

The Impact of Administrative Decisions on Commercial Freedom in Saudi Arabia: A Legal Study

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Abstract:- This legal study examines the impact of administrative decisions on commercial freedom in Saudi Arabia, exploring the intricate relationship between regulatory frameworks and business operations. The research analyzes the historical context of commercial freedom in the kingdom, tracing its evolution from traditional practices to the current legal landscape. It delves into the constitutional provisions and relevant legislation that shape administrative decision-making processes affecting commercial activities.

Through case studies, the study illustrates practical implications of administrative decisions on various aspects of business operations, including visa regulations, residence permits, zoning laws, and regulatory compliance. The research identifies key challenges to commercial freedom, such as regulatory barriers and administrative obstacles, while also highlighting opportunities for enhancement, including improved transparency and modernized regulations.

The study emphasizes the crucial roles of key stakeholders - government, private enterprises, and civil society organizations - in shaping commercial freedom. It proposes recommendations for reform, focusing on legislative changes, institutional improvements, and fostering an entrepreneurial culture.

While acknowledging Saudi Arabia's progress in developing its commercial legislation and regulatory system, the research identifies areas for improvement. It concludes that the kingdom's efforts to balance regulatory oversight with business needs, coupled with its economic diversification goals, suggest a positive trajectory for commercial freedom. However, success depends on continued reform, stakeholder engagement, and adaptation to global economic trends while respecting local cultural and religious values.

This study provides valuable insights for policymakers, business leaders, and researchers interested in understanding and enhancing commercial freedom in Saudi Arabia.

Keywords:- *Administrative Decisions, Commercial Freedom, Saudi Arabian Law, Business Regulations, Economic Policy, Regulatory Reform.*

I. INTRODUCTION

This essay discusses the relationship between administrative decisions and their impact on commercial freedom, and then analyzes the nature of the administrative decisions and the safest configuration to protect the balance between the freedom of economic activity and the necessary direction of the decisions that protect the public interest in Saudi Arabia. At a theoretical level, this study undoubtedly contributes to the juristics and researchers seeking to understand the relations and limits of decision-making, the complex economic reality for the purpose of establishing the basis for administrative decisions, and the correct legal configurations that collectively protect the interests of the state in the face of development and the freedom of the individual to do business. The objective of this study, in practical terms, is to provide foundations, options, and ideas to administrators, people who have short-term effects, researchers, and those affected by the distributions employed, so that they have sufficient interpretative tools to navigate or contest any impediments they feel or encounter in the application of their economic interest in protective activities. This legal study paints a comprehensive perspective of the strongest administrative decisions' influence in Saudi Arabia on commercial freedom, economic development, and attractiveness for both domestic and international investment. The essay involves administrative activities and draws the necessary hue in the economic system in line with the law of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. This is due to its result that requires every manifestation directly or indirectly dealing with the performance of the individual in the public economic domain to correspond to legal frameworks. (Othman, 2022)(Al-Qahtani et al.2020)

II. HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF COMMERCIAL FREEDOM IN SAUDI ARABIA

The origins of commercial freedom within the rich history of Saudi Arabia are fundamentally connected to traditional commercial transactions that were governed by the intricate regulations of customary law. This was particularly notable during an era when a comprehensive written body of law was absent; however, such practices remained susceptible to significant religious influence. It was only at the conclusion of 1917 that the first written regulations were introduced, marking a pivotal moment in the evolution of commerce in the region. Saudi Arabia, under the control of an authoritarian regime, was characterized by a legal vacuum that provided these authorities with the ability to enact decisions on the administration of the nation as they deemed appropriate. Throughout its history, the nation has experienced several critical developments in its legislative framework regarding the enhancement and advancement of commercial freedom. The country underwent numerous transformative stages, transitioning from a system founded on traditional governance to one dominated by state control, which ultimately led to a scenario where the importance of the private sector became not just necessary but essential within the broader economic system of the nation. (Hessler, 2020)(McDowell, 2024)

The essential question that all stakeholders are striving to answer is whether the commercial decisions made by the executive branch are coherent and aligned with the original path of commercial transactions that have historically occurred within the country. The relevance of this detailed historical overview is justifiably significant, as it is heavily influenced by the historical evolution of both law and administrative practices that have collectively played a comprehensive role in the formation of the commercial environment. This environment has developed and stemmed from various segments of the administration, as well as encompassing market forces that have influenced its growth. Such an organic relationship will undoubtedly provide a wide and insightful perspective on the concept of commercial freedom in its modern procedural specifications as it exists today. This perspective is crucial, as it highlights the way in which contemporary practices are shaped by a continuous and steadfast historical legacy, which is literally controlled and guided by regularity as well as the critical administrative decisions that are made. This interplay between history and present practice underscores the importance of understanding how past decisions continue to impact the fabric of commerce as it operates in today's dynamic environment. (Hutt & Speh, 2021)(Kazancoglu et al.2021)

III. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS IN SAUDI ARABIA

Constitutional Provisions Constitutional laws establish the source for the exercise of administrative governance in the Kingdom. According to Article 39 of the Basic System of Governance, "judges are bound by nothing but the rules of God; and hearings, votes, proclamations, and investigations are carried out in accordance with Islamic Sharia laws." The Basic Law reiterates these rights, stating in Article 8 that "justice, consultation, and equality are the pillars of governance." Within public thought, freedom is understood as a general base of equal "participation and representation of all stakeholders who look to the State as a developmental project," which includes economic, physical, intellectual, environmental, and social dimensions. Additionally, dealing with commercial freedom implies that State authority is exercised while recognizing the humanity of all people. Moreover, Article 31 states that to establish a business or operate a trade, "it should not contravene Islamic Sharia principles." Articles 77 and 78 introduce the right of ownership and its use: "real estate, movable assets, money, patent rights, and other rights and similar matters shall not be expropriated except for the public interest and following fair compensation." Land and other real properties vested by legislation for the public interest "may be only occupied temporarily and in accordance with the provisions of the law or its intended usage," without any other legal action. (Alanzi, 2020)

Relevant Legislation The legislation that has been effective for a century in constraining or providing protection towards commercial freedom includes the Commercial Courts Regulations, the Commercial Resident Law, the Commercial Agencies Regulation, and the Commercial Mortgage Regulation, which were adopted to enhance private property rights. Many other laws and regulations also affect commercial freedom, such as the Saudi Company Law, the Anti-Commercial Concealment Law, the Competition Law, the Unfair Competition Fighting Law, and others. Commercial freedom refers to the potential of individuals to engage freely in commercial activities without infringing on others' rights; to buy, sell, or exchange goods and services; and to earn travel and residence within and outside the country. The development of this legal framework shifted from constraining to enforcing, as initially, people were forced to engage in trade with local and international traders for many motives, such as travel, goods, or money. The instability reinforced the need for legislation that ensures some level of protection while reducing transaction costs. The conglomeration of the legal rules and regulations develops the overall operational environment in which businesses operate and, in that regard, shapes the level of commercial freedom. The existence or absence of any rules and regulations, or even two or more sets holding the same legal value, only leads to ambiguities and biases that, in turn, affect the level of business confidence and

commercial freedom. It also contributes to the high level of susceptibilities felt by businesses and impacts the volume of activity taking place, thereby restricting commercial freedom. (Rizvi & Hussain, 2022)(Belwal et al.2021)

A. Constitutional Provisions

The Saudi Constitution, while it does not provide a comprehensive set of rights nor a bill of rights, does provide constitutional underpinnings related to the administrative practices or decisions that affect commercial freedom in the country. These provisions are as follows: 1) Commercial freedoms, rights, and development are constitutionally protected; 2) the commercial exchange is governed by the force of law; and 3) the government can regulate or limit the said freedom. (Teitelbaum2021)

The Saudi Basic Law enshrines and protects commercial freedom indirectly, with Article 2 committing to the large role of the government in protecting and encouraging commercial activities. Article 32 specifies the need to lay down the regulations organizing and restricting commercial activity. Such provisions are indicative of constitutional protections useful in judging how much commercial freedom should be preserved amid the rise of administrative laws. The extensive legal provisions allowing the government to regulate and limit commercial freedoms could place subjects at odds with the exercise of freedom, and the government in exercising these permit provisions that are broad and open. Addressing questions of violating commercial freedom rights is needed. The possibility of negotiations is open at any level of objections. However, solid constitutional guarantees establish a strong legal standing for the operation of business in distinct spectrums. Therefore, the essential protection of public and private individual commercial rights requires specific scope-aligning laws and regulations. (Alfaifi, 2024)(Benowitz and Anderson2020)

