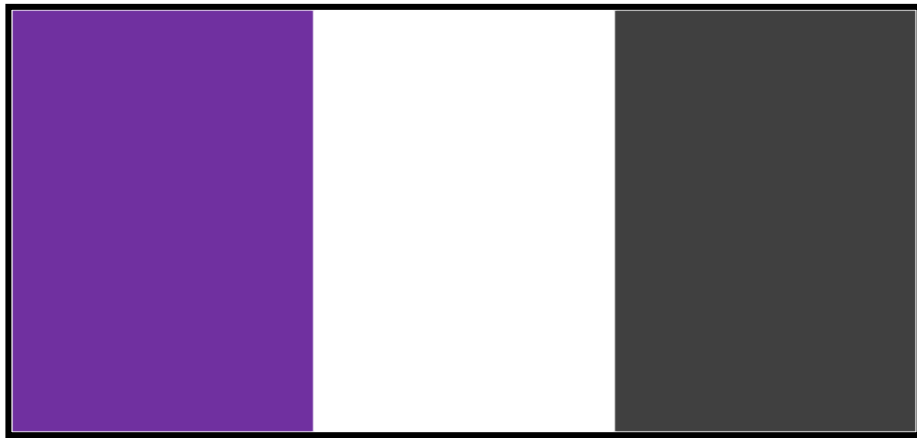


Constitution of the Federal Republic of Bloom



Flag of Bloom

Article I - Citizenship

1.1. Definition

A citizen is defined as someone who has been granted citizenship by the government.

Citizenship is only valid once it is ratified by registering to vote for the first time.

1.2. Revocation

Citizenship can only be revoked if a category 3 crime has been repeatedly committed or if a category 4 crime has committed in accordance with the Bloom criminal code. Following this only a unanimous vote by the High Court can strip them of their citizenship. Citizens are entitled to appeal this decision to Parliament and must appeal while outside of Bloom.

Dual citizenship is not allowed and citizens who become citizens of another nation are assumed to have renounced their citizenship.

Citizens can voluntarily renounce their citizenship.

Citizenship cannot be revoked for being inactive.

1.3. Registering to vote

In order to be able to participate in elections, citizens must register to vote. Only those who have been granted citizenship may register to vote.

To register, voters must stand in front of the registration board and take a screenshot of themselves next to the date sign. This must then be posted in the #register-to-vote section of the Bloom discord. The date on the sign is changed at the start of each week.

Registration must be renewed every 30 days and citizens should be notified when their registration runs out.

Citizens who try to register after voting opens for an election will not be eligible to vote.

Article II - Parliament of Bloom

Election

2.1. Members of Parliament (MPs)

MPs are democratically elected by the citizens of Bloom using the STV voting system via the website <https://paul-lockett.co.uk/stv.html>.

There are 7 seats in Parliament.

2.2. Prime Minister

The Prime Minister must be an MP and shall be someone who is deemed to have the confidence of Parliament and so they shall be elected by their fellow MPs at the start of each term.

Each MP may only vote for 1 candidate. Following the announcement of the results newly elected candidates have 24 hours to declare their candidacy for the position of Prime Minister. After the nominative election begins no new candidates may join.

The Prime Minister nominative election shall have as many rounds as are required until only 2 candidates remain or one candidate has secured over 50% of the vote in Parliament. Each round lasts 24 hours, the candidate with the least amount of votes is removed at the end of the round.

MPs may vote RON (Re-open nominations) during Prime Minister elections. If RON gets over 50% of the vote then the process resets and all MPs get a chance to run for Prime Minister again.

If after 7 days from the end of the first round no one has been elected Prime Minister then Parliament is automatically dissolved and a new election is held for the following Thursday. The incumbent or acting Prime Minister remains in place until this time.

2.3. Parliament term

Each Parliament shall last no more than 10 weeks (roughly 2 months). Parliament may call a vote to dissolve itself and have an early election if there is a simple majority.

2.4. Election process

Only citizens who have registered to vote can participate in elections.

After the 72 hour campaign period is over there are 72 hours of voting where eligible voters cast their ballot. During this time new candidates may still join.

Votes must be cast using a google form which requires voters to enter their in game name and their discord name as verification.

