

# DOWNLOAD PDF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, ITS POLITICAL SYSTEM AND POLITICS

## Chapter 1 : What Type Of Government Does The United Arab Emirates Have? - calendrierdelascience.com

*Politics of the United Arab Emirates takes place in a framework of a federal, presidential, and a constitutional monarchy. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a federation of seven constituent monarchies: the Emirates of Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Ras al-Khaimah, Sharjah, and Umm al-Quwain.*

The land comprising the UAE was under the Umayyads: It is thought to be an incense burner. The land of the Emirates has been occupied for thousands of years. Stone tools recovered from Jebel Faya in the emirate of Sharjah reveal a settlement of people from Africa some , years ago and a stone tool used for butchering animals discovered at Jebel Barakah on the Arabian coast suggests an even older habitation from , years ago. This contact persisted and became wide-ranging, probably motivated by the trade in copper from the Hajar Mountains , which commenced around BCE. From BC to the advent of Islam in Eastern Arabia, through three distinctive iron ages Iron age 1, â€” BC; Iron age 2, â€” BC and Iron age 3 â€” BC and the Mleiha period BC onward , the area was variously occupied by Archaemenid and other forces and saw the construction of fortified settlements and extensive husbandry thanks to the development of the falaj irrigation system. Sassanid groups were present on the Batinah coast. Thought to be Nestorian and built in AD, the church appears to have been abandoned peacefully in AD. This led to a group of rulers travelling to Medina , converting to Islam and subsequently driving a successful uprising against the unpopular Sassanids, who dominated the Northern coasts at the time. The Caliph Abu Bakr sent an army from the capital Medina which completed its reconquest of the territory the Ridda Wars with the battle of Dibba in which 10, lives are thought to have been lost. Ottoman and Portuguese era See also: Piracy in the Persian Gulf A map of the area in The harsh desert environment led to the emergence of the "versatile tribesman", nomadic groups who subsisted due to a variety of economic activities, including animal husbandry, agriculture and hunting. The seasonal movements of these groups led to not only frequent clashes between groups but also the establishment of seasonal and semi-seasonal settlements and centres. By the 17th century, the Bani Yas confederation was the dominant force in most of the area now known as Abu Dhabi. The following year, Britain and a number of local rulers signed a treaty to combat piracy along the Persian Gulf coast, giving rise to the term Trucial States , which came to define the status of the coastal emirates. A further treaty was signed in and, in the Perpetual Treaty of Maritime Truce was agreed. In return, the British promised to protect the Trucial Coast from all aggression by sea and to help in case of land attack. However, the British prohibition of the slave trade meant an important source of income was lost to some sheikhs and merchants. Khawr al Udayd was claimed by Abu Dhabi at that time, a claim supported by the British. The First World War had a severe impact on the industry, but it was the economic depression of the late s and early s, coupled with the invention of the cultured pearl , that wiped out the trade. The remnants of the trade eventually faded away shortly after the Second World War , when the newly independent Government of India imposed heavy taxation on pearls imported from the Arab states of the Persian Gulf. The decline of pearling resulted in extreme economic hardship in the Trucial States. Aware of the potential for the development of natural resources such as oil, following finds in Persia from and Mesopotamia from , a British-led oil company, the Iraq Petroleum Company IPC , showed an interest in the region. A number of options between PCL and the trucial rulers were signed, providing useful revenue for communities experiencing poverty following the collapse of the pearl trade. However, the wealth of oil which the rulers could see from the revenues accruing to surrounding countries such as Iran, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia remained elusive. Dubai in ; the area in this photo shows Bur Dubai in the foreground centered on Al-Fahidi Fort ; Deira in middle-right on the other side of the creek; and Al Shindagha left and Al Ras right in the background across the creek again from Deira The British set up a development office that helped in some small developments in the emirates. The seven sheikhs of the emirates then decided to form a council to coordinate matters between them and took over the development office. The council was terminated once the United Arab Emirates was formed. The Trucial Oman Scouts was a small military force used by the

