

**Features of the Algerian political system
a study in light of the 2026 constitutional amendment**

ملامح النظام السياسي الجزائري دراسة على ضوء التعديل الدستوري لسنة 2026

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Abstract:

This article aims to define the features of the Algerian political system under the 2020 Constitution, which was recently amended in 2026. It does so by examining the nature of this system, focusing on the key characteristics enshrined by the constitutional framers within the framework of the political reforms it encompassed. The article specifically highlights the positions of both the executive and legislative branches.

The study concludes that the Constitution maintains the semi-presidential character of the Algerian political system, with the continued pivotal role of the President of the Republic, while simultaneously emphasizing constitutional mechanisms designed to strengthen parliamentary oversight. The article also concludes that these reforms represent a positive step towards consolidating the rule of law; however, their effectiveness remains contingent upon the extent to which constitutional provisions are respected and implemented in actual political practice.

Keywords: The Algerian political system; separation of powers; executive authority; rule of law.

الملخص:

يهدف هذا المقال إلى تحديد ملامح النظام السياسي الجزائري في ظل دستور 2020 والذي خضع للتعديل مؤخرا سنة 2026، من خلال دراسة طبيعة هذا النظام بالتركيز على أهم الخصائص التي كرسها المؤسس الدستوري في إطار الإصلاحات السياسية التي شملته، حيث يعمل هذا المقال على إبراز موقع كل من السلطة التنفيذية والتشريعية خاصة.

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وتوصلت الدراسة إلى أن الدستور حافظ على الطابع شبه الرئاسي للنظام السياسي الجزائري، مع استمرار الدور المحوري لرئيس الجمهورية، مقابل التأكيد على الآليات الدستورية التي تهدف إلى تعزيز الرقابة البرلمانية. كما خلص المقال إلى أن هذه الإصلاحات تمثل خطوة إيجابية نحو ترسيخ دولة القانون، غير أن نجاحها تظل مرتبطة بمدى احترام النصوص الدستورية وتفعيلها في الممارسة السياسية الفعلية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: النظام السياسي الجزائري، الفصل بين السلطات، السلطة التنفيذية، دولة القانون.

Introduction:

The political system is one of the fundamental pillars upon which the modern state is built. It reflects the nature of the organization of political power, defines the relationship between different constitutional institutions, and embodies the philosophy of governance adopted in managing public affairs. Modern constitutions have placed great importance on defining the features of the political system, given its direct impact on achieving political stability, ensuring the effectiveness of institutions, and consolidating the principles of democracy and the rule of law.

The Algerian political system has undergone several successive constitutional transformations since independence, influenced by the political, economic, and social changes the country has experienced. These transformations aimed to adapt to the demands of the internal situation and respond to national challenges.

In this context, the 2020 Constitution, which was amended in 2026, emerged in an exceptional political climate characterized by widespread popular movements demanding profound reforms that touched the very core of the political system. These reforms focused particularly on the redistribution of power, strengthening checks and balances between the legislative and executive branches, enshrining the independence of the judiciary, and guaranteeing rights and freedoms. Through this amendment, the constitutional framers sought to strike a balance between the continuity of the political system and the need for constitutional reforms that respond to demands for change, without compromising the foundations and unity of the state.

This raises significant constitutional and political issues concerning the nature of the Algerian political system and the extent to which the mechanisms of separation of powers have evolved. Therefore, this article focuses on the following question: To what extent has the constitutional amendment contributed to reshaping the features of the Algerian political

system, and has it succeeded in establishing a genuine balance of power and strengthening the principles of the rule of law?

We attempt to answer this question by employing an analytical approach to the articles of the constitutional amendment, focusing on two main points. The first point is entitled: The Impact of the Principle of Separation of Powers on Adapting the Political System. The second point is entitled: The Limits of the Separation of Powers under the 2020 Constitution as amended in 2026.

TITLE 1: The impact of the principle of separation of powers on adapting the political system:

Modern systems are based on the principle of separation of powers, which means distributing the functions of the state among authorities¹, each independent of the others. Thus, a legislative authority is established, tasked with enacting laws; an executive authority, tasked with implementing the laws; and a judicial authority, tasked with adjudicating disputes. This principle, which has been closely associated with several jurists, most notably Montesquieu in his book **The Spirit of the Laws**², is considered one of the most important principles for eliminating the tyranny of power and preventing its concentration in the hands of the ruler. Power can only be checked by another power³, thereby protecting rights and freedoms, distributing functions, ensuring the quality of work and the assumption of responsibilities, and ultimately, implementing the rule of law .