2.5. Vacancies

If there is a vacant seat (or seats) in Parliament then within 14 days of that vacancy the President must schedule a by-election for that seat(s). If no date for the election is scheduled then on the 14th day voting starts.

There must be at least 2 days between the vacancy and the start of voting so that residents have time to decide if they wish to be a candidate.

Voting in a by-election only lasts 2 days.

If there is only 1 seat then voters should still rank the candidates.

Duties

2.6. Laws

It is the role of Parliament to create and vote on new bills which if they receive a simple but clear majority will become law

2.7. Motions

Parliament also has the power to create and vote for 'motions'. Not all motions will have any immediate or legal effect and may simply be used to signal Parliament's opinion on an issue.

2.8. Procedure

Voting on all bills and motions will only last 48 hours. Voting on all constitutional amendments will last 72 hours. No extension may be granted.

No bills or motions may be introduced when there is an ongoing general election. Furthermore, no bills or motions may be introduced until the conclusion of the Prime Minister election. This does not apply to by-elections.

Regular bills and motions require a minimum of 3 MPs participating to be valid, constitutional changes require a minimum of 5 MPs.

2.9. Constitutional Amendments

All constitutional amendments require a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority to pass.

Bills or motions which conflict with the constitution are invalid unless proposed as an amendment that meets the voting requirements.

2.10. War

A formal declaration of war may only be made with a simple majority in Parliament.

Dismissal

2.11. Members of Parliament

MPs may be impeached by Parliament for abuse of power, corruption or a category 3 crime if charged by the High Court. An impeachment vote requires a simple majority to pass and must last 48 hours.

MPs may also resign voluntarily by announcing it on discord.

MPs may be recalled if 25% of current voters sign a petition. This must be given to a High Court judge who must then verify it's validity. If valid the President must schedule a by-election for that seat within 14 days. Though it is not vacant, the MPs retains their seat until the results of the by-election.

MPs are automatically dismissed from Parliament for dereliction of duty if their rate of attendance regarding voting on bills and motions drops below 30%. This rule only applies after they have been present for at least 4 votes in Parliament.

MPs are automatically dismissed from Parliament if they are found to hold citizenship or dual citizenship within another nation.

2.12. Prime Minister

The Prime Minister is dismissed with immediate effect by Parliament if a successful motion of no confidence is passed. A simple majority is enough to pass the motion.

Following a Prime Minister's dismissal there is a another nominative election for the new Prime Minister, the former Prime Minister may contest the nominative election.

The Prime Minister may also resign from office, but can decide whether they wish to resign with immediate effect or wait until the outcome of the nominative election.

Article III - The Government

President of Bloom

3.1. Head of State

The President is Bloom's representative and is a symbol of Bloom. The President only represents Bloom on the advice and direction of the Prime Minister.

3.2. Appointment

The President is elected by Parliament to serve indefinitely. They may be impeached by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of Parliament or the President may resign.

3.3. Executive Order

The President may issue an executive order in Parliament overturning any legal precedent made by the High Court and may pardon the accused in the same case.

The President may issue an executive order specifying where or on which platform Parliament should officially meet.

The President may issue an executive order blocking any declaration of war by Parliament but only at the request of the Prime Minister.

3.4. Prime Ministers

The President may appoint an acting Prime Minister until Parliament can appoint a new one whenever there is a vacancy. The acting Prime Minister must be an MP.

3.5. Law

The President has the power to introduce bills and motions to Parliament but cannot vote on them.

The President also has the power to veto any changes to the constitution. The veto can be overturned by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority in Parliament

3.6. Elections

The President is responsible for organising and overseeing all elections. Elections which are overdue by 1 week can be organised by the High Court instead.

Following an election the President may hand over the results and voter data to the High Court at the request of the Chief Justice.

Voter data is strictly confidential, sharing it is to be considered electoral fraud.

If any votes are rejected by the President, the details of this and the justification why must be sent to the High Court following an election.

The High Court has the power to undo this if it can prove that the justification for rejection was invalid.