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British to keep the peace. A number of undersea oil surveys were carried out, including one led by the famous marine explorer Jacques Cousteau. In March, it struck oil in the Upper Thamama, a rock formation that would provide many valuable oil finds. This was the first commercial discovery of the Trucial Coast, leading to the first exports of oil in ADMA made further offshore discoveries at Zakum and elsewhere, and other companies made commercial finds such as the Fateh oilfield off Dubai and the Mubarak field off Sharjah shared with Iran. However, on 27 October, the company discovered oil in commercial quantities at the Murban No. As oil revenues increased, the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, undertook a massive construction program, building schools, housing, hospitals and roads. By, it had become clear the British government could no longer afford to administer and protect what is now the United Arab Emirates. British MPs debated the preparedness of the Royal Navy to defend the sheikhdoms. Secretary of State for Defence Denis Healey reported that the British Armed Forces were seriously overstretched and in some respects dangerously under-equipped to defend the sheikhdoms. Days after the announcement, the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, fearing vulnerability, tried to persuade the British to honour the protection treaties by offering to pay the full costs of keeping the British Armed Forces in the Emirates. The British Labour government rejected the offer. An Iranian destroyer group broke formation from an exercise in the lower Gulf, sailing to the Tunb islands. The islands were taken by force, civilians and Arab defenders alike allowed to flee. A British warship stood idle during the course of the invasion. Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia laid claim to swathes of Abu Dhabi. When the British-Trucial Sheikhdoms treaty expired on 1 December, they became fully independent. Ras al-Khaimah joined later, on 10 January UAE forces joined the allies against Iraq after the invasion of Kuwait in The country had already signed a military defense agreement with the U. The first ever national elections were held in the UAE on 16 December A small number of hand-picked voters chose half of the members of the Federal National Council, an advisory body. UAE has largely escaped the Arab Spring, which other countries have had; however, more than Emirati activists were jailed and tortured because they sought reforms. Furthermore, some people have had their nationality revoked. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.

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## Chapter 2 : The Politics of the United Arab Emirates

*The political system is based on the UAE's Constitution. The UAE has its own flag, coat of arms and national anthem. The United Arab Emirates is a*

Before the establishment of the oil economy in the early s, two main orientations shaped traditional Emirati culture: These subcultures were economically, politically, and socially interdependent, creating a common culture and social identity. The UAE shares significant aspects of its culture with neighboring Arab countries and the larger Arab culture. It shares land borders with Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia. The seven emirates vary greatly in size. Abu Dhabi represents 85 percent of the land, and the smallest emirate is Ajman. Each emirate is named after its capital city, and Abu Dhabi City is the permanent capital of the nation. The inland area is mostly desert with a few oases, and the barren Hajar Mountains run through the country. The UAE has a dry climate with very high temperatures and humidity in the summer. Relative to its size and oil wealth, the UAE has a small population, estimated at 2., in Before , the local population was tiny estimated at eighty-six thousand in and lacked most of the technical skills needed for a modern society. The commercial production of oil triggered rapid population growth as a result of an increase in the national population from improvements in diet, health care, and living standards and the importation on a large scale of mostly male foreign laborers. The latter factor has generated a dependence on expatriate labor; the UAE has become a multiethnic society, and Emirati nationals account for only about 20 percent of the population. This has created an imbalanced population composition in favor of males; in , there were 1., males and , females. The remainder are Arabs, Europeans, and Americans. The official language is Arabic. English is the language of commerce. National Day symbolizes one of the most successful experiments in unity in the modern Arab world. The main metaphor is that of the family, with the president referred to as a father. The colors of the national flag—green, red, white, and black—are shared with other Arab countries. Other cultural symbols are the falcon, camel, Arabian horse, pearling boat, coffeepot, and date palm. They are used to invoke a historical community that survived harsh conditions and now enjoys the benefits of unity and prosperity. These emblems appear on banknotes, coins, and stamps. History and Ethnic Relations Emergence of the Nation. Before the seven emirates were collectively known as the Trucial States, a name that originated from maritime agreements between the British and the leading sheikhs of the tribes inhabiting the southern coast between Qatar and Oman in the first half of the nineteenth century. This led to the settlement of different ethnic groups from countries along the trade routes, such as Iran and India. Trade activities with east Africa led to the importation of Africans as laborers in the pearling industry in the late nineteenth century. The African and Iranian ethnic populations have been fully integrated as citizens. Urbanism, Architecture, and the Use of Space Before , the only settlements were small towns and villages. Oil resources have enabled massive modernization. Towns have been transformed from mud-walled communities into commercial capitals integrated in the global economy. Because of the small population and harsh desert interior, 80 percent of the population lives in the coastal capital cities, leading social scientists to describe them as city-states. Urbanization has been characterized by unparalleled growth. Abu Dhabi is one of the most modern cities in the world. UAE cities have been heavily influenced by the global city type. Dominant urban features include skyscrapers in the commercial city centers, multistory residential buildings, large shopping malls, wide boulevards, an extensive network of highways, and sprawling new suburbs. The cities have a multiethnic composition, with segregated housing areas for nationals and the immigrants. Housing is subdivided further according to class, social power, ethnicity, and nationality. To create a balance between their global and local aspects, in municipalities have adopted policies projecting Arab-Islamic architectural design, particularly arched windows, gates, and decorative stucco. Recently, more urban settings have exhibited decorative designs with local themes related to the national heritage. Preservation of the urban heritage also is seen in the renovation of old forts, palaces, souks marketplaces , and mosques. Date palm trees, symbols of the local

