

Founding principles of the United States of America:

- 1) Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."
- 2) Preamble to the Constitution: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America".
- 3) Federalism: Federalism is a system where power is constitutionally divided and shared between a central (national) government, regional (state/local) governments, as well as the local community and the people, creating multiple levels of authority for unified but diverse governance.
- 4) Liberalism: Classical liberalism is the philosophy committed to the ideal of limited government, constitutionalism, rule of law, due process, and liberty of individuals including freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and free markets.
- 5) Societal Values: Basic principles of healthy human interaction, typically referred to as Judeo-Christian values, were the generally accepted norm for human behavior.
- 6) Religion: Religious freedom with a basic respect towards the belief in the God of the Bible.
- 7) Government accountability: There must be no ruling class. As articulated in several of the Federalist Papers, the government should remain responsive and accountable to the people—that "a dependence on the people is, no doubt, the primary control on the government".