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Actes du 3eme Colloque Scientifique International des
Laboratoires LAReLSo et LaRMA - (FLSL- UYOB)

tenue les 30 et 31 Mars 2026 à Kabala



Thème : Résolution des crises en Afrique et reconstruction
nationale par les sciences et la recherche scientifique à l'ère
de l'Alliance des États du Sahel (AES)



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LAReLSo et LaRMA de l'Université Yambo Ouologuem de Bamako,
sise à Kabala sur le thème : " RESOLUTION DES CRISES EN
AFRIQUE ET RECONSTRUCTION NATIONALE PAR LES
SCIENCES ET LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE A L'ERE DE
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The journal publishes only quality articles that have not been published or submitted for publication in any other journals. Each article is subjected to a double blind reading. The quality and originality of the articles are the only criteria for publication.

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*Actes du 3eme Colloque
Scientifique International des
Laboratoires LAReLSo et
LaRMA de l'Université des
Lettres et Sciences Humaines de
Bamako, sise à Kabala*

*Sur le thème : Résolution des
crises en Afrique et
reconstruction nationale par
les sciences et la recherche
scientifique à l'ère de
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Argumentaire de l'appel à communication du 3eme Colloque Scientifique International des Laboratoires LAReLSo et LaRMA (UYOB-FLSL)

I-CONTEXTE ET JUSTIFICATION

L'Afrique, depuis son accession à la souveraineté politique dans les années soixante, demeure en proie à des crises multidimensionnelles, mêlant insécurité armée, fractures sociales, fragilité étatique, corruption, *Africaphobie*¹ et chocs économiques, qui compromettent durablement ses trajectoires de développement et entravent l'affirmation d'une véritable indépendance sur tous les plans. C'est dans ce contexte que des leaders patriotes et visionnaires, notamment au sein de l'Alliance des États du Sahel, s'attachent à rompre les chaînes de l'impérialisme, du néocolonialisme, du sous-développement et de la dépendance à l'Occident. Cependant, il convient de noter que les premiers leaders africains révolutionnaires tels que Modibo KEITA, Julius NYERERE, Kwame KRUMMAH, Thomas SANKARA, Mohammad GADAFI et d'autres ont vu leurs luttes avortées en mi-chemin car elles n'étaient pas assez adossées à la science et à la recherche scientifique. De même plusieurs crises assaillent l'Afrique de nos jours, surtout sur le plan sécuritaire, mais la réponse semble être toujours soit militaire, soit faire recours à des personnes non universitaires, voire des non experts dans le domaine de la recherche scientifique. Le Mali, le Burkina Faso et le Niger ne font malheureusement pas exception. Pour pallier cette situation, une place de choix devrait être accordée aux sciences et la recherche scientifique d'où l'impérieuse nécessité de l'implication du monde universitaire.

En effet, les sciences, qu'elles soient africaines ou importées, constituent sans nul doute le véritable creuset de connaissances, de savoir-faire et de technicité permettant de poser des diagnostics fins, des outils de prévention et des évaluations d'impact indispensables pour concevoir des politiques publiques ou stratégies adaptées aux spécificités locales sahéliennes et africaines. Les approches scientifiques permettent également de dépasser les réponses purement militaires en intégrant prévention, résilience sociale, relance économique et réconciliation, et en rendant les interventions plus légitimes et efficaces. Pour corroborer ce qui précède, Aristote dans le *Traité d'Organon* écrit : « La connaissance scientifique se définit comme la connaissance des causes, son approche formelle vise à distinguer le démontrable (théorèmes) et l'indémontrable (axiomes), ce qui relève de l'enchaînement causal et ce qui relève des principes premiers. » (Vrin, 1979, p.89). En termes explicites, la recherche scientifique favorise l'appréhension objective et la découverte réelle des causes d'un problème ou d'une problématique tout en évitant de s'agripper à des causes qui ne découlent pas d'une connaissance scientifique véritablement avérée. Il est également saillant de faire remarquer que la recherche est un effort pour trouver quelque chose ou un effort de l'esprit vers la connaissance (Le Grain, M., 1994, p. 945). De même, D. Bruno (1994, p. 85), soulignera que la recherche est un exercice systématique et méthodique portant sur l'étude d'un problème ou d'une question et mettant en cause des faits qui doivent être vérifiables en vue d'atteindre une fin : la résolution d'un problème ou la réponse à une question ou d'une hypothèse préalable, la recherche exige

¹ Terme utilisé par l'écrivain malien Aboubacar Sidiki COULIBALY (2024, p.95) dans son roman socio-historique, *Le monde Africain doit se réveiller*, Bamako : Alqalam, pour signifier le rejet et le dégoût pour tout ce qui est africain ou renvoie à l'Homme africain ou à l'Afrique

ipso facto un travail d'interprétation. La science, quant à elle, renvoie à l'ensemble des connaissances humaines acquises par la spécialisation (études) ou par l'expérience (pratiques). Son fondement est la raison et l'objectivité.