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culture, have been planted extensively along city roadsides. Food and Economy Food in Daily Life. Before the s, food consisted mainly of fish, rice, bread, dates, yogurt, homegrown vegetables, and meat from sheep, goats, and camels. The diet has improved in quality and variety, with modern supermarkets offering imported foods. It usually consists of fish, rice, meat, and a vegetable dish. Many Emiratis prefer the traditional style of eating with the right hand. There are strict Muslim taboos against pork and alcohol, and meat must be slaughtered according to the Islamic halal method. Emiratis are known for their hospitality; they feel honored when receiving guests and socializing with friends and relatives. Guests are welcomed with coffee and fresh dates. Incense is passed around so that guests can catch the fragrance in their headwear. With the immigrant population have come restaurants offering a wide variety of ethnic foods, and fast-food restaurants have also become popular. Income is among the highest in the world, but there are large differences between the emirates, with Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Sharjah producing the most oil. The other emirates have benefitted from oil wealth through the federal welfare system and employment in state institutions. With declining oil prices, the government has attempted to diversify the national economy. This has led to the growth of industry, construction, commerce, free trade zones, transportation, tourism, farming, fisheries, and communications. The national currency name is called the Emirian Dirham. Major Industries and Trade. The UAE is the third largest exporter of crude oil and gas in the Gulf. Citizens account for 10 percent of the total labor force. Almost all nationals 99 percent work in the state sector because of the attractive benefits and are employed mainly in nontechnical jobs in education, the army, the police, and the civil service. They also own all Emirati businesses. Immigrants are employed in both the public and private sectors in manual, technical, and professional occupations. Social Stratification Classes and Castes. Emirati society is divided into two social categories: Citizens are subdivided into four main social classes: Among the immigrants there are hierarchical groups that receive different economic and social rewards: In general, nationals are a privileged minority, and benefit from state laws and business regulations. Symbols of Social Stratification. The symbol of a male national as a distinct social category is seen most visibly in the traditional dress of a white robe kandoura and white head cloth ghutra with a black rope aqal. Men grow short beards and mustaches. An old fortress surrounded by modern buildings in Abu Dhabi. After , mud-walled communities transformed into commercial centers. Women wear long dresses with a head cover hijab and black cloak abayah. The UAE has a federal government that is made up of several organs: The Supreme Council has both legislative and executive powers and includes the rulers of the seven emirates. The cabinet consists of ministers drawn mainly from the ruling families of the emirates. Leadership and Political Officials. The fact that the traditional tribal system of government each emirate was based on similar political principles facilitated the establishment of the UAE. Hereditary dynastic family rule still operates in each emirate as a local government system under the umbrella of the federal system. Members of the ruling families occupy the most important positions in their political administrations. While the political system continues to retain some of its traditional values at formal and informal levels, it has been able to keep pace with economic and social change. The sheikhs are highly regarded for performing the dual roles of modernizers and guardians of the cultural heritage. They still have traditional majlis where citizens have access to their leaders. Social Welfare and Change Programs The development of the infrastructure has been impressive. The welfare system offers womb-to-tomb free state services for all nationals, including high-quality health care, education up to the tertiary level, social security, family allowances, subsidized electricity and water, and housing for low-income groups. This is a major way of distributing oil wealth among the national population. The immigrant population also benefits to some extent, particularly in regard to medical care. NonGovernmental Organizations and Other Associations There were Associations of Public Benefit in , serving interests of many groups and identified with heritage preservation, immigrant communities, professional groups, culture, women, religion, sports, and general humanitarian services. Their role is seen as complementary to that of governmental institutions. Modern economic roles and social status reflect both change and continuity for women. Schools and universities are segregated, and levels of enrollment of girls and their performance are impressive. In higher education, female students outnumber

