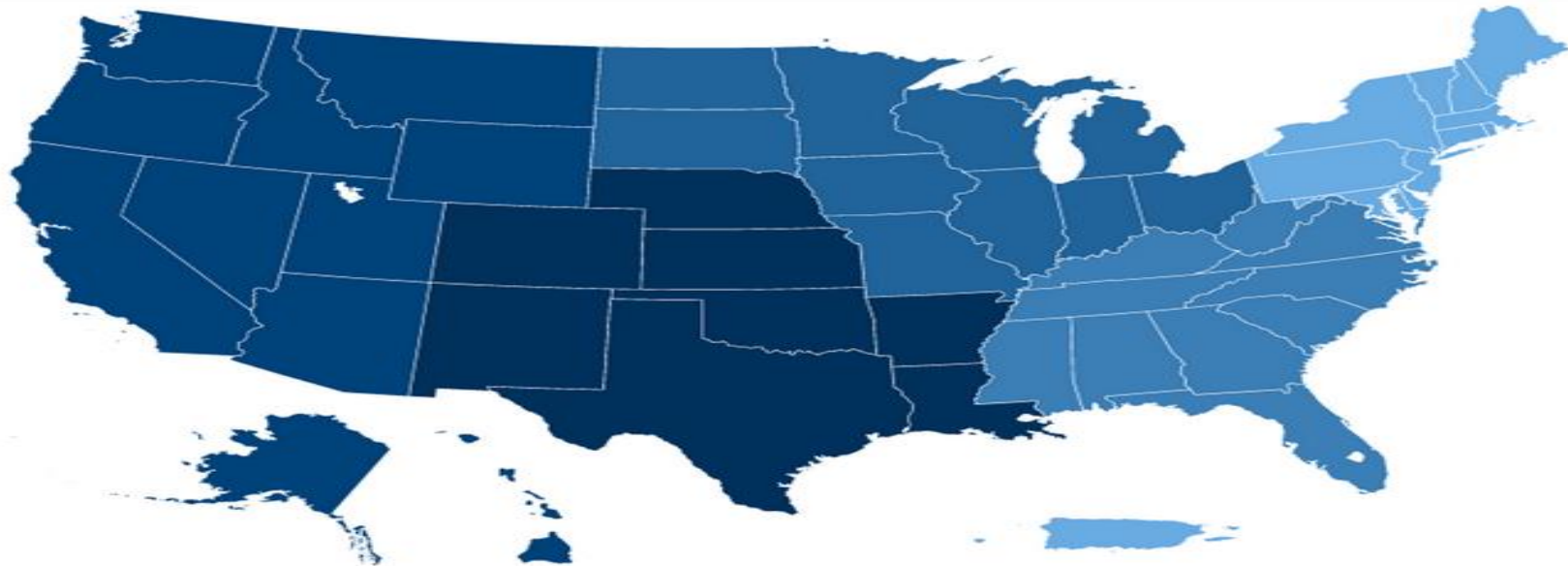


State



Outline

- ✓ Definition – State, Nations
- ✓ Elements of State
- ✓ Weak, strong and Failed State
- ✓ Unitary, Federal, Confederate States
- ✓ State and Economy

Nation and State

- ❑ A **nation** is a population with a certain sense of itself, a cohesiveness, a shared history and culture, and often (but not always) a common language. **Nationality** refers to a – Political Identity having common bonds of race, language, religion, tradition and history.
- ❑ A **state** is a government structure, usually sovereign and powerful enough to enforce its writ. At last count, there were about 193 states in the world.

Which came first, States or Nations?

Many suppose nations did, but in most cases states created their nations.

- The Zulus of South Africa, for example, are an artificially created nation put together from many clans and tribes two centuries ago by a powerful warrior, Shaka. (Nation exist, not the state)
- Nations may or may not possess their own states. National identity, or nationalism, may precede the emergence of a nation's state. Zionism (Jewish nationalism) and a community of people identifying with a Jewish nation, for example, existed before the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.
- On the other hand, Paris united many regions, mostly by the sword, to create France and inculcated Frenchness by education, language, and centralized administration. The French nation is an artificial creation of the French state.(State comes first here)

Elements of State

1.Territory

2.Population

3.Government

4.Sovereignty

(See Agarwall)

Elements of State

Population:

That territory must be inhabited in order to form a state is self-evident.

