

Citizenship

How does the UK political system compare to other systems?

Lesson 4 of 6

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Different levels of democracy

Full democracy

Fundamental political freedoms and rights are not only respected but also reinforced by a political culture. E.g - right to a free speech, regular free and fair elections, free media.

Hybrid regime

Nations that have elections, but have issues with them. These nations commonly have governments that apply pressure on political opposition, non-independent judiciaries, widespread corruption, harassment and pressure placed on the media, lack of the 'rule of law'.

Flawed democracy

Elections are fair and free and basic rights are honoured but may have issues (e.g. media freedom is sometimes restricted and censored).

Authoritarian

Lack of an opposition government. These nations are often absolute monarchies or dictatorships, abuses of rights are commonplace, elections (if they take place) are not fair and free, the media is often state-owned, the judiciary is not independent.



Table comparison

	Full democracy	Flawed democracy	Hybrid regime	Authoritarian regime
Elections	✓	✓	✓	X
Fair elections	✓	✓	?	X
Free media	✓	?	X	X
Freedom of speech	✓	✓	?	X
Independent judiciary	✓	✓	?	X