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males two to one. In spite of new employment opportunities, most women opt for marriage and raising children. UAE society places a high value on those roles. Conservative cultural attitudes lead women to seek jobs that do not involve mixing with men or commuting far from home. Subsequently, most women are employed in education, health, and civil service. The Relative Status of Women and Men. Official statements affirm that men and women have equal rights and opportunities to advance themselves and the nation, yet patriarchy as a generalized ideology is still visible in social life.

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## Chapter 3 : Politics of the United Arab Emirates - Wikipedia

*Overview of the Political System of United Arab Emirates* The United Arab Emirates is made up of seven emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al-Qaiwain, Ra's al- Khaimah and Fujairah. The United Arab Emirates gained its independence from the UK on December 2,

Its constitution was established on independence, and was made permanent in The form of government can be referred to as a federal presidential elected monarchy, as the president is elected from among the absolute monarchs who rule each of the seven emirates. The President appoints a Cabinet, or Council of Ministers. There is also a Federal Supreme Council FSC composed of the seven rulers of each of the seven emirates, which meets four times per year. The FSC is the highest constitutional body in the United Arab Emirates, and it establishes general policies and sanctions federal legislation. The FSC also elects the President and Vice President from amongst their number, meeting at five-year intervals to reaffirm the existing President or elect a new one. There is no limit on terms. However, the emirs of Abu Dhabi and Dubai have effective veto power in elections for the role of President. The last presidential election was held in The prime minister and deputy prime minister are appointed by the president. The Federal National Council FNC has 40 seats; the rulers of the seven Emirates appoint 20 members, and 20 are elected to four-year terms. The first elections were held in December , and most recent ones in September In the most recent election, there were , eligible voters. The elections are not based on a party system, but on individual candidates. There are no political parties in the UAE, because political parties are forbidden. In the election, there were candidates including 85 women for 20 seats in the FNC. The next elections will be held in The legal system of the UAE is based on a dual system of Sharia and civil courts. Judges are appointed by the president. Each emirate has its own local government, and municipal governments. The constitution established the distribution of authority for each level of government. For more information, see:

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## Chapter 4 : The Political Feasibility of Policy Options for the UAE's Energy Transition

