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**history 3<sup>rd</sup> Kanti study sheet for the test on the 11/11/2011**

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# POLITICAL SCIENCE I

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## INFO

This is a study sheet by Linus Metzler about Political Science I, which was mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kanti at Mr. Herzog. There is no claim for completeness. All warranties are disclaimed.



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**STUDY PART****THE STATE**

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**YOU KNOW THE STATE'S PURPOSES**

According to <http://www.admin.ch/ch/e/rs/101/a2.html> the purposes of the Swiss Confederation are

- Protect liberty and rights of the people
- Safeguard the independence and security of Switzerland
- Promote the common welfare, sustainable development, internal cohesion and cultural diversity of the country.
- Ensure the greatest possible equality of opportunity among its citizens
- To be committed to the long term preservation of natural resources and to a just and peaceful international order

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**YOU CAN EXPLAIN HOW AND WHY THEY MAY CHANGE**

The aforementioned purposes may change over time caused by internal and external influences, such as

- Internal
  - Demographic changes
  - Drastic changes of economics (i.e. industrialization)
  - Drastic social changes e.g. after a war or emancipation of women
- External
  - Threat situation
  - Economic situation
  - environmental situation

## POLITICAL SYSTEMS

## YOU KNOW THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SYSTEMS DISCUSSED

Direct Democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•no head of state</li> <li>•legislative elected by the people</li> <li>•executive elected by the legislative</li> <li>•judiciary elected by the legislative</li> </ul>
presidential democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•president is head of state</li> <li>•legislative &amp; executive elected by the people</li> <li>•judiciary elected by the executive</li> <li>•suspensive veto by the president in the legislative possible (if not outruled by a 2/3 majority in the parliament)</li> </ul>
parliamentary democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•the head of state ("federal president") has very limited power</li> <li>•legislative elected by the people</li> <li>•executive elected by the legislative</li> <li>•federal chancellor (prime minister) appointed by the head of state</li> <li>•judiciary elected by the legislative</li> <li>•chancellor can be dismissed at any time</li> <li>•chancellor can dissolve parliament at any time</li> </ul>
semi-presidential democracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•president has no veto right, although he/she is head of state</li> <li>•president is not prime minister</li> <li>•people elect parliament &amp; president</li> </ul>

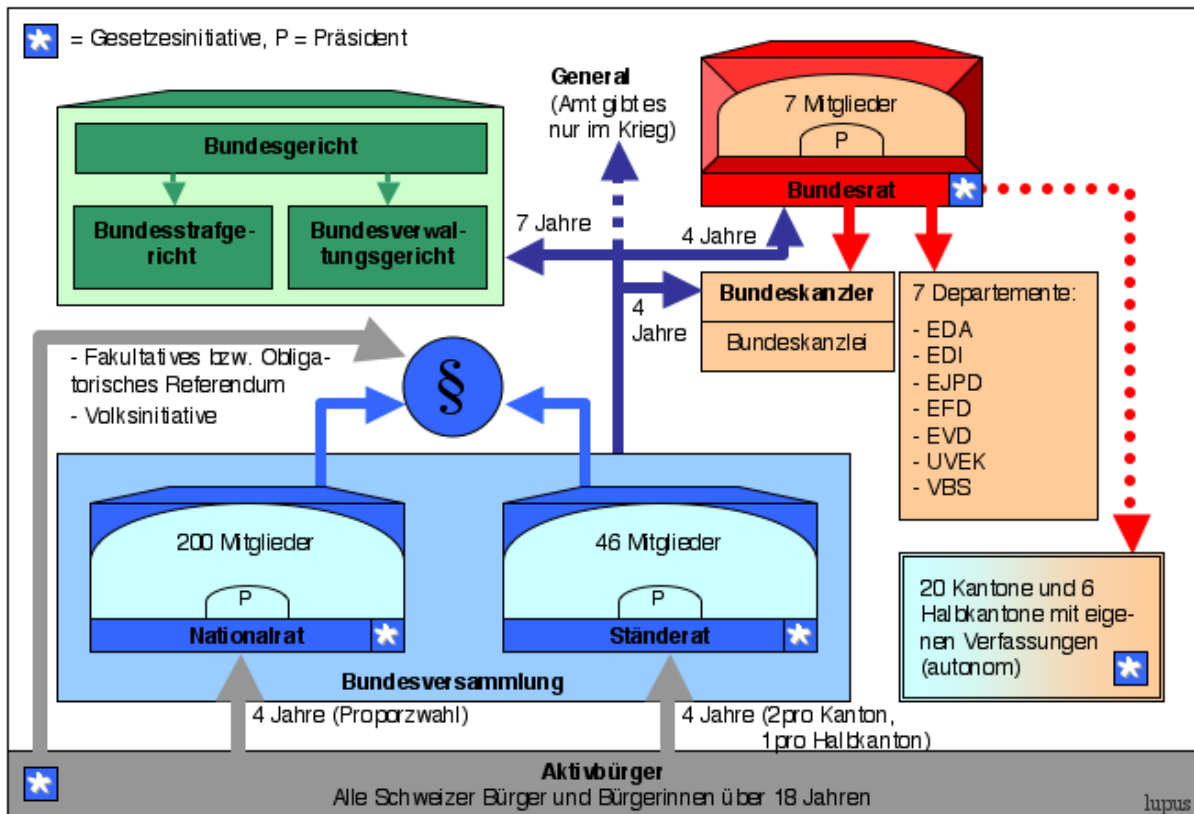
## YOU CAN DESCRIBE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

