between backstage decision-making and the fore of the grain and it is preconceived as the sole responsibility of the governments and the administrations. Politicians and lawyers made the biggest contribution to the development of the approach. Political scientists have shown less interest, either because they find the subject disordered or because they are more fixated on issues surfaces (Von Soest, 2023).

In democratic systems, the pluralist process requires that there be arenas outside the government itself where people with common identities and interests can share benefits, engage in collective action, and articulate the terms on which they will contribute to broader policy productivity within the governmental process (Kaim, 2021). In more democratic portions of the policy subsystem, decisions are made using fair and open processes; the more contentiousness there is to be found in the making of policy, the less allowable is subterfuge in its formation. Democratic private interest representation is facilitative of good public policy; when properly conducted, reconciliation of interest-group pressures can have a salutary effect on broader public outputs (Ansell & Torfing, 2021). A fair process does not guarantee good policy, but inasmuch as the fairness

of a policy's creation can significantly be an indication of its quality, framers of policy in more hierarchical democratic systems can use the lessons of the Kerher Committee to enhance their satisfaction (A Witt, 1981). The first prerequisite for public policy to be successful is that it can be accepted by the people at large. On the other hand, the prevailing philosophy, ideology, or norm of the community will be effective in the changes to be enforced. Both of these matters are a manifestation of the principles of democracy. If no one has confirmed this, the government's good policies can't work. When good bad policies occur, people can rebel against the government. Thus, it is important to engage the community actively in the determination of government policy. With regard to world affairs, the government will enact foreign policy in addition to domestic policy. It is also said that foreign policy is the implementation of domestic policy in the international context (Agus Windu, 2019).

### **Contributors in Formulating Public Policies of the State**

Public policy is formulated by both official and unofficial bodies. By official bodies, we mean individuals who have legal powers that allow them to participate in public policy formulation (while acknowledging that some of these individuals are subordinate to party leaders or pressure group leaders). Public policy makers include members of legislative councils, members of the executive branch, administrators, and judges. All of them implement and contribute to public policy, but in varying ways and to varying degrees. Many institutions, bodies, or groups contribute to the public policy formulation process. These are divided into two main categories: official institutions and unofficial institutions(Kamel,2006).

#### **Official Institutions**

Official government institutions are entrusted with the task of participating in formulating public policies. These institutions include the three constitutional authorities: legislative, executive, and judicial, as well as administrators working in government agencies, who contribute to decision-making and the implementation of public policies through varying means and levels. We will focus on the role of the constitutional authorities (legislative, executive, and judicial) in formulating public policies.

#### **Legislative Authority**

The legislative authority is considered one of the most important official government institutions, primarily responsible for enacting laws and establishing the general foundations that regulate various aspects of political, economic, social, health, and other life in the country. Members of the legislative authority consult, discuss, and debate public policies that reflect the issues presented to them by the relevant authorities and the state community that elected them to express their positions and opinions. Most important public policies, rules, and laws that require formal or formal review and approval are drafted by these legislators before they become effective laws. The role of legislators in influencing public policymaking varies between strong and limited, depending on the political system in the country(James Anderson,2007). It should be noted that there are differences among countries around the world in the composition of the legislative authority, as well as its role and influence in

the public policymaking process. The role of legislative bodies in public policymaking is more prominent and profound, and even essential, in democratic societies, not in countries subject to individual and authoritarian regimes. according to (Henry,2015)In democratic systems, it is noted that legislators play a greater role in presidential systems (the United States of America) than in parliamentary systems (Great Britain). There are other countries where the legislative authority does not exist at all. As for technical matters requiring information, the legislative authority often resorts to delegating broad powers to administrative institutions, enabling them to formulate policies and make important decisions that have a far-reaching and significant impact on policy. This is confirmed by Norman Thomas, who says: "In any advanced industrial society, it is impossible to conduct daily affairs and manage public affairs without the intervention of administrative and bureaucratic organizations at the heart of policies and related decisions.

### **Executive Authority**

The executive branch is part of the political authority, and the administrative apparatus responsible for implementing public policies is subordinate to this branch. However, the role of this apparatus in formulating public policies cannot be ignored, especially since we live today in an era where the executive branch dominates the country's resources, due to the heavy reliance on executive leadership in formulating and implementing public policies. Public administration agencies intervene in the process of formulating and discussing public policies, in addition to their essential role in their implementation. Indeed, some believe that the administration is just as capable of shaping policy as it is of obstructing it. This is because most of the demands and issues that are formulated require specialized technical expertise for policy formulation. Conversely, the legislative authority may not possess the necessary technical expertise to formulate public policies and make decisions that have the effect of public policy in terms of impact, importance, and scope, such as financial issues, administrative organization, health and the environment, diplomatic and foreign relations, defense, and security (Bolleyer & Salát, 2021).