First requirement: The Constitutional Recognition of the Principle of Separation of Powers

While the principle of separation of powers has gained widespread acceptance, countries have differed in its application, resulting in either a presidential system, characterized by a single executive authority comprised of a president directly elected by the people who holds most of the important powers in the state⁴, and a complete or near-complete separation between the legislative and executive branches⁵; or a parliamentary system, characterized by a dual executive authority, with a relationship of cooperation, influence, and oversight between the legislative and executive

¹ Ibrahim Abdel Aziz Shiha, A Concise Guide to Political Systems and Constitutional Law, University Press, Lebanon, no publication date, p. 235.

² YELLES CHAOUICHE, The Constitutional Council in Algeria, O.P.U., Algiers, 1999, pp. 99-100.

³ Ammar Abbas, The Relationship Between Powers in Comparative Political Systems and in the Algerian Political System, Dar Al-Khaldounia, Algiers, 2010, p. 15

⁴ Said Bouchair, Constitutional Law and Comparative Political Systems, Part 2, University Press, 4th Edition, 2000, p. 192.

⁵ Assem Ahmed Agila and Mohamed Refaat Abdel Wahab, Modern Printing House, 5th Edition, 1992, p. 283.

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branches; or an assembly government system, where power is concentrated in the hands of parliament and the executive branch is subordinate to the legislative branch¹.

While Algeria did not adopt this principle in its 1963² and 1976 constitutions³, it did so starting with the 1989 and⁴ 1996 constitutions⁵, and the subsequent amendments, culminating in the 2020 constitutional amendment⁶ and 2026⁷. This was achieved through explicit reference to the principle in the preamble: "The Constitution guarantees the separation of powers and the balance between them," and through Chapter Three, entitled "Organization of Powers and Separation of Powers." Theoretically, this principle aims to prevent the concentration of power and ensure a balance between the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. However, this constitutional recognition cannot be understood in isolation from the nature of the distribution of powers. The adopted separation is not rigid but rather based on cooperation and mutual oversight. This allows for a de facto disparity in the power of each branch within the political system. A careful reading of the texts reveals considerable flexibility in this principle, particularly in favor of the executive branch the text of first subtitle.

First section: The duality of executive power

The Algerian constitutional founder adopted the duality of executive power in the 1989 constitution, and in the 1996 constitution and its subsequent amendments, whereby the executive power consists of the President of the Republic and a government headed by the Prime Minister or the Head of Government, as stipulated in the 2020 constitution amended in 2026.

A President of the Republic directly elected by the people: The President of the Republic occupies a significant position in the Algerian political system, being elected by the people through direct, secret, universal suffrage, according to Article 85 of the constitutional amendment. This election is subject to conditions stipulated in Article 87 of the Constitution, including:

¹ Mohamed Refaat Abdel Wahab, Political Systems, University Press, 1996, p. 290.

² Constitution of September 10, 1963, Official Gazette No. 64, dated September 10, 1963

³ Constitution of November 22, 1976, Official Gazette No. 94, dated November 24, 1976

⁴ Constitution of February 23, 1989, Official Gazette No. 9, dated March 1, 1989

⁵ Constitution of November 28, 1996, as amended and supplemented, Official Gazette No. 76, dated December 8, 1996

⁶ Presidential Decree No. 20-442 dated December 30, 2020, relating to the promulgation of the constitutional amendment, approved in the referendum of November 1, 2020, Official Gazette No. 82 issued on December 30, 2020.

⁷ Law No. 26-04 dated March 26, 2026, containing the constitutional amendment, Official Gazette No. 22 issued on March 26, 2026.

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original Algerian citizenship only; being at least 40 years old on the day of submitting the candidacy application (not on election day as was previously the case); professing Islam; enjoying full civil and political rights; demonstrating a certain level of education (a requirement introduced by Law 26-04, which included the constitutional amendment); declaring assets;¹ and other conditions stipulated in the electoral law, such as collecting signatures and submitting a guarantee.

