

# Government

## Names:

*conventional long form:* Arab Republic of Egypt

*conventional short form:* Egypt

*local long form:* Jumhuriyat Misr al-Arabiyah

*local short form:* none

*former:* United Arab Republic (with Syria)

## Digraph: EG

## Type: republic

## Capital: Cairo

**Administrative divisions:** 26 governorates (muhafazat, singular - muhafazah); Ad Daqahliyah, Al Bahr al Ahmar, Al Buhayrah, Al Fayyum, Al Gharbiyah, Al Iskandariyah, Al Isma'iliyah, Al Jizah, Al Minufiyah, Al Minya, Al Qahirah, Al Qalyubiyah, Al Wadi al Jadid, Ash Sharqiyah, As Suways, Aswan, Asyu't, Bani Suwayf, Bur Sa'id, Dumyat, Janub Sina, Kafr ash Shaykh, Matruh, Qina, Shamal Sina, Suhaj

**Independence:** 28 February 1922 (from UK)

**National holiday:** Anniversary of the Revolution, 23 July (1952)

**Constitution:** 11 September 1971

**Legal system:** based on English common law, Islamic law, and Napoleonic codes; judicial review by Supreme Court and Council of State (oversees validity of administrative decisions); accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

**Suffrage:** 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

## Executive branch:

*chief of state:* President Mohammed Hosni MUBARAK (sworn in as president on 14 October 1981, eight days after the assassination of President SADAT); national referendum held 4 October 1993 validated Mubarak's nomination by the People's Assembly to a third 6-year presidential term

*head of government:* Prime Minister Atef Mohammed Najib SEDKY (since 12 November 1986)

*cabinet:* Cabinet; appointed by the president

## Legislative branch: bicameral

*People's Assembly (Majlis al-Cha'b):* elections last held 29 November 1990 (next to be held NA November 1995); results - NDP 86.3%, NPUG 1.3%, independents 12.4%; seats - (454 total, 444 elected, 10 appointed by the president) NDP 383, NPUG 6, independents 55; note - most opposition parties boycotted; NDP figures include NDP members who ran as independents and other NDP-affiliated independents

*Advisory Council (Majlis al-Shura):* functions only in a consultative role; elections last held 8 June 1989 (next to be held NA June

1995); results - NDP 100%; seats - (258 total, 172 elected, 86 appointed by the president) NDP 172

**Judicial branch:** Supreme Constitutional Court

**Political parties and leaders:** National Democratic Party (NDP), President Mohammed Hosni MUBARAK, leader, is the dominant party; legal opposition parties are; New Wafd Party (NWP), Fu'ad SIRAJ AL-DIN; Socialist Labor Party, Ibrahim SHUKRI; National Progressive Unionist Grouping (NPUG), Khalid MUHYI-AL-DIN; Socialist Liberal Party (SLP), Mustafa Kamal MURAD; Democratic Unionist Party, Mohammed 'Abd-al-Mun'im TURK; Umma Party, Ahmad al-SABAHI; Misr al-Fatah Party (Young Egypt Party), Gamal RABIE; Nasserist Arab Democratic Party, Dia' al-din DAWUD; Democratic Peoples' Party, Anwar AFIFI; The Greens Party, Kamal KIRAH; Social Justice Party, Muhammad 'ABD-AL-'AL

*note:* formation of political parties must be approved by government

**Other political or pressure groups:** despite a constitutional ban against religious-based parties, the technically illegal Muslim Brotherhood constitutes MUBARAK's potentially most significant political opposition; MUBARAK tolerated limited political activity by the Brotherhood for his first two terms, but has moved more aggressively in the past year to block its influence; trade unions and professional associations are officially sanctioned

**Member of:** ABEDA, ACC, AFESD, AL, AMF, CAEU, CCC, ESCWA, FAO, G-19, G-77, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICRM, IDA, IDB, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ISO, ITU, NAM, OAPEC, OIC, OPEC, PCA, UN, UNAMIR, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNOMIL, UNPROFOR, UPU, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO

**Diplomatic representation in US:**

*chief of mission:* Ambassador Ahmed Maher El SAYED

*chancery:* 3521 International Court NW, Washington, DC 20008

*telephone:* [1] (202) 895-5400

*FAX:* [1] (202) 244-4319, 5131

*consulate(s) general:* Chicago, Houston, New York, and San Francisco

**US diplomatic representation:**

*chief of mission:* Ambassador Edward S. WALKER, Jr.

*embassy:* (North Gate) 8, Kamel El-Din Salah Street, Garden City, Cairo

*mailing address:* APO AE 09839-4900

*telephone:* [20] (2) 3557371

*FAX:* [20] (2) 3573200

**Flag:** three equal horizontal bands of red (top), white, and black with the national emblem (a shield superimposed on a golden eagle facing the hoist side above a scroll bearing the name of the country in Arabic) centered in the white band; similar to the flag of Yemen, which has a plain white band; also similar to the flag of Syria that has two green stars and to the flag of Iraq, which has three green stars (plus an Arabic inscription) in a horizontal line centered in the white band

# Defense Forces

**Branches:** Army, Navy, Air Force, Air Defense Command

**Manpower availability:** males age 15-49 16,113,413; males fit for military service 10,455,955; males reach military age (20) annually 648,724 (1995 est.)

**Defense expenditures:** exchange rate conversion - \$3.5 billion, 8.2% of total government budget (FY94/95)