



*Al-Noor Universal  
Foundation  
Noorakib Project / monitor  
long-term governorate  
council elections*



*Sixth report  
Political  
Entities  
Rigesitration*



**In** continuation of the long-term monitoring process of the Al-Noor Universal Foundation for the provincial and district council elections in Iraq, the Al-Noor Foundation's monitors monitored the process of registering political entities at the national level.

As the Al-Noor Universal Foundation continues with its project (Nurakib) long-term monitoring with support from the National Democratic Institute (NDI) that aims to enhance voter confidence in the electoral process, and work to ensure the integrity, impartiality and fairness of the electoral process through conducting long-term, effective and impartial monitoring in eight governorates: Anbar, Baghdad, Basra, Diyala, Kirkuk, Najaf, Nineveh and Salah al-Din

The process of registering political parties in Iraq is considered one of the basic rights of the Iraqi citizen according to the Iraqi constitution 2005 Article (39) / First - The freedom to establish associations or political parties, or to join them, is guaranteed, and this is regulated by law.

The Iraqi Representatives Council has enacted the Political Parties Law No. 36 of 2015, What gives freedom to any group of citizens is to form a political party on the basis of common principles, goals and visions that seek to reach power to achieve its goals in democratic ways that do not contradict the provisions of the Constitution and the laws in force.

In preparation for the provincial council elections, the Independent High Electoral Commission (IHEC) has set the end of September 31, 2019 to register political entities who are wishing to participate in the provincial council elections 2020 and to be extended until 10/31/2019 as a deadline for receiving party files.

The responsible department for registration is the Department of Parties and Political Organizations affiliated to the (IHEC), (228) political entities have been registered to of October 31, 2019, These entities have the right to participate in the provincial council elections individually or in alliance. The department grants the party's license to complete the registration requirements, and sometimes it gives conditional leave to some parties for the purpose of completing their requirements.

1. The law was enacted to replace Order 97 / The Law of Parties and Political Organizations issued by the Coalition Provisional Authority
2. Article 17 of the Parties Law No. 36 of 2015
3. Conditional leave is granted to parties until their files are audited by the Accountability & Justice Authority and the criminal record and verifying their school certificates.

The restriction of registration in the Department of Parties and Political Organizations Affairs at its headquarters in Baghdad constituted a great difficulty for the parties in the governorates as a result of the difficulty of movement and often needs to review the department more than once because there are deficiencies in the registration requirements.

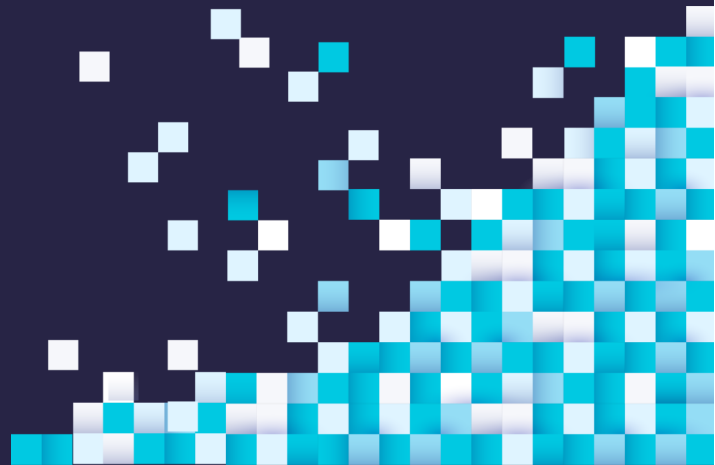
It is noted that the number of registered parties are (228) . And From the follow-up to the parties, We see that a number of them represent other large parties, as many of the personalities in the big parties formed small parties and some of them were included within the civil society institutions for a period of time, The registration of these parties comes either for the purposes of alliances or an attempt to attract the public to new names after generating public anger on the parties that holding the corps, as result of poor performance and corruption. We also notice the splitting of many large parties with other names due to the difference in party leadership or the necessity to change the visions, goals and mechanisms used. We also note that many armed factions that are formally affiliated with the popular Mobilization Authority (PMA) Or non-affiliated political parties have submitted registration papers to them.

