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Faculty of law and political science
Law departement
Course: Constitutional Law
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Glossary

preamble : ديباجة Is found in many state constitutions :

authority : السلطة

Legitimacy : المشروعية

The state of quality of being accepted as legitimate, lawful or right. It can refer to a system being accepted as legitimate by the population, or have a narrow meaning of legal legitimacy as recognized by the courts.

Authorities : السلطات

Officials or bodies with official powers. A person or body of persons in whom authority is vested, for example a governmental agency.

Ballot : الاقتراع

The method of secret voting by means of printed or written ballots or by means of voting machines.

Election : الانتخاب

The process of selecting a person of choice through voting.

Vote. : a formal indication of a choice between two or more candidates or courses of action, expressed typically through a ballot or a show of hands.

Referendum : استفتاء

A popular vote by the electorate to decide an issue, not to choose people.

majority : **الغلبية المطلقة** – (that is of more than half, not just the largest number of votes).

Is a number or percentage equaling more than half of a total

Bicameral الازدواجية البرلمانية

Having two branches, chambers, or houses, as a legislative body.

Bill of Rights

Fundamental rights and privileges guaranteed to a people against violation by the government incorporated in the constitution. Whether or not a country should include a bill of rights in its constitution must be decided upon by the people, or representatives of the people, of that country. However, most nations today do in fact have a bill of rights incorporated in their constitutions.

وثيقة الحقوق

الحقوق والامتيازات الأساسية المكفولة للشعب ضد انتهاك الحكومة والمدرجة في الدستور. إن ما إذا كان ينبغي لدولة ما أن تدرج ميثاقاً للحقوق في دستورها أم لا، يجب أن يقرره الشعب، أو ممثلو الشعب، في ذلك البلد. ومع ذلك، فإن معظم الدول اليوم لديها في الواقع ميثاق للحقوق مدرج في دساتيرها.

Bodies : هيئة

Legal or constitutional entities created for a special purpose.

Boundaries: حدود

Boundary, border, frontier share the sense of that which divides one entity or political unit from another. Boundary, in reference to a country, city, state, territory, or the like, most often designates a line on a map. Occasionally, it also refers to a physical feature that marks the agreed-upon line separating two political units.

Breach : خرق

Breaking an understanding, agreement or law.

Citizen : موطن

A person possessing citizenship/nationality.

Committee : اللجنة

A body of persons appointed or elected for performing specified tasks; may be small group within a larger body.

Common law

A legal system based in British traditions whereby the courts rule on cases and build up judicial rulings on precedent and long-held practices. It has been dispersed throughout commonwealth countries and English-speaking parts of the world. Common law systems are complemented by constitutional, statutory and regulatory law.

Community : المجتمع

A group of people living in a particular local area; a group of people having a common ethnic or cultural or religious characteristic. Can be used to refer to a nation as a whole; 'the community'; the 'international community'; a formal grouping of nations: the 'European Community'.

Confederation : كونفدرالية

A group of nations or states, or a government encompassing several states or political divisions, in which the component states retain considerable independence. The members of a confederation often delegate only a few powers to the central authority.

Consensus : توافق الآراء

General agreement or accord. For example; government by consensus.

Constituent Assembly :

A Constituent Assembly is a body set up to make a new, or amend the existing, constitution. Members of the Assembly are usually elected, though some may be chosen through other methods. Constituent

assemblies have sometimes been very like a Parliament; in fact sometimes a nation's parliament has acted as its Constituent Assembly (like South Africa), or the Constituent Assembly has had the functions of Parliament also (like India). The Constituent Assembly exists only to make the constitution.

Constitution : دستور

A constitution is the fundamental law, the basic law, of a country. The constitution determines the fundamental political principles of the government, rules of procedure of that government, rights and obligations of the citizenry and also sets forth methods to ensure accountability of governmental branches.

Constitutional bodies : مؤسسات دستورية

Entities created by the constitution for specified tasks.

Constitutional Court : محكمة دستورية

A constitutional court is one that has the final say in interpreting the constitution and also in deciding whether or not other national laws are in harmony with the constitution

Constitutionality : دستورية

Conformity with the constitution. Constitutionality is a status of legality given to a law, statue, act, rules, procedures or administrative actions depending upon their conformity to constitutional provisions.

Electoral system النظام الانتخابي

The method of converting votes into seats in an elected body.

Enact : سن القوانين

To make, or pass a law.

Equality : المساواة

The state of being equal in status and rights.

Governance : الحوكمة

The act of governing; exercising power.

