

Defining Federalism

- What is Federalism?
- Definition: A way of organizing a nation so that two or more levels of government have formal authority over the land and people.
- o Intergovernmental Relations-
- Definition: The workings of the federal system-the entire set of interactions among national, state and local governments.

Defining Federalism

	Unitary	Confederate	Federal
Central	Holds primary authority Regulates activities of states	Limited powers regarding states	Shares power with the states
State	Little or no powers Regulated by central government	Sovereign Allocate some duties to central government	Shares power with the central government
Citizens	Vote for central government officials	Vote for state government officials	Votes for both state & central officials From Table 3.1

Defining Federalism

- Why is Federalism So Important?
- Decentralizes our politics
 - More opportunities to participate
- o Decentralizes our policies
 - Which government should take care of which problem?
 - States can solve the same problem in different ways.

The Constitutional Basis of Federalism

- The Division of Power
- The U.S. Constitution
- Laws of Congress
- Treaties
- State Constitutions
- o State Laws

The Constitutional Basis of Federalism

- Establishing National Supremacy
- o Implied Powers
- o Commerce Powers
- o The Civil War
- The Struggle for Racial Equality

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The Constitutional Basis of Federalism

- States' Obligations to Each Other
- Full Faith and Credit
- Extradition
- o Privileges and Immunities

Intergovernmental Relations Today

- o Dual Federalism
- Definition: A system of government in which both the states and the national government remain supreme within their own spheres, each responsible for some policies.
- Like a layer cake
- Ended in the 1930's (new deal shifts into cooperative federalism)

Intergovernmental Relations Today

- Cooperative Federalism
- Definition: A system of government in which powers and policy assignments are shared between states and the national government.
- Shared costs
- Shared administration
- States follow federal guidelines

Intergovernmental Relations Today

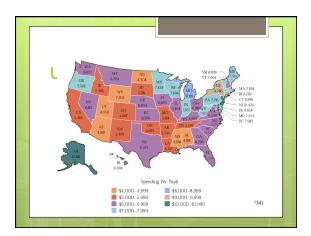
- Fiscal Federalism continued:
- The Grant System: Distributing the Federal Pie
 - Categorical Grants: Federal grants that can be used for specific purposes. They have strings attached
 - Project Grants- based on merit
 - Formula Grants: amount varies based on formulas
 - Block Grants: Federal grants given more or less automatically to support broad programs.
 - Grants are given to states & local governments

Intergovernmental Relations Today

- Fiscal Federalism continued...
 - The Scramble for Federal Dollars
 - \$300 billion in grants every year
 - Universalism- a little something for everybody
 - The Mandate Blues
 - Mandates are the "strings" attached to federal money
 - Unfunded mandates are requirements on state & local governments- but no money

Understanding Federalism

- Advantages for Democracy
- Increasing access to government
- Local problems can be solved locally
- Hard for political parties / interest groups to dominate ALL politics
- Disadvantages for Democracy
- States have different levels of service
- Local interest can counteract national interests
- Too many levels of government- too much money



Understanding Federalism

- Federalism and the Scope of Government
- Which level of government is best able to *solve* the problem?
- Which level of government is best able to fund solutions to the problem?

Internet Resources • Federal Grant search • Issues of federal-state relations • Statistical Abstract • Council of State Governments • Discussion of Federalist Papers