



# Constitution of the Sovereign State of Versmark

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## Table of Contents

<b>The Monarchy</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Parliament</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Justice</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Ministries</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Provinces</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Nobility</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Honours</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Bill of Rights</b>	<b>9</b>

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# The Monarchy

## 1 - The Sovereign

The Sovereign is the Head of State and leader of Versmark. It is the Sovereign's duty to serve, improve and make better the lives of all Citizens of Versmark.

It is the duty of the Citizens of Versmark to respect, honour and take pride in their Sovereign.

## 2 - Powers of the Sovereign

The Sovereign of Versmark has the following powers:

- To appoint landed Nobility.
- To approve or veto laws presented by the Parliament.
- To appoint the Premier.
- To command Versmark's armed forces.
- To appoint High Magistrates.
- To present laws to the Legislature.
- To call the House of Lords and House of Representatives into session at any time.
- To advise and command the Ministers of Versmark.

## 3 - Succession

Succession only arises when the Sovereign dies or abdicates the throne. The Sovereign will be succeeded by a Citizen elected by popular vote in a national election. Any citizen is eligible.

The vote will be held 14 days after the death/abdication, unless the Sovereign previously announced such a vote would be held 14 days before abdication. In which the results would be held the day of the abdication. A full 24 hours of voting will be allowed.

The Sovereign may choose an Heir. Who will receive anything written in the Sovereign's will upon the end of the end of their reign, except for the title of Sovereign. The vote will still proceed, however the Heir will automatically be on the ballot and will be labelled as the Heir.

In the case that no Heir was specifically outlined, then the children, in order of age, will be in the line of succession. If the Sovereign lacks any children, then the closest of kin is the inheritor.

## 4 - Regency Council

At any time the Sovereign may declare the creation of a Regency Council, which will last until the Sovereign officially disbands it. In the event of such a Council being formed they may act in the Sovereign's best interest and shall bear all the powers of the Monarch.

If not already disbanded, after 30 days, the Regency Council will be disbanded unless otherwise commanded by the Sovereign.

## **5 - Dissolution**

The Sovereign does not bear the power to dissolve the nation on their own.

The Monarch may propose an act to dissolve the nation, this act must be approved by both Chambers of the Parliament. Both Chambers must approve the act with at least a  $\frac{3}{4}$  majority. The act must also be approved by a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote with the entire national populace.

# **Parliament**

## **1 - The House of Representatives**

The House of Representatives are made up of 5 members, elected by the Citizens of Versmark. They all serve a term of 6 months. A Representative that bears a title which makes them a member of the House of Lords, shall serve only in the House of Representatives, their seat in the House of Lords will remain empty till the end of term.

These Representatives will be selected from any Province, with all Provinces voting collectively.

The House of Representatives may propose any bill they so choose. A vote will be held after a necessary amount of time has passed. After a bill is passed, it will be moved on to the House of Lords. A Constitutional amendment must pass with a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority.

The House of Representatives shall elect a Speaker within 4 days of the new term, the Speaker will be from among the serving Representatives. This speaker will moderate all sessions.

## **2 - The House of Lords**

The House of Lords consists of all landed Nobility and Peers from across Versmark.

The House of Lords upon receiving an approved bill from the House of Representatives will vote on the proposed bill. If the bill is approved, the Premier may either approve or veto the bill. A Constitutional amendment must pass with a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority.

The House of Lords cannot propose any bills, laws or acts, except for Honors.

The House of Lords shall have a Speaker, appointed by the Sovereign, who will moderate all sessions.

## **3 - The Premier**

The Premier serves as the moderator of all Parliament sessions and is allowed the ability to approve or veto any bill approved by both Chambers.

The Premier is appointed by the Monarch at the Monarch's pleasure.

The Premier may call an emergency session at any time. The Premier may not end a session early or delay it in any way.

#### **4 - Parliament Sessions**

A session of either the House of Lords or the House of Representatives must take place at least once every week. The Premier or their respective Speaker may call a session at any time. Both Chambers do not need to be in session at the same time.

The sessions of Parliament shall follow this format:

1. Roll will be called and all Representatives or Lords will check in.
2. The Agenda for the session will be presented.
3. All propositions will be presented. Previous propositions that have been vetoed or held up will also take place here.
4. Discussion will be held on the propositions in question.
5. Any voting will take place.

Any and all proposals to Parliament must be announced and available to the public at least 3 days before the next scheduled session. Otherwise the proposition must wait till the session after.

All sessions of Parliament shall be moderated by the respective Speakers.

#### **5 - Voting**

During a session of Parliament, whether with either Chamber, the voters may decide to delay a vote on a proposition till next session, this will be announced by any member of that Chamber. If there are no objections, then the vote will be pushed back one session. This will allow time for further discussion and contemplation. If there are any objections then the Premier must decide to either push the vote back or continue.