Territory:

- Controlling over a definite part of the earth's surface to be a fundamental requisite for state existence.
- Covers the surface of the land within well-defined boundaries, the subsoil, lakes and rivers and also air space above the land.
- Territory can vary from very large (Russia) to Small (Monaco)

Elements of State

Government:

- No state can exist in the absence of the government.
- Government is usually a **political organization** through **which collective will of the people is formulated, expressed and executed.**
- The government functions through its three agencies, i.e., the Executive, the Legislature, the Judiciary.
- State operates through the government machinery. It is the agency through which society is politically organized, common policies are determined, and by which common affairs are regulated and common interest are promoted.
- Without government, anarchy exist.

Elements of State

Sovereignty

- Sovereignty derived from Latin word 'Superanus', means supreme. Broadly sovereignty means supremacy of the state.
- The sovereignty of the State expressed through the government which rules supreme in internal and external matters.
 - **External sovereignty:** authority of some other countries ruling supreme in the country. For example: Before 1947, India was under British control, and British state exercised sovereignty over India. So, India was not a state.
 - **Internal sovereignty:** means state supreme in all internal matters. It exercise supremacy over all the institutions and people of the State, no other state can be permitted to exercise its authority over institutions and the people.

Effective, Weak and Failed States

Effective, Weak and Failed States

Just because a country has a flag and sits in the UN does not prove that it is a serious state. No world tribunal classifies states on the basis of their strength, but analysts see at least three categories:

Effective States:

- Effective states control and tax their entire territory. Laws are mostly obeyed.
- Government looks after the general welfare and security. Corruption is fairly minor.
- Effective states tend to be better off and to collect considerable taxes (25 to 50 percent of GDP).
- Effective states include Japan, the United States, and Western Europe. Some put the best of these states into a “highly effective” category

Weak States

- Weak states are characterized by the penetration of crime into politics. You cannot tell where politics leaves off and crime begins.
 - The government does not have the strength to fight lawlessness, drug trafficking, corruption, poverty, and breakaway movements.
 - Justice is bought.
 - Democracy is preached more than practiced and elections often rigged.
 - Little is collected in taxation.
 - Revenues from natural resources, such as Mexico's and Nigeria's oil, disappear into private pockets.
- Much of Asia, Africa, and Latin America are weak states.

Failed States

- **Failed states** have essentially no national government although some pretend they do.
 - Warlords, militias, and opium growers do as they wish.
 - There is no law besides the gun.
 - Territorial breakup threatens. Education and health standards decline (as in the increase of HIV/AIDS).
- Many count Afghanistan and Somalia as failed states. Pirates make their home in Somalia because there is no state power to stop them (and no jobs for young men). Only outside assistance and pressure keep these two countries from disappearing altogether.
- Some fear Yemen, home to Islamist fighters, could become a failed state.

Fragile State Index

Unitary States
Federal States

Unitary and Federal Systems

States may be organized in a variety of ways:

- **Unitary states** concentrate power at the **central, or national level**. The United Kingdom, France, China, and Japan are examples of unitary states.
- **Federal states** create different divisions and levels of government and divide power among those divisions and levels. The United States is a federal state, with power accorded to offices at three levels: **national or federal offices**, **state offices**, and **local offices**. Germany, India, Canada, Brazil, and Mexico also have federal systems
- **Confederal:** confederal type of organization, with power decentralized and held primarily or exclusively by local offices. This type of state existed briefly in the United States prior to the ratification of the U.S. Constitution. In 1781, the Articles of Confederation established a confederation in which states had supreme power and a central governing power was virtually nonexistent, in that there was no central executive, no central judiciary, and only a weak central legislature. (Roskin et al., 2016. pp 54-60).