En sus, l'émergence de l'Alliance des États du Sahel (AES) crée un nouvel espoir pour toute l'Afrique et constitue un espace stratégique sous régional requérant des réponses harmonisées mais devraient être fondées sur des savoirs locaux et scientifiques pour ménager la sécurité, la gouvernance et la reconstruction nationale. C'est pour cette raison que COULIBALY (2024, p.94) écrit : « La seule science qui libère l'Homme véritablement quel que soit le degré de l'aliénation est la science de soi-même. » Nous comprenons ainsi la prééminence des connaissances, des valeurs et savoir-faire endogènes dans la résolution des conflits et la reconstruction nationale à l'ère de la reconfiguration de l'Afrique et de la multipolarisation du monde.

Ce troisième colloque international offrira une tribune idéale pour interroger, analyser et préconiser, dans toute leur étendue, les outils pertinents de décolonisation, les mécanismes de résolution des crises et les dynamiques de reconstruction des États africains par la science et la recherche scientifique, dans un contexte marqué par les enjeux du néocolonialisme et de la menace terroriste. Il convient d'ores et déjà d'affirmer que science et recherche scientifique sont indissociables et qu'elles doivent exercer pleinement leur vocation pour résoudre les grandes problématiques de la cité et favoriser son développement.

Comme Objectif, ce colloque scientifique international vise à créer un cadre de rencontres et d'échanges entre chercheurs nationaux et internationaux sur la problématique de la décolonisation véritable, la résolution des crises par la science et la recherche scientifique au Sahel et en Afrique de façon générale. Il ambitionne également de proposer, à partir des résultats scientifiques issus des travaux menés par les chercheurs et enseignants-chercheurs du Sahel, de l'Afrique et, plus largement, de la communauté scientifique internationale, des pistes de solutions endogènes aux défis sécuritaires et de développement qui fragilisent ces régions sur tous les plans. A cet effet, les axes suivants sont retenus pour les propositions de communication :

II-AXES DE COMMUNICATION

- **Axe 1 : Diagnostic scientifique des crises africaines et reconstruction nationale**

Mettre en lumière la capacité des disciplines scientifiques à analyser finement les causes multidimensionnelles des crises (insécurité armée, fragilité étatique, ruptures sociales, *Africaphobie*, chocs économiques), en mobilisant tant les méthodologies quantitatives que qualitatives pour établir un état des lieux rigoureux.

- **Axe 2 : Littérature, Langue et valorisation des valeurs et savoirs endogènes**

Promouvoir les recherches conduites en terre africaine et la redécouverte des savoir-faire traditionnels comme fondements d'une science authentiquement africaine, apte à proposer des solutions adaptées aux réalités culturelles, sociales et environnementales du Sahel et du continent.

- **Axe 3 : Gouvernance, sécurité et développement fondés sur la recherche**
Souligner l'importance d'intégrer systématiquement les résultats scientifiques dans l'élaboration et l'évaluation des politiques publiques, afin de dépasser les réponses purement militaires et d'instaurer des dispositifs de prévention, de résilience civile et de relance économique légitimes et durablement efficaces.
- **Axe 4 – Libre**
Cet axe est libre et prend en compte tous les autres volets connexes.

III-Calendrier

- Lancement de l'appel : **22 Novembre 2025**
- Date limite de soumissions **des abstracts/résumés : 10 Mars 2026**,
- Les Notifications d'acceptation : **15 mars 2025**
- Date de déroulement du 2^{ème} Colloque Scientifique International : **30 et 31 mars 2026 à l'Université Yambo OUOLOGUEM de Bamako-Kabala-Mali.**

IV-Informations générales sur le colloque

- Les propositions de communication (**New Times Roman, police 12,interligne simple**), assorties d'un résumé de **300 mots** et de **5 mots clés** maximum en **français ou en anglais ou en arabe** sont recevables aux adresses électroniques suivantes : Labolarelso010@gmail.com ou larmaulshbmali@gmail.com jusqu'au **10 Mars 2026**.
Date de notification des résumés acceptés : 15 Mars 2026.Le colloque se déroulera du **30 au 31 mars 2026** à la cité universitaire de Kabala – à l'Université Yambo OUOLOGUEM de Bamako.
- Les auteurs y indiqueront les noms et prénoms du ou des contributeurs, l'institution/laboratoire d'attache, le grade ou la qualité, l'axe d'étude choisi, l'adresse électronique et les mots-clés au-dessous du résumé. Les langues d'écriture des communications ou articles sont le français, l'anglais et l'arabe. **Les auteurs des propositions des résumés retenus seront invités à payer 25.000FCFA comme frais de participation par communicant.** Les meilleurs textes après évaluation seront publiés dans un numéro spécial de la *Revue Kuru kan Fuga* ou la *Revue LaRMA*.

