

1. Match the phrases with their meanings.

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. universally binding law2. statutes3. supreme law4. constitutional rights or freedoms5. come into effect6. adopted by7. provisions (e.g. of the Constitution)8. enactments of local law9. a national referendum10. regulations11. infringe12. sources of law13. the National Assembly14. supervise15. binding16. compliance with (e.g. the Constitution)17. lay down18. normative acts19. adjudicate on	<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. akty normatywneb. zgodność z (np. Konstytucją)c. źródła prawad. obowiązującye. nadzorowaćf. najwyższe prawog. przyjęta / uchwalona przezh. Zgromadzenie Narodowei. konstytucyjne prawa i wolnościj. akty prawa miejscowegok. powszechnie obowiązujące prawol. określać, ustalać (np. zasady, prawa)m. postanowienia (np. Konstytucji)n. ustawyo. rozstrzygaćp. ogólnonarodowe referendumq. naruszaćr. wejść w życies. rozporządzenia
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2. Read the text and complete the gaps with an appropriate form of some of the words and phrases from exercise 1. One of the words will be used twice.

The Constitution of Poland

We, the Polish Nation - all citizens of the Republic, (...)

Hereby establish this Constitution of the Republic of Poland as the basic law for the State, based on respect for freedom and justice, cooperation between the public powers, social dialogue as well as on the principle of subsidiarity in the strengthening the powers of citizens and their communities.

We call upon all those who will apply this Constitution for the good of the Third Republic to do so paying respect to the inherent dignity of the person, his or her right to freedom, the obligation of solidarity with others, and respect for these principles as the unshakeable foundation of the Republic of Poland.

/Preamble/

Poland became a constitutional state in the 18th Century, on 3 May 1791, when the Great Sejm 1) the Constitution. The Polish Constitution was the first modern constitution in Europe and was preceded only by the Constitution of the United States of 1787. The current Constitution of the Republic of Poland was 2) on 2 April 1997 by the National Assembly of Poland, approved by 3) on 25 May 1997 and 4) on 17 October 1997.

The Polish Constitution is the most important source of 5) in Poland. Being the supreme law, it governs Poland's political, social and economic system and 6) the fundamental rights and freedoms of Polish citizens. The Constitution of Poland consists of a Preamble and 13 Chapters with 243 articles. The 7) of the Constitution concern: the Republic (Chapter I), the freedoms, rights and obligations of persons and citizens (Chapter II), sources of law (Chapter III), the Sejm and the Senate (Chapter IV), the President of the Republic of Poland (Chapter V), the Council of Ministers and government administration (Chapter VI), local government (Chapter VII), courts and tribunals (Chapter VIII), organs of state control and for defence of rights (Chapter IX), public finances (Chapter X), extraordinary measures (Chapter XI), regulations concerning amending the Constitution (Chapter XII) and final and transitional provisions (Chapter XIII).

The Constitution also indicates other 8), their scope and their autonomous or executive nature. The constitutional sources of universally binding law of the Republic of Poland are as follows:

- the Constitution – the highest law;
- statutes;
- ratified international agreements;
- regulations;
- enactments of local law (it refers to local legal enactments issued by organs of local government and territorial organs of government administration. Such enactments shall be binding only in the territory of the organ issuing them).

A body whose task is to supervise the 9)the Constitution of the Republic of Poland is the Constitutional Tribunal. The Constitutional Tribunal is made up of 15 fully independent judges chosen by the Sejm for nine-year terms of office. The Constitutional Tribunal 10) on the compliance with the Constitution of legislation and international agreements (also their ratification), on disputes over the powers of central constitutional bodies, and on compliance with the Constitution of the aims and activities of political parties. In addition, under Article 79 of the Constitution any person whose constitutional freedoms or rights have been 11), has the right to appeal to the Constitutional Tribunal for its judgment on the compliance with the Constitution of a statute or another normative act upon which basis a court or organ of public administration has made a final decision on his freedoms, rights or obligations.

3. Answer the questions.

1. When was the current Constitution of the Republic of Poland adopted?
2. What is the aim of the Constitution?
3. What are other sources of law?
4. What is the role of the Constitutional Tribunal?

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