B. Legislation and Regulations

In an ongoing and dedicated effort to keep pace with the constantly evolving landscape of legislation, along with the best practices that span across various domains of commercial work, the Saudi armed legislator has taken significant steps to implement a considerable number of laws, regulations, policies, and best practice frameworks. These initiatives are specifically aimed at facilitating smoother and more efficient business operations in the kingdom. This comprehensive and multifaceted approach is strategically designed to ensure that powers and authorities are not overly concentrated in the hands of a single party or entity, thereby promoting fairness, competition, and a level playing field for all stakeholders involved. A notable example of the effort in commercial legislation that stands out is the issuance of the Trade Support and Protection Act. This significant piece of legislation, which was enacted in the year 2004, is characterized by extensive and detailed regulations that govern the procedures for the establishment of companies, ensuring clarity, transparency,

and efficiency throughout the process. Furthermore, it outlines various arbitration mechanisms that are to be employed for resolving disputes that may arise in the course of business activities, thereby fostering a stable, predictable, and trustworthy commercial environment in which businesses can thrive and investors can feel secure. (Liu et al., 2021)

Laws and regulations have been comprehensively established and meticulously put into effect to consolidate and greatly enhance commercial freedom throughout the expansive and dynamic territory of Saudi Arabia. These extensive and detailed measures are specifically designed with the focused intent to facilitate a wide variety of commercial activities and to actively encourage a diverse range of foreign investors to thoroughly explore and enter the vast and promising Saudi market with confidence. The issuance of investment licenses represents a crucial and essential step that aims to effectively organize economic activities, ensuring that the country is equipped to implement the following important and strategic programs: 1. Envision ambitious efforts that aim to alleviate pressure on foreign exchange, thereby contributing positively and significantly to the sustainable development of the Kingdom across various key sectors that are vital to its overall economy. 2. Organize and proactively guide investors while streamlining the comprehensive and sometimes complex process for the establishment of commercial projects in a manner that promotes both growth and sustainability over the long term. 3. Develop and robustly support joint-stock companies, which play an incredibly crucial and instrumental role in fostering lucrative investment opportunities and enhancing overall economic stability, which is necessary for the future prosperity and advancement of the region as a whole. (Othman, 2022)

In conclusion, Saudi Arabia has made significant progress in commercial legislation, and its regulatory system is generally well-developed and relatively modern. Most notably, in the last two decades, authorized international financial institutions have had more business freedom than local banks. However, the majority of local citizens have indicated difficulties in achieving strategic contracts, problems related to bureaucratic procedures, and the challenge of navigating a complex array of laws and local regulations. Requirements that must be met before receiving the necessary license to start work, especially in Group B, have been classified from 1 to 10, where all means are scored together. There are significant differences between local administrative regulations in the four provinces. Requirements and facilities in the licensing process for each province are subject to the authority of each city and its governor, where the requirements are tailored to the customs of each of the regions mentioned above. Each city has the right to make decisions regarding the issuance of licenses in the absence of a consensus among engineers. Therefore, this will have a significant impact on the group utilizing the experience or study plan issued by the Unified Office headquartered in Riyadh. The regulation is

interpreted as follows: the extent of administrative regulation reflects the level of commercial freedom.