The new element in the relationship between the legislative and executive authorities is the issue of the President of the Republic taking the oath. Previously, it was taken before the people in the presence of the nation's highest bodies, in accordance with Article 89 of the 2020 Constitution, without specifying the body before which this important process takes place. The 2026 constitutional amendment introduced a new provision that clearly states that the President of the Republic takes the constitutional oath before the two chambers of Parliament meeting together. In the event of a vacancy in the National People's Assembly, he takes the constitutional oath before the Council of the Nation, according to Article 89 of the 2026 constitutional amendment.

The 2020 Constitution, as amended in 2026, stipulates in Article 88 that the presidential term is five years, renewable once, and that no more than two consecutive or non-consecutive terms may be served. Article 223 considers the term of office to be among the matters that cannot be amended.

The President of the Republic may resign or call for early presidential elections. The 2026 constitutional amendment also granted the President the power to call for early legislative or local elections, according to Article 91, paragraph 11. Furthermore, the term is automatically extended until its expiration in the event of war.

Article 94 regulates the situation of a vacancy in the presidency. If the President of the Republic is unable to perform his duties due to a serious and chronic illness, the Constitutional Court convenes and verifies the existence of the impediment by all appropriate means. It then proposes to Parliament, by a majority of three-quarters of its members, that the impediment be declared. Parliament, meeting in joint session of both chambers, declares the impediment by a majority of two-thirds of its members. The Vice-President of the National Assembly is then appointed to head the state for a maximum period of 45 days and exercises his duties in accordance with Article 96 of the 2020 Constitution, as amended in 2026. If

¹Law No. 26-04 dated March 26, 2026, containing the constitutional amendment, Official Gazette No. 22 issued on March 26, 2026.

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the impediment persists after this period, the vacancy is declared, and resignation is mandatory. In the event of the President's resignation or death, the Constitutional Court convenes, confirms the permanent vacancy of the presidency, and immediately informs Parliament accordingly. The President of the National Assembly assumes the duties of the Head of State for a maximum period of 90 days, during which presidential elections are to be organized. This period may be extended for another 90 days after consulting the Constitutional Court. If the vacancy in the office of the President of the Republic coincides with a vacancy in the office of the President of the National Assembly, the President of the Constitutional Court assumes the duties of the Head of State. In a related context concerning the features of the Algerian political system, the President of the Republic exercises broad powers under both ordinary and exceptional circumstances.

Second section: Powers of the President of the Republic

The President of the Republic enjoys broad powers in the area of appointments, including those stipulated in Article 92 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026, such as appointments to civil and military positions, appointments to the Council of Ministers, judges, governors, ambassadors, etc., in addition to appointing the Prime Minister or Head of Government according to Article 91, and appointing members of the government according to Article 104.

Among the most important powers held by the President of the Republic in this area is the appointment of one-third of the members of the National Assembly from among national figures and experts in the scientific, professional, economic, and social fields¹. He also has the power to appoint four members of the Constitutional Court, including the President, according to Article 186 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026, and other appointments stipulated in the Constitution. The President of the Republic has the right to notify the Constitutional Court, in accordance with Articles 190/5 and 193 of the Constitution, and the right to propose constitutional amendments, as stipulated in Articles 219 and 220 of the Constitution.

In addition to other miscellaneous powers, the President also has powers related to foreign relations, such as determining the nation's foreign policy, deploying units of the national army abroad, granting pardons, concluding

¹ Article 121 of Presidential Decree 20-442 relating to the issuance of the aforementioned constitutional amendment of 2020, as amended by Law No. 26-04 dated March 26, 2026, which includes the constitutional amendment, Official Gazette No. 22 issued on March 26, 2026.

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and ratifying international treaties, consulting the people on any issue of national importance through referendums, convening the electorate, and other powers as outlined in the constitutional amendment.

-Powers of the President of the Republic in exceptional circumstances: The President of the Republic exercises a set of powers in exceptional circumstances that the country may experience, after conducting several consultations in accordance with the provisions of the constitutional amendment. He has the power to:

Declare a state of siege or emergency in accordance with Article 97 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026, a state of exception in accordance with Article 98, a state of general mobilization in accordance with Article 99, and declare war in accordance with Article 100.

