

# Agents of Action:

## Federal Agents:

US Congress	Broad legislative powers.
US Supreme Court	Final arbiter of Constitutionality of laws. Only agent able to overturn Supreme Court decisions.
President	Governs behavior of Federal Agencies. Able to pass Executive Orders on matters dealing with employment policy (EG: Gays in the Military) and with land-use issues (EG: National Park set-asides). Also able to set national policy on Foreign Policy matters and defense issues.
Cabinet:	Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Defense, Department of the Interior, Department of Justice (includes FBI, BATF), Department of State, Department of the Interior (includes immigration and naturalization service), Department of Revenue. There are others. Each cabinet-level agency has rulemaking authority (but not the power to make law, or to over-ride Congressional laws). The FBI could, for example, shift resources away from the war on drugs, but could not legalize drugs.)
Sub-Cabinet:	Internal Revenue Service, Central Intelligence Agency, NASA, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, National Institutes of Health, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, Federal Aviation Administration, National Technical Information Service, Congressional Research Service, Bureau of the Census. There are many others. Like the cabinet-level departments, these agencies can engage in independent rule-making. The Federal Reserve Bank (sets interest rates in the US and regulates Monetary Policy), the FTC (Federal Trade Commission), the USAID (Agency for International Development – gives out US Foreign Aid).

## International Agents:

United Nations:	Security Council (has power to apply sanctions and send peace-keeping troops to quell conflicts. The United Nations has the power to enforce international treaty regimes (like the Genocide Convention, the Geneva Convention, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights). The UN also has agencies that enforce the so-called social charter, such as UNICEF, the World Health Organization, etc. The General Assembly is the body that passes legislation for International Law, which is then ratified by individual countries via their parliaments or Congresses (IE: The Montreal Protocol that banned the use of CFC's). The World Court is the Judicial arm of the United Nations.
Treaty Organizations:	NATO, The Union of Non-Aligned States, SEATO (the South East Asian Treaty Organization – includes Australia and New Zealand), the OAU (Organization for African Unity), the OAS (Organization of American States – Latin and South American Treat Organization).

**Economic Organizations:** The European Union (Based in Brussels, it has broad legislative powers and it sets policy for Union-member states), OECD (the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development – mostly western nations that give development assistance), OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries – sets the supply and price of oil), the G-8 (Seven primary western governments plus Russia), the IMF (International Monetary Fund, based in New York, it gives loans to developing countries, but places heavy restrictions on them as a condition of AID). The WTO (World Trade Organization) hears disputes involving foreign trade and enforces trade treaties.

**Humanitarian Organizations:** International Red Cross, International Red Crescent (for Islamic Countries).

**State Actors:**

**Law Enforcement:** Most law enforcement of criminal laws takes place at the state level. (Except for treason, or crimes that are violations of specific Federal laws, or that involved Interstate crimes – like kidnapping across state borders).

**Governor:** Similar powers on the state level as the President on the Federal level.

**State House:** Similar powers on the state level as the Congress. (\* Nebraska is unicameral).

**State Agencies:** Similar structure as Federal agencies, also with state rule-making authority.