

FEDERALISM

In order to provide comparative models in the constitutional formulation of these provisions, the following tables include information on Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Comoros, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Micronesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro, St.Kitts and Nevis, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United States, and Venezuela. Some analysts label some of these countries “confederations” rather than “federations”(e. g., Switzerland, Serbia and Montenegro and the United Arab Emirates), but in all 25 cases the existence of provisions for shared sovereignty between the central government and constituent units make them relevant to federal constitution-drafting.ⁱ

Table 1: Distribution of Powers

This table indicates whether federal, regional and concurrent powers are listed by the constitution or assigned residually to one of the levels of government. The last column lists special arrangements.

Table 2: Regional Representation in the Federal Legislature

This table is divided into the 6 unicameral models and the other 19 federal countries which have bicameral legislatures. For the unicameral cases, the table notes the combination of popular and territorial representation employed. In the bicameral cases the table notes (1) the distribution of seats in the upper house (even or uneven) and (2) the importance assigned to the upper house in the legislative process. Special provisions are included.

Table 3: Mechanisms for Dispute Resolution

This table lists constitutional provisions for input by constituent units into the composition of the constitutional court either through (1) appointment or confirmation of judges by the territorial chamber (upper house) or (2) assignment of seats on the court to members of specific regional/linguistic groups. Where the table notes that no specific constitutional provision exists, it is usually the case that the constitution calls for further legislation on the issue.

Table 4: Asymmetrical Federalism

This table indicates which countries' constitutions contain asymmetrical provisions (different access to powers by different regions), and a brief description of them.

Table 5: Creation and Delineation of Constituent Units

This table notes how many constituent units each of the states consists of and, where they exist, describes constitutional provisions for the establishment or delineation of the constituent units.

1. DISTRIBUTION OF POWERS

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangements ⁱⁱ
Argentina	Yes	Yes + Residual	No	The constitution lists specific areas where the provinces are allowed to enter into areas of federal jurisdiction (but are not technically “concurrent”, since they belong to the federal level). The constitution gives a list of prerogatives the states cannot take. Mention of local institutions. The constitution allows provinces to create regions for economic and social development, to establish agreements among themselves and to sign international agreements, provided they do not violate the prerogatives of the central government and are compatible with the country’s foreign policy.
Australia	Yes	Residual	Yes	The constitution establishes provisions for a state to surrender any part of itself to federal jurisdiction.
Austria	Yes	Residual	Yes	State governments are responsible for the

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
				implementation and administration of a wide range of federal legislation. The constitution makes reference to the division of a state into local councils and a list of specific competencies, and to the possibility of agreements between states about matters within their autonomous sphere of competence.
Belgium	Yes	Yes + Residual	No	The constitution allows for ¾ of the members of one of the linguistic groups to declare that the provisions of a draft bill are such as “to gravely damage relations between the communities.” The constitution also lists the responsibilities of Community Councils and regions. There is mention to the possibility for provincial subdivisions to be established. The constitution allows for inter-community cooperation on matters of community jurisdiction. There is also possibility for engagement in international cooperation or matters within their responsibilities. There is reference to regional and local autonomy.

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Yes	Residual	No	A constitutional provision allows for the eventual transfer of responsibilities from the constituent units to the central authorities. The constituent entities are allowed to enter into international agreements following certain provisions. A provision allows the presidency to facilitate inter-entity coordination on matters not within the responsibilities of the federation.
Brazil	Yes	Residual	Yes	The constitution allows for the authorization to the state to legislate on specific matters listed in the federal legislative list. The constitution also explicitly lists the areas that fall into the municipalities' jurisdiction.
Canada	Yes + Residual	Yes	Yes	There is provision for the possibility of federal uniformity of laws on particular issues regardless of their inclusion within the list of constituent units' powers. The Constitution Act offers a list of counties and cities in its electoral provisions.

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
Comoros	Yes	Residual from concurrent	Residual	No particular provision
Ethiopia	Yes	Yes + Residual	Yes	There is reference to “powers concurrently given both to the federal government and state governments,” but no specific concurrent list.
Germany	Yes	Residual	Yes	State governments are responsible for the implementation and administration of a wide range of federal legislation. There is provision for state legislation on matters of exclusive federal power when and to the extent that they are expressly authorized by federal law. The Basic Law allows states to transfer sovereign powers to trans-frontier institutions in neighbouring regions with the consent of the federal government. They can also conclude treaties with foreign states on areas falling under their purview (also with the consent of the federal state). Municipalities are guaranteed the right to regulate all local affairs.

