



Chapter 1: Foundations of Government

What are the purpose of government?

What principles guide different types of government?



Functions of Government

- Provide Leadership
- Maintain Order
- Provide Public Services
- Provide National Security
- Provide Economic Security and Economic Assistance



What is the difference between a nation and a state or a country?

- **Nation** is a sizable group of people who believe themselves united by common bonds of race, language, customs, or religion.
- **State** is a political community that occupies a definite territory and has an organized government (Country means the same thing.)
 - **Sovereignty** is the supreme and absolute authority within territorial boundaries



Characteristics of a State

- Population
- Territory
- Sovereignty
- Government



Origins of the State

- Evolution Theory
- Force Theory
- Divine Right Theory
- Social Contract Theory



Systems of Government

- Unitary System
 - Gives all key powers to the central government (Japan, France, and Bolivia)
- Confederate System
 - A loose union of independent and sovereign states (U.S. first government and Federated States of Micronesia)
- Federal System
 - Divides the powers of government between the national and state or provincial government (Brazil and U.S.)



Constitutional Governments

- Refers to a government in which a constitution has authority to place clearly recognized limits on the powers of those who govern
- A constitution is a plan that provides the rules for government



Major Types of Government

- Authoritarian governments
 - Totalitarian
 - Dictatorship
 - Oligarchy
- Monarchy
- Democratic governments
 - Democracy
 - Republic

Principles of Democracy

- Citizen Participation
- Regular Free and Fair Elections
- Accepting the Results of Elections
- The Rule of Law
- Majority Rule with Minority Rights
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Limited Government and a Bill of Rights
- Control of the Abuse of Power
- Economic Freedom
- Equality
- Individual or Human Rights
- Independent Judiciary
- Competing Political Parties



Fundamentals of Economics

- Economics
 - The study of how people and nations use their limited resources to attempt to satisfy needs and wants.
- Every type of economy has these factors of production:
 - Producers
 - Distributors
 - Consumers
 - Labor
 - Resources
 - Capital
 - Entrepreneurs



Capitalism

- An economic system that emphasizes private ownership of the factors of production, freedom of choice, and individual incentives
- Goal is to create a free market



Socialism

- An economic system in which the government plays a significant role in the economy, but it does not completely control it
- Goal is equal distribution of wealth



Communism

- The government decides how much to produce, what to produce, and how to distribute the goods and services produced
- Goal is one class, the working class