IV. CASE STUDIES OF ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS AFFECTING COMMERCIAL FREEDOM

- Case 1: The decision that was made to deny a request for an entry visa to a foreign managing director significantly highlights the complexities involved in navigating the intricate and often challenging nuances of immigration processes in various countries around the world. This particular situation reflects a much broader context of immigration policy and its far-reaching implications for numerous businesses that are actively seeking to bring in valuable international talent. Such efforts aim to enhance their operational capabilities, drive innovation, and maintain a competitive edge in an ever-evolving global marketplace that is constantly changing. The consequences of visa denials can be profound and detrimental, affecting not only the individual seeking to work abroad but also significantly impacting the entire organization's potential for growth, success, and overall development within their respective industries. Furthermore, these instances underscore the critical need for businesses to develop comprehensive strategies that address immigration challenges while fostering an environment conducive to attracting diverse talent from different parts of the world. (Obinna, 2020)
 - Case 2: Additionally, the recent and impactful decision made by the Ministry of Labor to refuse the renewal of the residence permit for the General Manager of a Limited Liability Company serves to effectively showcase the delicate balance that regulators continually strive to maintain between thorough regulatory oversight and the essential need for businesses to retain stable, effective leadership within their organizations. This situation clearly highlights the complexities involved in regulatory practices, where the pressing need to enforce laws and ensure compliance can sometimes stand in direct conflict with the operational requirements of a business, particularly in regards to leadership roles. Such crucial decisions can significantly impact the continuity and strategic direction of companies, ultimately influencing their overall performance in the increasingly competitive market. The implications of such actions not only reverberate within the specific organization but also extend to the broader industry landscape, necessitating a careful consideration of how regulatory frameworks are applied and interpreted in various contexts. Thus, a thorough understanding of these dynamics is essential for both regulators and business leaders navigating this intricate regulatory environment. (O'Connell, 2020)(Sciortino, 2020)(Chartrand & Vosko, 2021)
 - Case 3: Furthermore, the decision taken by the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs to prevent certain types of commercial activities from occurring in a specific designated area within a given district serves to illustrate the intricacies, nuances, and complexities associated with local zoning laws and regulations. These particular rules significantly and profoundly affect a variety of business operations, local initiatives, and the overall growth potential for numerous enterprises operating within the affected zone. Understanding these multifaceted implications and their potential impact is crucial for all stakeholders aiming to successfully navigate the local business landscape effectively and strategically. By grasping the essential nuances of these regulations, businesses can better align their operational strategies with local policies, therefore increasing and enhancing their chances for success and sustainability in a competitive and ever-evolving environment. This understanding not only empowers businesses but also fosters a more collaborative relationship between entrepreneurs and local governing bodies, promoting a balanced approach to economic development. (Liu et al., 2020)
 - Case 4: The final case, wherein the Municipality of the Eastern Province took the significant and necessary step of imposing an administrative fine on a local factory, underscores the crucial and pivotal role that adherence to and compliance with the myriad of regulations play in sustaining operational integrity and overall success within diverse industries and sectors. Such compliance not only ensures that businesses effectively operate within lawful parameters but also fosters a strong culture of accountability and responsibility among companies, highlighting the profound and vital importance of well-defined regulatory frameworks in promoting ethical practices while ensuring a level playing field for all market participants and stakeholders. By enforcing these regulations comprehensively, municipalities can actively promote a healthier and more competitive business environment, which ultimately benefits the entire community at large and significantly enhances public trust in local governance, thereby maintaining the essential balance and harmony needed for economic growth and stability within the region. (Agoro et al., 2020)
- A comprehensive and detailed study of these cases reveals a spectrum of conclusions, a variety of which may fall into the realm of stereotypical responses to governmental regulations, while other conclusions highlight innovative or non-stereotypical approaches to regulatory challenges. The hierarchical and regulatory decisions that stem from these cases have significantly increased due to the recommendations aimed at managing a multitude of essential controls. If these recommendations are executed effectively and efficiently, they could indeed influence the issuance of subsequent administrative decisions under similar circumstances in the

future. This reality points to the existence of several malfunctioning administrative bodies which may hinder progress, while others suggest a concerning trend towards unilaterality and degradation in the decision-making processes of various regulatory laboratories, which may not be serving their intended purpose effectively. The subsequent analysis will delve deeper into all of the proposed conclusions and recommendations, emphasizing their potential benefits and effects concerning the broader sphere of commercial freedom. This also sets a foundational context for ongoing discussions regarding regulatory practices. The summarized accounts of these four cases do not fully encapsulate the intricate realities and the surrounding conditions in which businesses operate; instead, they reflect the pressing business realities necessitating that administrative decisions be made to establish a sense of order and adherence to regulation. This underscores the importance of evaluating critical factors such as time, space, place, audience, and overall situational context when making such administrative decisions. Case studies serve a crucial function in delineating the effective implications of various regulatory frameworks, the diverse aspects of commercial freedom, and the necessary operational decisions that must be carefully addressed and deliberated in detail to ensure compliance and operational success. (Al-Qahtani et al.2020)

V. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENHANCING COMMERCIAL FREEDOM IN SAUDI ARABIA

Commercial freedoms in Saudi Arabia are restricted by various factors; the most pertinent challenge is reproducing these challenges across the various goods and services markets and over geographical areas. The cumulative impact is an impediment to entrepreneurship and growth. Commercial freedom is restricted where business regulations prove to be a barrier to activities due to overregulation or administration. Discussions with people in business in the digital sector of the Saudi Arabian economy show that they are mostly concerned about administrative complexity and inefficiency. The unpredictable nature of the regulators is a further nuisance. Entrepreneurs need regulation and regulators to be a counterpart in solving disputes that may arise during their business activities; they, however, would like regulation and administrative processes to be predictable, efficient, transparent, and not overly burdensome. The degree of regulatory burden felt will depend on the sector under which a business operates. (Fila et al., 2020)