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
India	Yes + Residual	Yes	Yes	Constitutional amendments in the 1980s transferred areas of jurisdiction from the state to the municipal level and introduced new levels in the system (each state has become a federating unit in itself). State governments are responsible for the implementation and administration of a wide range of federal legislation. All concurrent jurisdiction is to be administered by the states.
Malaysia	Yes	Yes + Residual	Yes	State governments are responsible for the implementation and administration of a wide range of federal legislation (all concurrent jurisdiction is to be administered by the states). The constitution provides for granting state land to the federal level. There is reference to local government.
Mexico	Yes	Residual	No	The constitution gives a list of prerogatives the states cannot take (including prohibition to enter any alliance, treaty or coalition with another state or with foreign powers). The municipal level is included as the basis for territorial division and

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
				political and administrative organization of the states.
Micronesia	Yes	Residual	Yes	No particular provision
Nigeria	Yes	Residual.	Yes	The constitution states foreign policy objectives for the states. The text refers to and provides a list of functions of local government councils.
Pakistan	Yes	Residual	Yes	There is a mandate for each province to establish a local government system and devolve political, administrative and financial responsibility to local governments. The constitution establishes a Council of Common Interests for the regulation of certain federal and concurrent policies. Specific arrangements are put in place regarding the administration of tribal areas.
Russia	Yes	Residual	Yes	Reference to recognition and guarantee of local self-government, and indication that the bodies of local self-government shall not be part of state power bodies.

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
Serbia and Montenegro	Yes	Residual	No	The constitutional charter allows the member states to establish and maintain international relations with other states and international organizations if that is not in conflict with the competences of the federation. They can be members of global and regional organizations if they do not set international personality as a requirement for membership. After an initial period of 3 years from ratification, the Charter allows member states to initiate proceedings for a change in status or to break away from the union.
South Africa	No	Yes	Yes	Government constituted as “national, provincial and local spheres of government.” There is extensive provision for establishment of municipalities and organization of local government. The constitution establishes a list of principles of co-operative government and intergovernmental relations.
Spain	Yes	Yes	No	The constitution specifies a list of areas that the

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
				autonomous communities “may assume” (article 148). There is provision for granting the autonomous communities authority to legislate on matters within the competence of the central government. The constitution makes mention of local administration, including municipalities and provinces. The constitution allows for restricted cooperation among the autonomous communities (allowance for agreements), but federations of constituent units are explicitly not allowed.
St. Kitts and Nevis	Yes	Yes	No	This case presents the unique characteristic that only Nevis is endowed with its own government. Therefore, Nevis has a say in the affairs of St. Kitts through the central government, but the reverse is not true. The constitution indicates that federal government can however make laws regarding Nevis going beyond the exclusive federal list if the Nevis Assembly consents.
Switzerland	Yes (no explicit	Residual	Yes (no explicit	State governments are responsible for the implementation and administration of a wide

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
	federal list, but list of powers and dispositions on what is attributable to the Federation and in what way).		concurrent list, but list of powers and references to possibility of complementary cantonal measures)	range of federal legislation. The constitution allows for the celebration of “inter-cantonal treaties,” in particular to “fulfil tasks of regional interests.” There is also mention to the possibility of treaties between cantons and foreign countries (which need not to be contrary to the interests of the confederation). The constitution indicates that the autonomy of the municipalities is guaranteed.
United Arab Emirates	Yes	Residual	No	The Constitution allows “limited agreements of local administrative nature” between constituent units and neighbouring countries provided they are not in contradiction with the interests of the federation. (The Supreme Council is the highest federal authority and comprises the hereditary rulers of the seven emirates. The unicameral Federal National Council only has a consultative role).

Countries	Federal list of powers	Regional list of powers	Concurrent list of powers	Further relevant specific arrangementsⁱⁱ
United States	Yes	Residual	No	The constitution gives a list of prerogatives the states cannot take (including prohibition from entering into any treaty, alliance or confederation).
Venezuela	Yes	Yes + Residual	No	Mention of the need to guarantee municipal autonomy. An explicit list of the powers of the local governments is listed, together with provisions for transfer of services from the region to the municipalities. There is a specific list of prerogatives the states and the municipalities cannot take.

2. REGIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE FEDERAL LEGISLATURE

2.1 UNICAMERAL MODELS

Countries	Legislature
Comoros	The unicameral Assembly of the Union has 30 members, 15 of which are selected by the constituent units' assemblies (5 each), and 18 elected by direct universal suffrage in electoral districts to be designated by law
Micronesia	Unicameral Congress, composed of 14 members, unevenly distributed by state on the basis of population and territorial representation. Thus, each one of the 4 states has 1 seat (4) –4-year terms- + 10 members are elected by popular vote in single seat constituencies –2-year terms. The total territorial distribution is 6 + 4 + 2 + 2).
Serbia and Montenegro	The Assembly is composed of a total of 126 deputies, unevenly distributed between the two constituent units (91+ 35). The deputies are elected.
St. Kitts and Nevis	11 members popularly elected from single-member constituencies on the basis of population (8 Saint Kitts, 3 Nevis), and 3 appointed (2 by Prime Minister, 1 by leader of the opposition).
United Arab Emirates	The unicameral parliament (Federal National Council –advisory role) is appointed by the Emir. It is composed of 40 members unevenly distributed by constituent unit (8+ 8+ 6+ 6+ 4+ 4+ 4).
Venezuela	The members of the Assembly are directly elected through proportional representation (combination of party list and single member constituencies). Three seats are reserved for the indigenous peoples, and each constituent unit must have 3 members in the Assembly.

2.2 BICAMERAL MODELS

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
Argentina	Upper House is composed of 72 seats (3 per province + 3 for the Federal District).	No	<p>Upper House: National Congress Lower House: Chamber of Deputies.</p> <p>Both the lower and the upper house have the same power in drafting and approving legislation. The lower and the upper house have the right to amend drafts prepared by the other chamber. Refusal by the Executive to approve a draft is overturned by 2/3 of members of both chambers.</p>	No
Aus	Upper	No	Upper House: Senate	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
Australia	House is composed of 76 seats = 12 seats per state + 2 seats per territory.		<p>Lower House: House of Representatives</p> <p>Both the lower and the upper house have the same power in drafting and approving legislation. The lower and the upper house have the right to propose amendments to drafts prepared by the other chamber. In case of disagreement, a mediation mechanism is put in place. If disagreement persists, the bill is not approved.</p>	

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
Austria	No	Upper House is composed of 64 seats, unevenly distributed by constituent units (12, 11, 11, 10, 5, 5, 4, 3, 3). Governors have the right to participate in deliberations (but not to vote).	No	<p>Upper House: Federal Council Lower House: National Council</p> <p>Legislative proposals are submitted to the lower house (the Senate is allowed to send proposals). If the upper house has objections, it can send them to the House of Representatives. Ultimately, a veto of the upper house can only delay legislation, but the lower house has the final say in the approval of legislation.</p>
Belgium	No	Upper House	Upper House: Senate	

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		<p>is composed of 71 seats; 40 directly elected (25 Dutch and 15 French) + 31 indirectly elected –10 from the French Community Council, 10 from the Dutch Community Council, 1 from the German Community</p>	<p>Lower House: Chamber of Deputies</p> <p>In most cases, the Senate can examine a bill and suggest amendments which may or may not be accepted by the lower chamber. For issues where the Senate has the power to initiate legislation, the Chamber of Deputies has the final say as well. For community questions, the legislative process involves a legislative procedure that necessitates majority support within each parliamentary linguistic group both in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Senate (and 2/3 support in each chamber). Both houses, however, have the same degree of power for issues of international relations and the structure of the state.</p>	

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		Council- + 10 (6 Dutch and 4 French) appointed by senators from the 2 previous categories.		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Upper House (House of Peoples) is composed of 15 seats = 10 elected by the National Assembly of the Bosniac-	No	Upper House: House of Peoples Lower House: House of Representatives All legislation requires the approval of both chambers. The constitution stipulates that “best efforts” shall be made so that the majority includes at least 1/3 of	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
	Croat Federation (5 Croats, 5 Bosniacs) + 5 elected by the Parliament of the Republika Srpska.		votes of members of each entity. A clause in the constitution allows for a majority of members of a national group at the Upper House to consider a decision as “destructive of a vital interest”.	
Brazil	Upper House is composed of 81 seats = 3 per state +3 per Federal District	No	Upper House: Federal Senate Lower House: Chamber of Deputies The Senate has symmetric legislative powers to the Chamber of Deputies. A bill approved by one chamber of Congress is reviewed by the	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
			other, which can amend or veto it. In that case, the bill returns to the initial chamber. The Senate in fact has the exclusive power to approve presidential nominations and authorize debt margins for the states and municipalities.	
Canada	No	Upper House is composed of 105 seats (membership is appointed on a regional basis by Governor-Generals of the provinces),	Upper House: Senate Lower House: House of Commons Legislation must be passed both by the House of Commons and by the Senate.	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		unevenly distributed by constituent units (24, 24, 10, 10, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 4, 1,1, 1).		
Ethiopia	No	Upper House is composed of 117 seats = 71 appointed by regional bodies (it is up to the region to determine if	Upper House: House of Federation Lower House: House of Peoples' Representatives. The House of Federation has the exclusive right and the ultimate authority to interpret the constitution, and is given the decision power over key federal	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		the representative are elected by members of the regional parliaments or through direct elections) + 41 apportioned based on population.	issues (including division of revenues derived from joint Federal and State tax sources).	
Germany	No	Upper House is composed of 69 seats, indirectly	No	Upper House: Federal Assembly Lower House: Federal Council The upper house has the right to

