

Introduction to American Politics

Week 4: Federalism & Its Implications

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Outline

- Federalism: Past & Present
- Additional materials
- Wrap-up

Section 1

Discussion

Federalism in General

- What is it?
- How does it differ from other systems?
- 3 key conditions
- Both sides of the argument
- Examples of federalism-based conflict?

Federalism in *Context*

- Article IV, § 3 → conditions for the creation/admission of new states
- Article IV, § 4 → enforcing the *republican* structure of new states to mimic the federal government
- Supremacy Clause (in Article VI)
- Article I, § 8 → Elastic Clause and Commerce Clause
- 10th Amendment

Modern American Federalism

- Increasing nationalization, but *why*?
- Examples of (more) modern nationalization?

Additional Materials

- Kettl (“Federalism: Sorting Out Who Does What”)
- Kousser (“How America’s ‘Devolution Revolution’ Reshaped Its Federalism”)
- Naylor (“Fact Check: Trump Doesn’t Have The Authority To Order States To Reopen”)
- Davenport (“California Sues the Trump Administration in Its Escalating War Over Auto Emissions”)
- Tau (“The Portland Protests, Trump Administration and Federal Authority”)
- Oxner (“Texas sues after Biden administration issues guidance saying doctors can perform abortions in emergencies”)

Section 2

Outro

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- Remember the quiz this week!
- 2/14 → in-person discussion as normal
- 2/21 → Zoom discussion (link TBA)