Second requirement: A government headed by a Prime Minister or Head of Government:

The government is the executive body and constitutes one of the fundamental elements in determining the nature of the political system. If the constitution adopts a dual system, with a government alongside the President of the Republic, and with powers exercised independently of the President, then the system is parliamentary. Article 103 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026 stipulates: The government is headed by a Prime Minister if the legislative elections result in a presidential majority. The government is headed by the Head of Government if the elections result in a parliamentary majority.

First section: Appointment of the Prime Minister or Head of Government

The constitutional amendment dedicated a separate chapter to the government, unlike the previous situation. This chapter is Chapter Two of the section on the organization of powers, thus emphasizing the importance given to the government. Article 91, paragraph 5, stipulates that "The President of the Republic appoints the Prime Minister or Head of Government, as the case may be, and terminates their duties." Article 103 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026 also stipulates: "The government is headed by a Prime Minister if the legislative elections result in a presidential majority.

The government is headed by the Head of Government." The government, in the event that the elections result in a parliamentary majority".

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* Appointment of the Prime Minister: Article 103 stipulates that the selection of the head of government is linked to the legislative elections. If the legislative elections result in a presidential majority that is, a majority within the National People's Assembly that supports the President of the Republic and adopts his program the President appoints a Prime Minister to lead the government, which is subordinate to the President. The Prime Minister presents the government's action plan for implementing the President's program.

* Appointment of the Head of Government: If the majority within the National People's Assembly does not support the President of the Republic and does not adopt his program, the President appoints a Head of Government to lead the government, which in this case is independent of the President. The Head of Government presents his government's program¹.

The terms "Prime Minister" and "Head of Government" reflect the degree of the government's independence from the President of the Republic. Referring to Articles 103 to 110 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026, the key differences between the two positions can be summarized as follows:

- The Prime Minister is tasked with proposing the formation of the government, according to Article 105 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026, while the Head of Government is tasked with forming their own government, according to Article 110 of the same amendment.

- The Prime Minister presents the government's action plan to the National People's Assembly for the implementation of the presidential program and submits it to the Council of Ministers. This plan can be adapted in light of the National People's Assembly's discussions, in consultation with the President of the Republic, as stipulated in Article 106. The Head of Government, however, presents the government's program, not its action plan².

- Article 110/2 set a deadline of 30 days for the Prime Minister to form his government, otherwise the President of the Republic would appoint a new Prime Minister tasked with forming it, while the Prime Minister was not bound by any time limit for proposing the formation of the government.

¹ Maleh Souria, The Status of the Executive Authority under the Constitutional Amendment of 2020, Journal of Algerian and Comparative Public Law, University of Djillali Liabes Sidi Bel Abbes, Volume 08, Issue 01, 2022, p. 338.

² Ben Dahou Noureddine, Appointment of the Prime Minister and Head of Government in the 2020 Constitutional Amendment, Journal of International Law and Development, Abdelhamid Ben Badis University, Mostaganem, Algeria, Volume 09, Issue 02, 2021, p. 271.

Second section: Powers of the Prime Minister or Head of Government

The Prime Minister or Head of Government exercises a set of powers stipulated in the provisions of the Constitution, namely:

*The power of appointment to civil service positions: This power is not included within the appointment powers granted to the President of the Republic according to Article 112/3.

*The regulatory power according to Article 141/2 of the Constitution: The regulatory power granted to the Prime Minister or Head of Government differs from the independent regulatory power granted to the President of the Republic. The latter is broad and exercises power in areas not specifically allocated to the law and is not implemented through its execution. The regulatory power of the Prime Minister or Head of Government, however, is limited and exercised within the scope of implementing laws and regulations; it is not independent.

*Other powers related to legislative work: such as requesting the convening of Parliament in an extraordinary session, requesting a closed session, or requesting the extension of the ordinary session according to Article 138/2/3; initiating laws according to Article 143; and convening the Joint Committee according to Article 145/5. * Advisory Powers: The Prime Minister is consulted by the President of the Republic upon the declaration of a state of emergency, siege, or exceptional circumstances, or the dissolution of the National People's Assembly. He may also notify the Constitutional Court in accordance with Article 193.

- Termination of the Prime Minister's or Head of Government's Duties: Duties end in one of the following ways:

*Dismissal: According to Article 9, paragraph 5 of the Constitutional Amendment, the President of the Republic has the power to terminate the duties of the Prime Minister or Head of Government.