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		elected by Land councils with a range of 3-6 per Land, depending upon Land size (less than 2 million inhabitants, 3 representatives; 2-6 million inhabitants, 4 representatives; 6-7 million inhabitants, 5		initiate legislation, and to comment on Federal Government bills before they are sent to the lower house. Approval of a bill at the upper house sends it to the lower house. For laws that would affect the administrative power or have financial implications for the territorial units, the consent of the upper house is necessary, but if it does not exist it can be overruled by the lower chamber after a limited period of time.

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		representatives; more than 7 million inhabitants, 6 representatives.		
India	No	Upper House (Council of States) is composed of 245 states: 233 unevenly distributed (34, 22, 19, 18, 18, 16, 16, 12, 11, 10, 10, 9, 7, 7, 5, 4, 3, 3,	No	<p>Upper House: House of States Lower House: House of the People</p> <p>All legislation except financial bills can be initiated at either house. Once approved at the house of origin, the bill is sent to the other chamber. In case of amendment or reject, a joint session is constituted (which favours the more numerous lower house).</p>

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1) + 12 appointed by the President.		
Malaysia	Upper House is composed of 69 seats = 43 nominated by the Paramount Ruler + 2 members per constituent unit	No	Upper House: Senate Lower House: House of Representatives A bill may originate in either House, and it needs to be passed by the two houses before being submitted to the Paramount Ruler for assent. If the bill is returned to the House of origin, it needs to be voted again, after consideration, by the two chambers.	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
Mexico	Upper House is composed of 128 members = 3 seats per state + 32 senators elected through proportional representation in the country as a whole.	No	Upper House: Senate Lower House: Federal Chamber of Deputies Bills approved in the chamber of origin are referred to the other for discussion. Rejection by the chamber of revision (initial or resulting from a process of amendment) ends the legislative process. However, the Senate has no say in the approval of the budget	
Nigeria	Upper House is composed of 109 members = 3	No	Upper House: Senate Lower House: House of Representatives.	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
	seats per state + 1 seat for the Federal Capital Territory.		The constitution empowers both the Senate and the House of Representatives to draft bills. Drafts are sent to the other house and passed there (or amended in agreement with the originating chamber) before being presented to the President for assent (if assent is withheld the law is approved by 2/3 in each chamber).	
Pakistan	Upper House is composed of 100 members = 22 per province (4 women +	No	No	Upper House: Senate Lower House: National Assembly Bills in certain areas can only be originated in the lower house. In other areas, bills can be originated in either House. A bill is transmitted to the other

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
	four technocrats including Ulema) + 4 Capital Territory (1 woman, 1 technocrat/ Ulema) + 8 Territory			house once approved in the chamber of origin. If the house of revision rejects or amends it, a mediation committee is constituted. Adoption requires joint session of Parliament (where the lower house has a higher number of members). The Senate does not have a role in the approval of the federal budget or any other “money bill”.
Russia	The Upper House is composed of 178 members = 2 delegates from each constituent unit (elected	No	No	Upper House: Federation Council Lower House: State Duma The constitution indicates the different areas of jurisdiction of the lower house and the upper House. However, if laws adopted by the Duma are rejected by the Federation Council, a conciliatory

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
	by the regional executive and legislative respectively).			commission is set up and the draft goes back to the Duma, which can adopt it (regardless of the position of the Federation Council) by 2/3 of the total number of votes.
South Africa	Upper House is composed of 90 members = 10 seats per constituent unit (elected by the provincial parliaments).	No	Upper House: National Council of Provinces Lower House: National Assembly. The National Council of Provinces holds significant powers, but only in areas of provincial competence. The upper house has the power to pass legislation with regards to matters within provincial functional areas, and to consider legislation passed by the lower house (National Assembly) - the lower house has the final decision only in the second case.	
Spain	No	Upper House	No	Upper House: Senate

