

# Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

## .Government of states

Problems of free-riding and coordination

## .No independent source of revenue

No direct taxing authority, entirely dependent upon the State governments to contribute

## .No power over interstate and foreign commerce

Little coordination over trade (and competition among states) meant it was difficult for the nation's economy to prosper as a whole.

## .No uniform currency

States coined their own money and regulated its supply, so values of currency varied from state to state.

## .No executive or judiciary

No coordinating authority to carry out what little authority the congress had, and disputes had to be settled in the individual state courts.

## .Difficult to pass laws and amend the Articles

2/3rds supermajority required to pass laws, *unanimous* consent of all states required to amend.

## .No guarantee of domestic order

Ineffective government with little resources could do little to respond to crises.