

Core Democratic Values

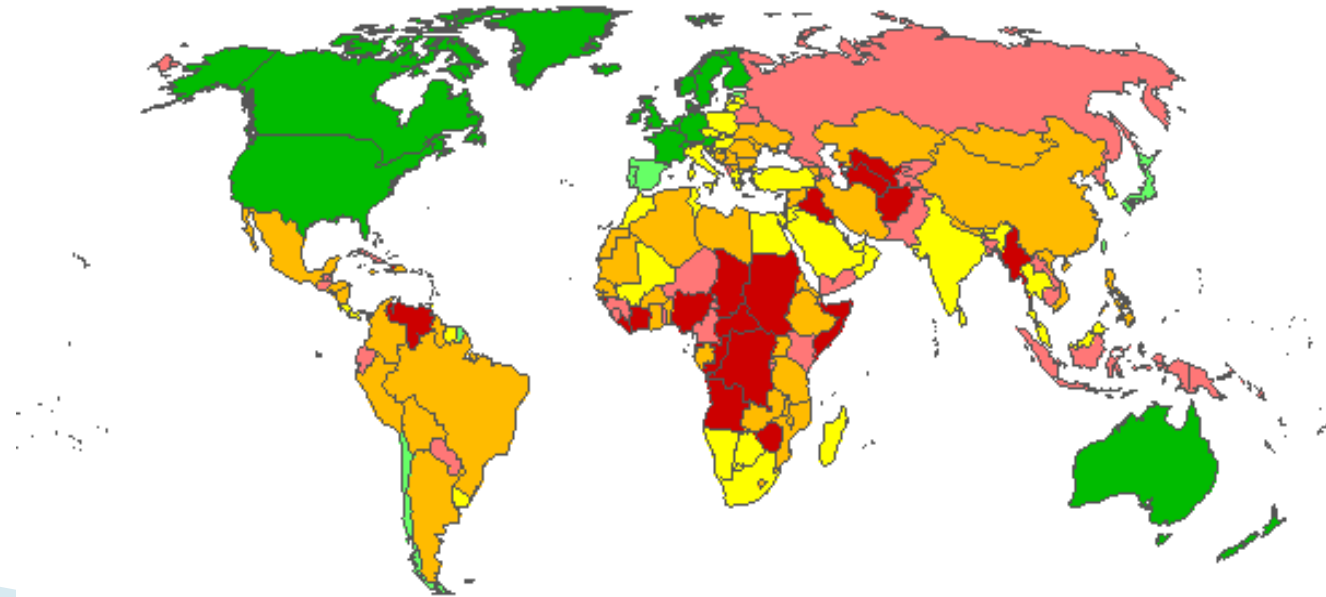
Constitutional Principles



Rule of Law

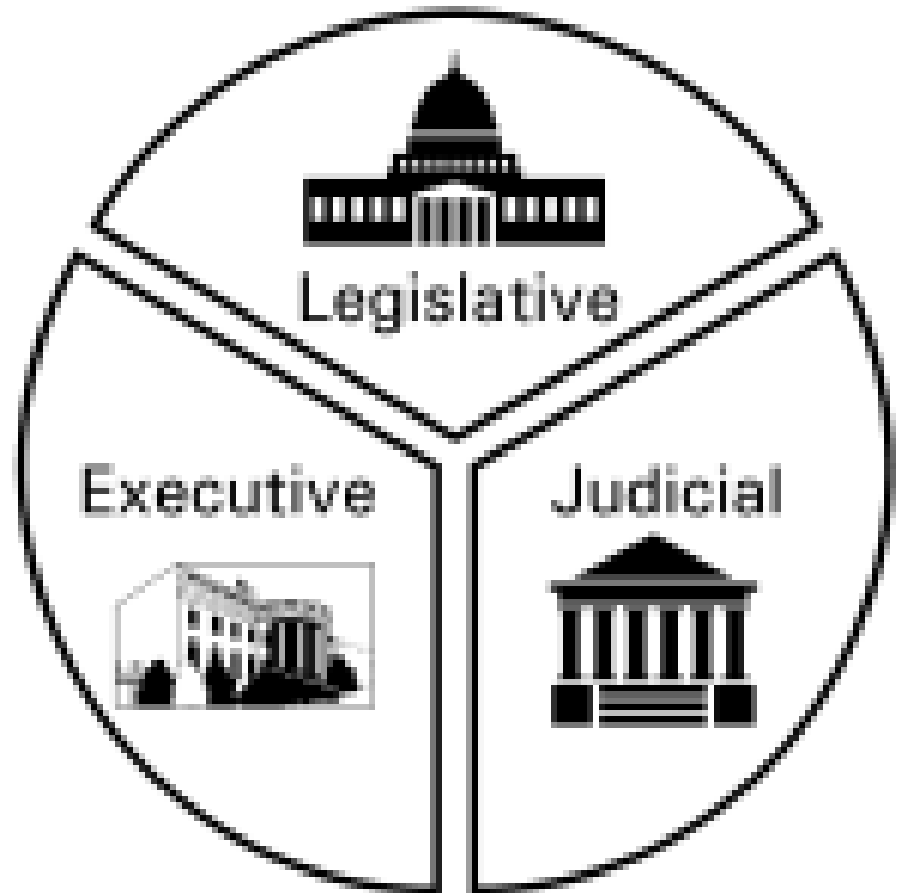
- ▶ Both government and the governed should be subject to the law.