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Adapting the American System of Checks and Balances for Constitutional Stability in Mali

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Abstract

This study examines the way the American system of checks and balances can be implemented in the constitution of Mali for decreasing the political crisis of Mali. As the problematic, we have noticed that Mali has never been able to recover from political crises since its independence to now. All the presidents but one has been overthrown. Although Malians divided their government into three branches like America, there is no check and balance among them. Some branches have more power than others. This imbalance creates political crises that usually lead to coup d'états. In a word, the study tries to address the inequality and unfairness between the three branches of the government. The objective of the study is to find a means to solve the political crisis of Mali so that presidents can finish their terms peacefully. As far as the data collection is concerned, the qualitative approach was used to collect the data. We collected the data through close reading of primary and secondary textual sources and archival materials. Social contract theory and force theory are used to analyze and interpret the data. These theories try to describe the duties and rights of the leaders and governed. Concerning the results, the study showed that American government is divided into three branches and all of them have equal powers. No branch has more power than others. No branch can do whatever it wants to do. They check and react to the actions of one another. The study also showed that coup d'état can be avoided in Mali and presidents can finish their terms without facing any coup d'état if we follow the footstep of America as far as politics is concerned.

Key words: executive power, government, judiciary power, legislative power, Politics.

Résumé

Cette étude examine la manière dont le système américain de freins et contrepoids peut être mis en œuvre dans la constitution du Mali afin de réduire la crise politique que traverse le pays. Comme problématique, nous avons constaté que le Mali n'a jamais réussi à se remettre de ses crises politiques depuis l'indépendance jusqu'à aujourd'hui. Tous les présidents, sauf un, ont été renversés. Bien que les Maliens aient divisé leur gouvernement en trois branches comme aux États-Unis, il n'existe aucun mécanisme de freins et contrepoids entre elles. Certaines branches disposent de plus de pouvoir que d'autres. Ce déséquilibre engendre des crises politiques qui conduisent généralement à des coups d'État. En un mot, l'étude cherche à s'attaquer à l'inégalité et à l'injustice entre les trois branches du gouvernement. L'objectif de l'étude est de trouver un moyen de résoudre la crise politique au Mali afin que les présidents puissent terminer leurs mandats paisiblement. En ce qui concerne la collecte des données, une approche qualitative a été utilisée. Les données ont été recueillies par une lecture attentive de sources textuelles primaires et secondaires ainsi que de documents d'archives. La théorie du contrat social et la théorie de la force ont été mobilisées pour analyser et interpréter les données. Ces théories décrivent les devoirs et les droits des dirigeants et des gouvernés. Quant aux résultats, l'étude a montré que le gouvernement américain est divisé en trois branches et que toutes disposent de pouvoirs égaux. Aucune branche n'a plus de pouvoir que les autres. Aucune ne peut agir comme elle l'entend. Elles se

surveillent et réagissent aux actions des autres. L'étude a également montré qu'un coup d'État peut être évité au Mali et que les présidents peuvent terminer leurs mandats sans y être confrontés si l'on suit l'exemple des États-Unis en matière de politique.

Mots-clés : gouvernement, politique, pouvoir exécutif, pouvoir judiciaire, pouvoir législatif.

Introduction

After the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus in 1492, Europeans rushed to take over the land. Great Britain managed to establish thirteen colonies there. The British Parliament imposed taxes on them without allowing them to have a say. In the 1770s, the thirteen colonies united and protested against taxation without representation in the British Parliament. They argued that they could not continue paying taxes to Britain without having representatives in Parliament. They sent several letters to the British king and even sent delegates to Britain to negotiate, but the king refused to receive them. The thirteen colonies finally decided to declare independence and govern themselves. They gained independence on July 4, 1776.

Although the thirteen colonies obtained independence, they did not have a strong document to organize them and allow them to live as a unified nation. The Articles of Confederation guided the nation for eleven years, but they proved too weak. They only concerned cooperation to end British domination, without addressing union. Each state considered itself independent. In May 1787, delegates from twelve colonies gathered in Philadelphia to revise the Articles of Confederation. During the meeting, they changed their approach and drafted a new document called the Constitution of the United States of America (Bencini, 1974, p.14).