Unitary States

- **Unitary** governments control local authorities and citizens' lives more than federal systems do.

Eg.: France's education ministry in Paris draws up school curricula in order to reduce regional differences in language and culture, which at one time were very strong. Many decades ago, a French education minister looked at his watch and proudly told an interviewer which Latin verbs were being conjugated all over France. (example of high centralization .. Unitary)

- Unitary states have a national police force and one court system, whose judicial officers are appointed by the national government.

Federal States

- Federalism gives first-order civil divisions much autonomy while the central government runs areas that are inherently national.
- Americans, with one of the first federal systems, sometimes urge federalism on other nations, including Iraq, where it may not work.
 - The hostility among Iraq's Shia, Sunni, and Kurds could rip it apart.
 - The ex-Soviet Union and Mexico became so centralized that some wondered if they were still federal.
 - The crux of a federal system is that the component states have some powers that cannot be easily overridden by the central government.

Responsibilities of local, state and Federal government



Federal States

- The components of a federal system are typically represented in an upper house such as the U.S. Senate or German Bundesrat. (Unitary systems do not really need upper houses, but most have them.)
- In federal systems, the central government has exclusive control over foreign, defense, and monetary policy.
- The states typically control education, police, highways, and other close-to-home affairs.
- Because the division of these powers is seldom clear or permanent, a federal government rests on a delicate balance between central power and local autonomy.

Reasons to Start a Federal Union

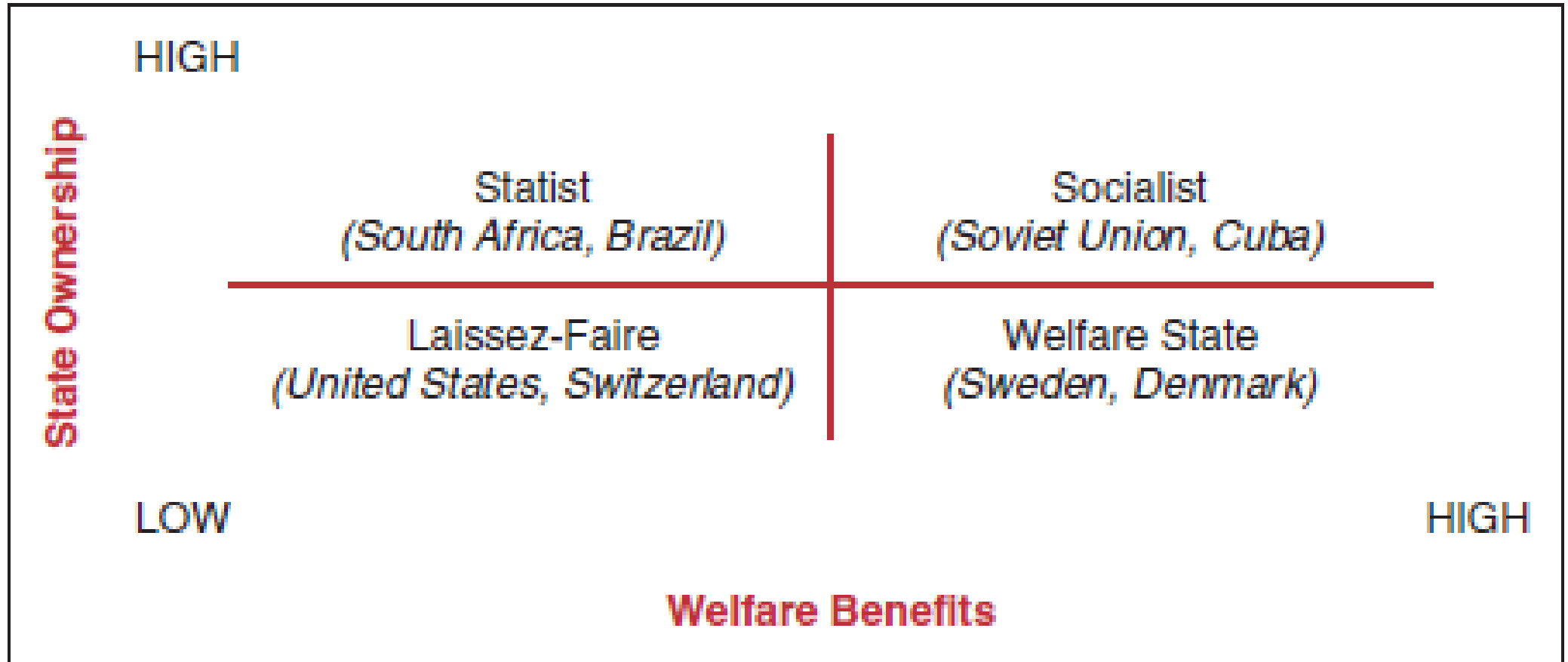
- The first is **national security**; small and weak states cannot defend themselves against powerful aggressors. (This was one of the main arguments of *The Federalist*)
 - The pooling of diplomatic and military resources of the states made Bismarck's Germany a major power.
- Federal unions serve **economic purposes**.
 - U.S. prosperity is based in large part on its continent-wide market without trade barriers, a feat the European Union has copied.
- Federalism is often the only way to **protect national unity**.
 - As Britain freed India in 1947, New Delhi set up a federal system that allowed such states as Bengal and Punjab to maintain their own cultures while joining the Indian nation. Indian states would not have entered the federal union without a guarantee of local autonomy.