During a vote all members of the particular Chamber have three options when voting, Yes, No and abstain.

In the event of a tie, a re-vote will be held next session. If again the vote ties, then the Premier shall break the tie.

#### **6 - Types of Laws**

In Versmark there are 5 distinct types of laws that Parliament can pass, they are:

- General: A type of law which is not specifically mentioned below.
- Constitutional: A proposition in which the Constitution will be altered by.
- Taxation: In which the taxation rate on a specific aspect of the economy is created, raised, lowered or abolished.

- Appointment: A law in which a Citizen is appointed to a specific position the Legislature is allowed to grant.
- Honors: A law in which a citizen receives an honor or other form of merit.

The following are different ways in which a Legislative Law can be implemented:

- National: The Law will be introduced to the entire nation.
- Provincial Choice: Every Province may decide via a Province wide referendum whether or not to introduce the Law.
- Province Specific: The Law will be introduced on a specific Province or Provinces.

## Justice

### 1 - The High Court and the High Magistrate

The Sovereign appoints one High Magistrate to the Supreme Court. The High Magistrate will serve at the Monarch's pleasure.

The High Magistrate will review all laws passed in Versmark for their legality in contrast with the Constitution. This will happen post approval of a law passed by Parliament. Every law must be reviewed within 30 days of it being passed. Every Constitutional amendment must be reviewed within 10 days of it being passed.

The High Magistrate will also be in charge of the Judgment of trials and Court cases elevated from the lower courts.

The High Magistrate may appoint Magistrates to the Lesser Court, the Court of First Instance, which will be managed by the Supreme Court.

The High Magistrate will serve on the House of Lords.

### 2 - The Court of First Instance

This is where all Court Cases shall begin, if the Plaintiff contests the Judgment ruled by the Magistrate, then the case will be raised to the Supreme Court.

## Ministries

### 1 - List of Ministries



- Ministry of the Interior: In charge of managing Citizen applications, record management and inter-Province affairs.
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs: In charge of managing Embassies, Diplomatic Affairs and Versmark's public image.
- Ministry of Justice: In charge of the Enforcement of the law.
- Ministry of Health: In charge of the Health of all Citizens in Versmark, Medical Research and insurance.
- Ministry of the Treasury: In charge of managing, distributing and increasing funds.
- Ministry of Culture and the Arts: In charge of promoting, maintaining and sharing Versmark's culture and various arts.
- Ministry of Defence: In charge of the Armed Forces of Versmark and the security of the nation.
- Ministry of Education: In charge of schools, colleges and other forms of education across Versmark.
- Ministry of Welfare: In charge of creating, distributing and monitoring welfare services.
- Ministry of the Environment: In charge of promoting and maintaining environmental protection protocol and national parks.

## **2 - Ministry Officials**

All Ministries shall be led by their respective Ministers, and their Deputy Ministers. These Ministers will have the power and duty to do the following:

- Enforce Versmark Law relating to their Ministries.
- Create new Legislation to be presented to the House of Representatives that relates to their respective Ministries.
- Create protocols relating to their department.
- Hire new Ministry employees, unless the hiring process has been interrupted by appropriate Legislation.
- Assign tasks to subordinates in their departments.

Ministers are appointed by the Legislature of Versmark. Both Chambers must select and pass a vote for their nomination. The Sovereign, or their Premier, may then decide to veto this decision. If vetoed, the Legislature may vote again, obtaining a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority to break the veto.

The Legislature may remove a Minister at any time by voting and passing the proposition in both Chambers. The Sovereign, or their Premier, may then decide to veto this decision. If vetoed, the Legislature may vote again, obtaining a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority to break the veto.

Deputy Ministers are selected by their respective Ministers, they have the same powers as the Minister, however they may be removed, blocked and/or their decisions can be overridden by their Minister.

## **3 - Chief Minister**

The Chief Minister is in charge of managing all the various Ministries of Versmark. It is the Chief Minister's duty to manage and assign tasks, manage and assign projects, assist Ministers and consult the Sovereign.

The Chief Minister may receive and give advice to and from the Sovereign. The Sovereign can ask the Chief Minister to assign specific tasks/projects.

The Chief Minister is appointed and dismissed the same way as all other Ministers.

## Provinces

### 1 - Provincial Administration

There are two types of Provinces in Versmark, a Province and a Honorary Provinces. Both of which are pieces of Versmark and are directly controlled by the nation.

### 2- Provinces and Governors

A Province is a territory managed by a Governor, who is elected via a general election every 6 months, with all of that Province's citizens being eligible to vote. The Governor has the following personal powers:

- To propose Legislation to Parliament.
- To announce and organize events and holidays.