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The pace of local government reform in each emirate is set primarily by the ruler. Under the provisional constitution of , each emirate reserves considerable powers, including control over mineral rights notably oil and revenues. The constitution of the United Arab Emirates separates powers into executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Additionally, legislative and executive powers are divided into federal and emirate jurisdictions. His eldest son, Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan , is the current president. Under federal authority, responsibilities include foreign affairs, security and defense, nationality and immigration issues, education, public health, currency, postal, telephone and other communications services, air traffic control, licensing of aircraft, labour relations, banking, delimitation of territorial waters and extradition of criminals. Issues excluded from Articles and of the Constitution are to be under the jurisdiction of respective Emirates and are reaffirmed by Article which states that: It consists of 22 members and is also headed by a Prime Minister chosen by the President with consultation. The federal cabinet is the executive authority for the federation. Under the supreme control of the President and supreme council, it manages all internal and foreign affairs of the federation under its constitutional and federal laws. The general secretariat shall be handled by the secretary general of the cabinet [6] The seven Emirates of the United Arab Emirates: Umm Al-Quwain The relative prestige and financial influence of each emirate is reflected in the allocation of positions in the federal government. Since achieving independence in , the UAE has worked to strengthen its federal institutions. Nonetheless, each emirate still retains substantial autonomy, and progress toward greater federal integration has slowed in recent years. Some emirates such as Abu Dhabi may also be divided into two municipalities the Western and Eastern regions and its main cities of Abu Dhabi and Al Ain are also administered by their own municipalities with a municipal council. Often, this forum is held by the emirate rulers as well as senior family members. This open majlis , or consultation, is held periodically; however, a ruler may also appoint an emir, or wali , to whom concerns may be directed by the general population when necessary. This individual is often considered a leading tribal figure whose trust is placed by his tribe as well as the ruler. The other half, who have only advisory tasks and serve two-year terms, are elected by a 6-member electoral college whose members are appointed by the emirates. Members are required to be citizens of the emirate they represent, a minimum twenty-five years of age, and literate. It has the authority to examine and amend any proposed federal legislation but it cannot veto any proposed bills. It can also question any ministers on ministry performance. Political parties are banned. The new reforms provided for each ruler to select an Electoral College for his respective emirate based on population and comprised the following:

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## Chapter 5 : Government and Political System @ calendrierdelascience.com

*Dubai's financial problems could affect the balance of power in the seven-member United Arab Emirates, where any aid to the debt-laden emirate from richer neighbor Abu Dhabi may come only at a*

The United Arab Emirates consists of seven emirates: Though small in size similar to the size of Scotland , the UAE has become an important player in regional and international affairs. The pace at which local government in each emirate evolves from traditional to modern is set primarily by the ruler. Under the provisional constitution of , each emirate reserves considerable powers, including control over mineral rights notably oil and revenues. In this milieu, federal powers have developed slowly. The constitution established the positions of President Chief of State and Vice President, each serving 5-year terms; a Council of Ministers, led by a Prime Minister head of government ; a Supreme Council of Rulers; and a member National Assembly Federal National Council , a consultative body whose members are appointed by the emirate rulers. The relative political and financial influence of each emirate is reflected in the allocation of positions in the federal government. The ruler of Abu Dhabi, whose emirate is the U. The ruler of Dubai, which is the U. Since achieving independence in , the U. Nonetheless, each emirate still retains substantial autonomy, and progress toward greater federal integration has slowed in recent years. A basic concept in the U. There is talk of steps toward democratic government, but nothing concrete has emerged. The rulers hold power on the basis of their dynastic position and their legitimacy in a system of tribal consensus. Rapid modernization, enormous strides in education, and the influx of a large foreign population have changed the face of the society but have not fundamentally altered this traditional political system. In December , the U. Ballots were cast by electors selected by the ruler of each emirate. One woman was elected to the FNC and additional women were appointed to be council members. In September , the U. Again, one woman was elected; an additional six were later appointed. Supreme Council of Rulers The Supreme Council Rulers SCR consists of the rulers of the seven emirates; it elects from among its members a president and a vice president, who serve for a term of five years. The president appoints the prime minister and Council of Ministers. Article of the provisional constitution defines the powers of the SCR as formulation of general policy; legislation on all matters of state; ratification of federal laws and decrees, including those relating to the annual budget and fiscal matters; ratification of international treaties and agreements; and assent to the appointment of the prime minister and Supreme Court of the Union judges. The council may also relieve the prime minister of his post at the recommendation of the president. The rulers make decisions by a simple majority vote, except on substantive issues. Substantive issues require a two-thirds majority five of seven rulers , including the votes of both Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The SCR carries out its work through a secretariat and whatever ad hoc committees it chooses to appoint. The president convenes the SCR and appoints the prime minister, the two deputy prime ministers, the cabinet ministers, and other senior civil and military officials. He has the power to proclaim martial law and to carry out a variety of functions usually associated with the chief executive. Federal National Council Under the provisional constitution, the Federal National Council FNC is the principal legislative authority, but its actual role in the governmental process is limited to consultation. Its forty members are appointed for two-year terms by the respective emirate rulers, in accordance with a constitutionally fixed quota that allots proportionately more members to the wealthiest and most populous emirates. Members of the FNC must be citizens of the emirates they represent, twenty-one years of age or older, and literate. They may not hold any other public office. The FNC meets in regular session for a minimum of six months, beginning in November. The UAE president may call a special session if necessary. The president opens the regular session with a speech on the state of the union. The FNC can reply to the state of the union address in the form of "observations and wishes," but the reply has no legal effect. The FNC can discuss any government bills drafted by the Council of Ministers; it can agree with, amend, or reject such bills, but it cannot veto them. The laws of the UAE are divided into two main categories: A bill drafted by the Council of Ministers for

