The Author	3
List of Abbreviations	15
Preface	17
General Introduction	19
§1. CONCISE DESCRIPTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY	19
I. The Swedish Rule	19
II. Finland As a Grand Duchy of Russia (1809–1917)	20
III. Towards an Independent Republic and After IV. Independence	23
V. The Gradual Development towards the Constitutional Change	20
in the Year 2000	26
VI. The Constitution 2000	27
§2. Profile of the Form of Government	29
I. Democracy and the Rule of Law	30
II. Parliamentarianism and Separation of Powers	31
III. Sovereign Republic and International Cooperation for the	
Protection of Peace and Human Rights	32
§3. STATE TERRITORY AND TRUST OR OTHER SELF-GOVERNING	
TERRITORIES	33
§4. POPULATION	33
Part I. Sources of Constitutional Law	35
Chapter 1. Treaties	35
§1. NOTION	35
32. HIERARCHY	

Chapter 2. Constitution	38
§1. Typification	38
§2. PROCEDURES FOR AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION  I. The Revision of the Constitution Connected with Parliamentary Elections  II. The Revision of the Constitution in the Case of Urgent Procedure III. Transformation of International Obligations That Are Contrary to the Constitution, into the Finnish Legal System and the	41 42 43
Acceptance of These Treaties by Parliament  IV. Enactment of Limited Derogations of the Constitution  A. The Hierarchical Status of the Derogations	44 45 47
V. The Legislative Procedure for the Act on the Autonomy of the Åland Islands	48
§3. Hierarchy	49
Chapter 3. Legislation and Equivalent Legislative Rules	, 51
§1. TYPES OF LAW  I. Ordinary Laws II. Special-Majority Laws III. Amendments to Parliament's Rules of Procedure IV. The Church Act V. Decree-Laws	51 52 53 53 54
§2. HIERARCHY	54
Chapter 4. Jurisprudence	56
§1. GENERAL DOCTRINE OF SOURCES OF LAW	56
§2. JURISPRUDENCE	57
Chapter 5. Customary Law, Unwritten Law, General Principles of Law	60
§1. Introduction	60
§2. CUSTOMARY LAW, UNWRITTEN LAW AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF LAW  I. Hierarchy	60 61
Chapter 6. Administrative Regulations and Orders	62

§1. THE NATIONAL LEVEL	62
§2. THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL	63
§3. THE ÅLAND ISLANDS	63
§4. HIERARCHY	63
Chapter 7. Codification, Interpretation and Publication	65
§1. CODIFICATION	65
§2. Interpretation	65
§3. PUBLICATION	66
Part II. Form of Government	67
Chapter 1. General	67
§1. INTRODUCTION	67
§2. POLITICAL PARTIES, LOBBIES AND INTEREST GROUPS I. Historical Background of Today's Party System II. Political Parties in Action	68 68 71
§3. MISCELLANEOUS  I. National and Municipal Referendums and the Citizens Initiative II. Delegation of Legislative Powers	73 73 76
Chapter 2. Head of State	79
§1. THE ORGAN OF STATE  I. Historical Background of the Republican Form of Government  II. Changes in the Legal and Political Power Position of the President of the Republic	79 79 80
<ul> <li>A. Powers of the President in the 1919 Constitution</li> <li>B. Changes in the Political Environment and Their Influence on the Powers of the President of the Republic</li> </ul>	80 80
C. The Decision-Making Powers of Head of State after the Constitutional Change in the Year 2000	81
<ul><li>III. The Election of the President of the Republic</li><li>IV. Inauguration, Discharge of Office, Remuneration and Pension,</li></ul>	87
Official Residences, Office of the President and Aides-de-Camp A. Inauguration  B. Discharge of the Office, Incapacity and Substitution	88 88 89

	C. Remuneration and Pension	89
	D. Official Residences	90
	E. Aides-de-Camps	90
§2.	Legal Status	90
	I. Discharge of the Office, Incapacity and Substitution	90
	II. Criminal Liability of the President of the Republic	90
§3.	COMPETENCE	91
	I. Decision-Making Procedures and the Powers of the President	
	of the Republic	91
Ch	apter 3. The Legislature	92
§1.	THE ORGAN OF STATE	92
	I. Unicameral Parliamentary System	92
	A. Introduction	92
	B. Reasons for the Unicameral System	94
	II. Electoral System	95
	A. Parties and Electoral System: General Introduction	95
	B. Right to Vote and Eligibility	99
	C. Nomination and Candidates	99
	<ol> <li>Compilation of Voting Register</li> </ol>	100
	2. Advance Voting	101
	3. Voting on Election Day	101
	4. Notification of Election Financing	102
§2.	LEGAL STATUS	103
	I. Mandate of the Member of Parliament	103
	A. Representative Character of the Mandate	103
	B. Term of the Mandate	104
	II. Incompatibilities, Conflict of Interests, Immunities and Privileges	106
	A. Incompatibilities	106
	B. Conflict of Interests	106
	C. Immunities	107 107
	<ol> <li>Independence of Representatives</li> <li>Parliamentary Immunity</li> </ol>	107
	3. Freedom of Speech and Conduct of Representatives	107
	D. Indemnities and Benefits	107
	Supplement for Chairs	109
	2. Compensation for Expenses	109
	3. Travel	109
	III. Suspension of Office of a Representative and Release or	107
	Dismissal from Office	110
83	COMPETENCE	111
	I Legislation	111

