**Structures of Nineteenth Century Governments**

**The French Constitution of 1830**

Louis Philippe, King of the French, to all present and to come, greeting.

We have ordered and do order that the Constitutional Charter of 1814, such as it has been amended by the two Chambers on August 7th and accepted by us on the 9th, shall be again published in the following terms:

**Public Law of the French**

1. Frenchmen are equal before the law, whatever may be their titles and rank.

2. They contribute, without distinction, in proportion to their fortunes toward the expenses of the state.

3. They are all equally admissible to civil and military employments.

4. Their personal property is likewise guaranteed; no one can be prosecuted or arrested save in the cases provided by law and in the form which it prescribes.

5. Everyone may profess his religion with equal freedom and shall obtain for his worship the same protection.

6. The ministers of the Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman religion, professed by the majority of the French, and those of the other Christian sects, receive stipends from the state.

7. Frenchmen have the right to publish and to have printed their opinions, while conforming with the laws. The censorship can never be re-established.

8. All property is inviolable, without any exception for that which is called national, the law making no distinction between them.

9. The state can require the sacrifice of a property on account of a legally established public interest but with a previous indemnity.

10. All investigations of opinions and votes given prior to the restoration are forbidden: the same oblivion is required from the tribunal and from citizens.

11. The conscription is abolished. The method of recruiting for the army and navy is determined by the law.

**Forms of Government of the King**

12. The person of the king is inviolable and sacred. His ministers are responsible. To the king alone belongs the executive power.

13. The king is the supreme head of the state; he commands the land and sea forces, declares war, makes treaties of peace, alliance and commerce, appoints to all places of public administration, and makes the necessary rules and ordinances for the execution of the laws, without the power ever to suspend the laws themselves or to dispense with their execution......

15. The proposal of laws belongs to the king, the Chamber of Peers and the Chamber of Deputies.

Nevertheless every taxation law must be first voted by the Chamber of Deputies....

**Of The Chamber of Deputies**

30. The Chamber of Deputis shall be composed of the deputies elected by electoral colleges whose organization shall be determined by law.

31. The deputies are elected for five years.

32. No deputy can be admitted to the Chamber unless he is thirty years of age and meets the other qualifications determined by the law.

33. If, however, there cannot be found in the department fifty persons of the required age who pay the amount of taxes determined by the law, their number shall be filled up fron the largest taxpayers below this amount of tax, and these shall be elected together with the first.

34. No one is an elector, unless he is at least twenty-five years of age and meets the other conditions determined by the law....

42. The king convokes the two Chambers each year: he prorogues them and can dissolve that of the Deputies; but in that case he must convoke a new one within the space of three months.....

**Of The Ministers**

46. The ministers can be members of the Chamber of Peers or the Chamber of Deputies. They have, besides, their entrance into either chamber and must be heard when they demand it....

**Special Provisions**

69. The following subjects shall be provided for successively by separate laws within the shortest possible space of time;

lst. The use of the jury for political and press offenses;

2d. The responsibility of the ministers and the other agents of the executive power;

3d. The re-election of deputies appointed to public functions with salaries;

4th. The annual vote of the quota of the army;

5th. The organization of the national guards, with the participation of the national guards in the choice of their officers;

*6th. Providons which assure in a legal manner the status of the officers of every grade in the army and navy;*

*7th. Departmental and municipal institutions founded upon an elective system;*

*8th. Public instruction and the liberty of teaching;*

*9th. Abolition of the double vote and fixing of the electoral and eligibility conditions.*

*70. All laws and ordinances, wherein they are contrary to the provisons adopted for the reform of the Charter, are forthwith and shall remain annulled and abrogated.......*

**The Constitution of the United States of America**

**PREAMBLE**

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

**ARTICLE I**

**SECTION. 1.** All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

**SECTION. 2.** The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

[Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons.](http://constitutioncenter.org/constitution/the-amendments/amendment-14-citizenship-rights/) The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

**SECTION. 3.** The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, [chosen by the Legislature thereof](http://constitutioncenter.org/constitution/the-amendments/amendment-17-senators-elected-by-popular-vote/), for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three Classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; [and if Vacancies happen by Resignation, or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.](http://constitutioncenter.org/constitution/the-amendments/amendment-17-senators-elected-by-popular-vote/)

