

The Shared Country Briefing

Aven and its constitution

Aven has National and three regional governments: Coast, Plain and Ridge. A river links Plain farms to downstream Coast homes. Ridge uses a regional language in schooling. Every region contains people with different interests.

Government or institution	Protected powers and participation
Regional governments	School curricula; clinic budgets, staffing and care delivery
National government	Foreign affairs and teacher licensing
Council of Regions	Guaranteed regional delegates participate in national lawmaking

Federalism combines protected national and regional authority with regional participation in common government. Ordinary National law cannot remove protected regional powers. Constitutional change follows an agreed process. Equal citizenship, fair review and independent appeals bind both levels.

Role profiles

National Seek common access, cooperation, influence and political credit. You hold National constitutional fields but cannot command protected regional matters. A defensible priority or compromise can support different allocations of authority.

Coast Protect downstream homes and a say over contributions. At the same tax effort, Coast's larger tax base raises 8 clinic units; the common basic-budget benchmark is 5. Sharing gives up 3 locally raised units. Not every Coast resident is rich.

Plain Protect farms, livelihoods and regional decisions. The relief channel is in Plain. Regional control preserves consent and allows voluntary cooperation. Residents differ; a defensible compromise may accept a local cost.

Ridge Seek clinic resources and schooling fitting Ridge's language. At equal tax effort, Ridge raises 2 clinic units, 3 below the benchmark. Redistribution closes that budget gap; Pool and Equalize differ in who controls budgets and staffing. Ridge includes a Plain-speaking minority. Regional authority does not automatically meet every resident's needs.

Residents' Advocate Consider resident and minority impacts across the regions. Residents disagree, so no single voice represents everyone. Offer recommendations and arguments, without a governmental ballot or veto.

Constitution Clerk Check who holds authority, whose agreement is required, and what result follows. Offer an institutional benefit and cost. Advise without a governmental ballot, extra veto or judicial power.