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The president of Egypt is the executive head of state of Egypt. Under the various iterations of the Constitution of Egypt following the Egyptian Revolution of 1952, the president is also the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, and head of the executive branch of the Egyptian government. The current president is Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, in office since 8 June 2014



born 19 November 1954) is an Egyptian politician who is the sixth and current President of Egypt, former Director of Military Intelligence, former Minister of Defence, and former General. Starting 10 February 2019, Sisi also began serving a [ one-year term as Chairperson of the African Union, which concluded in 2020

Sisi was born in Cairo and after joining the Egyptian Army, held a post in Saudi Arabia before enrolling in the Egyptian Army's Command and Staff College. In 1992, Sisi trained at the Joint Services Command and Staff College at Watchfield, Oxfordshire, in the United Kingdom, and then in 2006 trained at the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Sisi served as a mechanized infantry commander and then as director of military intelligence. After the Egyptian revolution of 2011 and election of Mohamed Morsi to the Egyptian presidency, Sisi was appointed Minister of Defence by Morsi on 12 August 2012, replacing the Mubarak-era Hussein Tantawi

As Minister of Defence, and ultimately Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Armed Forces, Sisi was involved in the military coup that removed then President Mohamed Morsi from office on July 3, 2013, in response to the June 2013 Egyptian protests, called a revolution by its proponents. He dissolved the Egyptian Constitution of 2012 and proposed, along with leading opposition and religious figures, a new political road map, which included the voting for a new constitution, and new parliamentary and presidential elections. Morsi was replaced by an interim president, Adly Mansour, who appointed a new cabinet. The interim government cracked down on the Muslim Brotherhood and its Islamist supporters in the months that followed, and later on certain liberal out opponents of the post-Morsi administration. On 14 August 2013, police carried the August 2013 Rabaa massacre, killing hundreds of civilians and wounding .thousands, leading to international criticism

On 26 March 2014, in response to calls from supporters to run for he presidency, Sisi retired from his military career, announcing that would run as a candidate in the 2014 presidential election. The election, held between 26 and 28 May, featured one opponent, Hamdeen Sabahi saw 47% participation by eligible voters, and resulted in Sisi winning in a landslide victory with 97% of the .2014 vote. Sisi was sworn into office as President of Egypt on 8 June

military Sisi rules an authoritarian regime in Egypt, as the Egyptian has unchecked power, and elections are not free and fair. The regime has deployed torture, extrajudicial killings, home demolitions, enforced disappearances and sexual violence against journalists critics of the regime. The regime imprisons and tortures and critics of the regime. In the non-democratic 2018 presidential election, Sisi faced only nominal opposition (a pro-government supporter, Moussa Mostafa Moussa) after the military arrest of Sami Anan and his enforced disappearance afterwards, threats made to Ahmed Shafik with old corruption charges and an alleged sex tape, and the withdrawal of Khaled Ali and Mohamed Anwar by El-Sadat due to the overwhelming obstacles and violations made the elections committee

## **Historic Background** •

The Egyptian legal system was founded on the Napoleonic Codes, Roman law, and Islamic Shari'a. In 1874, Egypt gained independence from the Ottoman Empire in matters of legal and administrative regulation. In the following year, a national legal system was established. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, jurists and scholars such as the Grand Mufti Muhammed Abdulah, Rashid Rida, and Abdul Razzak Al Sanhouri adopted the European way of legal thinking in commercial, criminal, civil, and maritime matters, but family law remained under the supervision of Islamic courts (El Mahakem El Sharai'a) used to adjudicate family matters until 1956 when these courts were integrated into the national court system. In cases of marital disputes involving non-Muslims, Church .substantive law applies

The declared the judiciary branch's independence and autonomy from the executive branch. Furthermore, the Supreme Constitutional Court, established in 1969, is responsible for enforcing compliance of laws with the provisions of the Constitution

### **System of Government**

Egypt's system of government reflects a combination of the prime ministerial and presidential systems. The President is the head of state and commander in chief of the armed forces. The Prime Minister acts as the president's deputy and implements his policies. Both the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers are appointed and removed by the President. The Parliament enacts laws submitted by the cabinet. In the .meantime, the judiciary supervises the enforcement of these laws

The three main branches of the government as stated in the Egyptian Constitution are (1) the executive branch, (2) the legislative branch, and (3) the judicial branch

#### **Executive Branch**

Prime The Executive Branch is headed by the President, who chooses the Minister and the Council of Ministers. According to the Egyptian Constitution, the President must be elected by the Parliament. Once elected, the President serves six consecutive calendar years and can be reelected indefinitely. He has the authority to appoint all the judges of the Supreme Constitutional Court, along with civilian and military judges. In addition, the President appoints ten members of the People's Assembly (see discussion, below). He also selects eighty-eight out of 246 .members of the Shura Council (the Consultative Council)

# Legislative Branch (Parliament)

The legislative branch consists of two chambers: the People's • .Assembly and the Shura Council (Consultative Council)

approve The People's Assembly has the power to enact laws and bilateral and multilateral treaties as well as the national budget. It consists of 454 members and 444 of these members are directly elected. The remaining 10 are appointed by the .President

