

Beat: Politics

## Iraq: A Long Journey Towards Recovery

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**USPA NEWS** - The path to recovery and political independence for Iraq is fraught with challenges, requiring resilience and visionary leadership. Internally, Iraq faces deep divisions rooted in sectarianism, political fragmentation, and corruption. These issues demand a collective commitment to national unity and governance that prioritizes the welfare of all Iraqis over factional or personal gains.

Externally, Iraq is entangled in a web of regional and global interests, with powers seeking to influence its policies for their strategic agendas. Balancing these competing pressures requires a bold strategy that emphasizes sovereignty, diplomatic finesse, and the fortification of Iraq's internal structures to withstand external interference.

### A Vision for the Future

The road to recovery and true independence begins with empowering Iraq's citizens. A thriving nation is built by individuals who believe in their ability to shape their country's future. This means investing in education, fostering entrepreneurship, and promoting civic participation. By creating opportunities for every Iraqi to contribute, the nation can harness its rich human and natural resources to build a resilient and self-reliant society.

Building partnerships with other nations based on mutual respect and shared interests is another vital step. Rather than dependency, Iraq should seek collaboration that benefits its people and protects its sovereignty. For instance, after the United States' intervention in 2003, there was potential for Iraq to emerge as a key ally and player in shaping the Middle East's political landscape. However, leadership choices and the empowerment of unqualified individuals led to the erosion of credibility, accountability, and governance, plunging Iraq into today's state of widespread corruption.

To reverse this trajectory, Iraq must take bold steps toward reducing its reliance on a single source of support. For example, the country's heavy dependency on Iran for gas and energy has created vulnerabilities. Diversifying energy sources, enhancing trade relationships, and investing in technological innovation can pave the way for economic independence and greater stability.

### The Role of Leadership

True independence hinges on strong, visionary leadership. Iraq's leaders must prioritize national interests over personal or factional gains, demonstrating accountability, transparency, and a commitment to public welfare. A government that represents all Iraqis and earns their trust is essential for bridging internal divisions and addressing external challenges.

Establishing a unified social contract that protects human rights and promotes equality can serve as the foundation for this transformation. Such a contract must be reinforced by a robust judicial system capable of defending these principles against corruption and abuse. Only then can Iraq move toward rebuilding its social fabric and fostering a sense of shared purpose among its people.

Moreover, leadership must focus on security and stability, both internally and in the region. A new approach to foreign relations—one based on friendly ties with neighboring countries, diversified trade, and technological collaboration—will enable Iraq to position itself as a proactive and respected partner in the global community.

### A Sovereign Future

By addressing these foundational issues, Iraq can move closer to realizing the vision of political independence—a state where decisions are made by Iraqis, for Iraqis. This journey will not be easy, but the reward is profound: a prosperous, self-reliant, and dignified future.

The path is long and demanding, yet it offers the promise of a truly sovereign Iraq—an Iraq capable of standing tall among nations, contributing to global progress as an equal and independent partner.

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