

Student Worksheet #1:

Timeline: The Great Law of Peace and the U.S. Constitution

Long
before the
U.S. Constitution



The Haudenosaunee Confederacy

The Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and Seneca nations formed the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, guided by the Great Law of Peace. The Tuscarora later joined as the sixth nation.

1700s



Native Nations and Colonists Meet

Haudenosaunee leaders and colonial leaders met in councils, diplomacy, and treaty negotiations.

1754



Albany Congress and Albany Plan of Union

Benjamin Franklin proposed a plan for the British colonies to work together under a central government. The plan was not adopted.

1776



Declaration of Independence

The thirteen colonies declared independence from Great Britain.

1787



U.S. Constitution

Delegates met in Philadelphia and drafted the U.S. Constitution.

1791



Bill of Rights

The first ten amendments were added to protect important individual rights and freedoms.

1988



Congressional Acknowledgment

Congress acknowledged the contribution of the Iroquois Confederacy to the development of the U.S. Constitution.



Key Phrase

Great Law of Peace:

Haudenosaunee laws and principles for peace, unity, leadership, and decision-making.

