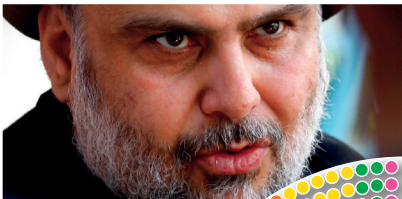


Iraqi parliament mired in chaos

Power struggles between Iraq's nationalistic Shi'ite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and the Iran-backed Coordination Framework mean the nation has gone nearly ten months without a government



■ **Oct 10, 2021 election:** **Muqtada al-Sadr** (above) wins 73 seats – largest bloc in parliament

■ **Oct 16: Coordination Framework** – Shi'a alliance of State of Law, Fatah, Huqooq and others, led by former prime minister **Nouri al-Maliki** (right) – rejects election results

■ **Jan 2021:** Sadrist bloc forms **Homeland Rescue (HR)**. Alliance includes Sadrists, Kurds and Sunnis. 30 lawmakers from small parties join, boosting strength to 202 seats – but fail to reach two-thirds majority of 220 needed to select president

■ **Jan 9:** Sunni **Muhammad Al-Halbousi** is elected for second term as speaker. Iran-backed **Fatah Alliance** disputes election

■ **Jan 25:** Supreme Court affirms Halbousi's win



Homeland Rescue
202 seats

Chamber of Deputies: 239 seats

● Sadrist Bloc: **73 Shi'a Muslim**

● Progress Party: **37 Sunni**

● Kurdish Democratic Party: **31**

● Patriotic Union of Kurdistan: **17**

● Azem Alliance: **14 Sunni**

● Small parties: **30**

● State of Law

Coalition: **33 Shi'a**

● Fatah Alliance:

17 Shi'a

● Huqooq

Movement:

20 Shi'a

● Other

parties **57**

■ **Feb-Jun:** Negotiations between HR alliance and Coordination Framework flounder, with Framework MPs demanding inclusion, with veto powers, in new cabinet

■ **Jun 9:** Sadr instructs his lawmakers to quit parliament

■ **Jun 12: Sadrist MPs resign en bloc.** Framework replaces half of Sadr's MPs. Although move is legal, it is seen as provocative

■ **Jul 25:** Framework nominates **Mohammed al-Sudani**, former minister in Maliki government, as its candidate for prime minister. He is seen by Sadr loyalists as pro-Iran stooge

■ **Jul 27-Aug 1:** Sadr supporters occupy parliament, raising fears that Shia-on-Shia fighting could erupt