Rule of Law (2005)



Separation of Powers

- ▶ Legislative, executive, and judicial powers should be exercised by different institutions in order to maintain the limitations placed upon them.



Representative Government

- ▶ The republican form of government established under the Constitution is one in which citizens elect others to represent their interests.



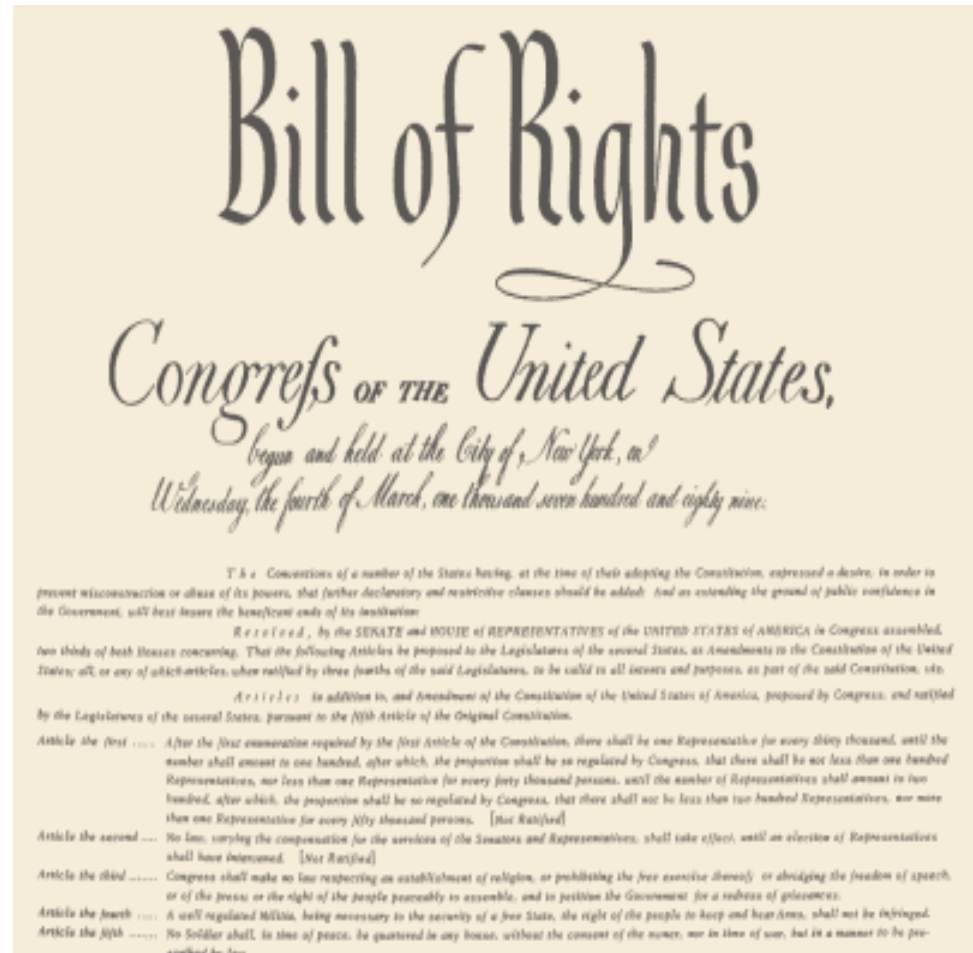
Checks and Balances

- ▶ The powers given to the different branches of government should be balanced, that is roughly equal, so that no branch can completely dominate the others. Branches of government are also given powers to check the power of other branches.