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

**The English Bill of Rights – December 16, 1689**

And whereas the said late king James the Second having abdicated the government, and the throne being thereby vacant…the said lords spiritual and temporal and commons…do in the first place (as their ancestors in like case have usually done) for the vindicating and asserting their ancient rights and liberties, declare;

1. That the pretended power of suspending of laws, or the execution of laws, by regal authority, without consent of parliament, is illegal.
2. That the pretended power of dispensing with laws, or the execution of laws, by regal authority, as it hath been assumed and exercised of late, is illegal.
3. That the commission for erecting the late court of commissioners for ecclesiastical causes, and all other commissions and courts of like nature are illegal and pernicious.
4. That levying money for or to the use of the crown, by pretense of prerogative, without grant of parliament, for longer time, or in other manner than the same is or shall be granted, is illegal.
5. That it is the right of the subjects to petition the King, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal.
6. That the raising or keeping a standing army within the kingdom in time of peace, unless it be with consent of parliament, is against the law.
7. That the subjects which are Protestants, may have arms or their defense suitable to their conditions, and as allowed by law.
8. That elections of members of parliament ought to be free.
9. That the freedom of speech, and debates or proceedings in parliament, ought not to be impeached or questioned in any court or place out of parliament.
10. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed; nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

**The Magna Carta - 1215**

JOHN, by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Count of Anjou, to his archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, barons, justices, foresters, sheriffs, stewards, servants, and to all his officials and loyal subjects, Greeting.

(1) FIRST, THAT WE HAVE GRANTED TO GOD, and by this present charter have confirmed for us and our heirs in perpetuity, that the English Church shall be free, and shall have its rights undiminished, and its liberties unimpaired. That we wish this so to be observed, appears from the fact that of our own free will, before the outbreak of the present dispute between us and our barons, we granted and confirmed by charter the freedom of the Church's elections - a right reckoned to be of the greatest necessity and importance to it - and caused this to be confirmed by Pope Innocent III. This freedom we shall observe ourselves, and desire to be observed in good faith by our heirs in perpetuity.

TO ALL FREE MEN OF OUR KINGDOM we have also granted, for us and our heirs forever, all the liberties written out below, to have and to keep for them and their heirs, of us and our heirs:

(2) If any earl, baron, or other person that holds lands directly of the Crown, for military service, shall die, and at his death his heir shall be of full age and owe a 'relief', the heir shall have his inheritance on payment of the ancient scale of 'relief'. That is to say, the heir or heirs of an earl shall pay £100 for the entire earl's barony, the heir or heirs of a knight 100s at most for the entire knight's 'fee', and any man that owes less shall pay less, in accordance with the ancient usage of 'fees'.

**Prussian Constitution 1848-1850**

We, Frederick William, by grace of God, King of Prussia, etc., hereby declare and make known that, whereas the constitution of the Prussian State, promulgated by us on the fifth of December, 1848, subject to revision by the ordinary process of legislation, and accepted by both chambers of our kingdom, has been submitted to the prescribed revision, we have finally established the provisions of that constitution in agreement with both chambers.

We, therefore, promulgate the same as a fundamental law of the state, as follows:

Title I. The Territory of the State

**Article 1: Territorial Extent**

All parts of the monarchy in its present extent form the territory of the Prussian State.

**Article 2: Territorial Changes**

The boundaries of this territory can only be altered by law.

Title II. The Rights of Prussians

**Article 3: Citizenship**

The constitution and the law determine under what conditions the quality and rights of a Prussian citizen may be acquired, exercised or forfeited.

**Article 4: Equality**

All Prussians shall be equal before the law. Class privileges shall not be permitted. Public offices, subject to the conditions imposed by law, shall be uniformly open to all who are competent to hold them.

**Article 5: Personal Freedom**

Personal freedom is guaranteed. The forms and conditions under which any limitation thereof, especially arrest, shall be permissible, shall be determined by law.

