

## Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

	<b>Weakness</b>	<b>Result</b>
1	Nine states had to approve any law before it was enacted.	→ Most laws were difficult, if not impossible, to enact.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congress had no power to enforce its laws.</li> </ul>	→ The central government depended on the states to enforce its laws, which they rarely did.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no executive branch.</li> </ul>	→ Coordinating the work of the central government was almost impossible.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congress could enter into treaties, but could not enforce its power or control foreign relations.</li> </ul>	→ The states were not forced to respect treaties. Many states entered into treaties independent of Congress.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Congress could not force the states to meet military quotas.</li> </ul>	→ They could not draft soldiers to form a standing army. The army to fight the British was made entirely of volunteers.
2	Congress could not directly tax the people.	→ Congress had to rely on the states to collect and forward taxes, which the states were reluctant to do. The central government was always short of money to pay back other nations, like France.
3	Congress could not regulate commerce between the states or with other nations.	→ Each state was free to set up its own system of taxes on goods imported from other states. Economic quarrels among the states broke out. There was difficulty in trading with other nations.
4	There was no national judicial system.	→ Most disputes among the states could not be settled by the national government.
5	Any amendment to the Articles required all 13 states consent.	→ In practice, the powers of the central government could not be changed.