3.7. Transition

The President maintains ownership of the following groups and must grant admin powers to any sitting Prime Minister:

- I. Bloom
- II. BloomGov
- III. HomeOffice
- IV. ForeignOffice
- V. BloomBunker
- VI. OPW *(Office of Public Works)*

Sitting Prime Ministers may remove or demote anyone from these groups at will.

3.8. Advice

The President has a duty to provide genuine advice and support for the government.

3.9. Other Powers

The President has authority over any and all powers not specified in the constitution.

Prime Minister

3.7. Head of State and Government.

The Prime Minister is Bloom's Head of Government. They are responsible for overseeing and managing the government.

3.8. Powers

The Prime Minister has authority over all urban and land planning across the Bloom with the exception of areas or territories which have their own constitutionally recognised government.

The Prime Minister can also change by-laws which haven't been voted in as law in the capital or any other territory lacking its own constitutionally recognised government.

The Prime Minister may take a leave of absence, in which case the Deputy Prime Minister takes over as acting Prime Minister until the Prime Minister returns. They may only be Acting Prime Minister for up to 3 weeks - this may be extended if a Prime Minister election starts within those 3 weeks.

3.9. The Treasury

The Prime Minister has the power to approve the use of nation resources.

Parliament may question the use of funds and the Prime Minister is obliged to respond.

3.10. Appointments and Dismissal

The Prime Minister oversees the Cabinet and has the power to appoint or dismiss anyone to the Cabinet. In addition to this, they can control who has access to which groups (/nl groups).

3.11. Claims

The Prime Minister can negotiate Bloom's territorial claim changes but must put any changes to a vote in Parliament.

Deputy Prime Minister

3.12. Role

The Deputy Prime Minister is an admin on group bloom (/nl). They are in charge of promoting and demoting members to mod.

With the Prime Minister's permission, The Deputy Prime Minister can overrule decisions made by the Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary and temporarily act as Foreign Secretary or Home Secretary.

The Deputy Prime Minister must be an MP.

Senior Ministers

3.13. Foreign Secretary

The Foreign Secretary is Bloom's most senior diplomat and manages the republic's foreign affairs. They run the Foreign Office.

The Foreign Secretary may appoint and dismiss ambassadors.

Must be a Member of Parliament

3.14. Home Secretary

The Home Secretary is in charge of the Home Office - which handles defence, security, immigration and justice.

The Home Office maintain's Bloom's prisons.

Must be a Member of Parliament

3.15. Public Works Minister

The Public Works Minister is responsible for overseeing the Office of Public Works under the direction of the Prime Minister.

The Office of Public Works is responsible for, but not limited to; urban planning, overseeing businesses, grinders, farms, transportation, housing, factories and general infrastructure.

Must be a Member of Parliament

Junior Ministers

3.16. Attorney General

The Attorney General is the government's primary legal adviser and representative to the High Court.

Article IV - The High Court of Bloom

Appointment

4.1. Judges of the High Court of Bloom

~~Judges are democratically elected by the citizens of Bloom using the STV voting system via the website <https://paul-lockett.co.uk/stv.html>.~~

Potential Judges are nominated by the President to Parliament. Parliament then has to vote on approving the nomination by a simple majority. MPs may put questions to potential Judges while considering the nomination.

Judges can be dismissed by the President or impeached by Parliament through a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote.

Judges cannot be a member of Parliament, a member of the Cabinet or the leader of a political party.

~~Voters must be registered to vote.~~

There are 3 judges.

~~4.3. High Court term~~

~~Each term shall last no more than 2 months. Parliament may call a vote to dissolve the High Court and have an early election if there is a 2/3rd majority.~~

~~4.4. Election process~~

~~There are 72 hours of voting where eligible voters cast their ballot. During this time new candidates may still join.~~

~~Candidates must be registered to vote.~~

~~4.5. By-election Elections~~

~~If there is a vacant seat (or seats) in the High Court then within 14 days of that vacancy a by-election for that seat(s) must be held. If no date for the election is scheduled then on the 14th day voting starts.~~

~~There must be at least 72 hours between the vacancy and the start of voting so that residents have time to decide if they wish to be a candidate.~~

~~Voting in a by-election only lasts 72 hours.~~

~~If there is only 1 seat then voters should still rank the candidates.~~

~~4.6. Recall~~

~~Judges may be recalled if 25% of current voters sign a petition. This must be given to a different High Court judge who must then verify it's validity. If valid the President must schedule a by-election for that seat within 14 days. Though it is not vacant, the judge retains their seat until the results of the by-election.~~

Duties

4.6. Law

The High Court is responsible for determining the guilt of those who break Bloom's laws or violate its constitution. The High Court must also gather evidence.

