1. What is Public Law?

Complete Public Law: Text, Cases, and Materials (4th edn)
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Chapter: 1. What is Public Law?

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Titles in the Complete series combine extracts from a wide range of primary materials with clear explanatory text to provide readers with a complete introductory resource. This chapter provides an introduction to public law. Public law regulates the relationships between individuals (and organizations) with the state and its organs. Examples include criminal and immigration law, and human rights-related issues. Public law is made up of a number of key principles designed to ensure a healthy, representative, law-abiding country that strikes a balance between the needs of the state and the needs of its citizens. Each of these principles is discussed in turn: the rule of law, separation of powers, representative democracy, supremacy of Parliament, limited and responsible government, and judicial review executive action by the courts.
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