### **Judicial Authority**

Alongside the legislative and executive branches, the judiciary plays a role in formulating public policy. Although judges are not politicians, they participate with legislators, executives, and heads of administrative departments in exercising political power, which results in the responsibility of formulating or formulating public policy. The judiciary plays an important role in formulating public policy by using its authority to interpret the requirements of new public policy and to determine what is required of the public regarding their behavior toward judicial priorities((Maxeiner, 2008)). It represents a forum for discussing the various opinions representing the public and those implementing these policies. It also plays a mediating role between public policy makers and those implementing them by clarifying and interpreting the intent of public policies correctly and legally. Finally, it evaluates public policies, plans, and programs emanating from them, and examines the soundness of financial transactions and public services. The judiciary also plays a major role in formulating public policy by reviewing or amending texts, whether related to the content of public policy

or its implementation. Judicial oversight of the actions of government agencies contributes to limiting the arbitrariness of authority by annulling unfair administrative decisions taken by government institutions against citizens, or compensating for the damages resulting from them((Ward, 2012).

### **Unofficial Institutions**

The process of formulating public policy is not limited to the role of official institutions. There are other unofficial institutions and bodies that contribute to and influence the formulation and implementation of public policy. The most prominent of these institutions, for example, are political parties, pressure groups, and public opinion(Henisz& Zelner2003).

#### **Political parties**

Political parties constitute the main vehicle for representation and legalization of societal interests, particularly those of underrepresented groups. By aggregating interests and presenting them as policy options to the electorate, parties are seen to contribute to political stability and position predictability. Prior to elections, the view is that parties perform the necessary pre-selection of issues and selection of alternatives, making the vote choice easier for the electorate. Parties also help candidates get noticed and gain the necessary institutional support, as well as act as resources' brokers, channel relevant information to politicians. No less importantly, parties are thought to facilitate electoral accountability and enable voters to make retrospective evaluations by simplifying the number of questions asked and organizing information. An extensive literature has also argued that parties considerably affect the quality and effectiveness of both executive and legislative performance, generally enhancing government accountability and policy output. Parties help coordinate the positions in their respective members, advancing the possibility of policy-making. Institutionalized parties are seen to perform such tasks even better (Abeje, 2013). An extensive literature has examined the consequences of institutionalized party systems for democratization and democratic consolidation. At the system level, party system institutionalization has been found to enhance the quality of democratic government. On one hand, a party system organized around well-established parties with strong programmatic linkages with social groups is expected to contribute to political stability, making it less likely that governments will suffer from high-level of intra-executive disagreement, and fall often. Furthermore, policy output in such party systems is expected to be higher. In the legislature, strong and united parties are likely to be more effective in overseeing and controlling the executive. Political parties play an important role in the complex processes of government policy-making and policy implementation, whereby the diversity of interests within a society are accommodated in the making laws and public policies. For these reasons the claim is often made that political parties are crucial to the question of who gets what, when, and how in political systems (Cela & Cinar, 2015). However, not all parties are equally prepared to play such role. There is a significant difference in party development in terms of both modernization and institutionalization in political parties.

### **Pressure Groups**

Pressure groups work to influence decision-making bodies by pushing them to adopt positions or decisions that have the character of public policy, serving their goals and achieving their interests. Pressure and interest groups work to formulate, compile, and communicate demands, and propose alternatives for related public policies. They also contribute to rationalizing established public policies by providing executive bodies with factual information on their issues. These groups play an important and practical role in various countries, and their methods of participation and influence on public policy depend on the nature of their societies and systems – whether democratic or dictatorial? And whether they are developed or developing. Pressure groups consist of individuals with shared goals and perspectives who seek to influence decision-makers' attitudes toward their issues and demands. These groups include trade unions, labor and professional federations, civil society organizations, associations, and bodies (social, economic, religious, and financial). These groups seek to influence decision-makers to address their issues and problems and push them to adopt positions or decisions that have the character of public policy to serve their goals and achieve their interests. This is due to the power and influence they enjoy, derived from their diverse and intertwined relationships with public policy makers (Greenwood & Halpin, 2007).

