Government
The system of rule by which a country, state, or community is governed or managed
Human Rights
Rights which a person is entitled to just because he or she is a human being.
Federal
Relating to a Central Government system of a nation
Unlimited (Totalitarian) Government

An Unlimited or Totalitarian Government is where the government recognizes no limits to its authority and tries to regulate every aspect of the public and private life of its citizens.

Unlimited = NO Limits!

Totalitarian = Total Power!
Oppression

unjust or cruel use of authority or power
Absolute Monarchy

Government by a king, a queen, a prince, an emir or other member of royalty. This ruler has absolute power. His or her word is law.

Current Ruler of Saudi Arabia: Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud
Dictatorship

A single person rules with unlimited power.
Communism (Single Party State)

A system of government in which a single party (group of people) controls the government and the economy.
Oligarchy

Government ruled by a small, elite group.

South Africa from 1948 to 1994 (during apartheid) was ruled by the 25% white population who hold all the power and wealth in the nation at that time.
Theocracy
Religious leaders control the government. They rely on the laws of their religion to run their nation and they often seek the advice and approval of religious scholars.

Pope, Leader of Vatican City and the Roman Catholic Church

Ali Khamenei, Supreme Leader of Iran
Limited Government

A Limited Government is where the government recognizes limits to its authority as restricted by law usually in a written constitution to minimize the government’s power in civil liberties.

Limited = Government is Limited!
Civil Liberties

Civil liberties are rights and freedoms for individuals without government interference. Some examples of civil liberties include the freedom from slavery, torture, death, freedom of speech, religion, and right to life.
Republic

A form of government in which the people or their elected representatives possess supreme power.
Constitutional Government

Any government whose authority and construction are defined by a constitution.
The United States is a Constitutional Republic.

Our constitution defines the authority of the United States as a nation whose power is in the hands of the people. The people elect representatives and they create and maintain the laws.
Direct Democracy

Citizens vote to decide every issue. No one represents them, they decide everything themselves.
Parliamentary Democracy

Citizens vote to elect lawmakers to represent them in the nation’s parliament. The parliament chooses a prime minister to lead the nation.
Constitutional Monarchy

A form of government in which a monarch acts as head of state within the guidelines of a constitution. The king or queen does not have absolute power.
Government Vocabulary

Use the descriptions of the vocabulary terms to place them on your spectrum of government descriptions.