The Shura Council (Consultative Council) acts in a consulting People's capacity to the President, the executive branch, and the Assembly. Unlike the People's Assembly, it does not have any legislative powers. While the President appoints eighty-eight members of the Shura Council, the remaining 174 members of .the Shura Council are directly elected by the people

## Judicial Branch

The judicial branch monitors and supervises the appointed implementation and enforcement of laws. Judges are .for life with a mandatory retirement at the age of seventy

Under the system created by the 1980, 2003 and 2007 constitutional amendments to the 1971 Constitution, the President is the pre-eminent executive figure, who names the Prime Minister of Egypt as well as appoints the Cabinet per the latter's recommendation, while in reality, was the head of both the state and of the government, aside from being the top foreign policy maker and holding supreme command over the military. During martial law, the President also anoints deans of faculties and majors, and can also enlist or oust people in the private sector. He or she then also has the power to issue regulations for the enforcement of laws, ensuring proper public services, etc., which have been transferred to the Prime Minister under the 2012 and 2014 Constitutions.[citation needed] Egypt had been under martial law since 1981.[citation needed] After the Egyptian revolution in 2011 - 2012, that ousted the 30-year regime of then President .Hosni Mubarak, the martial law was suspended

The 2012 Constitution, provides for a semi-presidential form of government in which the .President shares executive powers with the Prime Minister

**Supreme Constitutional Court** •

The Supreme Constitutional Court was established in 1969. According to Law 48-1979, the court has the authority to determine the constitutionality of the laws passed by the People's Assembly, identify the jurisdiction of courts, and interpret laws and presidential decrees. The President of Egypt appoints the judges of the .court, who serve until the mandatory retirement age

**Family Courts** 

The Family Courts were established in 2004 to protect children in disputes pertaining to tutelage, divorce, alimony, and custody. These courts apply Islamic Shari'a in disputes involving Muslims, and to married Christian couples who belong to different Christian sects. The courts also apply Islamic law in matters of inheritance. The family court system is a three-tiered system, with first instance, intermediate, and final appellate courts, which reflect the administrative division of .the country

**Military Courts** •

The Military Courts have jurisdiction over military personnel and civilians implicated in crimes related to terrorism and national security. Based on amendment 138-2010 amending Law 234-1959 concerning reserve officers and Law 25 of 1966 on military justice, the jurisdiction of the Military Courts expanded to cover crimes committed in border areas and crimes against facilities of military production. As opposed to the civilian courts, the Military Courts do not have due process. The verdicts of the courts can only be appealed through the High Military Appeals Court. Only the President of the .Republic can overturn rulings rendered by the Military Appeal Court

**Economic Courts** 

Law 120-2008 establishes Economic Courts in each Court of Appeal circuit. The Economic Court consists of courts of first instance and courts of appeal. These courts have a jurisdiction over criminal cases stemming from investment operations, laws on consumer protection, and commercial and banking transactions. The first economic court system is a three-tiered system, with instance, intermediate, and final appellate courts

**Environmental Courts** 

The Environmental Courts have jurisdiction over civil and criminal violations of environmental laws. They were created to adjudicate crimes causing the pollution of the Nile River. The environmental court system is a three-tiered system, with first instance, intermediate, and final appellate courts

- The Council of State (Administrative Judicial Court System)
- Established in 1946, the Council of State has the right to nullify and repeal administrative decrees issued by the Council of Ministers, the Prime Minister, and the President. The Council consists of the Administrative Judicial Court and the Supreme .Administrative Court

The Administrative Judicial Court has jurisdiction over administrative matters related to government contracts, tenders, and administrative decisions. It .is a first instance court

The Supreme Administrative Court sits at the top of the administrative judicial structure. It is an appellate court that reviews the decisions issued by the Administrative Judicial Court.



### **Courts of the First Degree**

The Courts of the First Degree are responsible for adjudicating misdemeanors and civil disputes involving financial amounts that do not exceed EG£5000 (about US\$800). The court consists of one contractual, judge. These courts have jurisdiction over commercial, insurance, intellectual, and real property disputes. The Civil Court of the First Instance does not have jurisdiction over capital crimes

### Courts of Appeal •

The Courts of Appeal serve as courts of first instance for capital of crimes. There are seven appeals courts located in the major cities Egypt. Each court has jurisdiction over the region assigned. Each Court of Appeal consists of three judges: a chief justice and two assistants. Their mission is to review decisions related to misdemeanors and civil matters issued by Courts of the First Degree across the country. The court applies civil and criminal codes modeled primarily on the French Napoleonic Codes; therefore, there is no jury system. The Court of Cassation .represents the final stage of criminal appeals

jurisdiction Some circuits within the criminal court have over crimes related to state security. Individuals tried before these circuits do not have the right to appeal the .court's decision except on procedural grounds

**Court of Cassation** 

There is only one Court of Cassation, located in the capital. Established in 1931, it is considered the highest of judicial body in the Egyptian court system. It consists criminal and civil sections. A defendant or plaintiff may access this court only if a breach of law is claimed as the basis for the appeal. The court's main objective is to provide a comprehensive and uniform interpretation of the law. The court issues an annual collection of its decisions, entitled Rulings and Principles of the Court .of Cassation

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