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		<p>is composed of 259 members = 51 unevenly appointed seats by the Autonomous Communities' legislatures (8, 2, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 3, 7, 5, 2, 3, 6, 2, 1, 3, 1) + seats unevenly distributed for provinces as electoral constituencies (4 seats X</p>		<p>Lower House: National Assembly</p> <p>The Senate has the right of legal initiative, but the last decision on approving legislation is on the hands of the House of Representatives. The Senate can introduce amendments or veto drafts produced by the National Assembly (needs absolute majority to do so). The House overrides this veto by absolute majority.</p>

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
		47 provinces; 3 seats X 3 provinces, 2 seats X 2 provinces, 1 seat X 7 provinces).		
Switzerland	Upper House is composed of 46 seats = 2 seats per canton + 1 seat per half-canton	No	Upper House: Council of States Lower House: National Council Each of the two chambers is provided with the same degree of decision-making power by the constitution, so no legislation can be enacted without the agreement of both chambers.	No

Countries	Bicameralism			
	Representation of constituent units at the upper house ⁱⁱⁱ		Degree of importance of the upper house in the legislative process (vis-à-vis lower house) ^{iv}	
	Even	Uneven	Equivalent importance	Lower degree of importance
United States	The Upper House is composed of 100 members = 2 seats per state (no representation of the Federal District).	No	Upper House: Senate Lower House: House of Representatives Both houses can initiate the legislative procedure, and once a bill is voted in a house is sent to the other for action. If the bill is amended in the house of revision, a mediation mechanism is established.	No

3. MECHANISMS FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
Argentina	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision
Australia	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision	The Ministerial Council exists as an intergovernmental meeting forum where potential constitutional disputes are settled before arriving to the High Court.
Austria	The Constitutional Court exists as a joint	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	institution of the federation and the states. Three of the 14 members and one of its six substitute members are nominated by the territorial chamber.		
Belgium	No particular constitutional provision	The Court of Arbitration is composed of 12 judges, 6 Dutch-speakers and 6 French-speakers.	Establishment of a Concertation Committee, multilateral body composed of the federal Prime Minister, five federal ministers, and six members of the federated governments. The body is equally

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
		There are two Presidents (alternation), one from each linguistic group.	divided between French and Dutch speakers. It does not review the legality but the advisability of an executive or legislative measure.
Bosnia-Herzegovina	The Bosniac-Croat House of Representatives selects four members of the Constitutional Court and the Assembly of the Republika Srpska selects two members. Three other	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	members (international) are selected by the President of the European Court of Human Rights after consultation with the Presidency.		
Brazil	The Federal Supreme Court is composed of 11 Justices who are appointed by the	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	President and subjected to the approval of the Senate by absolute majority.		
Canada	No particular constitutional provision	Judges of the Supreme Court of Canada are appointed solely by the government of Canada with no formal provincial role, although judges are generally appointed based	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
		on regional criteria.	
Comoros	(unicameral) No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision
Ethiopia	The House of Federation is the sole custodian of the constitution and ultimate authority for its interpretation.	No particular constitutional provision	The Council of Constitutional Inquiry is established to examine constitutional issues and submit findings to the House of Federation. The establishment of this Council is assigned to the House of Federation itself.
Germany	The German	No particular	No particular constitutional

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	Federal Constitutional Court is composed of members elected by the Federal Parliament, half elected by the Upper House and half elected by the Lower House.	constitutional provision	provision
India	No particular constitutional provision	The Supreme Court of India is composed by the Chief Justice of	The constitution allows the President to establish an inter-State Council charge with the duty (inter alia) of “inquiring into and advising

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
		India and “not more than seven other judges”, everyone of each “shall be appointed by the President (...) after consultation with the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts in the states.	upon disputes which may have arisen between States”.
Malaysia	No particular constitutional provision	The Supreme Court is composed by a president and the Chiefs Justices of the High Courts	A 1988 constitutional amendment transferred the power of judicial review from the courts to parliament.

