

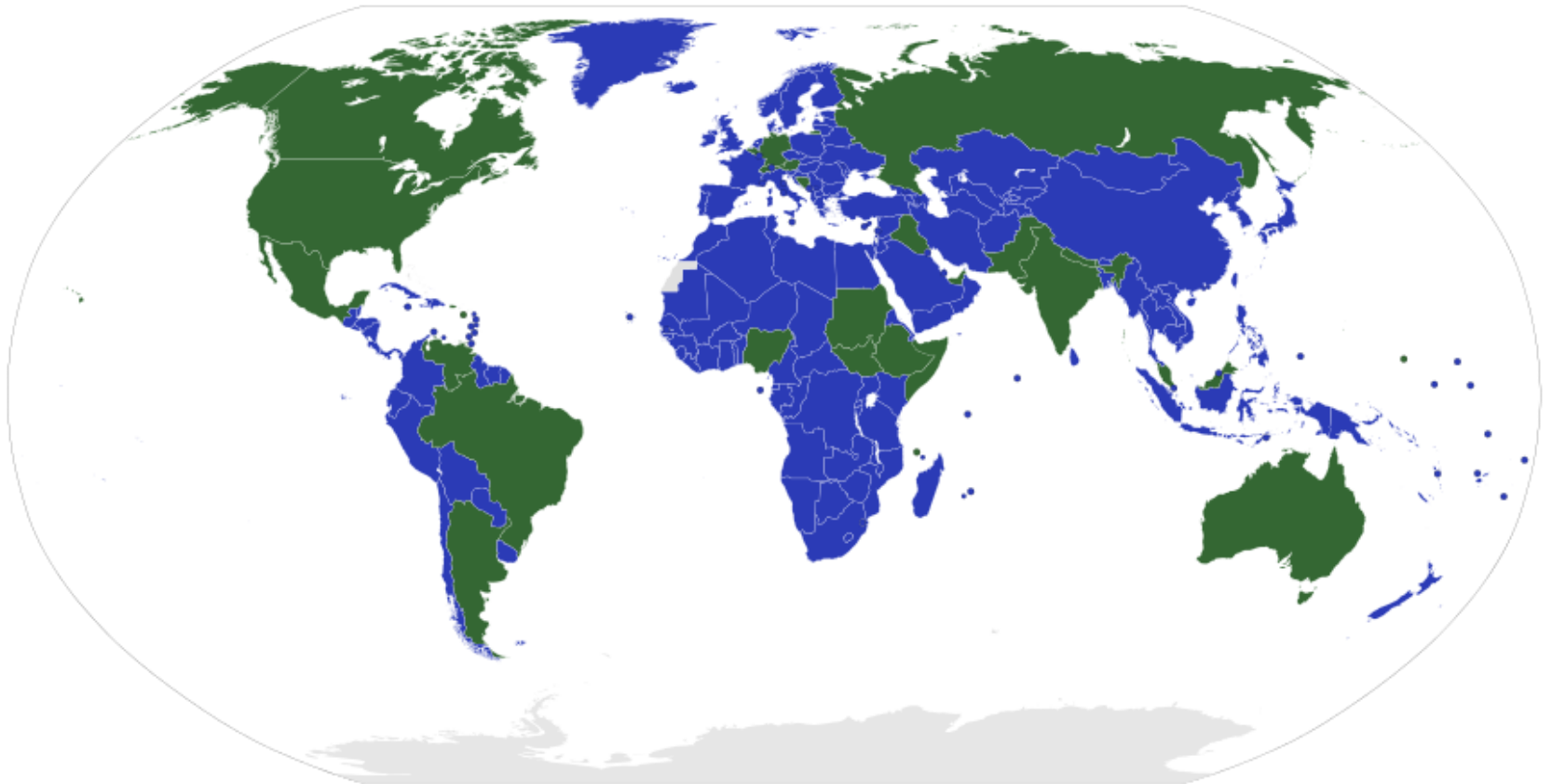


Forms of Government

Unitary, Federation, and
Confederation



Global Distribution of Governments



Green: Federation

Blue: Unitary



Unitary Governments

- One central government is in control of smaller states or entities with very little to no shared power
 - Ex. The United Kingdom, China, Saudi Arabia

Centralized Power: Power held by a central authority



Forms of Unitary Governments

- Autocracy – Power typically held by one person or a small group of people
 - Dictatorship – Governmental power controlled by one person
 - Monarchy – Governmental power controlled by a hereditary king or queen.
 - Oligarchy – Governmental power controlled by a group of people or particular political party
 - Theocracy – Governmental power and religious power are linked one in the same



Case Study: China

- Has been ruled by the Chinese Communist Party since 1949
 - Idealistic attempt to form Communist State
 - State planned economy and controls
 - Elimination of private ownership
 - Attempted equal distribution of goods
 - Has a National Congress
 - People have very little real power





Federalist Governments

- Power is shared between a large national government and smaller state or provincial governments. Smaller entities are allowed some self rule.
 - Ex. Australia, Brazil, Germany, the United States

De-Centralized Power: Power distributed away from the central authority



Forms of Federations

- Democratic – Government power derived from the people
 - Presidential – The President is constitutionally independent from the legislature
 - Parliamentary – Electors select representatives who then select a prime minister
 - Constitutional Monarchy – Power is constitutionally divided between a monarch and a parliament
- Republic – Electors vote to select representatives to serve in the government
 - As opposed to a direct democracy where citizens vote directly on governmental issues



Case Study: The United States

- Officially the United States is a democratically elected Constitution-Based Presidential Federal Republic
 - Voters select representatives to serve in the legislative branch and indirectly vote for the President





Confederations

- Power is mostly divided between the individual states with a much weaker central government
 - Ex. The Articles of Confederation, Confederate States of America



Case Study: The Confederate States of America

- Incorporated many of the elements of the US Constitution
- Power divided between Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches
- National power derived from 11 member states

