

Chapter 7: The Presidency

The Historical Presidency (1 of 3)

- Ideological propositions:
 - Single office, no internal checks.
 - Limited power over constitution.
 - Decreased policy focus.

The Historical Presidency (2 of 3)

The Era of Cabinet Government

- Historical role of cabinet.
- Strong cabinets don't mean strong presidents.
 - Self-interest and reciprocity.
- Cabinet now an unattractive office.

The Historical Presidency (3 of 3)

Parties and Elections

- Patronage and party loyalty.
- Presidents low-profile in past.
- Different criteria for presidents
- Presidential office grabs public attention.

The Modern Presidency (1 of 4)

Modern Presidents as Problem Solvers

- United States as global power.
- Grants-in-aid grow federal roles.
- Even opposing congresses cede discretion.
 - “Take care” clause.

The Modern Presidency (2 of 4)

Divided Party Control of Government

- Divided government.
- Pits president against Congress.
- Once exceedingly rare.
- Now a normal occurrence.

The Modern Presidency (3 of 4)

Divided Party Control of Government: Executive Privilege

- No protection from discredit/impeachment.
- All presidents cite executive privilege.
- Presidents resist legal scrutiny.

The Modern Presidency (4 of 4)

Divided Party Control of Government: Immunity from Prosecution

- Divided congressional investigations common.
- History of impeachments.
- Supreme Court view of charges.
- Unilateral presidential responses.

The President as Commander in Chief and Head of State (1 of 2)

The Commander in Chief

- Commander in chief.
 - Checks and balances.
- President may still bring war.
- War Powers Act.

The President as Commander in Chief and Head of State (2 of 2)

Head of State

- Two-thirds majority for treaties.
- Executive agreement.
- Negotiators leery about prisoner's dilemma.

The President as Chief Executive (1 of 5)

Authority via Delegation

- Congress oversaw executive agency.
 - Granted rights to White House.
- Balance of delegation.
- Passing the buck.

The President as Chief Executive (2 of 5)

Authority via Delegation

- Risks of executive power.
- Role of partisanship.
- Unitary executive.
- Unitary theory.

The President as Chief Executive (3 of 5)

Unilateral Authority

- Formal or informal instruction.
- Executive orders.
- Presidential memorandum.
 - More limited than law.

The President as Chief Executive (4 of 5)

Emergency Powers

- Granting extraordinary powers.
 - 136 active laws.
 - Done in times of crisis.
- Fields include military, agriculture, and trade.

The President as Chief Executive (5 of 5)

Budgeting

- Annual federal government.
- Technical and political background.
- "Opening bid" for negotiations.
 - Receive serious consideration.

The President as Legislator (1 of 3)

- Importance of veto (transaction cost).
- “Courting” congressional allies.
- Same- vs. opposite-party president.
- Threat of unilateral policy.

The President as Legislator (2 of 3)

The Veto

- Most clearly defined.
- Increasingly common.
- Line-item veto.
- Signing statement.

The President as Legislator (3 of 3)

The Veto

- “Take it or leave it.”
- Influence in legislature.
- Blame game.
- Risk of hypocrisy.

Going Public (1 of 2)

- State of the union address.
- Going public.
- Bully pulpit.
- Television and public relations.

Going Public (2 of 2)

- Presidential travel.
- Popularity and public appeal.
- Ways to communicate.
- Modern presidency: high-responsibility and high-stress.

The Institutional Presidency (1 of 4)

- Few staff into the 1930s.
- Detailed staff.
- Brownlow report.
- Rejection of report.

The Institutional Presidency (2 of 4)

- Executive Office of the President (EOP).
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB).
 - Enrolled bills.
 - Central clearance.

The Institutional Presidency (3 of 4)

- National Security Council (NSC).
- White House Office.
- Role of organizations.

The Institutional Presidency (4 of 4)

- President originally managed staff.
- Different management approaches.
- Chief of staff system.
 - President Trump's staffing issues.