- + all four of them are democracies
- + at least the legislative is elected by the people
- there's not always a veto
- the head of state's power differs
- and much more!

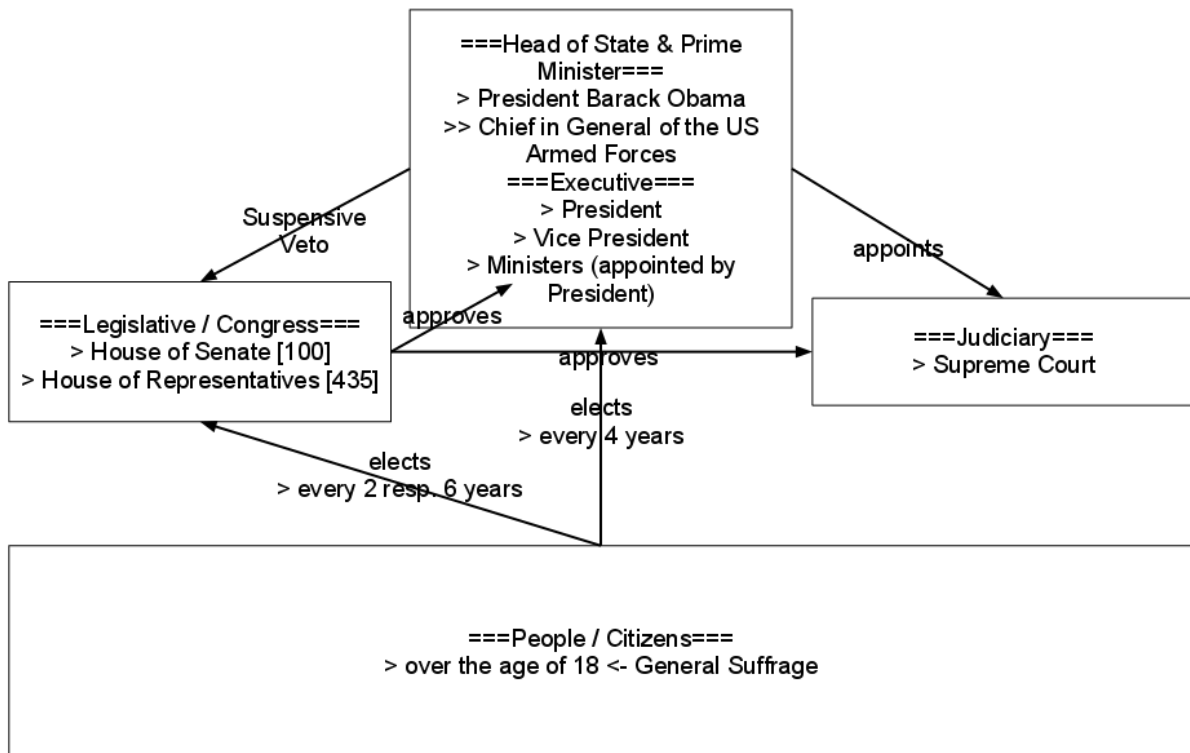
*I THINK, YOU SEE FRUTHER DETAILS IN THE OBJECTIVE BEFORE AND AFTER THIS ONE.