

T H E F U N D F O R P E A C E

FROM FAILED  
STATE TO  
CIVIL WAR:  
THE  
LEBANIZATION  
OF IRAQ  
2003-2006

Iraq as a Failed State  
Report #5



Pauline H. Baker

# FROM FAILED STATE TO CIVIL WAR: THE LEBANIZATION OF IRAQ 2003-2006

Iraq as a Failed State  
Report #5

---

Pauline H. Baker  
The Fund for Peace  
1701 K Street, NW  
Eleventh Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 223-7940 (phone)  
(202) 223-7947 (fax)  
[www.fundforpeace.org](http://www.fundforpeace.org)



FROM FAILED STATE  
TO CIVIL WAR: THE  
LEBANIZATION OF  
IRAQ 2003-2006

---

# Contents

PREFACE	i
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	1
INDICATOR TRENDLINE GRAPHS	5
<i>Graph 1: Iraq Indicator Totals</i>	
<i>Graph 2: Iraq Three-Year Trendline</i>	
<i>Table 1: Iraq: Summary Indicator Ratings</i>	
INDICATOR SUMMARIES	8
CORE 5 OF STATE INSTITUTIONS	20
METHODOLOGICAL NOTE	22

## **Preface**

Although there have been many reports on Iraq, the Fund for Peace (FFP) is contributing to post-conflict Iraq analysis by providing a systematic evaluation of Iraqi progress, using specific metrics for measuring social, economic and political stabilization since the invasion in April 2003. Applying CAST (the Conflict Analysis System Tool), the analytical framework developed by the FFP to assess societies at risk of internal conflict and state collapse, this series of reports evaluates Iraq's progress toward sustainable security – the stage at which the country is largely peaceful and capable of governing itself without external military or administrative oversight.<sup>1</sup>

The methodology employed is detailed in the Methodological Note at the end of this report. Briefly, it is based on independent ratings of twelve top conflict indicators enumerated in the attached charts, five core political institutions, and “stings” or unanticipated events and factors. The purpose of the ratings is to discover patterns and trends over time; a particular rating in one indicator at one point in time is less significant than changes over time. Ratings are reviewed carefully, based on information gleaned from open-source English and Arabic language sources, government reports, studies by diverse organizations and groups that had conducted site visits in Iraq, and various scholars and journalists. Detailed narratives describing the indicator trends are contained in the Appendices of this report.

Although research assistants and other staff at the FFP have contributed to the report, the conclusions are entirely the responsibility of the author, who has conducted years of research into failing states and internal war. She has been ably assisted in these reports by outstanding students who have brought creative skills, thoughtful insights, and critical minds to a topic that is highly complex and controversial. For this report, special thanks go to Tim Newcomb and Suzie Clarke for their research assistance.

Pauline H. Baker  
April 2006

---

<sup>1</sup> For another application of the methodology, see the “Failed States Index” in *Foreign Policy*, July/August 2005 and in the forthcoming May/June 2006 issue. Additional details can be obtained on the Fund for Peace website: [www.fundforpeace.org](http://www.fundforpeace.org), including indicator ratings for 148 states based on 2005 data.

















