*Voluntary Resignation: Article 113 stipulates the possibility of submitting a resignation to the President of the Republic.

*Mandatory Resignation (by operation of law): This occurs in four cases:

- In the event of running for the presidency, as Article 96, paragraph 2 of the Constitutional Amendment stipulates that "the Prime Minister or Head of Government, as the case may be, shall resign if they run for the presidency".

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- In the event of the National People's Assembly's rejection of the government's action plan or program, according to Article 107 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026.
- In the event of a vote of no confidence, according to Article 162, paragraph 3 of the Constitutional Amendment.
- In the event of a vote of no confidence, as Article 111/5 stipulates that in the event of a vote of no confidence, the Prime Minister or Head of Government, as the case may be, shall submit the government's resignation.
- Ministers: There are no special conditions for assuming the position of minister, meaning that the general conditions for holding public office are sufficient, such as citizenship or enjoyment of civil and political rights. They are appointed by the President of the Republic upon the proposal of the Prime Minister or, as the case may be, upon the formation of a cabinet by the head of government, according to Article 110.

For a minister, the position is political, as they are accountable to the President of the Republic. It is also an administrative position, as they exercise the power of appointment within their ministry, the regulatory power within their sector through decrees, and the supervisory power, which is the oversight they exercise over other bodies.

TITLE 2: The Limits of the Separation of Powers under the 2020 Constitution as amended in 2026.

The Algerian constitutional framers adopted a relatively flexible separation of powers, which is evident in the functional relationship between the government and parliament.

First requirement: The influence of the executive branch on the legislative branch

Of first Despite the constitutional recognition of the separation of powers, a careful reading of the texts reveals considerable flexibility in this principle, particularly in favor of the executive branch, through the following activities:

First section: Powers related to the legislative function

It is noted that the President of the Republic exercises a set of powers related to the legislative function, which may reach the level of exercising the powers of Parliament in the field of legislation. The President of the Republic may become an exceptional legislator under certain conditions and

in specific cases, as the constitutional amendment of 2026¹ authorized him to legislate by orders ¹, which this constitutional amendment linked to the necessity of notifying the Constitutional Court.

The President of the Republic exercises regulatory power. Within the framework of the distribution of powers among the authorities, the task of legislation was assigned to Parliament, by defining multiple areas under the provisions of the Constitution. However, this power is not exclusive to the legislative authority, but the Constitution also granted the President of the Republic regulatory power in matters not allocated to the law ².

-In the area of strengthening the powers of the President of the Republic, the constitutional amendment granted him the right to issue laws within 30 days in accordance with Article 148, and he has the right to request a second reading within 30 days following the date of its ratification in accordance with Article 149. The President of the Republic also has the power to issue the Finance Law by decree in the event that Parliament does not ratify it after the expiry of a period of 75 days ³, without neglecting one of the most important powers granted to the President of the Republic, which is the right to call Parliament to convene in an extraordinary session in accordance with Article 138, paragraph three, and he has the right to dissolve the National People's Assembly in accordance with Article 151⁴.

Second section: The right to initiate legislation

The right to initiate legislation, as stipulated in Article 143 of the Constitutional Amendment, and to convene the Joint Committee, as stipulated in Article 145/5 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026.

Among the manifestations of cooperation between the legislative and executive branches is the Speaker of the National Assembly assuming the role of Acting Head of State in the event of a vacancy, as stipulated in Article 94.

¹ Article 142 of Presidential Decree 20-442 relating to the issuance of the aforementioned constitutional amendment of 2020, as amended by Law No. 26-04 dated March 26, 2026, which includes the constitutional amendment, Official Gazette No. 22 issued on March 26, 2026.

² Article 141/1 of the constitutional amendment.

³ Article 146 of the Constitutional Amendment.

⁴ For more details on this point, see Ibrahim Tunsir, The Dissolution of Parliament in the Algerian Constitutional System (A Comparative Study), The Legal Journal of Legal and Political Studies, Ahmed Draria University, Algeria, Volume 06, Issue 02, 2022, p. 16.

