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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 |