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nonbinding deliberation by the FNC and then submitted to the president for his assent and the SCR for ratification becomes a union law when promulgated by the president. Decrees are issued jointly by the president and the Council of Ministers between sessions of the SCR; a decree must be confirmed by the SCR to remain valid. On December 1, , President Khalifa announced that at a future unspecified date half the members of the Federal National Council would be elected by a council formed by the emirates; the remaining half would be appointed. Local Government Each of the seven emirates has its own government, which functions in tandem with the federal government. Municipalities administer the main cities, each of which has a municipal council. Local departments carry out various administrative functions. A similar system of municipalities and departments exists in the other emirates. The court structure has three main branches: In civil matters, the lowest courts are the courts of first instance, which hear all claims ranging from commercial matters to maritime disputes. Each emirate has a Federal Appeal Court. The highest court of appeal is the Court of Cassation, also known as the Federal Supreme Court; it is located in Abu Dhabi and consists of five judges appointed by the Supreme Council of Rulers. This court is empowered to adjudicate disputes between courts, determine the constitutionality of local and federal laws, and investigate misconduct by high government officials. Each emirate administers sharia courts, which have jurisdiction over criminal and family law matters between Muslims, including family disputes over divorce, inheritance, child custody, child abuse, and guardianship of minors. The court may, at the federal level, hear appeals of certain criminal cases, e.

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## Chapter 6 : The UAE: Political Issues and Security Dilemmas

*The United Arab Emirates: Power, Politics, and Policymaking charts the various processes of state formation and political and economic development that have enabled the UAE to emerge as a significant regional power and major player in the post Arab Spring reordering of Middle East and North African Politics, as well as the closest partner of.*