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Second requirement: The influence of the legislative authority on the executive

The Constitution established several oversight mechanisms, including, The Prime Minister's Action Plan, as per Article 106, or the Head of Government's Program, as applicable, as per Article 110, is discussed in a general debate within the National People's Assembly. The Prime Minister may then adapt the Action Plan accordingly, in consultation with the President of the Republic. - The Prime Minister or Head of Government also presents the Action Plan to the Council of the Nation, as approved by the National People's Assembly.

It should be noted that the Prime Minister submits the government's resignation to the President of the Republic if the National People's Assembly does not approve the Government's Action Plan, as per Article 107. The same applies to the Head of Government, as per Article 110/3, which refers to Article 107.

- The Prime Minister or Head of Government presents a statement of general policy annually to the National People's Assembly, as per Article 111.

The discussion may conclude with a resolution. A motion of censure may be filed following a discussion of the policy statement, in accordance with the conditions stipulated in Articles 161-162.

This means that, in order for the government to continue fulfilling its responsibilities in implementing the approved plan or program, it must submit annually a "...statement of public policy..." outlining the program's achievements, progress made, ongoing implementation, future plans, and any difficulties encountered¹.

The annual statement is no less important than the national plan or program in that it must be presented to the National People's Assembly for discussion, focusing on the government's action plan and its adherence to the approved program ².

¹ AVRIL Pierre, GIQUEL Jean, Parliamentary Law 2nd edition, Montchrestien, 1996, p 121.

² Public policy can be defined as "the government's choice of what to do and what not to do within a specific area, or as an explanation of the government's ideas." On this topic, see Fahmi Khalifa Al-Fahdawi, Public Policy: A Holistic Perspective on Structure and Analysis, Dar Maysara for Publishing, Distribution, and Printing, 2001, p. 35.

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The importance of the annual statement lies in its clarification of the government's policies during the year, enabling members of parliament to remain informed about the government's actions¹.

The Algerian constitutional framers were keen to ensure that the National People's Assembly played a fundamental role in evaluating the general policy statement. They authorized the Assembly to take a position on the statement by proposing a motion or submitting a censure motion. However, this debate does not necessarily lead to the proposal of a motion or the submission of a censure motion.

First section: Submitting a censure motion

The debate on the general policy statement can result in the submission of a censure motion, subject to the conditions stipulated in Articles 161-162, namely: - The censure motion must be signed by at least one-seventh (1/7) of the members of parliament.

- The vote on the censure motion cannot take place until three days after its submission.

- The censure motion requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members of parliament to pass.

A censure motion, or motion of censure, is a tool that members of parliament can use to pressure the government, and even force its resignation if a quorum is present. 4- Questions: These are stipulated in Article 158 of the 2020 constitutional amendment, where the question is considered one of the constitutionally stipulated means, and represents a widespread means of parliamentary oversight², as it is defined as “that action by which a member of parliament asks a member of the government for clarification on a specific point.”³

It is an inquiry by a member of parliament to the relevant minister regarding a specific matter, and its purpose may be to draw the minister's attention to a particular issue.

It is noteworthy that the constitutional framework for posing questions has several functions, including:

¹ Ibrahim Boulahia, The Government's Relationship with Parliament, Proceedings of the National Symposium on the Relationship between the Government and Parliament, Algiers, October 23-24, 2000, p. 67.

² Aqila Kharbashi, The Functional Relationship between the Government and Parliament, Dar Al-Khaldounia for Publishing and Distribution, Algeria, 2007, p. 137.

³ Abdul Ghani Basyouni Abdullah, Political Systems and Constitutional Law, Al-Maaref Establishment, 1997, p. 685.

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*The oversight function: This involves monitoring the government's activities, the extent to which it implements its program approved by parliament, its adherence to and implementation of legal texts, and its ability to find solutions to the problems at hand ¹.

*The Inquiry Function: In general, questions allow Parliament to gather information and provide it with the necessary data to perform its legislative duties and to monitor the government's actions. Questions can also be used as a means for members of Parliament to express their opinions and approvals regarding the government and its work.

Second section: Interpellation

According to Article 160 of the constitutional amendment, members of Parliament can interpellate the government on any matter of national importance, as well as on the implementation of laws. The government must respond within a maximum period of 30 days.

According to Article 161, a motion of censure can be voted on following the interpellation. This is similar to a statement of general policy, which can lead to the government being held accountable.