While writing the Constitution, the founding fathers debated extensively about the form of government they should adopt. None of them favored the British system, which they believed did not grant sufficient power to the people. They wanted a government that recognized people's rights and treated them as human beings. They rejected a strong government that could deprive citizens of their rights. They decided to establish a government "of the people." America became the first nation to give more power to the people. They divided the government into three branches—executive, legislative, and judicial—each with specific powers. This division was meant to prevent one individual from ruling as a divine monarch. In the words of Yu: "The U.S. system of checks and balances sought to prevent the concentration of power in a single hand by ensuring a balanced coexistence of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches" (2024, p.42).

Although powers are separated among the three branches, this does not mean that each branch can exercise its prerogatives freely. They monitor one another. No branch can act without the consent of the others. If the other branches disagree, the action cannot be carried out, even if it falls within the

prerogatives of that branch. This is why the system is called checks and balances. Each branch can review the actions of the others and determine whether they conform to the Constitution. If not, it can oppose them. They limit one another's powers and prevent actions harmful to the country.

The problem this study addresses is political instability in Mali. Since independence, Mali has never managed to recover from political crises. Apart from Alpha Oumar Konaré, no Malian president has left power peacefully; all have been overthrown. These repeated coups d'État are due to the weakness of the Malian political system. It seems that Malian leaders do not understand politics or the meaning of leadership. A leader should listen to the people and work for them. Most Malians enter politics to serve themselves rather than the people and the country. They are too eager for power.

Malian leaders try to monopolize everything. Once in power, they refuse to leave it, ruling by force and ignoring the people's views in decision-making. For instance, Modibo Keita imprisoned and killed many of his opponents, and Moussa Traoré acted similarly. From my understanding, Modibo was more dictatorial than Moussa, even if some people refuse to acknowledge this fact. Those who call themselves democrats cheat in order to secure a second term. No Malian president has ever organized an election and lost it; they do everything possible to win. For example, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita was very unpopular, yet nobody knows how he won the 2018 election. None of them wants to relinquish power. In the words of Voichuk A. Yu:

“In many Asian and African countries, a presidential-republican form of government has also developed. However, the Afro-Asian model of the presidency is characterized by even greater authoritarianism, often verging on outright totalitarianism. Presidents in most of these countries not only combine the roles of head of state and head of government but also act as leaders of the ruling parties. Moreover, these ruling parties are often either the sole political party or the dominant force in the political landscape of these countries, allowing presidents to appoint their loyalists not only to government positions and local authorities but even to parliaments.” (2025, p.81.)

As far as the objective of this study is concerned, it seeks to implement American political system in the Malian Constitution so as to stop political instability here. The American political system seems to be the best in the world. From its independence till now, there has been no coup d'état there. The founding fathers of America understood very well the power. They were not eager to the power. For instance, there was no limit for the terms of the presidency in America, but the first presidents did only two terms and left the power. In the words of Brannen Jr, “Washington set an example by deciding not to seek a third term of office.” (2005(a), p.67.) But Malian presidents want to govern for life.

The theories used to analyze and interpret the data are social contract and force theories. These theories permit us to know the different forms of government, the link between the governed and

leaders, the way the leaders treat the governed and the way they react to it. The method that we used to collect the data were qualitative approach. We used that approach because we got the data through close reading of primary and secondary resources and archive materials. We conducted the data analysis of the study by using content analysis.

As far as the structure of this study is concerned, we have divided this study into three parts. The first part deals with the powers and limitations of the executive branch. The second part covers the powers and limitations of the legislative branch and the third part concerns the powers and limitations of the judicial branch.

1- The powers of the Executive Branch and its Limitations

The executive branch is led by the president. The term of the president of the U.S.A. is four years and renewable once. A person who wants to run for the presidency of the U.S.A. should be an inhabitant of the U.S.A. for fourteen years. There are two steps for the elections of the president of the USA. The first step is popular vote and the second one is electoral vote. Popular vote is a vote done by the population and electoral vote is a vote done by a group of people called electors. Each state chooses its electors which should be equal to the number of senators and representatives that exist in it.

The popular vote is not as important as the electoral vote. Some people even believe and affirm that U.S. presidents are elected by electors. In the words of Radu: "The President is elected indirectly through the United States Electoral College for a four-year term, with a limit of two terms" (2010, p.245). The popular vote is just a formality. One can lose the popular vote and still become president. The final decision comes from the electoral vote. That is why we can say that it is not the population that elects U.S. presidents. For instance, George W. Bush won the presidential election of 2000 although he did not receive more popular votes. It was the electoral vote that made him president. However, in order to be eligible for the Malian presidency, the candidate must be a Malian citizen and must not hold another nationality. The president should be someone who knows the country very well. Therefore, he should have resided in Mali for fourteen years, as is the case in America. The Malian president is elected directly by the people. This seems to be one of the fundamental causes of Mali's political crisis, because the people may not know the candidates well. It should be a group of intellectuals who elect the president. The founding fathers of America never allowed the people to elect the president. They believed that the people could not choose the right person. According to Brannen Jr.: "Others thought the people were not intelligent or well enough informed to select a good president. Still others thought democracy worked only for local decisions" (2005(a), p.46).