### **Public Opinion**

Governments, regardless of their political and administrative systems, are keen to gain the support and backing of their citizens for the actions they undertake and the decisions they make. To achieve this, governments seek to solve the problems they face and meet some of their citizens' various demands through public policies that define a set of plans and programs aimed at achieving development and alleviating their suffering. Public opinion can influence the formulation of public policies in two ways: first, the restrictions or limitations it imposes on government activities and actions in the formulation and implementation of public policies. Second, the fear that grips some public policy makers and implementers of taking decisions or positions that are expected to garner no public support (Payan et al., 2021). It can be said here that citizens do not formulate public policies, on the one hand, nor are they far removed from them. Public opinion trends and expectations regarding how to address certain fundamental issues cannot be ignored by public policy makers. Rather, they constitute the general framework within which they are supposed to operate. They determine what is acceptable and what is unacceptable, what is successful and what is unsuccessful, particularly after those policies are implemented (Raven et al., 2011). Public policymakers seek to understand public opinion trends through a variety of methods, most notably opinion polls, to determine what is acceptable and unacceptable, and what decisions and policies are successful and unsuccessful. Political parties also seek to secure the greatest possible number of votes by embracing voters' concerns and demands in their electoral platforms, which then become the basis for shaping public policy. The circle of influencers in public policymaking may not be limited to the internal parties or entities mentioned above (official and unofficial entities), but may expand to include external regional and international actors, such as the United

Nations, the UN Security Council, the World Bank, the European Union, and the League of Arab States. These actors play a fundamental role through the grants and loans they provide to develop certain productive sectors or prioritize certain activities and policies (Fotheringham et al. 2022).

### **The Process of Public Policy Formulation**

A vast range of institutions and players, including both governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as a variety of policy tools, are involved in the process of creating public policy. These institutions and players engage during the public policy-making process in an effort to impact the discussion, choice, and ultimate application of different policy tools. The identification of a particular problem is the first step in the public policy-making process, which involves actors and institutions and is carried out in a sequential sequence, phases, and cycle. The next step is policy demand, or public and government awareness of the issue, which results in the creation of several causes of action to address the issue at hand (also known as policy formation). Following this, a particular action is adopted and legitimized by the government, which leads to its implementation. This is followed by a policy evaluation to see if the action's goals are being met, and the cycle completes when new issues are discovered, which leads to policy modification, revision, or termination (Peters, 2010).

According to Ferdous (2009), the process of creating public policy is a complex, interactive process that is impacted by a variety of socio-political and other environmental factors rather than being only a technical function of government. These external factors that shape the policy context cause policy variation and have an impact on the policies' results, outputs, and effects. The process of creating public policy consists of four main parts (Wise Greek; 2009). These are:

#### **Identifying the Problem**

This is the first phase, which entails thoroughly researching the problem and its causes in addition to acknowledging that there is a problem. This step entails assessing the public's knowledge of the problem, choosing the people who will help address it, and taking into account the resources available to achieve a solution. Policymakers frequently use the answers to these questions to determine what, if any, policy adjustments are required to solve the identified issue. The public, pressure organizations, government representatives, and others can set the agenda for the issues that are addressed.

#### **Formulating a Policy to Resolve the Problem**

It may be possible to create a new policy after determining the issue. In order to identify possible barriers, offer alternate solutions, establish specific objectives, and outline the necessary measures to reach them, this stage entails dialogue between government representatives, interest groups, and private individuals. Prior to formulating a policy, discussion and compromise are frequently necessary, and this part of the process can be challenging. Following its development, the policy needs the approval of the authorities.

### **Implementing the Policy**

It is necessary to implement a new policy. This necessitates identifying which entities will be in charge of executing it. To make this step a success, there must be adequate financing, clear communication, and coordination.

### **Evaluating the Effect of the Policy**

This is the last phase of the normally continuous process of creating public policy. It entails evaluating how well the new policy has worked to solve the initial issue, which frequently results in more policy modifications. It involves examining the available funds and resources to make sure the policy can be upheld. Though this phase has not always been seen as crucial from a practical standpoint, policymakers are increasingly figuring out how to ensure that the instruments required for assessment are incorporated into every stage of the public policy-making process.

### **Public Policy of Iraq**

The ability of the government to conduct reforms and structural changes based on a strategic plan that supports the whole process—which requires human and financial resources—is what makes them possible. First and foremost, it is essential to define "good governance," outline its key tenets, and determine which nations adhere to them. Crucially, "corruption, rule of law, and government efficacy" are defined as aspects of governance. Additional characteristics include regulatory load, political instability and violence, and voice and accountability. (Kaufmann et al. 1999)

Since the Iraqi invasion, the country's capacity has been declining more quickly than its progress. In 2011, USAID established the first-ever Bureau of Public Policy in Iraq on October 17, 2011, claiming to involve Iraqi citizens in the process of public policy formation. USAID official Lisa Whitly emphasized the importance of public policy development in Iraq as a tool for better governance at all levels. However, using incorrect models of public policy design leads to more problems rather than reforms. Because the previous government did not give the Iraqi people any say in their country moved from a stage of development to interdependence. (USAID, 2013). USAID (2013) states that "the Iraqi constitution is the Middle Eastern constitution that compels its executive offices to participate in a democratic, participatory process of public policy making." In a country like Iraq, the government is legally in total control of the economy. The Iraqi government has a history of economic involvement that has harmed the country rather than helped it flourish. Government interference in the economy is very hierarchical, policymakers have a much smaller role, and the failure of the Iraqi government led to economic backwardness and a domestic economic catastrophe. There are several reasons why Iraq has not performed well in terms of development and sustainability, including the fact that policies are more politically oriented and do not support growth (Schleicher, 2015).

