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Local Government Structure

1. Can Congress, through ordinary legislation, provide for shift to a **federal form** of government?
2. Can Congress establish **sitios** as the basic political and territorial unit?
3. Is there only **1 type of city**?
4. Can the President **create** a local government unit (LGU)?
5. Are LGUs classified as **corporations**?

- Current set-up: **Unitary form** where LGUs are subdivisions of 1 unit (*i.e., State*) and have no claim against it
- The 1987 Constitution provides for an exclusive/ fixed list of **5 LGU-types** – Autonomous Regions, Provinces, Cities (*3 sub-types: highly-urbanized, independent component and component*), Municipalities and Barangays. Congress, through ordinary legislation, cannot add (*sitios*) or delist.
- The creation of LGUs is a **legislative**, not an executive, act. The President and Local Chief Executives cannot create LGUs.
- LGUs are **public corporations**, *i.e., municipal corporation proper (i.e., government of a portion of the State).*