*America has unstable political precedents. It all started with colonies and conflict with the British, and then wars and revolutions as well as rebellions took place, with the same underlying goal of finding a stable and durable political regime.*

*This led to the absence of clear guidelines when it came to the presidency. Hence the different types of leadership styles that we can observe in the early years of the American presidency. Therefore, the presidencies of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson undeniably differed. Both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were supporters of the ideology and cause of the American Revolution. Their primary conflict was around the way the national government should function. Thomas Jefferson even published a letter criticising Washington's administration.*

**Leading question : to what extent were the ideologies of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson different?**

**I- George Washington's points of viewImage**

**-> Background :**

The founders, who wanted an independent presidency with significant powers of the central State, expected the presidential position to be filled with the personage of George Washington.

He was, in fact, the commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary War.

He then made it to the presidential position twice.

**-> Washington's presidency :**

George Washington appointed Jefferson as Secretary of State.

His perception of the cabinet was that it was a body to serve the president. This implied a powerful president, so a solid central state.

**II- Thomas Jefferson’s ideologies**

**-> Background :**

At first, he indicated he wanted to lead the nation like Washington did, but that didn't happen. Jefferson is a founding father of the Republican Party and the essential author of the Declaration of Independence.

Image

**-> Jeffersons presidency :**

Jefferson was an anti-federalist. His ideology centered around a weaker central government and stronger states.

Jefferson's experience as secretary of state during Washington's presidency and his perception of the latter helped form his approach to administration when he became president.

He initially approved George Washington's perception of the presidency, but it quickly changed his mind.

He intended to use his cabinet as a tool in the service of the executive branch. Hence, a healthy cabinet, even if it is autonomous, did not threaten the PR or his authority.

This ideology was translated into actions during his presidency. He orchestrated the details and controlled discussions and agendas. All these efforts resulted in the flourishing of the executive branch.

**III- Meeting point of the diverging ideologies**

In spite of their differences, both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson are figures of utmost importance when it comes to the establishment of the USA.