

- I. Characteristics of Democracy
  - a. Popular Sovereignty – Citizenry is ultimate authority of the nation
  - b. Free & Fair Elections – Open to all citizens of voting age, each vote counts the same, not rigged or weighted
  - c. Rule of Law – Equal treatment before the law, all people subject to the same laws in the same ways
  - d. Autonomy – Nation is independent of outside powers
  - e. Inclusive Citizenship – People born within are citizens
  - f. Universal suffrage – All citizens of a certain age may vote
  - g. Freedom of Expression, Information and Association – Free press, speech (some may have restrictions ie security info, hate speech)
  - h. Basic human rights protected
  - i. Constitutional Limits on Government
  - j. Minority Rights protected

Adapted from *Building a Democratic Nation: Governments in Transition* from Close Up Publishing