Interpellation is considered a mechanism of parliamentary oversight, through which members of Parliament can submit a request for clarification to the government on current issues of national concern. It is a means that allows representatives to influence the government's actions, obligating it to consider the representatives' position on every action it takes ².

Interrogation is more serious than questioning, as it is not limited to merely inquiring about a specific issue³, but goes beyond that to the point of holding the government accountable for its actions due to a wrong policy or a failed project that is characterized by seriousness and importance⁴. Interrogation therefore includes the meaning of accountability, criticism and accusation of the ministry or its head or one of the ministers, which can result in a touch of oversight, and if it is approved in accordance with the

¹ Al-Amin Shrit, The Oral Question as a Mechanism of Parliamentary Oversight, Study Day on the Subject of the Oral Question as a Mechanism of Parliamentary Oversight, Algeria, 2001, p. 68.

² Said Bouchair, The Relationship of the Legislative and Executive Institutions in the Algerian Legal System, PhD Thesis in Law, Institute of Legal and Administrative Sciences, University of Algiers, Vol. 2, December 1984, p. 333.

³ If the question originated in English, then the interrogation originated in French and appeared in 1791, and from there it was transferred to the constitutions of many countries.

⁴ Ammar Awabdi, Ammar Awabdi, The Status of Oral and Written Question Mechanisms in the Parliamentary Oversight Process, Journal of Parliamentary Thought, Issue 13, Algeria, June 2006, p. 125.

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aforementioned procedures, it leads to the establishment of the political responsibility of the government.

-Establishing Inquiry Committees: According to Article 159 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026, "Each chamber of Parliament, within its jurisdiction, may establish inquiry committees at any time on matters of public interest".

Therefore, in addition to questioning and interpellation, establishing inquiry committees is one of the means by which Parliament oversees the actions of the government ¹.

These are temporary committees established by Parliament to inquire about a specific topic or to study the operation of a public service.

These committees consist of a specific number of members tasked with investigating any violations or irregularities that may have occurred within the government apparatus regarding a particular matter².

-Presentation on the use of financial appropriations:

Article 156 From the 2020 Constitution, amended in 2026 stipulates that "The government shall present to each chamber of Parliament a report on the use of the financial appropriations it has approved for each fiscal year. The fiscal year, with respect to Parliament, shall conclude with a vote on a law that includes the settlement of the fiscal year's budget by each chamber of Parliament".

If Parliament votes on the Finance Law, it is natural that it monitors compliance with it, because the government may not implement what was voted on, and therefore the Constitution requires a presentation on the use of financial appropriations.

It is understood from the text of the article that the government is obligated and not optional in the matter of submitting a report on the use of financial appropriations. This is what is known as financial control, which means monitoring the implementation of the budget after its completion.

It reveals the financial violations that occur, but it does not prevent their occurrence.

However, it encourages respect for the established financial regulations and ensures that the government respects the authorization granted to it by

¹ Ammar Awabdi, previous reference, p. 129.

² Abdullah Boukefah, The Relationship between the Legislative Authority and the Executive Authority in the Algerian Constitution of 1963, Master's Thesis, University of Algiers, Institute of Law and Administrative Sciences, July 1997, p. 177.

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Parliament to collect revenues and disburse expenditures. This is achieved by obligating the government, after the closing of the fiscal year and after the actual and final implementation of all operations, to submit a final account to the legislative authority showing what revenues were actually collected and what expenditures were disbursed, and the extent to which all of this matches what was stated in the budget.

It is observed that the exercise of parliamentary oversight faces a number of obstacles, including strict procedural requirements, the dominance of a majority loyal to the executive branch, and the president's power to dissolve the National People's Assembly. This weakens the parliament's oversight role and negatively impacts the balance of power between the two branches.

Conclusion:

The conclusion From the foregoing, we conclude that the Algerian political system is a mixture and a model that combines the parliamentary system and the presidential system, but it is closer to the presidential system. Among the aspects in which it is close to the parliamentary system are the duality of executive power, the relative separation of powers, and the cooperation and mutual oversight between the legislative and executive powers. Among the aspects in which it is close to the presidential system are the direct election of the President of the Republic by the people, and the President of the Republic's enjoyment of broad and effective powers, as he exercises the most important major and fundamental powers in the state.

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