

University of M'sila

Faculty of Law and Political Science

Department of political science

First year, Pub Law and Inter R

Lecture 04

Public Law

Public law is the body of law that governs relationships between individuals (such as citizens) and the government, as well as the structure and operation of the government itself.

A public body, such as national and local governments is required to obey the law. The area of law which governs these organizations is known as ***public law***. It covers how people interact with various organizations, working to ensure people are treated fairly and prevent any abuse of power by a public body. Public law also shapes organizational structure and operation ensuring the various bodies act lawfully. Public bodies extend far beyond government and can include areas such as education, healthcare, immigration, the police and prison services, the justice system, and regulatory bodies.

It is distinguished from private law, which deals with relationships between private individuals or organizations.

• ***Key Areas of Public Law***

1. **Constitutional Law:** Governs the structure, powers, and functions of the government, as well as the fundamental rights of citizens. It typically involves the interpretation and application of the constitution.
2. **Administrative Law:** Regulates the activities of government agencies. This includes rule-making, enforcement of regulations, and adjudication. It ensures that government actions are lawful and that there is accountability in the exercise of government power.
3. **Criminal Law:** Involves the prosecution by the state of individuals or entities who have committed acts deemed harmful to society. Crimes are defined by statutes, and penalties are imposed for various offenses.

• ***Key Principles of Public Law***

- **Legality:** All government actions must have a legal basis and be in accordance with the law.
- **Accountability:** Public authorities are accountable to the public and to the law for their actions.

- **Transparency:** Government processes should be open to public scrutiny to promote trust and prevent abuses of power.
- **Protection of Fundamental Rights:** Public law often serves to protect individual rights against government infringement.
- **Why Public Law Matters?**

Public law is essential for maintaining order, protecting individual rights, and providing a mechanism for resolving disputes between citizens and the state. It ensures that government power is exercised in a fair and legal manner and provides a framework within which the government must operate.

Exercise: Translate the following terms into **Arabic**

	Term	Translation
1	Government	
2	Public Organizations	
3	Citizens	
4	Power	
5	People	
3	Services	
4	Legality	
5	Accountability	
6	Transparency	
7	Protection	
8	Rights	
9	Duties	
10	State	