4.7. Checks and Balances

If the government or Parliament are going against Bloom's law or constitution then a High Court judge can hold a trial to demand that the government or Parliament adheres to the law or constitution.

4.8. Common Law

Where the law or constitution is unclear about something a High Court judge can making a ruling on it, by default this ruling becomes law.

4.9. Trials

The High Court is responsible for holding trials to determine the guilt of individuals, organisations or the government. All trials must be held in the "high-court" channel of the Bloom discord.

The prosecution may drop the case at any time.

Trials shall be presided over by only one judge.

The presiding judge must not have a conflict of interest.

All parties shall have the opportunity to be present for the trial; by having access to the courtroom on discord.

Any comments unrelated to the trial or not providing evidence may be removed.

Order of Trial:

- a. Prosecution presents claim
- b. Defendant enters plea. Pleas will be Guilty, Not Guilty, no-contest.
- c. Prosecution presents evidence, and calls witnesses.
- d. Defense cross examination.
- e. Defendant presents evidence, and calls witnesses.
- f. Prosecution cross examination.
- g. Prosecution closing statement
- h. Defendant closing statement.
- i. The judge of the case will decide guilt or innocence on the charges, as well as the amount of time to be served, in accordance with the Bloom Criminal Code.

4.10. Re-Trials

If there is new evidence that suggests that an individual convicted of a crime is innocent, they may demand a retrial in which any new evidence may be presented. Such a trial shall be conducted in the same way as a regular trial. If the individual is not convicted in the new trial, they shall be cleared of the crime in question and all punishments shall be lifted immediately.

4.11. Mistrial

Following the completion of a trial, should any citizen feel that the ruling or process by which the trial was conducted violated the constitutional rights of either the defendant or the plaintiff or otherwise significantly undermined fair treatment or due process under the law violate the

constitutional rights given to the defendant(s), they may initiate a vote to declare it a mistrial. The request should be made to two non-presiding judges in the #case-submissions channel.

The vote will be held between the two non-presiding judges in reply to the request and will require 2 "aye" votes to be declared a mistrial. A lack of response within 72 hours will be recorded as a "nay" vote. Sentences are assumed to remain valid during voting.

After a trial has been declared a mistrial, all proceedings of the trial and any rulings are declared invalid and a new trial is held. The judge of the previous trial may not again preside over the retrial.

4.12. Statute of Limitations

There is no statute of limitations.

4.13. Double jeopardy

No person shall be tried again on the same or similar charges which were followed by a valid conviction or acquittal.

4.14. Legislative Supremacy

Legislation passed by Parliament applies to the entirety of the Republic of Bloom and all its territories - as such Acts cannot be overruled by other legislation with the exception of state assemblies.

Bloom law applies to all persons within Blooms borders. The High Court's jurisdiction covers the entirety of the Republic of Bloom and is the highest court in the land.

Article V - Local Government

States

5.1. Status

States are defined as regions of Bloom which have a high enough active population to be able to support themselves and are reasonably developed.

State status must be granted by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority in Parliament and can be revoked by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority. States must have their own constitution which must be submitted to Parliament.

The territorial claim must also be submitted to Parliament as part of the application. However, the state's boundaries can change in future with a simple majority vote in Parliament.

5.2. Governance

States have a democratically elected assembly. The precise nature of the assembly is outlined in the state's constitution. State assemblies are able to create their own legislation. State law is overruled by the Bloom constitution. Bloom law is in place by default unless state assemblies pass a law which replaces a specific law.

Changes to a states constitution must come from their assembly then be approved by Parliament.

States can secede from Bloom by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote in Parliament following a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority support from the state assembly.

Territories

5.3. Status

Territory status must be granted by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority in Parliament and can be revoked by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority. The territorial claim must also be submitted to Parliament as part of the application. However, the territory's boundaries can change in future with a simple majority vote in Parliament.