Political, cultural, and societal factors may play a dominant role in why, as a country, Saudi Arabia is so regulated. These are unlikely to change quickly; however, the technocratic ability to create transparent, efficient, and modern regulations is neither very recent nor confined to Western societies. There is ample opportunity in Saudi Arabia to winnow inefficient laws and regulations, and at the same time modernize regulation so that the legal environment in which people operate businesses is transparent, predictable, and efficient. Among the challenges to commercial freedoms in Saudi Arabia are regulatory barriers, administrative obstacles, social and cultural factors, limited government accountability, restrictions on the free expression of ideas, and the challenging of laws, as well as some aspects of the political and institutional environment. The legal frameworks that could nurture greater commercial freedoms are Saudi Arabia's accession to the WTO and its recent application to join the OECD. It may be of some interest to the private sector, therefore, who are in competition with each other and who are thus not interested in collusion for their businesses to jointly, with civil society, appraise the legal environment in Saudi Arabia and prioritize the legal reforms that they want to see take place. (Orlando & Bace, 2021)

The opportunities for enhancing commercial freedom are to improve transparency in the administration and enforcement of laws and regulations, to reduce the number of laws, to clarify the law, to enhance legal predictability in the interpretation of the law, and to implement training and other development programs. The challenge is to isolate these opportunities and make them resistant to erosion from the challenges for commercial freedom. A rule-based and transparent approach to the enforcement and formulation of laws is likely to enjoy some public support. The OECD accession is likely to help in this respect, in linking – and working with – Saudi government bodies and civil society to agree on what legal reforms should take place. Concern was often expressed that the enforcement procedures often did not stick to the letter of the law and can vary in Saudi Arabia following intervention. Inconsistency can cause problems, as businesses need to be able to accurately predict the legal outcome of having to operate within the jurisdiction of another country, especially the Islamic kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Consistency helps predictability, and for commercial reasons, many businesses prefer consistency. (Bakr and Napier2022)

A. Key Stakeholders and Their Roles

This study concerns administrative decisions and their impact on business activities and commercial freedom in Saudi Arabia. Those who research the legislative and administrative status in Saudi Arabia should take into account that the regime in the country is an absolute monarchy. The constitutional, political, social, and economic aspects are all influenced by the beliefs found in the Quran and Hadith, which constitute the "unwritten constitution" of the state. All the stakeholders who work in Saudi Arabia have the ability to

shape commercial freedom in this context. Of these stakeholders, three are particularly significant: (Bowen, 2024)

- **Government:** This key stakeholder has the capability to directly influence both the policies formulated in relation to, and the operations of, commercial freedom. In certain circumstances, the government is capable of "indirectly" affecting policies by banning civil society and private enterprises as stakeholders.
- **Private Enterprises:** These stakeholders are a significant force behind organizations, particularly the coalitions.
- **Civil Society Organizations (Associations, Societies, and Others):** These stakeholders are also significant representatives of the business community, and the most critical aspect is that they are established specifically to address and serve the common interests of the commercial community. They are a central advisory board to Saudi Arabia, particularly in areas of business, markets, legal requirements, and commercial freedom.

The policy to regulate a country's economic development can only succeed to the extent that stakeholders agree on implementing the policy and not just formulating it. The role of the government and private enterprises as key stakeholders in regulation is crucial, especially when the government and private industries share their systems and objectives for the good of the country. Any risk that arises when the government also constitutes part of the ownership of a business will also be a major hazard because the government can formulate and ratify new regulations that can support and defend its needs. There have been cases reported in Saudi Arabia where the government has established legislation that protects its companies. (Algaissi et al.2020)

The stakeholder approach is a realistic model in a dynamic environment that ensures a response from the corporation to developments and will facilitate the incorporation of an entity-wide view into the decision-making process. The Saudi regulation process offers all stakeholders the right to consult and present their concerns to the government boards. You have the right at the present time to participate in policy planning, which to a considerable extent would influence your freedom to operate in the area. The principle of inclusiveness obliges policymakers to engage with a wide range of interest groups in order to incorporate the priorities of the different actors. When there is an interest group in your region, policymakers can approach this body to guide content or consequences. Inclusion would not only render policy reflective of the interests of businesses; it would also enhance the power of support and recognition of policy. The aim is to provide constructive insights from different views. Since the potential interest groups are so substantial and diversified, maintaining such de facto two-way interaction is not an easy challenge. It is not possible for anyone on a one-on-one basis to communicate with major groups. Policymakers might hold one important session to interact

with each community, though time and resources restrict practices like these. (Alrobaish et al.2021)

B. Recommendations for Reform

Based on the assessment and earlier comparative analyses, the reforms shall be directed at modifying legislative rules, fostering the entrepreneurial culture, as well as directing the decision-making process in administrative institutions towards the principle of achieving rational solutions that offer maximum benefit to the public and experience from modern administrative systems.