In Malian rural areas, many people do not know anything about voting. They are often manipulated by local politicians, who persuade them to vote for their preferred candidate. They show them the candidate's picture and urge them to vote for him without knowing anything about his program. The villagers do not even know whether the person they are voting for has a good project for the country in general or for their locality in particular.

What is worse is the suffrage of women and young people in Mali. America gained independence and spent more than one hundred years without allowing women to vote. It was only in 1920 that women were granted the right to vote, at a time when America was already politically consolidated. Mali is too young to allow its women to vote. Women should be involved in politics when the foundations of the state are firmly established. The study argues that premature enfranchisement of certain groups may lead to voting based on personal influence rather than policy considerations. The youth's vote also contributes to political crises because many of them vote for money instead of for candidates with sound projects for the country. Therefore, Mali should not allow its 18-year-olds to vote. America granted the right to vote to young men only in the 1970s. To quote Manuel and Cammis:

"Similarly, the Nineteenth Amendment was approved in 1920—after a long struggle for suffrage—granting women the right to vote. In 1971, the Twenty-Sixth Amendment gave eighteen-year-olds the right to vote, in response to youth protests that they were eligible for the draft at eighteen and yet had to wait three years for the right to vote" (1999, p.70.)

The number of the political parties is limited in America. America has 50 states, but there are only two well-known political parties: the Republican and Democratic parties. From the independence to now all the presidents who passed in America are either democrats or republicans. It is very hard to see a third party in the presidential elections of America. While in Mali, there are more than two hundred political parties. The authorities should reduce them into at least three.

Generally, it is wealthy people or celebrities who run for American presidential position because during campaigns the nation does not finance anybody's campaign. It is up to the candidates to finance their own campaigns. They prepare the elections with their own money. But in Mali, the Government gives each candidate an amount of money with which they prepare the elections. We may even say that that is the reason of the creation of hundreds of political parties. Some only just need that money as they know that they can never ever win. The government should let every candidate prepare his campaign with his own money in order to know those who want to run for money and those who want to run for the love of the country. American presidents do not want the money of the nation. They are already rich before becoming the president. They seek to develop the nation instead of trying to satisfy their own needs. But Malian presidents seek to satisfy their own needs first. For instance, when Ibrahim Boubacar Keita became president, he raised his own salary

while in America, the president does not have the power to raise his own salary. It is the Congress which votes the salary of the president. According to Daniel E. Brannen Jr.,

The salary of the president: "Article II, Section 1, says the president must get a salary, which Congress sets, but that Congress may not raise or lower the salary while the president is in office. The same provision prevents the president from getting any compensation other than the salary set before the president entered office" (2005(a), p.132.)

The American president receives 400,000 dollars a year as salary (Andrzejewski and Smith, 2022, p.12), while the president of Mali receives 6,152,162 CFA francs as salary and 150,000,000 CFA francs as special funds (Bamada.net, 2021). In one year, the president of Mali earns more money than the president of the United States, although America is wealthier than Mali. This shows that American presidents serve for the well-being of the nation and not for money. Some American presidents did not even touch their salaries; they donated them. Among them is the current president Donald Trump. In the words of Adam Andrzejewski and Thomas W. Smith: "President Donald Trump famously ran on a promise to donate all of his salary, a promise he seemed to keep through quarterly donations to various federal agencies" (2022, p.12).

Malian presidents do not want to give up power because of the huge amount of money they receive as salary and bonuses. They believe that they cannot make money as they wish if they are no longer president. For instance, Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta should not have run for a second term in 2018 because he was very unpopular. He promised much to the people, but he did not manage to fulfill most of his commitments. If he had been an American president, he would not have run for a second term.

The American president has many powers, but they are limited by the other branches. For example, the president is the commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States. He is the supreme head of the armed forces. He controls the army, but he can neither declare war nor finance the army as he wishes. It is Congress that can declare war and finance the army. When Congress declares war, the president can use any weapon he deems necessary to win. For instance, during World War II, when Congress declared war, the president ordered the use of the atomic bomb on Japan, the deadliest weapon in the world at that time. The bombardment of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with the atomic bomb caused the death of thousands of Japanese and forced Japan to seek an immediate ceasefire.

The president cannot make America the partner of another country without the agreement of the Senate. He can sign treaties, but they must be approved by the Senate. Without the agreement of two-thirds of the senators, the president cannot sign any treaty with another nation. For example, the senators refused to approve the Treaty of Versailles, although Woodrow Wilson had negotiated it. America was not a member of the League of Nations for years. President George W. Bush tried to

sign a treaty with Vladimir Putin on May 24, 2002, called the Moscow Treaty. It was only in March 2003 that the senators approved it. A president who wants to succeed should treat the members of Congress as co-workers instead of enemies. He should involve them in whatever he intends to do.

