

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.