The federation faces no immediate threat of invasion, overwhelming debt, organized domestic opposition or economic collapse. The federation claims that Iran illegally occupies Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs, but Tehran has refused to relinquish control over these three islands. Although the UAE is not currently threatened by an invasion or economic collapse, the federation will have to reform its society and develop collective and integrated security arrangements with its allies to maintain its security in the future. The federation covers 83, square kilometers and is bordered on the north by the Persian Gulf and Iran, on the east by Oman, and on the south and west by Saudi Arabia. The UAE also separates Oman from its territory on the Musandam peninsula and extends 90 kilometers along the Gulf of Oman, an area known as the al-Batinah coast. Most of the federation is arid desert and salt flats, but there are mountains in the northeast that rise to 1, meters. Rainfall is very low and there are few fertile areas except in the north and among the oases. Those latter two emirates, however, refused to join the UAE and became independent states when Britain left in Ras al-Khaimah also sought independence, but it lacked the resources and the international support to survive on its own. It joined the federation in Sharjah, too, has oil and gas deposits, but it has focused on light manufacturing and port facilities. The rest of the emirates – Ajman, Fujairah, Ras al-Khaimah and Umm al-Qaiwainare collectively known as the northern emirates – are considerably poorer than the other UAE emirates, and together accounted for only 6. Furthermore, the proportion of the overall population serving in the armed forces is high compared to those of other Arab countries. There are also rivalries among the emirates and within the ruling families. Gulf analysts praise Zayid for keeping the federation together through times of crisis, which have strained the sometimes tenuous ties of the seven emirates. He has also allowed Dubai to have veto power over all federal legislation. The threat from this rivalry, however, may be abating rapidly. Since Dubai has slashed defense spending and integrated its armed forces into the UAE military command. This body, composed of the seven emirate rulers, establishes federal policies and sanctions legislation. Since the council meets four times a year, the UAE cabinet runs the day-to-day affairs of the federation. The president chooses the cabinet and members of the federal judiciary. Events last year, however, have undermined this assumption and suggest that the UAE may be developing a civil society and political elites outside of the Supreme Council of Ministers. The driving force behind these changes are a group of Western-educated technocrats Zayid appointed to the UAE cabinet in March of Among them was Dr. Kharbash and his colleagues are the first generation of Western-trained technocrats to gain power. Kharbash in particular has worked with international financial and educational institutions, such as the World Bank and Harvard University. Al-Habtur is an American-educated petroleum engineer from Dubai who, along with his opponent, actively sought the support of individual delegates before the election. Prior elections to decide the speaker of the Federal National Council were never contested. This council, which reviews and suggests amendments to laws proposed by the Council of Ministers, has 40 members who are appointed by their respective emirates: The newspaper added that the election also showed that the National Council will have a greater influence in the UAE government in the future. Similar institutions have been proposed in the other southern Gulf states and Saudi Arabia. Many of the institutions commonly associated with civil societies, such as an independent middle class, do not exist in the UAE. Clearly the new technocrats – the core of an independent UAE middle class – are only beginning the process of change that may take many decades to unfold. Although Khalifa, too, has been in poor health for many years,18 he has run the day-to-day operations of the Abu Dhabi government for much of the s. They are also Western-educated and are thought to have benefitted from the recent changes in the UAE cabinet. Reports in early that Zayid is suffering from senility

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have intensified the uncertainty over the succession issue in Abu Dhabi. Furthermore, there is no organized opposition to speak of, and Islamic fundamentalism is unlikely to appear. Finally, all of the emirates benefit greatly from the current federation, so it is unlikely that any emirate would contemplate leaving the federation in the near future. The UAE currently enjoys commercial and diplomatic relations with all of the Gulf powers, including Iraq and Iran, and faces no imminent threat of invasion. The only power that might conceivably invade the UAE in the future, Iran, has the resources to carry out only small-scale attacks. It is a small state surrounded by very large states and it has weak military forces. Currently the UAE has territorial disputes with three of its immediate neighbors: Iran, Oman and Qatar; in the past, it has clashed with Saudi Arabia as well. The most serious such conflict, however, is the long-standing dispute with Iran over three Gulf islands: Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs. Iran, and the dispute over Abu Musa and the Tunbs Abu Musa has a population of around people, and is situated at the mouth of the narrows of the Strait of Hormuz. There are few significant resources on the islands apart from red oxide coloring pigment and oil, and only Abu Musa can accommodate large ships. Tehran claims that Britain took the islands from Iran and gave them to the Arabs in the nineteenth century. Moreover, Tehran has other bases in Bandar Abbas, Qishim Island and several other areas near the strait of Hormuz much better situated for attacks on Gulf shipping than either Abu Musa or the Greater or the Lesser Tunbs. This vulnerability in large part explains why the dispute over Abu Musa and the Tunbs has, and likely will remain, largely a war of words. He also promised to subsidize the emirates who had previously governed the islands, Sharjah and Ras al Khaimah. Sharjah accepted, but the ruler of Ras al-Khaimah refused. He died resisting the Iranian troops that were sent to occupy the Tunbs. Ras al-Khaimah and Sharjah advocate tough measures against Iran. Dubai, on the other hand, believes that the conflict is unnecessary, and does not want anything to threaten its profitable trade and close cultural links with Tehran. Other countries, such as the United States, have signed similar documents as well. Between and , Iran and the UAE jointly administered Abu Musa under a Memorandum of Understanding, and shared the revenues from the offshore oil fields equally with few problems. Negotiations since that time have gone nowhere. Iran has now built an airstrip, substantially increased its military presence from to 4, troops , and has opened a university. Few believe that it would be possible for Iran to achieve these goals without meaningful progress on the islands issue. For its part, the UAE remains skeptical. The two states, along with Britain and Oman, fought a brief war over the territory in the s. Zayid built a close rapport with Sultan Qabos, to whom the UAE president has given substantial subsidies as well as political and military assistance. This relationship has helped Zayid resolve two serious border clashes in and Today Oman and the UAE conduct joint military exercises, and their citizens travel between the two countries without visas. Nevertheless, the border is not delineated and is a potential source of future conflict. These two men came to power in a coup in when they ousted the previous emir. In , Abu Dhabi signed a loose defense pact with the United States, which permits Washington to base troops and equipment within federation boundaries. Fujairah, which faces the Indian Ocean and is connected to the Gulf coast by a modern road, would be critical to American operations were the Strait of Hormuz closed off. All three states have made significant reductions in their military forces since the Gulf War, and cannot be counted on to match the deployments they made 7 years ago. This is the same country that struggled to deploy 15, soldiers in Desert Storm. Although the international community convinced the United States to back down from attacking Iraq in February, the UN sanctions are firmly in place because Washington remains vehemently opposed to Baghdad. Put simply, the United States and Iran are much larger and more powerful than the UAE; they will pursue whatever policies they feel are in their interests regardless of what Abu Dhabi thinks or how many advanced weapons it purchases. Nor will the UAE ever be able to achieve parity in numbers or in the quality of its soldiers, with any of its neighbors. The UAE has switched primary suppliers four times since , and maintains weapon systems from a dozen countries. Virtually all offset projects must be completed within seven years. If the obligations are not met by the target dates, the company is penalized 8. The army has three types of tanks alone: None of these tanks is standardized or interoperable in terms of supply or sustainability. Though this problem will subside as Dubai

