



FEDERALISM 101

Philippine Context



What is Federalism?

Federalism is a compound mode of government, combining a central national government with regional governments in a single political system, where power is shared between the two divisions of government.



Decentralization of Powers

In order to make our government more responsive to people's needs, it has become necessary to decentralize power from the **central government** to units of **local government**. The central government through the years has gradually ceded its powers, but even today much of the countryside is chained to "Imperial Manila."



Federalism is this Administration's solution to our problem of weak local autonomy.

Under this new system, the relationship between the central government and the proposed "states" will be as **equal partners** bound together by law instead of the age-old master-servant dichotomy.



The OVERALL OBJECTIVE of federalism in the Philippines is to make government more responsive to the ever changing circumstances and needs of the people. It aims to **hasten the delivery of basic services** and accelerate implementation of good programs. Ultimately the objective of federalism is to ensure that our people fully enjoy the benefits of democracy.



Benefits of Power Sharing under the Federal Form of Government

Tax Remittance and Budget

Only the revenue share of the central government shall be remitted to them instead of the entire revenue collected, giving localities readily accessible funds to deliver basic needs and services, further its projects and better respond to emergencies.



Benefits of Power Sharing under the Federal Form of Government

Economic Policies and Inter-State Commerce

Each state may adopt an economic policy that best suits its local conditions with minimal intervention from the central government. States may likewise showcase their hallmark goods or services for the consumption of the other states or other countries.



Benefits of Power Sharing under the Federal Form of Government

Dispersal Effect

Each state develops its own center of opportunities or “Manila” which lures its people who have gone to Manila back thereby contributing to the resolution of our traffic woes. Dispersed resources and development means dispersed population.



Benefits of Power Sharing under the Federal Form of Government

Better Representation & Peace in Muslim Mindanao

Under the federal form, our Muslim brethren will be able to attain the degree of autonomy and consistent significant representation in gov. which they have long yearned and fought for thereafter instituting peace and security to one of the most war-torn regions of SEA.



Survey of Countries with Federal Systems of Government

- **Russian Federation** - Russia is home to diverse racial groups, administered across vast swathes of land where local autonomy is indispensable.
- **Federal Republic of Germany** - While most Germans belong to one racial group, they nonetheless adopted federalism as their regions have traditionally been separate states unifying only in the 19th century



- **Malaysia** - Our close neighbor with a racial profile and history not unlike our own. Malaysia was able to bring its citizens to the 21st century by empowering local governments, ensuring that national growth is as inclusive as possible.
- **United States of America** - The most popular example of federalism, the US Constitution guaranties the autonomy of the various states while providing strong protection to individual rights of its citizens.