Parties that represent minorities numbering approximately (29) parties also suffer from fission or large parties supporting groups to form parties for minorities that are more likely to win the elections as they receive support in many ways by those parties. The effect of this, is that it is difficult to be a real representation of the components, because if the electoral law guarantees the rights of the components through the quota, it does not guarantee their real representation or equal opportunities for them to compete in the elections.

The past period witnessed a great activity for the Department of Parties and Political Organizations by following the parties' work of visiting their headquarters and communicating directly to them. The department refused to authorize the registration of (99) political parties to complete their registration requirements in accordance with the provisions of Article (12) of the Parties and Political Organizations Law No. (36) For the year 2015, the decisions to cancel the registration of these parties were published in three official newspapers. We also note that many of these parties do not abide by the Parties Law No. 36 of 2015 through:

<sup>4</sup>Director General Statement of the Department of Parties and Political Organizations (“Fifty influential parties submitted their final accounts for the year 2018 out of (205) parties for whom they issued foundational licenses”)


- 1- A very limited number did not hold its founding conference, which is supposed to be held after ninety days after obtaining the license to ratify its bylaws and elect the democratic leadership body mechanisms that in turn choose the party's general secretary .
- 2- Not to open headquarters for a number of officially registered parties.
- 3- Failure of a large number of parties to submit a financial statement at the end of each year through a legal accounting office that is submitted to the Financial Supervision Bureau, which submits a final report on the party's financial status to the House of Representatives, the Cabinet, and the Party Department.
- 3- A number of parties have not committed to opening their headquarters in the governorates.
- 4- A number of parties are personal, represented only by the founder.



**Despite the women participation in the political process by a year is not less than 25% in the House of Representatives and the Provincial Councils, and the passage of more than 15 years since the democratic process in Iraq and the emergence of a number of women winning the strength of their electoral vote, but the number of parties headed by women are only (4) parties.**

1. We value the role of the Parties Department and Political Organizations in the recent period in following up on parties through direct visits, stressing the need to place the results of those visits on the website of the (IHEC) to ensure the transparency principle.
2. In support of the transparency principle and freedom to circulate information, the (IHEC) should pay attention to its website and provide all information related to the electoral process, including what relates to political parties, to provide a registered parties database and parties whose registration is rejected, and the reasons for this, with a detailed statement of the commission procedures
3. We affirm the Parties Department and Political Affairs the need to follow the commitment extent of the registered political parties to apply the Law on Parties and issue annual reports that clarify it.
4. We emphasize the departments of parties, commitment and strict follow-up to the implementation of Article (47), which prevents parties from establishing military organizations or linking the party to such organizations.
5. The necessity for all partners in the political process to empower women to lead parties.
6. The most we can talk about that (IHEC) taking all appropriate measures to ensure a true representation of minorities.

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Law of Parties No. 36 of 2015 Article 47 / Whoever establishes a military organization within the party or attaches the party to such an organization shall be punished with imprisonment, and the party shall be dissolved if the party's knowledge of the military organization proven is existence .

Al-Noor Universal Foundation (NUF) a non-governmental organization, local, independent, voluntary, moral lyceum in Iraq, founded in Diyala province, June 10, 2003 and works at the national level aimed at building and developing the capabilities of state institutions, civil society institutions, independent bodies and community citizens leaders in the following programs:

- \* Promote rationalize governance Programs. (Building local governments to adopt a policy of rationalize governance)
- \* Anti-corruption programmers (Building popular and political will to confront corruption))
- \* Stability of unstable and liberated areas (safe and sustainable areas)

### **(Noorakib) project**

NUF continues deploying a long term observation mission and its monitoring efforts of the various aspects of the pre-election period processes in the eight targeted provinces (Anbar, Baghdad, Basra, Diyala, Kirkuk, Najaf, Ninawa, and Salahaddin). NUF conducts activities planned over, these activities include:

- \* Strengthen civil society's capacity to effectively contribute to the legal framework reform process.
- \* Long Term Observation: NUF conducts its long term observation efforts through field supervisors, and long term observers
- \* Reform Process Monitoring: NUF tracks the progress or lack of progress on addressing recommendations by the IHEC and other key actors.
- \* Open Election Data Barometer: NUF works on updating the Open Election Data Barometer on the Noorakib website.



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