**Diagram 1**

**Forms of international cooperation, supranational cooperation and integration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International cooperation</th>
<th>Supranational organisation (supranational cooperation)</th>
<th>Supranational union(^2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- actual (informal)</td>
<td>- direct</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- according to civil law</td>
<td>- conventional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- through international conferences</td>
<td>- conventional(^1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(\downarrow\) (is always) \(\uparrow\) (can be)

- **Confederation**
  - (e.g. Switzerland before 1848, USA before 1787/88, German Confederation)

- **Federal state**
  - with strong federated states (e.g. Switzerland)

- **Unitary state**
  - federal state (e.g. Austria)
  - strongly decentralised unitary state (e.g. Spain)
  - centralist unitary state (e.g. GB, DK)

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\(^1\) E.g. the European Communities at the beginning, river commissions.

\(^2\) Until now only the European Union; other proposed classifications: "Staatenverbund" ("compound of states"), "Staaten- und Verfassungsverbund", state without sovereignty.