

5.3

President's Domestic Powers



As a Young Political Scientist, I will be able to...

- List the reasons for the growth of presidential power and explain how the systems of checks and balances limits that growth.**
- Understand the constitutional powers of the President, including the President's power to execute the law and issue executive orders.**
- Explain how certain provisions of the Constitution provide for checks and balances among the three branches of government, including the appointment and removal powers of the President.**
- Examine the powers of executive privilege and clemency, and consider notable examples of their use over time.**
- Explain the legislative powers and how they are an important part of the system of checks and balances.**

Framers Debate

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, painterly tones.

The Framers debated heavily on the powers of the presidency.

They feared they might become a new “king” of the United States.

If it were not the first president was Washington, we might not have a Presidential office.

The role & power of the president has changed dramatically over the years.

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, artistic rendering of the American flag. The stars in the upper left are prominent, and the stripes flow across the bottom. The colors are slightly muted and textured, giving it a painterly or aged appearance.

The Wig Theory

Presidents took a restrained approach for the office.

Andrew Jackson took a much more forward approach to the office, people viewed him as a tyrant

Abe Lincoln took far reaching approaches to help the country through the Civil War.

The Stewardship Theory

Teddy Roosevelt believed the President should be allowed to do anything unless the Constitution said otherwise.

The Stewardship Theory said the President should lead the nation & build public support for policy

Franklin D. Roosevelt cemented this approach to help the country out of the Great Depression

The background of the slide is a stylized, painterly representation of the United States flag. It features a field of white stars on a blue background in the upper left, and wavy horizontal stripes of red and white in the lower right. The overall style is soft and artistic, with visible brushstrokes and a slightly blurred effect.

***Expansion**

1. The Constitution is vague on the powers of the President so they filled the void of power

2. The President also expanded the executive office to support various programs

3. The nations expanding economy called for new Presidential powers

4. The need for immediate decisions, especially for war.

5. The President is able to focus attention towards people, Congress can only draft policy

Limits to Power

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, painterly tones.

The Constitution still provides restraints on the exercise of powers

Congress, using checks & balances, watches the executive branch

Congress will often hold investigations & trials to check this check.

Critics will argue that the President needs to act quickly, others are worried the President has too much power.

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Power to Execute the Law

The President's job is to execute the provisions of federal law.

The President also has to “take care” of the law & people

The President & the cabinet also have the power to interpret the law

This is due in part that many laws are written broadly.

Orders & Privilege

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, golden tones.

Executive Orders- Directives, rules, or regulations that have the effect of a law

Ordinance Power- The constitution & Congress allows these orders

The scope of government has grown vastly so these orders are essential.

Executive Privilege- This is the right to refuse to disclose certain information to Congress

Congress has never recognized this & will still try to force a president to testify

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Powers of Appointment & Removal

The President has the power to appoint people to office to help them administer goals

1. Ambassadors & diplomats

2. Cabinet Members

3. Heads of independent agencies

4. Federal Judges, marshals, & attorneys

5. All officers in the armed forces

*****Senate must approve these appointments**

Appointments & Removals

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, muted tones.

The President can fill vacancies while the Senate is at recess. This can bypass the Senate

The President can also remove people from office (except judges), but can be risky

There are now rules to limit this power & President is supposed to consult Senate about removals

President may remove those whom they have appointed to an office

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Powers of Clemency

These are reprieves & pardons for offenses (except impeachment) & only federal offenses

Reprieve- Postponement of the execution of a sentence

Pardon- Legal forgiveness of a crime.

Commutation- the power to reduce a fine or the length of a sentence imposed by a court.

Amnesty- A blanket pardon offered to a group of law violators

The Power to Recommend Legislation

**The President has the power to check the powers
of Congress**

**They can also initiate, suggest, & demand
Congress to make a law**

**They will send messages to Capitol Hill each year to
outline plans & wants**

**They can also call special sessions or force adjourn
Congress (never happened yet)**

The background of the slide is a close-up, artistic rendering of the American flag. The stars in the upper left are sharp and bright, while the stripes in the lower right are blurred and flowing, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Power of Veto

4 options a President can do when Congress approves a measure..

1. Sign the Bill making it a law

2. Veto the bill, shutting it down. Congress can override this with 2/3rds vote

3. By not signing the bill it can become a law

4. *Pocket Veto*- Congress adjourns & President ignores the law, it dies.

Final Approvals

The background of the slide is a close-up, artistic rendering of the American flag. The stars and stripes are visible, with a soft, painterly texture. The colors are slightly muted, giving it a historical or official feel.

The President is expected to have a signed statement on why they approved or disapproved a law

They are more commonly used to direct the law & how its enforced

Overtime the debate for a **line-item veto- vetoing just portions of a law- has been argued.**