Provinces are allowed the following rights in their self governance:

- Right to have their citizens vote in legislative elections.
- Right to create infrastructure and promote business using provincial funds.

Provinces are required to execute the following tasks in their self governance:

- Keep records of their individual citizens, expenses and local licenses.
- Collect taxes if implemented by the National Government.
- Deliver Monthly reports to the Sovereign on Provincial Government business.
- Implement Versmark Law in the Province.

### 3 - Honorary Province

Honorary Provinces are ruled by landed Nobles, however they have no territory or political power, as the province is simply an honorary title. Holders of an Honorary title however, like all members of Nobility, have a seat in the House of Lords.

## Nobility

### 1 - Landed Nobility

In Versmark, it is hereby declared that all land must be divided ceremonially (honourary provinces) into Archdutchies, then under those should be Dutchies, under Dutchies should be Counties, under Counties

should be two Viscounties, under Viscounties there are five Baronies, under each Barony should be an Estate and under each estate should be two Baronetries.

These ceremonial divisions of land each have nobles who rule over them, In order of highest to lowest;

Archdukes, Dukes, Counts, Viscounts, Barons, Lords, Baronets.

The style of an Archduke or Duke is "Your Grace", the style of a count or Viscount is "Your Lordship" and the style of all titles below Viscount is "The Most Honourable".

These titles are handed out at the pleasure of the Sovereign, and can be revoked at the pleasure of the Sovereign. With the permission of the Sovereign, the holder of one of these titles can transfer it to someone else, or change who the title goes to upon death or abdication.

## **2 - Unlanded Nobility**

For exceptional service to the Country, Government and Sovereign, the Sovereign can choose to give the unlanded title of Earl, which entitles the holder of the title to the style of "Your Grace".

For extraordinary exceptional service to the Country/Government/Sovereign, the Sovereign can also choose to grant the title of "Prince", which entitles the holder of the title to use the style "Your Royal Highness". The titles of Earl and Prince make up the "Higher Unlanded Titles", these titles are higher than landed titles, the only higher title is that of the Sovereign.

If you are the holder of a Higher Unlanded Title you can choose if you want to be "of the state" or "of your own land" if you hold a landed title. For example, "of the state" would be "Prince of the State (change to name later)", and "of your own land" would use the name of the land you have, for example if you were previously the "Viscount of Gloogleland" and you were given the title of Earl, you could be an "Earl of Gloogleland".

Under the landed titles are Lesser Unlanded Titles. These are not noble titles, but they are in Versmark's Order of Precedence. In order of highest to lowest;

Knight, Peer, Freeman

A Knight is someone who has either received one of Versmark's Honours, or someone who has been made a Knight outside of the Honours, Knights can be referred to as Sir, Dame or Knight at the leisure of the individual knight. A Peer is someone who has been granted the right to sit in the house of lords by the Sovereign, they are entitled to use the style of "The Most Honourable". Finally, a Freeman is someone who is a member of any Livery Organization in the nation.

# **Honours**

## **1 - Honours in Versmark**



Versmark has four honours. Each honour can be awarded at the leisure of the monarch, along with the Houses specified in the below list. The Sovereign is the Grand Master of all orders.

### **1 - List of Honours**

From highest to lowest;

Grand Order of Versmark (awarded exclusively by the sovereign)

Ranks: Knights Grand Cross, Knights, Members

The Royal Order (awarded by the house of lords)

Ranks: Knights Grand Cross, Knight Commanders, Knights, Commanders, Members

Order of Spring (awarded by the house of elected reps)

Ranks: Knights, Commanders, Members

Order of Commendation (awarded by either the house of lords or reps)

Ranks: Knights, Commanders, Members

## **Bill of Rights**

The Bill of rights is the fundamental freedoms held by the people of Versmark.

The Bill of Rights has some exceptions. You may not use any of these rights to excuse yourself of being punished for;

- Hate speech
- Inciting\Committing violence
- Any form of discrimination against another person because of Race, Age, Disability, Ideology (unless discriminatory against anything else on this list), Economic status, Marital status, Gender, Sex, Religion, and Culture.

List of Rights:

1. Right to Freedom of Conscience.
2. Right to Freedom of Press.
3. Right to Freedom of Religion.
4. Right to Freedom of Expression.
5. Right to Freedom of Speech.
6. Right to Freedom from Discrimination.
7. Right to Security and Liberty.
8. Right to Privacy.
9. Right to Equal Treatment under the Law.
10. Right to Life.
11. Right to Own Property.
12. Right to Defend Oneself.

- 13. Right to Bodily Integrity.
- 14. Right to Equal Birth and Rights.
- 15. Right to Freedom of Movement.
- 16. Right to Freedom from Violence.
- 17. Right to Access Basic Services.