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
		–there are two High Courts of co-ordinate jurisdiction and status, one for Peninsular Malaysia and the other for the States of Sabah and Sarawak - (+other additional judges).	
Mexico	Members of the Supreme Court of Justice need the approval of the Camber of	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	Senators.		
Micronesia	(unicameral). Members of the Supreme Court need the approval of 2/3 of Congress.	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision
Nigeria	The Supreme Court of Nigeria is composed of the Chief Justice of Nigeria and no more than 21 Justices, and	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	their appointments are subject to the confirmation of the Senate.		
Pakistan	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision	The constitution outlines the Council of the Common Interests, as a quasi-executive body comprising of the chief executives of the centre and the provinces. This Council has been given the mandate to take matters of dispute between the provinces, and between the centre and any one or more provinces. A National Finance Commission takes issues related to

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
			the distribution of federal tax receipts (article 160).
Russia	The constitution states that the 19 members of the Constitutional Court must be nominated by the President and confirmed by the Federation Council.	No particular constitutional provision	The constitution outlines two mechanisms for resolving disputes between the federal government and the constituent units, or between the constituent units. Article 85 states that the President “may use dispute-settlement procedures” in case of conflict. The President is also entitled the power to suspend executive acts of the constituent units if they contradict federal legislation.
Serbia and Montenegro	(unicameral) The	No particular constitutional	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	Constitutional Charter indicates that the Court “shall include an equal number of judges from both member states”, which “shall be elected by the Assembly of Serbia and Montenegro upon the proposal of the Council of Ministers”.	provision	

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
South Africa	Constitutional provisions do not involve the upper house, but the lower house	The constitution indicates that the appointment of judicial officers has to take into account “the need for the judiciary to reflect broadly the racial and gender composition” of the country.	Provision requiring organs of state involved in intergovernmental dispute to make every reasonable effort to settle the dispute and to exhaust all other remedies before accessing a court to resolve a dispute.
Spain	The Constitutional Court is composed of 12 members, of	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
	which 4 are nominated by the Senate.		
St. Kitts and Nevis	(unicameral) No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision
Switzerland	No particular constitutional provision	The justices of the Federal Court are elected by the Federal Parliament taking into account “the representation of the official languages.”	Reference to disputes between cantons – or between cantons and the confederation – to be resolved through negotiation or mediation.

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
United Arab Emirates	(unicameral) No role for the legislative body.	The Supreme Court is appointed by the President of the Federation with the agreement of the Supreme Council.	No particular provision
United States	The members of the US Supreme Court are appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate.	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

Countries	Role of constituent units in the composition of the constitutional court		Existence of non-judicial territorial dispute-resolution mechanisms
	Through territorial chambers	Through special regional / linguistic provisions	
Venezuela	(unicameral) No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision	No particular constitutional provision

4. ASSYMETRICAL FEDERALISM

Countries	Symmetry	Asymmetrical provisions
Argentina	Yes	No
Australia	Yes	No
Austria	Yes	No
Belgium	No	Constitutional asymmetry exists not only in the differences in jurisdiction of the three territorial constituent regions and the three non-territorial constituent communities, but also in the interrelation between regional councils and community councils.
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Yes	No
Brazil	Yes	No
Canada	No	Constitutional arrangements include constitutional asymmetry related to the denominational and linguistic guarantees in education and the use of French as official language (Quebec has its own civil code –the rest of Canada uses common law-, its own income tax system, its own pension plan, and its own linguistic laws). The constitutional protection for denominational schools varies among provinces.

Countries	Symmetry	Asymmetrical provisions
Comoros	Yes	No
Ethiopia	Yes	No
Germany	Yes	No
India	No	The Indian constitution includes adjustments similar to the Malaysian case in constitutional jurisdiction applied to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and to some of the small states that contain distinct ethnic groups (see Malaysia). Pressures towards further political decentralization at the sub-state level brought constitutional amendments in the 1980s in the direction of transferring areas of jurisdiction from the state to the municipal level and introducing new levels in the system (each state has become a federating unit in itself).
Malaysia	No	When the Borneo states (Sabah and Sarawak) joined the federation in 1963, concessions were made in order to provide them with exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction over matters that come under federal jurisdiction in the other constituent units (native laws, communications, shipping, fisheries). Other issues – such as immigration - technically remains under federal authority, but state approval is needed when applied in their area of jurisdiction.
Mexico	Yes	No
Micronesia	Yes	No
Nigeria	Yes	No
Pakistan	Yes	No

Countries	Symmetry	Asymmetrical provisions
Russia	No	The Russian case shows a variety in the powers of the 89 component units, in a context where many of them have concluded bilateral treaties with the federation providing for asymmetrical treatment within the formally symmetrical framework of the Russian Federation. Constitutionally, asymmetrical features arise from the distinction between republics and other constituent units (only republics shall have their own constitutions and laws –other units can have their statutes and laws; also only the republics have the right to establish their own state languages in addition to Russian). Beyond constitutional dispositions, there are treaties and agreements between the federation and the different units that strengthen the asymmetrical character of the federal framework.
Serbia and Montenegro	Yes	No
South Africa	Yes	No
Spain	No	The Spanish case is an example of the existence of constitutional provisions enabling state governments to take up the full exercise of their autonomy at different speeds. The approach has been to recognize variations in the pressures for autonomy by constitutionally granting to each constituent unit its own statute of autonomy tailored to its particular set of political ambition within the limits also provided by the constitution. Different ways of achievement of autonomy are linked to different degrees of regional power.
St. Kitts and	No	The asymmetry consists on the fact that only Nevis is endowed with its own