The president can veto bills proposed by Congress. When the president does not approve a bill, he has ten days to reject it. He returns it with a letter of objection. If the ten days pass without rejection, the bill automatically becomes law. If Congress considers a bill very important, it can override the president's veto. If two-thirds of both houses insist on making it law, the president cannot stop it. The president does not have the power to block a bill from becoming law. Once two-thirds of the congressmen vote to pass a law, whether the president likes it or not, it becomes law. For instance, in 1995, Congress passed the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act. President Bill Clinton vetoed it, but two-thirds of the congressmen voted to make it law, and it became law.

The president cannot make laws, but he can propose bills to Congress. Congress approves or rejects them depending on what the Constitution stipulates. If two-thirds of both houses vote against them, they cannot become law. Congress often approves many of the president's bills when the nation is in a difficult situation. They put aside political differences and try to solve the problem. For example, during the presidential election of 1933, which coincided with the Great Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt promised to deal with the crisis once elected. He introduced many programs. He was elected because everybody believed he was the solution. Once in office, he proposed several bills to Congress, and Congress approved almost all of them.

The president should often meet the congressmen so as to tell them the state of the union. Each year the president should inform the Congress about how the nation is going on. What he managed to do and what he did not manage to do in the previous year. He did it in the presence of the president of Supreme Court Justices. When there is an emergency, the president can call a special session of the Congress.

The president has several limitations. He can be impeached, tried and convicted and removed from office. Whenever the Congress suspects the president with betrayal, bribery or a high crime, it can impeach, try, convict and remove him from office. It is the House of Representatives which should impeach him; the Senate tried him in the presence of the president of the Supreme Court. If the two-thirds of the members of the Senate find him guilty, he should be removed from office. The American presidents are afraid of the Congress more than anything else. Some prefer to resign instead of being impeached. For instance, the Congress suspected the involvement of President Richard M.

Nixon in a crime. The representatives started the investigation about the case. Before they came to the conclusion and impeached him, he resigned.

In the history of America, it was only two presidents who have been impeached and tried, but neither of them was found guilty. They were Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton. During the reconstruction, the congressmen wanted to give more rights to Blacks but Andrew Johnson vetoed most of them. The congressmen were furious and they planned everything to remove him from office. They believed that the reconstruction would fail if they did not remove him from office. Bill Clinton was impeached in 1998. He was accused of a sexual harassment. The two thirds of the Senate did not vote for their removal from office. Bribery can also cause the impeachment of the president. In the United States, if the president appoints someone because he campaigns for him, he can be impeached because they consider that as bribery. But in Mali, the president always nominates people who struggle for him during his campaign.

Malian Constitution gives more powers to the president. For example, the president is the guardian of the constitution. This gives him the power to change the constitution whenever he wants. The president is the guarantor of international treaties and agreements (Constitution du 22 juillet 2023, art. 43.) The Senate should approve his treaties and agreements with other nations. The president can appoint the prime minister. He does that without the consent of the National assembly. He can also appoint all the ministers without the consent of the National Assembly.

The president is the commander in chief of the armed and security forces. The president has the power to pardon and propose amnesty. He can pardon whoever he wants. The president has the power to dissolve the National assembly. For instance, in 2020 when President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita was arrested by a group of soldiers and forced to resign, he dissolved the government and the national assembly and resigned (International Crisis Group, 2020, p.1). In a real democracy, the president should not have the power to dissolve the parliament. In America, the Congress is independent from the president's control. He can neither dissolve nor give them the orders. For Radu : "The president of the United States has no influence in the formation of the Congress, and may not dissolve it or call special election" (2010, p.244.) It means that the president is powerless to pilot the Congress. No important decision of the Congress comes from the president.

2-The Powers of the Legislative Branch and its Limitations

The legislative branch is called the Congress. It is bicameral. It means that it is made up of two houses. They are the House of Representatives and the Senate. A person who wants to be a representative in the U.S.A. should be a citizen of the U.S.A. for at least seven years first and he

should be an inhabitant of the state that he wants to represent. One person represents thirty thousand people. There are 435 representatives in America. A candidate for senator should be a citizen of the USA for nine years, and he should be an inhabitant of the state that he wants to represent. The representatives are directly elected by people for a two-year term renewable several times. The senators are also directly elected by people for a six-year term renewable several times (Kuru, 2013, p.576.) It is the president of the senate who counts votes in front of all the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives and delivers the result of the election.

