Federalists & Anti-Federalists
Founders of the United States

Federalists

Urban Supporters
Federalists and their supporters typically resided in cities, which influenced them to push for pro-industrial legislation.

Supported the Constitution
Although the Constitution does not explicitly protect individual rights, Federalists argued that civil rights were guarded through the limitations put on the federal government.

Pro-Government Regulation
Influenced by Big Business interests, Federalists fought for greater government regulation to sustain industry-friendly legislation.

Supported Federal Power
Fearing that state-generated banking systems would weaken economic prosperity and national security, Federalists supported a central banking system.

Anti-Federalists

Rural Supporters
Anti-Federalists and their supporters typically resided in rural areas, which influenced them to push for pro-agricultural legislation.

Rejected the Constitution
Anti-Federalists fought for the inclusion of individual rights within the Constitution. They did not believe that individual freedoms would be protected without explicit statements. Their refusal to ratify the Constitution led to the Bill of Rights.

Anti-Government Regulation
Dominated by rural communities and farmers, Anti-Federalists fought to keep power in local government over federal government.

Supported State Power
Fearing that a central banking system would limit the states from managing their own revenue, Anti-Federalists supported state-generated monetary systems.

The Framers' Coup: The Making of the United States Constitution
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