Countries	Symmetry	Asymmetrical provisions
Nevis		government, unlike Saint Kitts. This means in practice that Nevis has a say in national affairs –and therefore also has a role in the affairs of Saint Kitts through its representatives at the federal level-, but this condition does not exist in the case of Saint Kitts.
Switzerland	Yes	No
United Arab Emirates	No	As a federation of seven different emirates, the constitution reflects a compromise between emirates in favour of a more centralized or integrated federation and those that preferred preserving the autonomy of the individual emirates. Beyond these provisions, the constitution also includes asymmetric features in what refers to the distribution of powers among emirates in the decision-making process at the federal level (two of the emirates –Abu Dhabi and Dubai- have an effective veto power within the Supreme Council).
United States	Yes	No
Venezuela	Yes	No

5. CONSTITUENT UNITS

Country	Constituent units	Existence of constitutional provisions for establishment / delineation of constituent units
Argentina	22 provinces, + 1 Federal District + 1 National Territory = 24 constituent units	Allowance for the admission of new provinces. Provisions for new delineation of provinces.
Australia	6 states + 1 Capital Territory + 1 (mainland) territory = 8 constituent units	Reference to mechanisms for establishment or alteration of the limits of a state.
Austria	9 states	Provisions for change of boundaries of a territory.
Belgium	6 constituent units: 3 regions territorially defined + 3 linguistic communities	Allowance for a territory to shield from division into provinces + allowance to the possibility of delimitations of linguistic regions, provinces and communes to be modified by law.
Bosnia-Herzegovina	2 administrative divisions	No special provision
Brazil	26 states +1 Federal District (constituent units)	Provisions for change of state boundaries and mergers.
Canada	10 Provinces and 3 Territories (constituent units)	Reference to procedures for admission of new territories.

Country	Constituent units	Existence of constitutional provisions for establishment / delineation of constituent units
Comoros	4 islands	No special provision,
Ethiopia	9 states + 2 Chartered cities (constituent units)	Provisions for establishment of states and for border changes.
Germany	16 states	Description of procedures for a change in the delimitation of the constituent units.
India	28 states (constituent units) + 6 union territories + 1 National Capital Territory	Provisions for establishment of new states.
Malaysia	13 states (constituent units) + 2 federal territories	Provision for admitting other states to the federation and for a new delimitation of states.
Mexico	31 states + 1 Federal District = 32 constituent units	Delimitation of the states is to be kept “provided no difficulties arise concerning them”.
Micronesia	4 states	Reference to mechanisms for changing state boundaries and for adding territory to the federation. The possibility of formation of new states is contemplated.
Nigeria	36 states + 1 territory = 37 constituent units	Provision for the possibility of creation of new states and adjustment of boundaries.

Country	Constituent units	Existence of constitutional provisions for establishment / delineation of constituent units
Pakistan	4 provinces + 1 Territory + 1 Capital Territory = 6 constituent units	Reference to further legal provisions to admit new states into the federation, and reference to states and territories that “may be included” in Pakistan in the list of territories of the country.
Russia	21 republics + 49 provinces + 10 autonomous districts + 6 Territories + 2 Cities of Federal Significance + 1 Jewish Autonomous Oblast = 89 constituent units	Provisions for accession to the federation and formation of a new subject. The constitution indicates that the status of a constituent unit can be changed provided there is mutual consent of the unit and the Russian federation. Boundaries between subjects of the federation may be changed by their mutual agreement.
Serbia and Montenegro	2 republics	Explicit indication that the border between the member states is unchangeable “except by mutual consent.”
South Africa	9 provinces	Indication that the boundaries of the provinces are those that existed when the constitution took effect.
Spain	17 autonomous communities	Establishment of three different ways for the acquisition of autonomy. 1) “territories which in the past have, by plebiscite, approved draft Statutes of Autonomy” had the right to proceed to autonomy immediately; 2) “bordering provinces with common historic, cultural and economic characteristics” could