The new Constitution of Mali has made the parliament of Mali bicameral. It is made up of two houses. The National assembly and the Senate. In Mali, representatives are elected for a term of five years renewable several times. The term of the senators is also five years renewable several times. The number of years of their terms should be different from the ones of the president. It should not be the say number of years like the president. Here, it means that new president, new representatives. They should live for years, at least 7 years in the area that they want to represent. You cannot represent someone that you do not know. They should know very well the areas that they want to represent.

The primary duty of the Congress is to make laws. The House of Representatives and Senate pass bills, but they cannot be considered as laws without the president's approval. He signs it if he approves it. But if he does not approve it, he returns it and shows his objections. If the Congress insists on it and the two thirds of the two houses vote to approve it, it can be law without the president's consent.

The Congress takes more time to make a bill because it knows that it can be blocked at any moment if it violates the right of even one American citizen. The worry of the founding fathers of America was to give equal rights to all the citizens. Although democracy is the regime of the majority, the rights of the minority should be respected. They wanted to satisfy everybody at the same time. They used to ask the following question: «How can we provide for the effective rule of the majority and still protect the rights of the minority?» (Manuel, Cammisa 1999, p.4.) Even if the majority likes something, if it is against the minority, it cannot become law.

The Congress has the power to supervise the administrations. They can impeach any official for betrayal, bribery, or a high crime. It can remove the person who betrays the United States. The House of Representatives has the power of impeachment. The Senate can try the impeachments. They can try the president and if the two thirds find the president guilty, he can be removed from office. When a president has been tried and found guilty, he leaves office and he is not entrusted any highest position.

The senators must approve the appointments of the president. He cannot appoint anyone without the consent of the senators. Most of the federal officers are appointed by the president. The ambassadors and the judges of the Supreme Court are also appointed by the president with the approval of the senators (Kuru, 2013, p.576.) If the two-thirds of the senators are against the appointment of a person, that appointment should be cancelled. They check the background of people who should be appointed. When checking the background of a person, they focus on his moral and competence and not his political life. If he has a good reputation and his competence permits him to manage the position, the Senators have nothing against it. They can approve it. They want to be sure that the nominees deserve their positions morally and intellectually.

The senators reject the appointment of any person who has dirty histories. Some even withdraw their names from the nomination list if they know that they had bad histories. The senators' rejections of the appointments of the president are not numerous. They reject a nomination only if the person has a bad reputation and his appointment may tarnish the image of the nation. From the independence of the nation till now the senators have rejected the appointment of only 12 persons for the position of the Supreme Court (Brannen Jr., 2005(a), p.17). The president of Mali appoints people in positions without consulting the parliaments. He appoints them focusing on their political affiliations and not their reputations. He nominates people who share the same political party with him and those who help him during the campaign. Many Malians occupy positions that they do not deserve morally and intellectually.

The Congress controls the budget of the nation. The president cannot take any money in the budget without the Congress' approval. It controls the government's annual expenditure. Every year It votes an amount of money for each government department. Whenever the government is in need of money for a project, it submits it to the Congress and the members of the Congress analyse it and vote for or against it. It cannot be financed without their approval.

As mentioned above, the Congress can declare war. But its declaration of war is very seldom. Since the independence of the nation till now, the Congress has declared only five wars. They are the war of 1812 (against the British), the Spanish-American war, Mexican-American war, World War I and World War II. (Brannen Jr., 2005(b), p.329.) America rarely engaged in war because one man cannot decide it. Two third of the Congress should decide it. Even America entered lately World War II because the Congress did not want their involvement in it although the president liked it. They approved it when it started to affect American citizens. People say that America has the isolationist policy because the Congress wants to keep America from any war that does not concern America. Malians should also mind their own businesses instead of being kind to people who do not

acknowledge it. Mali helped some countries to get their independence but they became pure enemies of Mali now. American dream is "America first" and Malian dream should be "Mali first".

3-The powers of the Judicial Branch and its Limitations

The judicial branch is led by the Supreme Court. It is made up of nine justices. The Supreme Court justices are appointed by the president and approved by the senators. Whenever there is a vacation in the Supreme Court, the president appoints someone and the Senate approves it. They serve for life. The judges' appointment for an unlimited term makes them more independent because it permits them not to seek validation from anyone so as to be appointed again or keep their positions. In the words of Alexander Hamilton, a founding father of America, "nothing can contribute so much to [the judiciary's] firmness and independence as permanency in office" (Porta and al, 2003, p.3.)

The president can appoint the judges but he cannot remove them from office. Therefore, the judicial branch is independent from the control of the executive and legislative branches. The executive and judicial branches have little to do about the actions of the judicial branch. The only thing that they can do is the nomination of the judges. Apart from that, they cannot do anything about its functioning. But in Mali, the president is the guarantor of the independence of the judicial power. It means that the existence of the judicial power depends on the president.

