**Government Distribution of POWER**

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|  | **Characteristics** | **Advantages** | **Disadvantages** | **Examples** |
| **Unitary** | **Central Government has ALL the Power.****There is a constitution that outlines the powers of the central government and the people.****Central government can give power to the lower levels like States/local government but, this power can be taken away at any time.** | **Central government can** **easily to settle problems****(no interference with lower levels)****easily to know who makes decisions.****allows for a more unified (together) country.**  | **Central government might not have all the answers to the problems/issues.****might not be able to handle ALL the problems.** | **United Kingdom****France** |
| **Confederation** | **A Confederation is a small group of states or communities that come together to help solve common problems.****Usually formed with a treaty that may have a constitution.****All participants are equal and must meet before taking action.****This is usually the first step toward creating a more powerful government.** | **Members can choose the best option or decision for local issues** | **Past governments have been unsuccessful.****Less unified****Do not have to agree with other laws.** | **European Union****Commonwealth of Nations** |
| **Federal** | **Have a constitution****Central government shares power with the lower levels (States)****Power cannot be taken for lower levels.** | **States/local governments can solve problems while the central governments focus on bigger issues.****Check each other for bad decisions****Efficient way to manage****Many opportunities for citizens to participate.** | **Confusion on roles/who has what power****Less unified (together)****Each state/local government have different laws****Slow to process/pass an amendment** | **United States****Germany** |