

The Seven Principles of the U.S. Constitution

Constitutional Principle	Explanation
<p>Popular Sovereignty</p>	<p>Popular sovereignty means the rule by the people based on 'classical liberalism' that emphasizes the freedom of the individual by limiting the power of the government.</p>
<p>Republicanism</p>	<p>Republicanism is a political theory that believes in representative government, in which citizens can vote for people to represent them. The supreme power rests with the people to vote.</p>
<p>Federalism</p>	<p>Federalism is a system of government in which the power is divided between the national government (federal) and various state governments. The division of power creates a balance of power.</p>
<p>Separation of Powers</p>	<p>The separation of powers is the division of government into three branches that check and balance each other. Under the separation of powers, each branch of government has a specific role.</p>
<p>Checks and Balances</p>	<p>Checks and balances is a system of government in which each branch of government has the ability to limit the powers of the other two branches, preventing any one branch from becoming too powerful and oppressing and dominating the others.</p>
<p>Limited Government</p>	<p>Everyone is bound by the U.S. Constitution and the "supreme Law of the Land". This ensures that none, whatever their position, is above the law.</p>
<p>Individual Rights</p>	<p>The personal freedoms and liberties of the people are guaranteed by the Bill of Rights and cannot be taken away by the government.</p>

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