

Government of the Republic of Korea

Constitution of the Republic of Korea

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

[The Constitution](#)

[CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS](#)

[CHAPTER II. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS](#)

[CHAPTER III. THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY](#)

[CHAPTER IV. THE EXECUTIVE](#)

[SECTION 1. The President](#)

[SECTION 2. The Executive Branch](#)

[Sub-Section 1. The Prime Minister and Members of the State Council](#)

[Sub-Section 2. The State Council](#)

[Sub-Section 3. The Ministries of the Executive](#)

[Sub-Section 4. The Board of Audit and Inspection](#)

[CHAPTER V. THE COURTS](#)

[CHAPTER VI. THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT](#)

[CHAPTER VII. ELECTION MANAGEMENT](#)

[CHAPTER VIII. LOCAL AUTONOMY](#)

[CHAPTER IX. THE ECONOMY](#)

[CHAPTER X. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION](#)

[Addenda](#)

[Amendment history.](#)

The Constitution

[Table of Contents](#)

CHAPTER I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

[Table of Contents](#)

Article 1

1. The Republic of Korea shall be a democratic republic.
2. The sovereignty of the Republic of Korea shall reside in the people, and all state authority shall emanate from the people.

Article 2

1. Nationality in the Republic of Korea shall be prescribed by Act.
2. The State shall protect its citizens abroad as provided by Act.

Article 3

The territory of the Republic of Korea shall consist of the Korean peninsula and its adjacent islands.

Article 4

The Republic of Korea shall seek national unification, and shall formulate and carry out peaceful unification policy based on the free and democratic basic order.

Article 5

1. The Republic of Korea shall endeavor to maintain international peace and shall renounce any war

of aggression.

2. The national Armed Forces shall be charged with the sacred mission of national security and the defense of the land and their political neutrality shall be observed.

Article 6

1. Treaties duly concluded and promulgated under the Constitution and generally recognized rules of international law shall have the same force and effect of law as domestic laws of the Republic of Korea.
2. Status of aliens shall be guaranteed in accordance with international laws and treaties.

Article 7

1. Public officials shall be servants of the people and shall be responsible to the people.
2. Status and political neutrality of public officials shall be guaranteed as prescribed by Act.

Article 8

1. Establishment of political parties shall be free and the plural party system shall be guaranteed.
2. Political parties shall be democratic in their objectives, organization and activities, and shall have necessary organizational arrangements to participate in the formation of political will of the people.

3. Political parties shall be protected by the State as provided by statute and may receive subsidy for operation from the State as prescribed by Act.
4. If the purposes or activities of a political party are contrary to the democratic basic order, the Government may bring an action for its dissolution in the Constitutional Court, and the political party may be dissolved by decision of the Constitutional Court.

Article 9

The State shall strive to sustain and develop cultural heritages and to enhance national culture.

CHAPTER II. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS

[Table of Contents](#)

Article 10

All citizens shall be assured of human dignity and worth and have the right to pursue happiness. It is the duty of the State to confirm and guarantee the fundamental and inviolable human rights of individuals.

Article 11

1. All citizens shall be equal before the law, and there shall be no discrimination in political, economic, social or cultural life on account of sex, religion or social status.
2. No privileged caste shall be recognized or ever established in any form.