

# Federalism vs States' Rights



What is federalism?

Using the QR code, watch the video and take notes. You must know the answers to the items below.

- 1) Give the definition of federalism. **Federalism is a form of government where the power is divided between national government and state or provincial government.**
  
- 2) Why did the United States of America choose to have a federal system of government? **After fighting for independence from Great Britain, the Founding Fathers did not tolerate a potentially tyrannical central government with too much power, nor did they want unequal power among the 13 states. As a result, federalism was a compromise which allowed a central government to unite the country while leaving enough power to the states.** (Always reformulate your answers with your own words.)
  
- 3) List the powers that belong to the federal government, the states and the concurrent ones. If time, research more powers online.

FEDERAL POWERS <i>"The supreme law of the land"</i>	STATE POWERS <i>States can make laws which do NOT conflict with federal powers.</i>	CONCURRENT POWERS <i>the powers that the federal government &amp; the states share</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- regulate trade between states</li> <li>- declare war</li>   <li>- coin money &amp; regulate its value</li> <li>- regulate commerce with foreign nations</li> <li>- issue patents</li> <li>- establish post offices</li> <li>- establish a national highway system</li> <li>- raise &amp; support armies</li> <li>- exercise exclusive legislation in DC</li> <li>- make laws necessary to properly execute powers</li> <li>- set mandates for states to administer with federal funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- establish own police</li> <li>- establish &amp; run own schools</li>   <li>- establish own government &amp; laws within their state</li> <li>- maintain state &amp; local roads &amp; highways</li> <li>- regulate industry &amp; commerce</li> <li>- implement welfare and other benefit programs</li> <li>- protect people from local threats (natural or criminal)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- impose taxes</li>   <li>- regulate elections</li> <li>- borrow money</li> <li>- establish a court system</li> <li>- maintain interstate highways</li> <li>- regulate commerce</li> </ul>