*

## YOU KNOW EXAMPLES

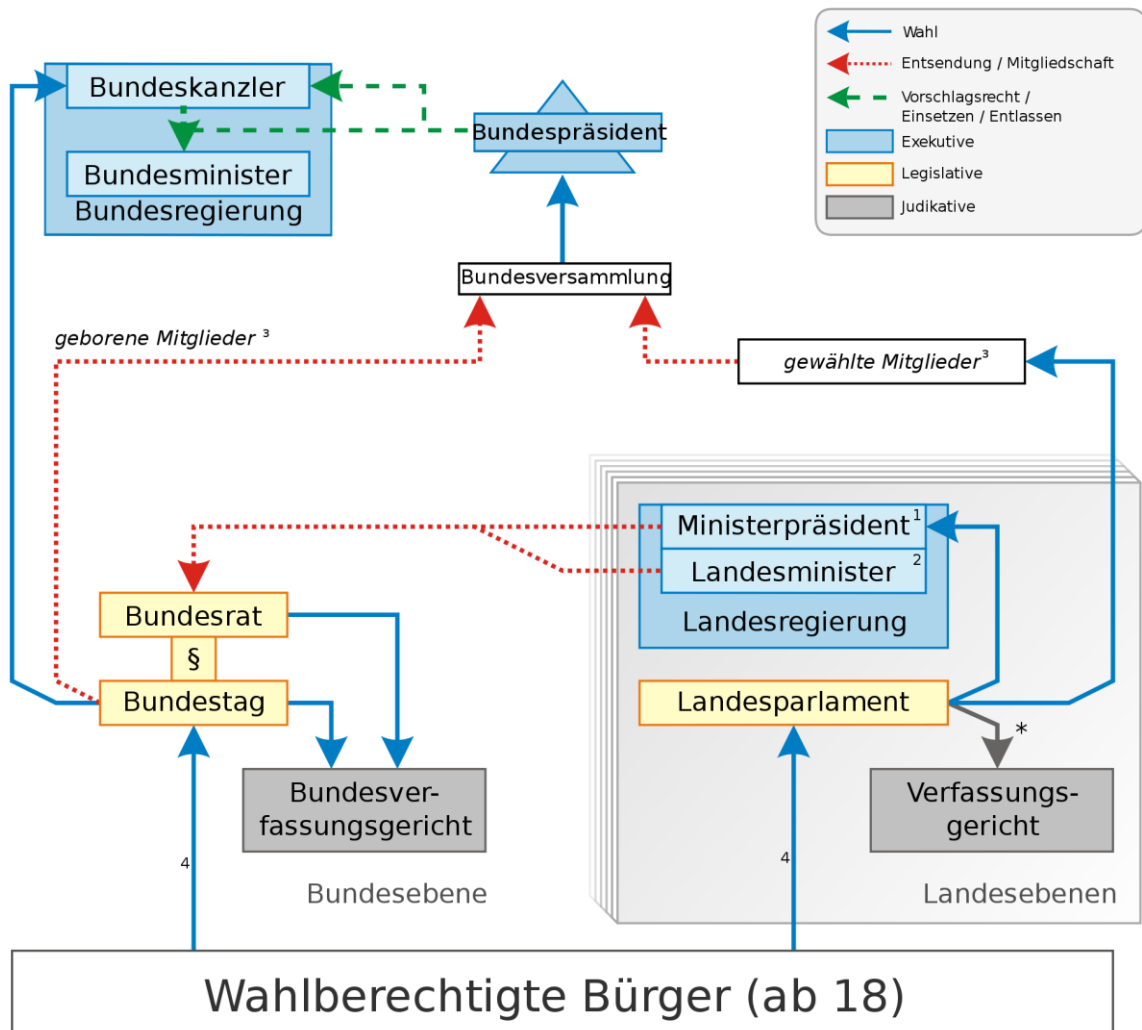
DIRECT DEMOCRACY » SWITZERLAND



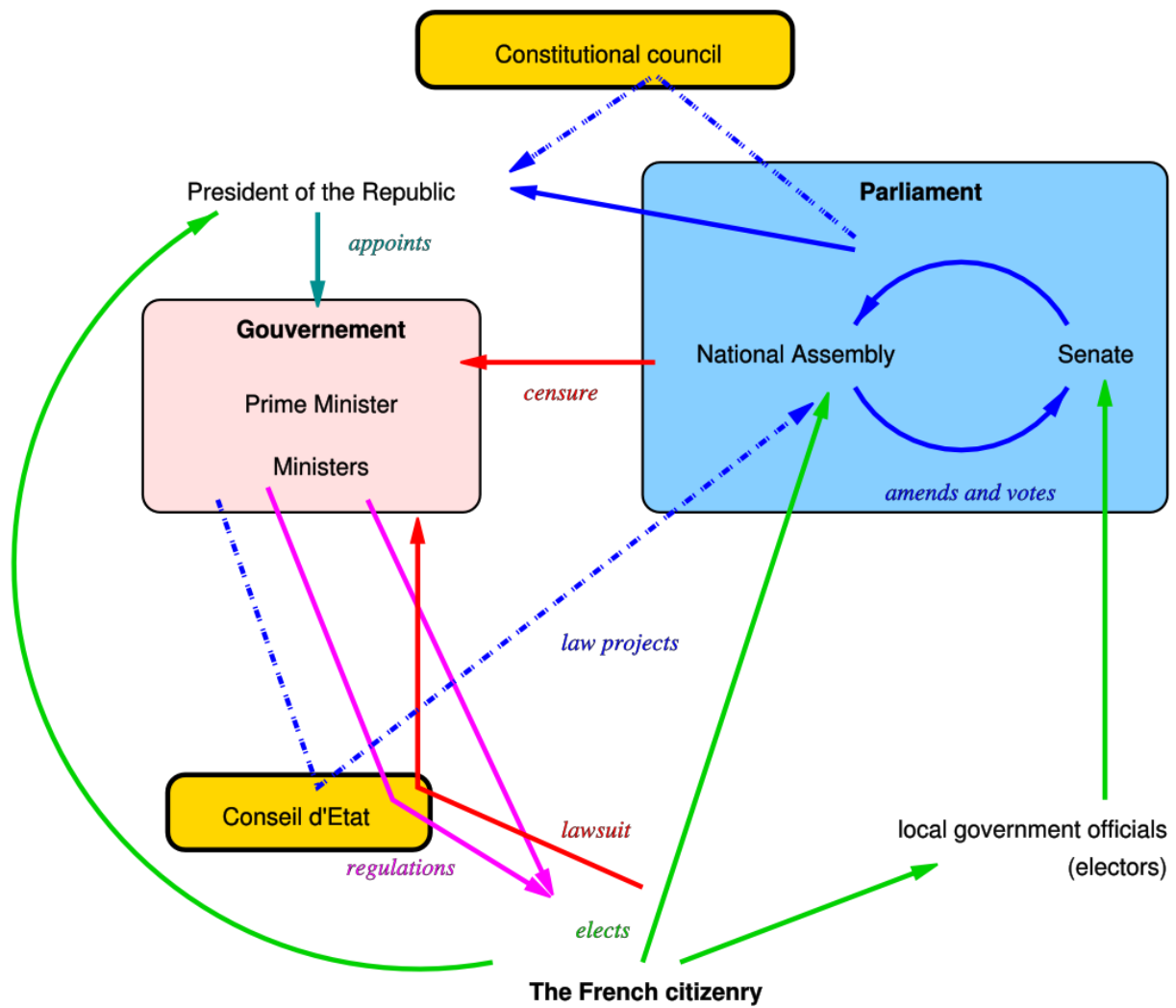
PRESIDENTIAL DEMOCRACY » USA



PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY » GERMANY



SEMI-PRESIDENTIAL DEMOCRACY » FRANCE



THE FORMATION OF GOVERNMENTS

YOU CAN EXPLAIN THE WAY GOVERNMENTS ARE CONSTITUTED (VARIOUS TYPES)

PLEASE SEE "POLITICAL SYSTEMS"

YOU KNOW SOME EXAMPLES

PLEASE SEE "POLITICAL SYSTEMS"

