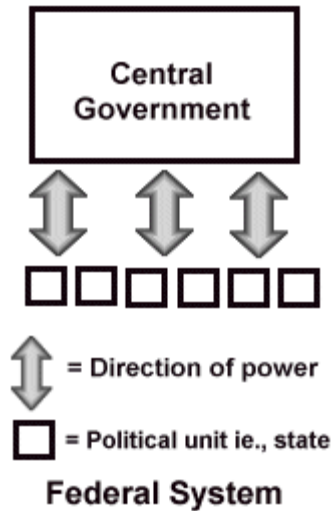


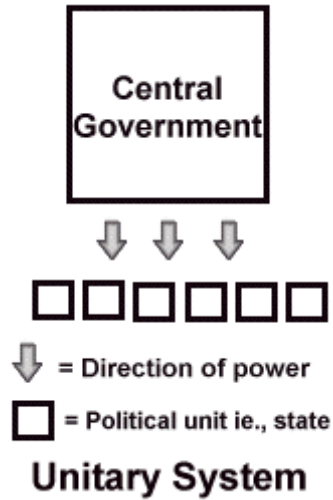
Federalism

Power is shared by a powerful central government and states or provinces that are given considerable self-rule, usually through their own legislatures.
Examples: The United States, Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany.



Unitary System

One central government controls weaker states. Power is not shared between states, counties, or provinces.
Examples: China, United Kingdom (although Scotland has been granted self-rule).



Confederal System

Weak or loose organization of states agrees to follow a powerful central government. Nations can choose to follow or not follow the lead of the weak central government. Examples: The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), formerly known as the Soviet Union. Also, Switzerland's canton system and the Confederate States of America (1861-1865)