		A.	General Remarks	111
		B.	Legislative Initiations	111
		C.	Drafting of Government Bills	113
			General Outline of the Legislative Procedure	114
			ite Finances	115
			ernational Relations	118
			Acceptance of International Obligations and Their	
			Denouncement and the Reservations to International Treaties	119
		B.	Bringing into Force (Transformation or Incorporation) of	
			International Obligations	122
		C.	Participation of the Parliament in the National Preparation	
			of EU Matters	123
		D.	The Right of Parliament to Receive Information on	
			International Affairs	127
		E.	International Activities of Parliament	128
	IV.	Ele	ection of the Prime Minister	130
		Su	pervision of and Control over the Government	134
			The Control of the Legality of the Actions of the	
			Government and the Ministers	134
		B.	Methods of Parliamentarianism (Political Responsibility)	135
			The Right of Interpellation	137
		D.	The Right to Ask Questions and Other Means of Information	138
			1. Question Time	139
			2. Topical Discussions and Statements by the Prime Minister	140
			3. Written Questions	140
			4. The Right for Investigations	140
§4.	Wo	RKI	NG	141
			blic Nature of Parliamentary Activity	141
			nguages Used in Parliamentary Work	142
	TIT		rliamentary Proceedings: Legislative Proceedings	142
			Mode of Voting	144
			Rules on Parliamentary Session	145
	IV.		mmittees of the Parliament	146
		A.	Procedural Rules of the Parliamentary Committees	146
			Committee Members	148
		C.	Tasks of the Committees	149
		D.	The Grand Committee	150
		E.	Standing Committees	151
	V.	Par	rliamentary Groups	155
	VI.	Mi	scellaneous	158
		A.	The Parliamentary Supervision of the Constitutionality of	
			Legislation	158
			1. General Remarks	158
§5.	ORG	GAN	IZATION AND OFFICES OF THE PARLIAMENT	163
			neral	163

	II. Speaker Corps and the Speaker's Council	163			
	A. The Speaker	163			
	B. The Speaker's Council	165			
	III. The Office of the Parliament and the Secretariat	166			
	IV. State Audit Office	167			
	V. The Bank of Finland and the Governors	169			
	VI. The Office of the Parliamentary Ombudsman	170			
	VII. The Library of Parliament	171			
	A. The FINLEX Information System	171			
Ch	apter 4. The Executive	173			
§1.	THE ORGAN OF STATE	173			
	I. Introduction	173			
§2.	LEGAL STATUS	175			
	I. The Control of the Legality of the Decisions of the President				
	of the Republic and the Governmental Plenary Sessions	175			
	II. Ministerial Responsibility	177			
§3.	COMPETENCE				
	I. The President of the Republic Making Decisions in the				
	Presence of the Government (Presidential Sessions)	178			
	A. Legislation	179			
	B. Decrees	180			
	<ul> <li>C. The State Budget and Other Proposals for Decisions Put to Parliament</li> </ul>	180			
	D. Official Appointments	180			
	E. In-camera Decisions	180			
	F. Åland-Related Matters	181			
	G. Emergency Powers	181			
	H. International Relations	182			
	I. The President in the Committee on Foreign Policy and	102			
	Security Policy	183			
	J. Ordering Premature Parliamentary Election	184			
	K. Appointing and Discharging Ministers	184			
	L. Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces	187			
	M. Pardons	188			
	N. Decorations	188			
§4.	. Working				
	I. Working Methods and Decision-Making in the Government				
	Plenary Meeting	188			
	II. Committees of the Government	191			
	A. The Cabinet Finance Committee	191			
	B. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Policy	191			
	C. The Cabinet Committee on EU Affairs	192			

	D. The Cabinet Committee on Foreign and Security Policy	192
	E. Ad Hoc Cabinet Committees and Ministerial Working Groups	193
	F. Government Evening Sessions	193
	G. Informal Government Meetings	194
	H. Special Bodies	194
	II. Prime Minister and Other Ministers	196
	V. Minister and Ministry	196
§5.	ISCELLANEOUS	197
	I. National Preparations of the Decisions to be Made in the	
	European Union	197
Ch	oter 5. The Judiciary	200
§1.	UDICIAL ORGANIZATION	200
	I. General Introduction	200
	II. Background of the Contemporary Court System	200
	II. The Principal Sources and Foundation of Procedural Law	203
	V. Ordinary Law Courts	205
	A. The Supreme Court	206
	B. Special Courts	207
	C. The High Court of Impeachment	209
	V. Administrative Law Courts	211
	A. The Supreme Administrative Court	212
	I. Legal Status of the Judges	213
	II. Judicial Proceedings	214
	A. Civil and Criminal Proceedings	215
	B. Administrative Law Proceedings	216
	C. Supreme Prosecutor	217
	D. The Use of an Attorney, Legal Aid and the Finnish Bar	
	Association	218
82.	UDICIAL REVIEW	219
0	I. The Inspection of the Constitutionality of Acts of Parliament	219
	II. The Review of the Constitutionality of the Delegated Legislation II. The Role of the Judiciary in the Protection of Basic and	222
	Fundamental Rights	223
Ch	oter 6. Independent Non-political Bodies in the Legislative or Executive Branch with an Advisory or Supervisory Task	225
	or supervisory rask	445
§1.	DVISORY BODIES	225
§2.	PRGANS OF STATE CONTROL	225
	I. The Parliamentary Ombudsman	225

