Types of Governments
Federation

- Distributed Power
- Power is divided between one central and several regional authorities.
Federal Distributions of Power

Regional Authority

Central Authority

Government shares power

Regional Authority

Regional Authority

Regional Authority

Regional Authority
Unitary System

- Centralized Power
- Power is held by one central authority.
Unitary System
Separation of Power

Central Authority

Government divides power how it sees fit

Regional Authority

Regional Authority

Regional Authority
Confederation System

- De-Centralized Power
  - Voluntary association of independent states who delegate powers to central Government.
  - Secure some common purpose.
  - States retain considerable independence.
Confederation System

Regional Authority

Regional Authority

Regional Authority

Central Authority

Regional Entities give power to central government

Regional Authority

Regional Authority
Distribution of Power

### Unitary
- All key powers are held by the central government
- Strong central government

### Federal
- State/regional authorities hold most of the power
- Weaker central government

### Confederation
Forms of Governments

Autocratic and Oligarchy Governments
Autocratic Government

- One person possesses unlimited power.
- The citizen has limited, if any, role in government.
Autocratic Government

- The oldest form of government.
- One of the most common forms of government.
- Maintain power through inheritance or ruthless use of military and police power.
Autocratic Governments

- Absolute or Totalitarian Dictatorship
  - Ideas of a single leader glorified.
  - Government tries to control all aspects of social and economic life.
  - People lack the power to limit their rulers.
Autocratic Governments

- Absolute Monarchy
  - King, queen, or emperor exercises the supreme powers of government/unlimited power.
  - Position is usually inherited.
  - People lack the power to limit their rulers.
Oligarchy Government

- Government by the few.
- Sometimes a small group exercises control, especially for corrupt and selfish purposes.
- The citizen has a very limited role.
Oligarchy Government

- The group gets its power from military power, social power, wealth, religion or a combination.
- Political opposition is usually suppressed—sometimes violently.
Autocracy & Oligarchy

- Sometimes claim they rule for the people.
- In reality, the people have very little say in both types of government.
- Will hold mock elections or have “National Congresses”
Theocracy

A form of government in which a Deity is recognized as the supreme civil ruler, but the Deity's laws are interpreted by ecclesiastical authorities (bishops, mullahs, etc.); a government subject to religious authority.
Communist

- The state plans and controls the economy and a single - often authoritarian - party holds power.
  - State controls are imposed with the elimination of private ownership of property or capital.
  - Attempting to create a social order in which all goods are equally shared.
Forms of Governments

Democratic Systems
Parliamentary Democracy

- A system of government having the real executive power vested in a cabinet composed of members of the legislature who are individually and collectively responsible to the legislature.

- May have a Prime Minister elected by the legislature.
Presidential Democracy

- A system of government in which the president is constitutionally independent of the legislature.
- The executive branch exists separately from the legislature.
Republican Systems

A representative democracy in which the people's elected deputies, not the people themselves, vote on legislation.
- Power is divided between the central government and its federal republics
- States, colonies, or provinces retain a degree of self-government
- Ultimate sovereign power rests with the voters who chose their representatives.
- Power is formally divided - usually by means of a constitution - between a central authority and a number of constituent regions
  - Each region retains some management of its internal affairs
  - Central government still exerts influence directly upon both individuals as well as upon the regional units.
Parliament selects the leader (a prime minister, premier, or chancellor) and the cabinet ministers - according to party strength as expressed in elections.

- Government has responsibility to the people as well as to the parliament.
Constitutional Monarchy

- System in which governmental power is help by an Prime Minister who is often selected by the Parliament
  - Can be removed by a vote of no confidence
- Works with a Monarch who often just serves as a figurehead