- [https://www.diffen.com/difference/Confederation vs Federation](https://www.diffen.com/difference/Confederation%20vs%20Federation)

State and The Economy

- Yet another way to classify governments is **how they handle the economy. States face two questions:**
 - 1) How much of the economy should the state own or supervise?
 - 2) How much of the nation's wealth should be redistributed to help the poorer sectors of society?
- The answers produce four basic approaches to promoting the general welfare:
 - i. laissez-faire,
 - ii. statism,
 - iii. socialism, and
 - iv. the welfare state.

STATE AND THE ECONOMY



Laissez-faire System

Low state ownership, low welfare benefit

- In a **laissez-faire system**, the government owns little or no industry and redistributes little in the form of welfare programs.
- These countries follow Adam Smith, seconded by Thomas Jefferson, who argued that government interference in the economy decreases growth and prosperity.
- The theory here is that **private enterprise** and **individual initiative** make a nation both free and prosperous.

Welfare State

Low state ownership, high welfare benefit

- A **welfare state** owns little or no industry but does redistribute wealth to the less well-off.
- Benefits in health insurance, child care, job training, and retirement funds.
- To pay for this, they charge the world's highest taxes—in Sweden and Denmark, about 50 percent of GDP.
- Industry is private and moneymaking.

Statist System

High state ownership, low welfare benefit

- **Statism** is an old system that predates laissez-faire. In a **statist system**, the state (meaning the national government) is the number-one capitalist, owning and running much major industry but providing few welfare benefits.
- It typically includes state ownership of **major industries** like railroads, steel mills, banks, oil, and other big enterprises. **Small and medium business is left in private hands.**
- Many developing countries have followed statist models with the argument that only the government has the money, ideas, and talent to start up new industries.
- The economic results suggest state-owned firms are inefficient because they are run by bureaucrats and face no competition; often they operate at a loss and have to be subsidized by the national treasury.

Socialist System

High state ownership, high welfare benefit

- A **socialist system** practices both state ownership and extensive welfare benefits.
- Exemplified by the former Soviet Union, government owns nearly all the means of production, claiming it runs the economy in the interests of the society as a whole.
- However, the collapse of Communist regimes (which called themselves “socialist”; we called them “Communist”) indicates they worked poorly.
- Today, only North Korea and Cuba remain as (negative) examples of socialism, and their systems seem ripe for change.

State and Economy

- In actual practice, governments often combine elements of these four systems. Even the basically laissez-faire United States demands welfare measures and bailouts of financial giants deemed “too big to fail.”
- Communist China and Vietnam, once strictly socialist, now have rapidly growing private, capitalistic economies. Countries often change their combinations.

[Roskin, 2014, p.73]

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