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cuts its defense spending, it will take years to reverse. While the Russians are offering substantial discounts, the SV lacks an identification and a friend-or-foe system compatible with Western systems. Washington reportedly worries that the SV would increase the likelihood of friendly fire mishaps and has threatened to bar U. The chain of command remains ambiguous and subject to abuse or rivalries. Technical training is poor as well, and the UAE has difficulty finding qualified personnel to maintain its high-tech weapons. New recruits reportedly only receive five weeks of basic training. Still, it is highly dependent on foreign technical assistance, and has a very low ratio of personnel to aircraft. The air force has three missions: The last mission is important because it is the only way the UAE can check Iranian power on its own. They were originally intended for air defense. Nor does the UAE currently have the technology to use in-flight refueling or airborne battlefield management. The UAE also must train its pilots to fly missions deep into enemy airspace and to support allied ground and naval forces, instead of concentrating on intercept missions and air-to-air combat. There are three divisions: The emirates also have their own forces. Reliability is now questionable in light of the refusal on the part of Omanis in the UAE army to attack Oman in Here the paucity of technologically-trained personnel is acute, though offset partnerships with Newport News and with the Netherlands Maritime Consortium should help. Indeed, UAE naval power remains weak, and many experts agree that it will stay that way for a long time. UAE officials also worry about illegal immigrants, most of whom cannot be traced or monitored easily because they lack fixed addresses. It cannot operate its weapons, organize its military forces rationally, cooperate with its allies, or devise realistic missions. While the UAE government annually runs a budget deficit, it does not have external debt.

### Chapter 7 : United Arab Emirates-Government

*The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has said it wishes to transition toward a less carbon-intensive energy system, both as part of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and as one of a number of investments in 'green' research and development, technology and power generation.*

### Chapter 8 : The political system - The Official Portal of the UAE Government

*Government and Political System The United Arab Emirates is a constitutional federation of seven emirates: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Qaiwain, Ras Al Khaimah and Fujairah.*

### Chapter 9 : United Arab Emirates country profile - BBC News

*The United Arab Emirates is the world's 8th largest oil producer with significant reserves. Presently, its oil and gas reserves are estimated to last approximately years at the current rate of consumption.*