Country	Constituent units	Existence of constitutional provisions for establishment / delineation of constituent units
		achieve autonomy through a “slow route” providing for a five-year period accessing to the full list of powers under regional purview; 3) “exceptional route” that allowed for communities to proceed to autonomy along a route that eliminated the five-year waiting period through a system of local initiatives and referenda.
St. Kitts and Nevis	2 islands	Provisions for the potential secession of Nevis.
Switzerland	20 cantons and 6 half-cantons = 26 constituent units.	Provision for modifications in the number of cantons or their status, and for modifications of the territory of a canton. The constitution allows for treaties between cantons regarding inter-cantonal boundary settlement.
United Arab Emirates	7 emirates	Allowance for any independent Arab country to adhere to the federation provided specific mechanisms are followed. The federation considers itself part of the Arab nation.
United States	50 states + 1 Federal District = 51 constituent units	Provision for the admission of new states, but explicit prohibition to form a state within the jurisdiction of another state, and to form a state by uniting states or part thereof.

Country	Constituent units	Existence of constitutional provisions for establishment / delineation of constituent units
Venezuela	23 states + 1 Federal District + 1 Federal Dependency = 25 constituent units	Reference to the possibility of incorporation of other territories in the Republic.

SUMMARY TABLE

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Argentina	Yes	Yes + residual	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Australia	Yes	Residual	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Austria	Yes	Residual + implementation of federal legislation	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Belgium	Yes	Yes + residual	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Asymmetry
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Yes	Residual	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Brazil	Yes	Residual	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Symmetry
Canada	Yes + Residual	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Comoros	Yes	Residual from concurrent	Residual	No	No	Unicameral		Yes	Symmetry
Ethiopia	Yes	Yes + Residual	Yes	Yes	Yes-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Germany	Yes	Residual + implementation of federal legislation	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
India	Yes + Residual	Yes + implementation of federal legislation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Malaysia	Yes	Yes + Residual + implementation of federal legislation	Yes	Yes	- Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Mexico	Yes	Residual	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Micronesia	Yes	Residual	Yes	Yes (unicameral legislature)	No	Unicameral		No	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Nigeria	Yes	Residual	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry
Pakistan	Yes	Residual	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Russia	Yes	Residual	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Serbia and Montenegro	Yes	Residual	No	Yes (unicameral legislature)	No	Unicameral		Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
South Africa	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Appeal to intergovernmental negotiation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Spain	Yes	Yes (list they “may” assume) + residual	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
St. Kitts and Nevis	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Unicameral		Yes	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
Switzerland	Yes (list of what is attributable to the federation in what way).	Residual + implementation of federal legislation	Yes (list of powers and references to possibility of complementary cantonal measures)	Yes	Appeal to intergovernmental negotiation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
United Arab Emirates	Yes	Residual	No	Yes	No	Unicameral		Yes	Asymmetry

Countries	Distribution of powers					Population and regional representation		Special provisions for regions	
	Executive and legislative			Judicial					
	Federal	Regional	Concurrent	Regional role in election of members of Const. or Supreme Court as expressed in the Const.	Non-judicial mechanisms for dispute resolution	Lower house	Upper house	Specific mention of constituent units	Symmetry / asymmetry) –as provided by the constitution
United States	Yes	Residual	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Symmetry
Venezuela	Yes	Yes + Residual	No	No	No	Unicameral		Yes	Symmetry

ⁱ The list has been compiled on the basis of the existence of federal arrangements, as described by Romald Watts, *Comparing Federal Systems in the 1990s* (Kingston, Ont., Institute of Intergovernmental Relations, Queen's University, 1996) and Ann L. Griffiths (ed), *Handbook of Federal Systems, 2002* (Montreal and Kingston, Forum of Federations, McGill-Queen's University Press, 2002).

ⁱⁱ This section of the table includes references to administration of federal legislation by the constituent unit, references to local government, inter-regional cooperation, and possibility of international agreements by constituent units, together with other specific particular provisions.

ⁱⁱⁱ It needs to be noted that Australia, Nigeria, Switzerland and the United States make a distinction between units in their territorial organization, and grant different representation to each kind of unit. However, their territorial representation at the upper chamber has been listed as “even”, because they do grant the same degree of representation within each of the categories (state and territory in the case of Australia, canton and half-canton in the case of Switzerland, state and federal capital in the cases of Nigeria and the United States).

^{iv} Countries have been distributed on the basis of the interpretation given by relevant literature and the provisions included in their constitutional texts. As it will be noted, in certain cases constitutional provisions do not allow for such simplification, because different decision-making powers are granted to each chamber regarding different issues, and what could be considered as lower importance of the upper house in certain areas of jurisdiction needs to be contrasted with a decisive (equivalent or even higher) role in others.