

## **The Articles of Confederation (page 1)**

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First page of the Articles of Confederation

# Go all to whom

these Records shall come, we the undersigned Delegates of the States  
affixed to the Records sent greeting. Whereas the Delegates of the  
United States of America in Congress assembled on the first day  
of November in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and  
Seventy seven, and in the second year of the Independence of America  
agreed to certain articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the  
States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence  
Planters, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware,  
Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia  
in the words following, viz. Articles of Confederation and perpetual  
Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island  
and Providence Planters, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Penn-  
sylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina  
and Georgia.

Article I. The said confederacy shall be The  
United States of America.

Article II. Each state retains its sovereignty, freedom and  
independence, and every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by  
this confederation expressly delegated to the United States, in Congress  
assembled.

Article III. The said states hereby severally enter into a firm  
league of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security  
of their Liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding them-  
selves to assist each other, against all force opposed to, or attacks made upon  
them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other  
pretence whatever.

Article IV. The better to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship  
and intercourse among the people of the different states in this union, the  
free inhabitants of each of these states, paupers, vagabonds and fugitives  
from justice excepted, shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of  
free citizens in the several states; and the people of each state shall have  
free ingress and egress to and from any other state, and shall enjoy therein  
all the privileges of trade and commerce, subject to the same duties, im-  
positions and restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided  
that such restriction shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of  
property imported into any state, to any other state of which the owner  
is an inhabitant; provided also that no imposition, duties or restrictions  
shall be laid by any state, on the property of the United States, or either of  
them.

If any person guilty of or charged with treason, felony or  
other high misdemeanor in any state, shall flee from justice, and be found  
in any of the United States, he shall, upon demand of the Governor or  
executive power of the state from which he fled, be delivered up and re-  
moved to the state having jurisdiction of his offense.

Full faith and  
credit shall be given in each of these states to the records, acts and judicial  
proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other state.

Article V. For the more convenient management of the general

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