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|  | **Articles of Confederation** | **Constitution**  |
| **Levying taxes** | Congress could request states to pay taxes | Congress has right to levy taxes on individuals |
| **Federal courts** | No system of federal courts | Court system created to deal with issues between citizens, states |
| **Regulation of trade** | No provision to regulate interstate trade | Congress has right to regulate trade between states |
| **Executive** | No executive with power. President of U.S. merely presided over Congress | Executive branch headed by President who chooses Cabinet and has checks on power of judiciary and legislature |
| **Amending document** | 13/13 needed to amend Articles | 2/3 of both houses of Congress plus 3/4 of state legislatures or national convention |
| **Representation of states**  | Each state received 1 vote regardless of size  | Upper house (Senate) with 2 votes; lower house (House of Representatives) based on population  |
| **Raising an army**  | Congress could not draft troops and was dependent on states to contribute forces  | Congress can raise an army to deal with military situations  |
| **Interstate commerce**  | No control of trade between states  | Interstate commerce controlled by Congress  |
| **Disputes between states**  | Complicated system of arbitration  | Federal court system to handle disputes between states and residents of different states.  |
| **Sovereignty**  | Sovereignty resides in states  | Constitution was established as the supreme law of the land  |
| **Passing laws**  | 9/13 states needed to approve legislation  | 50%+1 of both houses plus signature of President  |