The World Bank (2017) asserts that the security situation and the drop in oil prices directly impacted the poverty rate in Iraq. With nearly 3 million internally displaced people and 10 million people in need nationwide, the security issue since 2014 has resulted in a serious humanitarian disaster. According to the Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI), which combine institution scores and performance to show how the government carries out

policy in terms of institutional quality, political stability, rule of law, and other areas, the efficacy of the Iraqi government appears to be negative. Even after 10 years of progress, Iraq's advancements are ineffective.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The fundamental element of public policy is the policymaking process, which can be considered both a concept and a conceptual model. To understand the content of public policy, it is necessary to analyze the basic concepts of policymaking. A large number of books and articles on public policy and policymaking have appeared in the post-war period. In the current literature, policymaking is viewed through various approaches, such as the behavioral model, the policy cycle model, the rational approach, the incremental model, the group model, the pluralism model, and the political system model. These models focus on different aspects of political life and, therefore, on separate characteristics of policies. We should critically review the most common and widely accepted models in political science to provide an initial theoretical introduction to policymaking. This research employed a desk technique. A desk study research design is typically referred to as secondary data collecting. This mostly involves gathering data from existing resources, especially because to its cost-effectiveness relative to field research. This study examined previously published research and publications, as the data was readily available through online journals and libraries.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

The process of making public policy in a state is a very complex and intricate process, as it includes many elements, factors, and variables that have a direct and indirect impact on the process of forming and formulating public policy. These elements, factors, and variables are derived from – and also make up – the state's political system, so they vary from state to state based on the state's political makeup, governance philosophy, cultural heritage, and related activities. Public policy, which has many definitions, features, and types, can only effectively represent the key interactions between official institutions (like legislative, executive, and judicial authorities) and unofficial ones (such as political parties, interest groups, and public opinion) within the context of the dominant ideology and political system if there is a democratic system in place. This study has shown that the role of these official governmental and unofficial (non-governmental) institutions in the public policy-making process increases or decreases depending on the type of political system prevailing in the country.

This study has shown that the hypotheses proposed at the start are valid, as these institutions are responsible for making public policy in all systems. We find that the three authorities (legislative, executive, and judicial) in democratic systems are the institutions responsible for the public policy-making process, or the unofficial institutions. The formality of these systems plays a major role in the process of making these policies due to the large space that these systems provide for informal participants. In non-democratic systems, we find that the executive authority is the dominant authority, as the ruling person or party is the one that

formulates, implements, and evaluates public policies through its tools in a manner consistent with the interests of this system. The executive authority is the dominant authority, limiting the legislative and judicial authorities' scope of work in public policy making. On the other hand, informal (non-governmental) institutions do not have a major role to play in these systems but rather are merely tools or appendages of the existing political system.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Iraq's conventional policy-making structure is inefficient and feeble, with the elite having a significant impact on choices. Because of the "winner-takes-all" mentality, the political system is still unstable despite recent reforms. To enhance decision-making and meet the demands of the general public, policymakers must comprehend society's values, weigh many possibilities, and carefully forecast results.
2. Political institutions in democratic systems are a fundamental pillar of public policy formulation, as they reflect the views of society, offer proposals for resolving issues, and serve as a link between citizens and the government. The effectiveness of these institutions ensures public policies that meet the needs of society.
3. Public policy represents a deliberate governmental choice, resulting from a comparison and evaluation of available alternatives. It is usually expressed in a law or official decision, aimed at addressing a problem or societal issue, after collecting and analyzing the necessary information. Various bodies of the political system, both formal and informal, including political parties, contribute to formulating public policy.
4. The US invasion of Iraq in 2003 and the fall of the political regime on April 9 of the same year marked a crucial turning point in Iraq's political history. The country subsequently witnessed a transition to a new representative democratic political system, based on multiparty politics, regulated by the Political Parties Law.
5. The current political reality in Iraq indicates that the active political groups will continue to enjoy the same influence and effectiveness in the policy-making process. This is due to the extensive influence these groups have enjoyed in all state institutions since 2003.

## **FUTURE STUDY**

This research still has limitations so further research is needed related to the topic of Mechanisms for Formulating Public Policies Under Democratic Systems A Case Study of Iraq After 2003 to perfect this research and increase insight for readers.

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