

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE POWERS AND IMMUNITIES OF
THE HEADS OF STATES IN MODERN DEMOCRACIES
IN COMPARISON TO THE
EXECUTIVE PRESIDENCY IN SRI LANKA**

by

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Abstract

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This study comprehensively analyses the powers and immunities bestowed upon the Heads of States in the United Kingdom, the United States of America, France, and India, with a comparative perspective on the Executive Presidency in Sri Lanka. By examining these countries' constitutional provisions and political systems, the study aims to explore the extent to which heads of state possess executive power, the mechanisms in place to hold them accountable, and the immunities they enjoy. In the United Kingdom, the study delves into the role of the Monarchy and its constitutional limitations. At the same time, in the United States, it focuses on the extensive executive powers of the President. France's semi-presidential system and the shared responsibilities between the President and the Prime Minister are examined, along with the ceremonial functions of the President in India's parliamentary democracy. Additionally, the study analyses the unique features of the Executive Presidency in Sri Lanka, which consolidates significant powers within a single individual. The study aims to understand each system's distribution of powers and immunities by delving into the legal frameworks, historical developments, and political implications. Furthermore, it evaluates the impact of these powers and immunities on democratic governance, separation of powers, and the rule of law. This comprehensive analysis contributes to comparative politics, constitutional law, and governance studies, providing valuable insights into the powers, immunities, and accountability mechanisms of heads of state in these diverse political contexts. The findings of this research have the potential to inform policy discussions, constitutional reforms, and decision-making processes related to the functioning of heads of state, governance, and accountability in various countries, including Sri Lanka.

KEYWORDS

Executive Presidency; Powers and Immunities; Comparative Governance; Presidential System