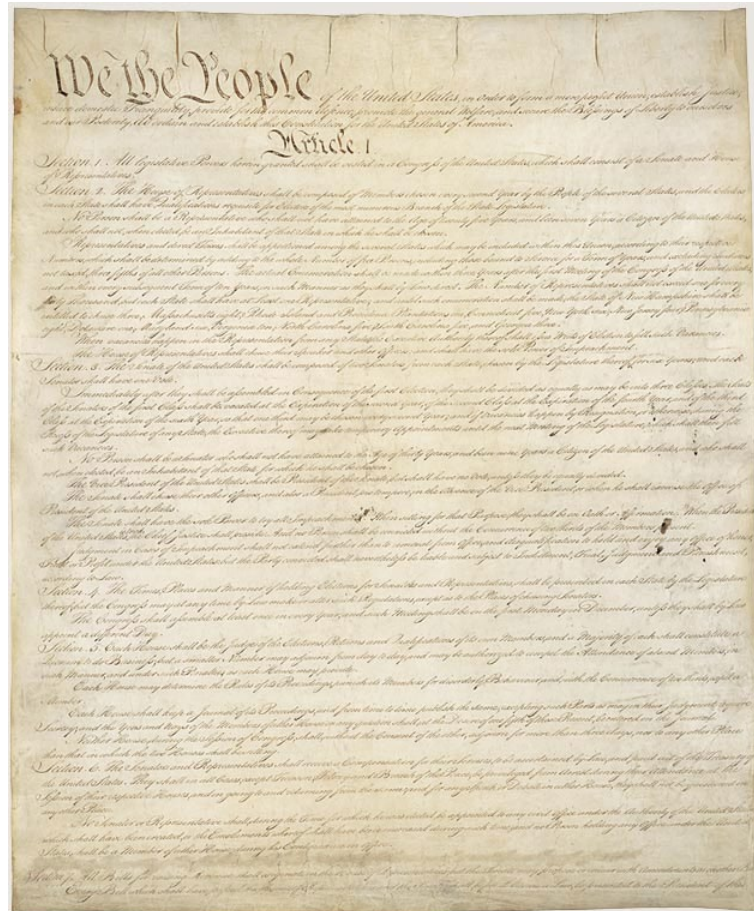


The Constitution

And Principles

The U.S. Constitution in Brief



- Preamble
- I. Legislature
- II. Executive
- III. Judiciary
- IV. Interstate Relations
- V. Amendments
- VI. National
Supremacy
- VII. Ratification

The Government Created by the Constitution

- Representative Democracy
 - Indirect Democracy (what Madison calls a “republican” government in the Federalist Papers)
 - Not direct democracy (which was what the Founders called “democracy”)
- A presidential system = separate branches of government
 - The legislature and the executive are selected independently and are not easily removed by the other
- Checks and Balances and Separation of Powers)

Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances

- The Constitution does not specifically mention separation of powers and checks and balances; the authors of the Federalist Papers emphasize these principles
 - They refer to Montesquieu and others to support their arguments
- The separation of three branches of government are in the structure of the Constitution, in the first three articles of the Constitution:
 1. The Legislature
 - note that the powers of the national government are described in this first article
 2. The Executive
 3. The Judiciary



Separation of Powers AND Checks and Balances