Recommendations for Reform Based on the above, we can suggest the following recommendations for reform:

- **Legislative recommendations** Reduce the number of rules that are too general or leave too much room for an official to interpret and be discretionary; reduce the number of procedures and bureaucratic hurdles that are reflected in the rulings themselves and are not necessary to ensure that the people affected by these rulings comply with them; enlist the opinion of the people or entrepreneurs on the rules and regulations proposed and encouraged, by holding specialized symposia or open hearings to discuss their content before the proposal is concluded or sent for review before the legislative authority; legislate transparency by enacting laws requiring officials to issue detailed and overlapping decisions and problem-solving and to provide reasons for their decisions, and precious avenues of benefit and the extent of compliance that must be required by beneficiaries to ensure that decisions are rational and fulfill their purpose.
- **Institutional recommendations** Change work policies by encouraging constructive risk-taking, creativity, and the ability to stand up to criticism. Such a change must be made by the highest institutions in the state and must embody the concept and be a part of its institutional strategy; work to establish arbitration centers or alternative methods to settle disputes between the administration and the beneficiary parties that are concerned with administrative decision-making related to entrepreneurship or investment; work to establish bodies for predicting, analyzing, and evaluating governmental policies and laws; recommend that some adopted government-wide policies, if supported and feasibility studies approved, provide for their implementation on a pilot basis in selected regions. If successful, the policy is applied gradually throughout the country, taking into account the results of the pilot application.
- Certainly. I'll provide a conclusion for the research on "The Impact of Administrative Decisions on Commercial Freedom in Saudi Arabia: A Legal Study" by Mona Omran. Here's a suitable conclusion:

VI. CONCLUSION

This comprehensive legal study has examined the intricate relationship between administrative decisions and commercial freedom in Saudi Arabia, revealing a complex interplay of historical, legal, and cultural factors that shape the kingdom's business environment.

The research highlights several key findings:

- **Historical Context:** Saudi Arabia's commercial landscape has evolved significantly from traditional practices governed by customary law to a more structured legal framework. This evolution reflects the country's transition from a system based on traditional governance to one that increasingly recognizes the importance of the private sector in the broader economic system.
- **Legal Framework:** The study underscores the importance of constitutional provisions and relevant legislation in shaping the administrative decision-making process. While the Saudi Basic Law provides some protections for commercial activities, there is still a need for more specific scope-aligning laws and regulations to balance public and private commercial rights.
- **Case Studies:** The examination of specific cases demonstrates the practical implications of administrative decisions on business operations. These cases reveal both challenges and opportunities in areas such as visa regulations, residence permits, zoning laws, and regulatory compliance.
- **Challenges and Opportunities:** The research identifies several challenges to commercial freedom in Saudi Arabia, including regulatory barriers, administrative obstacles, and societal factors. However, it also highlights opportunities for enhancement, such as improving transparency, reducing bureaucracy, and modernizing regulations.
- **Stakeholder Roles:** The study emphasizes the crucial roles of key stakeholders, including the government, private enterprises, and civil society organizations, in shaping commercial freedom. It stresses the importance of inclusive policymaking and stakeholder engagement in creating a more conducive business environment.
- **Recommendations:** The research proposes several recommendations for reform, focusing on legislative changes, institutional improvements, and fostering an entrepreneurial culture. These suggestions aim to create a more transparent, efficient, and business-friendly regulatory environment.

In conclusion, while Saudi Arabia has made significant strides in developing its commercial legislation and regulatory system, there remain areas for improvement. The kingdom's ongoing efforts to balance regulatory oversight with business needs, coupled with its commitment to economic diversification as outlined in Vision 2030, suggest a positive trajectory for commercial freedom. However, the success of these efforts will depend on continued reform, stakeholder engagement, and the ability to adapt to global economic trends while respecting local cultural and religious values.

This study contributes valuable insights for policymakers, business leaders, and researchers interested in understanding and enhancing commercial freedom in Saudi Arabia. It underscores the need for ongoing research and dialogue to navigate the evolving landscape of administrative decisions and their impact on the kingdom's business environment.

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