Government : الحكومة

The governing body of a state; often same as the 'executive', but also used to cover the legislature and judiciary; 'three branches of government'.

Hierarchy of norms : تدرج القواعد القانونية

A hierarchy between different categories of legal acts and how they relate to each other; which acts have precedence over other acts and during what circumstances.

Institution : مؤسسة

There are formal as well as informal institutions. Formal institutions can be described as particular organizations established for social, educational, religious or governmental purposes, etc.

Inviolable :

Secure from violation; something that can not be violated.

Judiciary مرفق القضاء - سلطة قضائية

The branch of government that is endowed with the authority to interpret the law, adjudicates legal disputes, and otherwise administers justice.

Jurisdiction اختصاص قضائي

The territorial or legislative fields over which an order of government, including the judiciary, has the authority to make laws.

Justice العدالة

A public official authorized to decide questions brought before a court of justice; the quality of being just or fair; what courts, etc. dispense: 'the administration of justice'.

Minority community : الاقليات

A sub-group within a larger population, which may live on a given territory, which does not form either a majority or a plurality

Monarchy الملكية-حكم ملكي

A form of government in which a monarch, usually a single person, is the hereditary head of the state. In most monarchies, a monarch holds his/her position for life. The position may be largely symbolic or powerful.

Nation : الامة

A community of people who share a common identity and who decide or want to decide about their destiny through concerted political action. Such action is directed at gaining, preserving, or strengthening statehood. "Nation" may also be understood in its ethnic sense when the term refers to a form of self-defined cultural and social community which shares a common history, language, distinctive lifestyle and a homeland.

Peoples National Assembly: المجلس الشعبي الوطني

It is either a legislature, or the lower house of bicameral legislature in some countries.

Oligarchy : الاوليغارشية

A form of government where political power effectively rests with a small elite segment of society (whether distinguished by wealth, family, military powers or spiritual hegemony). The word oligarchy is translated into 'rule by few'. It needs to be understood in contrast to democracy.

لأوليغاركية Oligarchy أو أحيانا الأوليغارشية أو حكم الأقلية هي شكل من أشكال الحكم بحيث تكون السلطة السياسية محصورة بيد فئة صغيرة من المجتمع تتميز بالمال أو النسب أو السلطة العسكرية

Opposition : المعارضة

The state or act of opposing; (more likely in constitution), the members of the main house of the legislature who are not supporting

the government.

Participatory democracy : الديمقراطية التشاركية

Democracy that does not limit citizen's participations to elections but creates opportunities for citizens' direct participation in decision making without the intermediary of elected or appointed representatives.

General Policy : السياسة العامة

A plan of action, statement of ideas, etc. proposed or adopted.

Province /Provincial : المحافظة

A term to disrobe a territorial constituent unit within a federation.
لم ينص الدستور الجزائري على كلمة محافظة ، و انما نص فقط على البلدية و الولية و اللذان يعتبران جماعات اقليمية

Ratification : المصادقة

Making something valid by formally approving or confirming it: 'a referendum may ratify a constitution'; 'Parliament may ratify a treaty'.

General policy declaration : بيان السياسة العامة

The action plan of the Government : مخطط عمل الحكومة

Rule of law : دولة القانون

It is a doctrine that holds that no individual is above the law and everyone regardless of their social status is equal before law. It is a condition in which every member of society including its ruler accepts the authority of the law. This carries the implication that this applies equally to all levels of government.

Senate / Council of nation : مجلس الامة

The name given to a second chamber or upper house of a bicameral federal legislature in several federations including Argentina, Brazil,

Canada, Mexico, Nigeria, Spain and the United States.

Sovereignty : السيادة

The principle that the state exercises absolute power over its territory and population. It also includes the freedom of a state to determine its foreign relations with other states and be a member of international organizations.

Unconstitutional : غير دستوري

Contrary to the provisions of the constitution.

Unicameral : A unicameral system is a government with one legislative house or chamber. Unicameral is the Latin word that describes a single-house legislative system.

Test 1: Making Changes to Legal Provisions

Choose the correct answer:

Revision

Amendment

Abrogation

Correction

Test 2: Judiciary Body in Administrative Order

The judiciary body placed at the top of the administrative order is:

Security council

Council of Nation

Council of State

Council of Ministers

Test 3: Formal Approval or Confirmation

The process of making something valid by formally approving or confirming it involves:

Ratification

Signature
Abrogation

Test 4: Plan of Action or Statement

What term refers to a plan of action, statement of ideas, etc. that is proposed or adopted?

Policy
Police
Political



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**Sources : <https://constitutionnet.org/glossary> last acceded
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