

Overview

Students consider examples of policies and identify if they are examples of left- or right-wing policies.

Length

One class

Materials

- [What Kinds of Government Exist?](#) (World101)
- Handout (below)

Instructional Plan

1. Have students read “What Kinds of Government Exist,” paying particular attention to the section titled “What is a government’s political ideology?”
2. Have students, working alone or in small groups, fill out the graphic organizer below, then compare answers.

Identify Left and Right Wing

The following are fictional campaign slogans and policy positions. For each, indicate whether it is a left-wing or right-wing idea, and explain your reasoning. Refer back to “What Kinds of Government Exist” for guidance on the meaning of left and right wing.

Slogan or Position	Left- or Right-Wing?	Why?
Our country should be proud of our history, and we should not diverge from what we have been doing for decades.		
Everyone should have a chance at prosperity, even if we have to heavily regulate businesses to ensure that equality.		
We should make certain our economy is working efficiently, even if it results in some people having more economic success than others.		
We should spend significantly to provide aid to those who need it, even if it means taxes or regulations that place limits on some citizens.		
Our country is in great shape. We do not need to make big changes.		
Our country should have strong supports for those who have health problems or have lost their jobs.		
We face big challenges as a country and need to undertake major changes to meet those challenges.		
Policies such as a minimum wage and antitrust regulation are unacceptable limits on freedoms.		