A. The Parliamentary Ombudsman and the Human Rights of	
Persons	231
II. The Office of the Chancellor of Justice of the Government	232
III. Parliamentary State Auditors	235
IV. State Audit Office	235
Part III. The State and Its Subdivisions	237
Chapter 1. State Form	237
Chapter 2. Component States or Entities	238
§1. THE ÅLAND ISLANDS	238
I. General	238
II. Historical Background of the Åland Autonomy	239
III. Self-Government	240
IV. Åland Citizenship	240
V. Åland and the EU	241
VI. The Demilitarization of Åland	242
Chapter 3. Decentralized Authorities	243
§1. CONSTITUTIONAL STATUS OF MUNICIPALITIES	243
§2. MUNICIPALITIES	243
I. Municipal Elections	243
II. Municipal Organization	243
III. Municipal Economy	246
IV. Municipal Cooperation	247
§3. REGIONAL COUNCILS	248
I. Organization of the Regional Councils	249
Part IV. Citizenship and Administration of Justice	251
Chapter 1. Rules Concerning Nationality and Relevance of	
Nationality	251
§1. CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS CONCERNING	
NATIONALITY	251
<ol> <li>Acquisition and Loss of Finnish Nationality</li> </ol>	251
II. Residence, Work Permits and Visas in Finland	252
III. Aliens' Passport and a Refugee Travel Document	253
IV Right of Asylum Residence Permits and Refusals of Entry	253

V	. The	E Impact of European Citizenship	254
		Relevance of Nationality	254
		- 1000 C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	
Chapt	er 2	Fundamental Rights and Liberties	255
§1. GE	NERA	ıL	255
I	. De	finition	255
II	. Sou	nrces	255
III	. His	torical Outline	256
IV	. Gen	neral Rules of Interpretation	257
	A.	Under Which Conditions May Restrictions on Basic Rights	
		Be Imposed by Law?	258
	В.	Who is Entitled to the Protection of Basic Rights?	262
	C.	Which Remedies against Violations of Basic Rights Are	
		Guaranteed in the Constitution?	263
	D.	The Comprehensive Examination of the Finnish Legal System	265
	E.	Basic Rights and Liberties in Situations of Emergency	266
	F.	Classifications of the Basic Rights in the Constitution	266
§2. Cr	VIL A	ND POLITICAL RIGHTS	267
3		quality	267
EV-		he Right to Life, Personal Liberty and Integrity	268
		he Principle of Legality in Criminal Cases	269
		reedom of Movement	270
		he Right to Privacy	271
		reedom of Religion and Conscience	272
		reedom of Expression and Right of Access to Information	273
		reedom of Assembly and Freedom of Association	274
I	X. E	ectoral and Participatory Rights	275
EUS.	X. Pi	rotection of Property	276
X	I. Pi	otection under the Law	276
X	П. Pı	rotection of Basic Rights and Liberties	277
§3. E	CONC	OMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS	278
		ducational Rights	278
ALC:	II. R	ight to One's Language and Culture	279
		he Right to Work and the Freedom to Engage in Commercial	
	A	ctivity	280
I	V. T	he Right to Social Security	281
	V. R	esponsibility for the Environment	282
Chant	er 3	Constitutional Problems of National Groups and	
Chapt	01 3.	Minorities	204
		MINIOTRIES	284
§1. G	ENER	AL REMARKS	284

§2. THE LANGUAGE RELATIONS BETWEEN FINNISH AND SWEDISH IN	
FINLAND	284
I. Language Laws	284
II. The Principle of Equality of the Finnish and Swedish Languages	284
A. The Right to Use Swedish in Public	285
III. The Saami People	287
Chapter 4. Judicial Control of Administrative Action	289
§1. PREVENTIVE LEGAL PROTECTION	289
§2. CURATIVE LEGAL PROTECTION	290
Chapter 5. Legal Position of Aliens	291
§1. CONSTITUTIONAL PROTECTION	291
I. Equal Protection and Restrictions to It	291
§2. STATUTORY PROVISIONS REGARDING ALIENS	291
Part V. Special Problems	293
Chapter 1. War, Treaty and Foreign Affairs Powers	293
§1. NATIONAL DEFENCE	293
§2. EXTERNAL RELATIONS	293
Chapter 2. Taxing and Spending Powers	295
Chapter 3. Emergency Laws	297
Selected Bibliography	299
Index	303