

# -- The Constitution --



## John Locke

### natural law

everyone is born with certain God-given rights that cannot be taken away  
life, liberty, and property

## Jean-Jacques Rousseau

### social contract

people agree to give up certain natural rights in order to be protected by the government  
**popular sovereignty:** the government is ruled by the people

## Types of Democracies

### Participatory

everyone **directly** votes for the laws

### Pluralist

different **interest groups** work to get their viewpoints heard in the government

### Elite

citizens **elect** representatives to make the decisions for them

## Making The Constitution

### Virginia Plan

proposed a **three branch gov.**  
multi-tiered court system  
representation for each state  
**based on population**

### New Jersey Plan

states retain power over the national gov.  
each state has **same amount of representation**

**Great Compromise:** One branch of legislative branch is based off the population of states, one branch has equal representation from each state

**3/5 Compromise:** every 5 slaves count as 3 people

## Foundational Documents

### Declaration of Independence

a "**break-up letter**" to Britain  
listed grievances to show **why** the colonies were leaving  
**addressed** quartering soldiers, corrupt court system, taxing w/o representation

### Articles of Confederation

gave more power to the states instead of national gov.  
national gov. **could not tax**, have a **national military**, or create a **national currency**

### Constitution

1: legislative 2: executive 3: judicial  
4: state relations 5: amendment process  
6: supremacy clause 7: ratification process  
Bill of Rights Hack

**Shay's Rebellion:** showed how bad not having a national military is, proved the AoC did not give enough power to the national gov.

### Federalist No. 10

focuses on **legislative branch**  
large gov. > smaller gov.  
larger gov. → more views → more negotiation → better laws  
factions will **always** end up forming, but a larger government will **control** them

### Federalist No. 51

focuses on **checks and balances**  
every branch of the gov. can check and be checked by the other branches  
all power belongs to **the people**

### Brutus No. 1

believed the Constitution gave too much power to the national gov.  
worried about the **necessary and proper clause**, felt that it gave unlimited power against the Constitution

## Three Branches of Government

### Legislative

bills must pass through both houses to be sent to president  
override a presidential veto with a 2/3 vote  
approve presidential appointments  
impeach and remove a president/judge from office

### Executive

can sign a bill into law or veto  
make cabinet and judicial appointments

### Judicial

declares laws or executive orders unconstitutional aka judicial review  
presides over impeachment trials