YOU CAN COMPARE THE SWISS WAY OF FORMING A GOVERNMENT WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

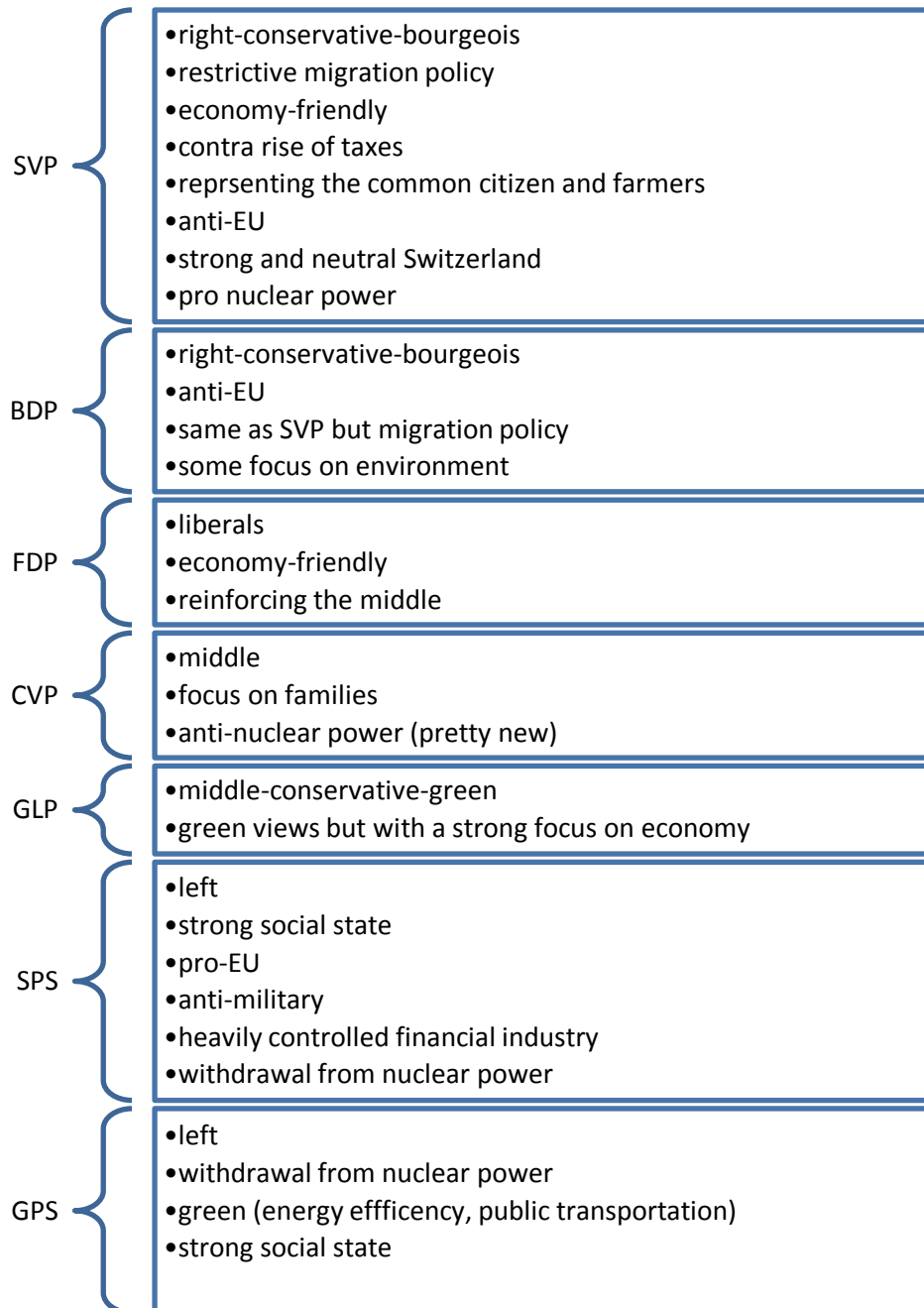
Though mentioned before, the main points are

- executive elected by legislative
- no head of state
- executive consist of seven equal members, of which one has formally more power, though it's only for representational purposes
- Switzerland is based on concordance rather than opposition

- Very extensive democratic rights

SWISS PARTIES

YOU CAN COMPARE THE MAJOR SWISS PARTIES WITH RESPECT TO THEIR GENERAL POSITIONS AND VIEWS



YOU CAN DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT ELECTIONS AND THEIR IMPACTS

WILL FOLLOW AS SOON AS DISCUSSED IN SCHOOL