



Types of Governments

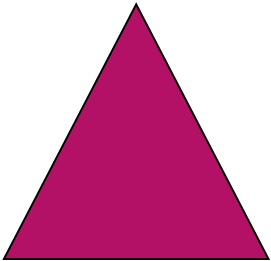
GRADE 7

SOCIAL STUDIES ONLINE PRESENTATION

Distribution of Power

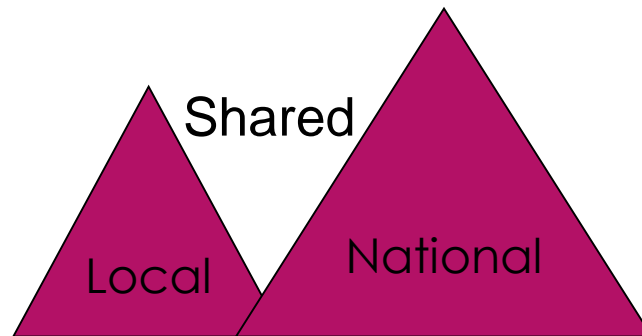
Unitary

One central government



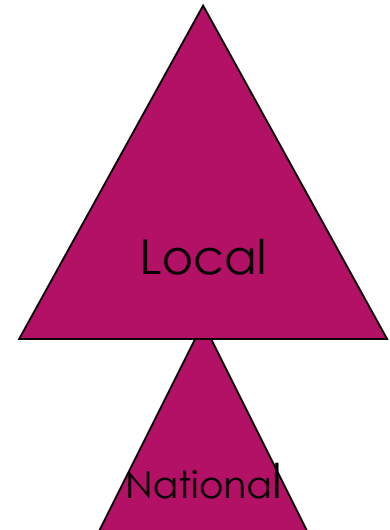
Federal:

Shared power between local and national government



Confederation:

Local governments are in power

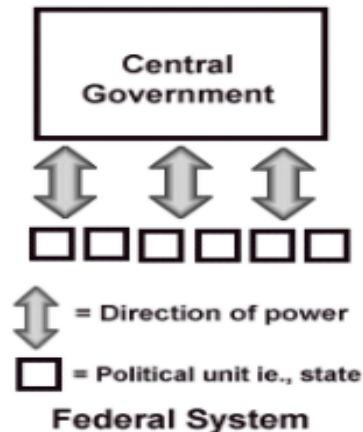


The three Systems

Federal System

Power is shared by a powerful central government and states or provinces that are given considerable self-rule, usually through their own legislatures.

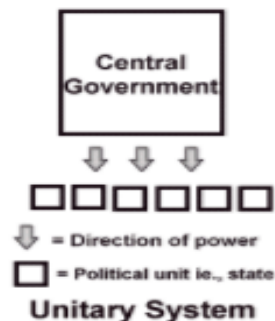
Examples: The United States, Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany.



Unitary System

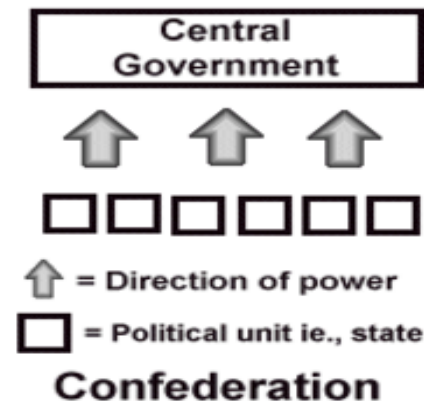
One central government controls weaker states. Power is not shared between states, counties, or provinces.

Examples: China, United Kingdom (although Scotland has been granted self-rule).



Confederal System

Weak or loose organization of states agrees to follow a powerful central government. Nations can choose to follow or not follow the lead of the weak central government. Examples: The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), formerly known as the Soviet Union. Also, Switzerland's canton system and the Confederate States of America (1861-1865).



Unitary Government System

- ▶ **The central government holds nearly all of the power.** In a unitary system, local governments such as state or county systems may have some power, but they are all under the control of the central government.

Confederation Government System

- ▶ **The local governments hold all of the power and the central government depends on the local governments for its existence.**
- ▶ Ex: League of Arab States: *Established on March 22, 1945, the League of Arab States aims to strengthen political relations and facilitate cooperation among member states, as well as to "safeguard their independence and sovereignty."*^[1] Pursuant to the Arab Pact, the League's founding Charter, all "independent Arab states" are entitled to membership in the organization.^[2] The League currently has 22 members - all of the Arab states;^[3] and several non-Arab states have been invited to participate in its activities as observers

Federal Government System

- ▶ Political system in which power is shared among different levels of government.
- ▶ Power is divided into national and state governments

Citizens Participation

Autocracy (only one)

Oligarchy (small Group)

Democracy (Every one)

Parliamentary Democracy

Prime Minister
↑
Legislature
↑
Citizens Vote

Presidential

Legislature President
↑ ↑
Citizens Vote

Types of Government, Explained

Autocracy

- ▶ **Government by a single person having unlimited power;** despotism (domination through threat of punishment and violence) .



Monarchy



- ▶ A monarchy has a king, queen, emperor or empress.
- ▶ The ruling position can be passed on to the ruler's heirs.
- ▶ In some traditional monarchies, the monarch has absolute power.



Oligarchy



- ▶ A government in which a few people such as a dominant clan or clique have power.

Theocracy

- ▶ A government in which God is seen as the true leader of the government and the country's religious leaders serve as the political leaders
- ▶ **Ex: Iran** – a small group of religious and political leaders make many of the decisions;
- ▶ **Ayatollah:** Title given to Shia religious leaders who have been recognized for their great scholarship and understanding of religious law.



Republic



- ▶ **In a republic, the government is elected by the people. Everyone who is eligible to vote has a chance to have their say over who runs the country.** It is distinct from governments controlled by a particular social class or group (aristocracy; oligarchy) or by a single person (despotism; dictatorship; monarchy).
- ▶ A republic is determined either directly or through elected representatives.

Parliamentary Form of Democratic Government

- ▶ **The people vote for those who represent the political party they feel best represents their views of how the government should operate.**
- ▶ The legislature they elect, the Parliament, makes and carries out (enforces) the laws for the country.
- ▶ The leader is often called the Prime Minister (Ex: UK – queen and prime minister, Theresa May)

Presidential Form of Democratic Government

- ▶ Also called a congressional form of government. Here, a President, or chief executive, is chosen separately from the legislature.
- ▶ The legislature passes the laws and it the duty of the president to see that the laws are enforced.