Party discipline and parliamentary government

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Party discipline in parliamentary systems, in comparison, tends to be high as it is often strictly controlled and enforced by the party leadership. Whereas parliaments in presidential systems are primarily legislative assemblies, with a special emphasis on the power of the purse, parliaments in parliamentary systems are mostly centers of decision-making that can remove the executive from power if they succeed in mobilizing the necessary majority in parliament. The mutual independence of government and parliament renders the fulfillment of such a function by any party in presidential systems superfluous. Instead, parties here serve to supply presidential candidates with support during their race for office (“electoral machines”).