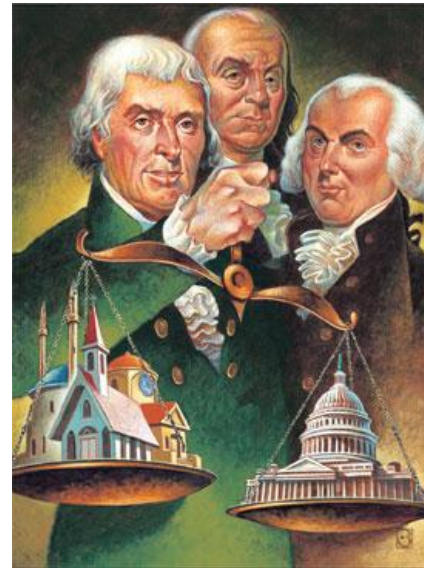
Individual Rights

- ▶ Fundamental to American constitutional democracy is the belief that individuals have certain basic rights that are not created by government but which government should protect. It is the purpose of government to protect these rights, and it may not place unfair or unreasonable restraints on their exercise. Many of these rights are enumerated in the Bill of Rights.



Freedom of Religion

- ▶ There shall be full freedom of conscience for people of all faiths or none. Religious liberty is considered to be a natural inalienable right that must always be beyond the power of the state to confer or remove. Religious liberty includes the right to freely practice any religion or no religion without government coercion or control.

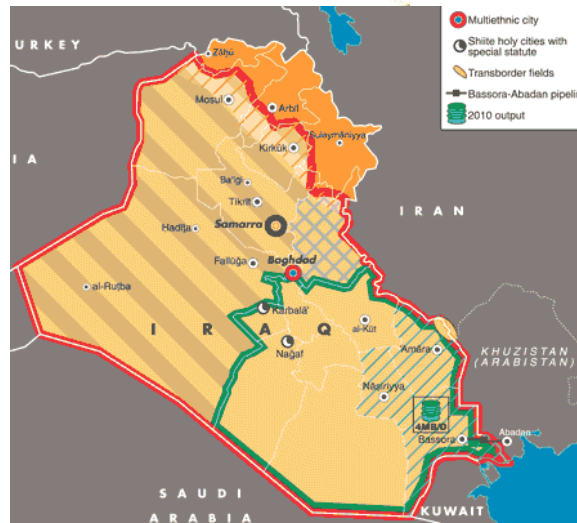
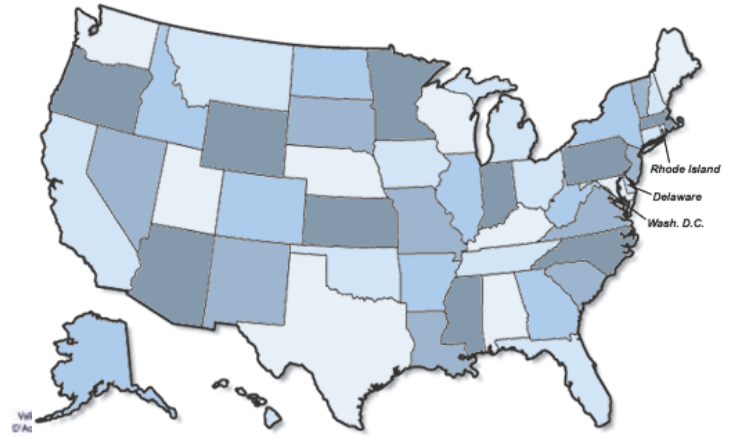


CHURCH-STATE
RELATIONS IN
AMERICA
WHAT'S AT STAKE
AND WHAT'S NOT

By Carl H. Esbeck*

Federalism

- ▶ Power is shared between two sets of governmental institutions, those of the states and those of the central federal authorities, as stipulated by the Constitution.



Civilian Control of the Military

- ▶ Civilian authority should control the military in order to preserve constitutional government*