In America, The Supreme Court is the guardian and interpreter of the Constitution. It reviews the laws made by the Congress and signed by the president and see if they do not violate the Constitution. The Supreme Court tries to maintain the principles of democracy. It defends the rights of citizens that the Constitution grants them. Whenever the Congress makes a bill and the president signs it into law, the Supreme Court will check if it does not violate civil rights mentioned in the Constitution. If it violates a civil right; the Supreme Court will reject it.

As mentioned above, the Supreme Court is made up of nine members. So that a bill becomes law, five members of the Supreme Court should vote for it. For instance, the Fourteenth Amendment banishes discrimination and grants equal protection of law to all American citizens. If the Congress makes a law which gives more privilege to some individuals and discriminate others. Even if the president signs it, the Supreme Court will reject it because it violates the Fourteenth Amendment.

The Supreme Court mainly defends the rights of the minorities. Blacks managed to survive in America because of the Supreme Court. Many Whites wanted them to leave America or perish. They never wanted to treat Blacks as their equal. Many local leaders advocated separate schools. They wanted Whites to attend their own schools and Blacks to attend their own schools. The Supreme

Court found this a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. It believed that separation is never equal. Therefore, it required mixed schools so as to give the same chance to all Americans in education. Today Blacks and Whites attend the same schools thanks to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court rejects any law which violates the Constitution no matter how many congressmen voted for it and who signed it. In the words of Yu, "The Supreme Court is vested with the function of constitutional review and can declare both laws passed by Congress and presidential acts unconstitutional and thus annul them" (2024, P43.) Its duty is to make everybody respect the Constitution without exception. The president cannot imprison people the way he wants. The federal judiciary should check if the person is guilty or not. When someone is found guilty and he does not agree, he may take the affaire to the US Supreme Court.

If the Supreme Court rejects a law, Congress can modify it so as to make it Constitutional. For instance, in 1972, Congress made a law which banned abortion. The Supreme Court rejected it because the constitution allowed women to do abortion. The Congress reformulated the bill and said that abortion should be forbidden after seven months of pregnancy. The person can do it only if her health requires it. The Supreme Court approved that one and it became law. After seven months of pregnancy whoever does abortion without a health problem, is punished.

Only the Congress can remove a judge from office. The House of Representatives can impeach him; the Senate tries him. If he is found guilty, they will remove him from his office. From the independence till now, only seven judges have been impeached, tried, found guilty and removed from office. In 1803, Judge John Pickering has been impeached and removed from office. He drank too much. In 1862, judge West H. Humphreys has been impeached and removed from office. He supported the confederacy while holding a federal position. They believed that he betrayed the union. (Brannen Jr., 2005(c), 376.)

Conclusion

On the whole, the government of the United States is divided into three branches, and all of them control one another. No branch can do anything without the approval of the others. The length of the terms of the three branches is different. The president is elected for a term of four years, renewable once. Senators are elected for a term of six years, renewable several times. Representatives are elected for a term of two years, renewable several times. The members of the Supreme Court are appointed for life. This makes the American political system stronger because the president cannot manipulate them: he does not appoint them for limited terms, and they remain in office independently of his tenure. They do not try to do anything to please the president because he did not help them to obtain

their positions, and he cannot do anything that would make them lose them. In short, all of them are independent and have the power to limit one another.

The system of checks and balances has stabilized American politics, and if Malians follow this model, they can recover from political crises. No country that applies this system can face persistent political crises. It is very rare to see political instability in a country where the system of checks and balances is applied. Yu said:

“The U.S. experience shows that the system of checks and balances is an important tool for protecting democratic principles and the rule of law. It has not only contributed to the formation of a stable political system in the United States, but has also influenced the models of government in other countries seeking to implement democratic principles” (2025, p.44).

The author means that Americans managed to make their political system stronger because of their system of checks and balances, and it has been copied by many countries because of its role in the political stability of America. It is a system that makes a country truly democratic. It gives the same chance to everybody and makes everyone respect the laws without exception. Nobody is above the law. Even the president can be charged and tried, and if found guilty, he will be removed from office. It equally shares power among the three branches and makes them control one another. No decision of the president can be implemented without being approved by the other branches. The political crisis of Mali is due to inequality in the distribution of power among the three branches and the lack of respect for laws by some individuals who think they are above them. This system would allow Mali to become a truly democratic country because it would ensure respect for the principles of democracy: the separation and equal distribution of powers, respect for civil rights, and the involvement of the people in the management of the country. It would oblige Malian leaders to work honestly, since they could be removed from office if they performed their duties poorly. It prevents them from making unilateral decisions. Their decisions can be examined for approval or rejection by others. A decision examined collectively is more likely to be a sound one.

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