

# Government

**Names:**

*conventional long form:* Federated States of Micronesia

*conventional short form:* none

*former:* Kosrae, Ponape, Truk, and Yap Districts (Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands)

**Abbreviation:** FSM

**Digraph:** FM

**Type:** constitutional government in free association with the US; the Compact of Free Association entered into force 3 November 1986

**Capital:** Kolonia (on the island of Pohnpei)

*note:* a new capital is being built about 10 km southwest in the Palikir valley

**Administrative divisions:** 4 states; Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk (Truk), Yap

**Independence:** 3 November 1986 (from the US-administered UN Trusteeship)

**National holiday:** Proclamation of the Federated States of Micronesia, 10 May (1979)

**Constitution:** 10 May 1979

**Legal system:** based on adapted Trust Territory laws, acts of the legislature, municipal, common, and customary laws

**Suffrage:** 18 years of age; universal

**Executive branch:**

*chief of state and head of government:* President Bailey OLTER (since 21 May 1991); Vice President Jacob NENA (since 21 May 1991); election last held 11 May 1991 (next to be held 7 March 1995); results - Bailey OLTER elected president; Jacob NENA elected vice-president

*cabinet:* Cabinet

**Legislative branch:** unicameral

*Congress:* elections last held 5 March 1991 (next to be held 7 March 1995); results - percent of vote NA; seats - (14 total) independents  
14

**Judicial branch:** Supreme Court

**Political parties and leaders:** no formal parties

**Member of:** AsDB, ESCAP, IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IFC, IMF, ITU, SPARTECA, SPC, SPF, UN, UNCTAD, WHO

**Diplomatic representation in US:**

*chief of mission:* Ambassador Jesse B. MAREHALAU

*chancery*: 1725 N Street NW, Washington, DC 20036  
*telephone*: [1] (202) 223-4383  
*FAX*: [1] (202) 223-4391  
*consulate(s) general*: Honolulu and Tamuning (Guam)

**US diplomatic representation:**

*chief of mission*: Ambassador March Fong EU  
*embassy*: address NA, Kolonia  
*mailing address*: P. O. Box 1286, Pohnpei, Federated States of  
Micronesia 96941  
*telephone*: [691] 320-2187  
*FAX*: [691] 320-2186

**Flag**: light blue with four white five-pointed stars centered; the stars are arranged in a diamond pattern

## **Defense Forces**

**Note**: defense is the responsibility of the US