5.4. Governance

Territories have an appointed Governor. Governors can create their own by-laws however they cannot contradict Bloom law and would be automatically overruled. Governors are nominated in Parliament and must have the approval of a simple majority of Parliament.

Parliament has the power to dismiss a Governor with a simple majority.

Territories can secede from Bloom by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote in Parliament. The Prime Minister may veto this.

Towns/Cities

5.5. Status

Town/city status must be granted by a simple majority in Parliament and can be revoked by a simple majority.

The territorial claim must also be submitted to Parliament as part of the application. However, the town/city boundaries can change in future with a simple majority vote in Parliament.

5.6. Governance

Towns/cities have an appointed Mayor. Mayors can create their own by-laws however they cannot contradict Bloom law and would be automatically overruled.

Mayors are appointed and dismissed by the Prime Minister or Governor if they are within a state or territory. Parliament has the power to dismiss a Mayor with a simple majority.

Article VI - Property Ownership

6.1. Borders

Any changes to the borders of the Federal Republic of Bloom are voted on by Parliament.

Bloom's territorial waters shall be 100 meters extending from the the coast. Where there is another nation within those 100 meters the sea border shall be midway unless specifically agreed otherwise.

6.2. Land Ownership

All land, but not any structures on or under it, is deemed to be the property of Federal Republic of Bloom and cannot be given away.

6.3. Land Claim

Citizens and residents may claim land within the borders of the Federal Republic of Bloom. Land claims must have the permission of the Prime Minister or someone they delegate power to.

Citizens and residents are then free to use the land.

Citizens and residents who control the land claim do not automatically own all property within that land claim but can appeal to the High Court if someone is building on their land claim without their permission.

Citizens and residents may sell their land claim, or a portion of it, to another.

Land claims cannot be sold to foreign states, leaders, or organisations without permission from the government. Land claims cannot become the territory of a sovereign entity.

Land claims cannot be used to form a new sovereign entity.

6.4. Compulsory Acquisition

The government has the power to make a compulsory acquisition of any land claim.

Within reason, any reasonably significant or important structures on or under the land remain the property of their original owner and do not become the property of the government following compulsory acquisition.

Acquisition should apply, but is not limited to, land which hasn't been developed or built on. Consideration should be taken into account if the person who made the land claim has cleared and developed the land as well.

If the channel is available, compulsory acquisitions must be announced in the #derelictions channel of the Bloom discord.

Acquisitions may be challenged in the High Court if the occupier feels the government is unjustified.

6.5. Illegal Settlements

The government, with the permission of the High Court, may evict and destroy any illegal settlements.

Illegal settlements are defined as inhabited structures, such as towns or villages, which have not had approval from the government or have been built on someone else's land claim. Large structures may also be defined as illegal settlements.

Illegal settlers may be ordered by the High Court to remove the settlement themselves.

Those who currently have a land claim may appeal to the government or the High Court if an illegal settlement has been built on their land claim.

6.6. Property Rights

Property may not be modified, moved, or destroyed without the consent of the property owner unless such action is the minimum required to bring such property within legal bounds.

6.7. Derelictions

Property that has shown no sign of improvement for at least 14 days shall be eligible for dereliction.

Citizens who are seeking ownership of the derelict property must place a sign with their in game name, the date and the word "Dereliction" on the property and post it in the #derelictions channel of the Bloom discord.

For 7 days after the initial post is made, any citizen or resident may make an objection to the dereliction in order to stop it.

If the initiator of a dereliction believes a specific objection to be frivolous or unjustifiable, the objection may be contested and subjected to review by the Judges, who will vote on whether to sustain or overrule said objection, with a majority vote deciding the outcome. Should there be a tie then the dereliction does not go through.

Objections by the owner of the property undergoing dereliction cannot be overruled.

If there is no legitimate objection within the 7 day waiting period, the derelict plot, along with the structures and items within it, shall become the property of the initiating individual.

If a property owner will have an extended absence from Civcraft and/or reddit, the posting of a sign saying as much or informing people on discord will exempt their property from dereliction for a period of 2 months.