

## Presidential Powers in Presidential and Semi-presidential (Dual Executive) Systems

	Presidential United States	Semi-Presidential (Dual Executive)	
		France	Russia
<i>Military Role</i>	President is Commander-in-Chief	President is Commander-in-Chief	President is Commander-in-Chief
<i>Foreign Policy Power (Sign Treaties, Appoint Ambassadors)?</i>	Yes, but Senate must approve	Yes, but the P.M. must countersign	Yes - virtually unchecked
<i>Formal "Emergency" Powers?</i>	No, but there is precedent for this (FDR, Civil War)	Yes	Yes
<i>Appointment of Other High-level Government Officials?</i>	Yes, but in most cases Senate must approve	Some	Yes - virtually unchecked
<i>Right to Address Legislature?</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Power to Veto Legislation?</i>	Yes, but can be overridden with super-majority	Can ask parliament to reconsider law; they must	Yes
<i>Power to Grant Pardons?</i>	Yes, unlimited and unchecked	Yes, but the P.M. must countersign	Yes, unlimited and unchecked
<i>Power to Appoint Prime Minister?</i>	N/A	Yes, subject to approval by National Assembly	Yes, subject to approval by Duma; if they do not approve after three attempts, they risk new elections
<i>Power to Appoint Cabinet Members?</i>	Yes (subject to Senate approval), but not truly applicable in the parliamentary sense	Yes; president appoints P.M. and cabinet ministers, subject to National Assembly approval	Yes; president appoints P.M. and cabinet ministers, subject to Duma approval
<i>Power to Dismiss Prime Minister &amp; Cabinet Members?</i>	Yes, but not truly applicable in the parliamentary sense	Yes; president may terminate P.M. and cabinet ministers on advice of P.M.	Yes; president may terminate P.M. and cabinet ministers
<i>President's Relationship with Prime Minister</i>	N/A	If P.M. if from president's party, he or she is president's agent as head of government	P.M. is president's agent as head of government
<i>President's Relationship with Cabinet</i>	Distant	Presides over Council of Ministers	Can preside over
<i>Power to Call Referendum?</i>	No	Yes, on recommendation of government or joint proposal of both assemblies	Yes
<i>Power to Convene Legislature?</i>	In emergencies	Yes, at the request of the government or a majority of deputies	No
<i>Power to Dissolve Legislature?</i>	No (legislature elected for fixed terms)	Yes, under certain conditions	Yes, under certain conditions
<i>Power to Introduce Legislation?</i>	No	Yes, through P.M.	Yes
<i>Right to Issue Presidential Decrees?</i>	Yes; limited	Yes; limited	Yes; virtually unlimited; same standing as law