Title III. The King

**Article 43: Inviolability**

The person of the king shall be inviolable.

**Article 44: Ministerial Responsibility**

The king's ministers shall be responsible. All official acts of the king shall require for their validity the counter-signature of a minister, who shall thereby assume responsibility for them.

**Article 45: Executive Power**

The executive power shall belong to the king alone. He shall appoint and dismiss the ministers.1 He shall order the promulgation of the laws and issue the necessary ordinances for their execution.

**Article 46: Commander-in-Chief**

The king shall be commander-in-chief of the army.

**Article 47: Power of Appointment**

The king shall fill all posts in the army, as well as in other branches of the public service, in so far as it is not otherwise ordained by law.

**Article 48: War, Peace, Treaties**

The king shall have power to declare war and make peace, and to conclude other treaties with foreign governments. The latter require for their validity the assent of the chambers in so far as they are commercial treaties, or impose burdens on the State, or obligations on the individual subjects.

**Article 49: Pardoning Power**

The king shall have power to pardon, and to mitigate punishment.

But in favor of a minister condemned for his official acts, this right can only be exercised on the motion of that chamber whence his impeachment emanated.

Only in virtue of a special law can the king suppress inquiries already instituted.

**Article 50: Orders, Distinctions, Coinage**

The king may confer orders and other distinctions, so far as they do not carry privileges with them.

He shall exercise the right of coinage in accordance with the law.

**Article 51: Convoking and Closing the Chambers**

The king shall convoke the chambers, and close their sessions. He may dissolve the two chambers together or either one. In such a case, however, the electors shall be assembled within a period of sixty days, and the chambers summoned within a period of ninety days respectively after the dissolution.

Title V. The Chambers

**Article 62: Legislative Power**

The legislative power shall be exercised in common by the king and the two chambers.

Every law shall require the assent of the king and of the two chambers.

Money bills and the budgets shall first be laid before the second chamber; the budgets shall either be accepted or rejected as a whole by the first chamber.

Title VI. The Judicial Power

**Article 86: Judicial Power**

The judicial power shall be exercised in the name of the king, by independent tribunals subject to no other authority than that of the law.

Judgments shall be issued and executed in the name of the king.

**Russian Government in the 19th Century**

**Reforms and Their Limits, 1855-92**

Tsar Alexander II, who succeeded Nicholas I in 1855, was a conservative who saw no alternative but to implement change. Alexander initiated substantial reforms in education, the government, the judiciary, and the military. In 1861 he proclaimed the emancipation of about 20 million privately held serfs. Local commissions, which were dominated by landlords, effected emancipation by giving land and limited freedom to the serfs. The former serfs usually remained in the village commune, but they were required to make redemption payments to the government over a period of almost fifty years. The government compensated former owners of serfs by issuing them bonds.

The regime had envisioned that the 50,000 landlords who possessed estates of more than 110 hectares would thrive without serfs and would continue to provide loyal political and administrative leadership in the countryside. The government also had expected that peasants would produce sufficient crops for their own consumption and for export sales, thereby helping to finance most of the government's expenses, imports, and foreign debt. Neither of the government's expectations was realistic, however, and emancipation left both former serfs and their former owners dissatisfied. The new peasants soon fell behind in their payments to the government because the land they had received was poor and because Russian agricultural methods were inadequate. The former owners often had to sell their lands to remain solvent because most of them could neither farm nor manage estates without their former serfs. In addition, the value of their government bonds fell as the peasants failed to make their redemption payments.

Reforms of local government closely followed emancipation. In 1864 most local government in the European part of Russia was organized into provincial and district *zemstva* (sing., *zemstvo),*which were made up of representatives of all classes and were responsible for local schools, public health, roads, prisons, food supply, and other concerns. In 1870 elected city councils, or *dumy* (sing., *duma* ), were formed. Dominated by property owners and constrained by provincial governors and the police, the *zemstva*and *dumy* raised taxes and levied labor to support their activities.

Other major reforms took place in the educational and cultural spheres. The accession of Alexander II brought a social restructuring that required a public discussion of issues and the lifting of some types of censorship. When an attempt was made to assassinate the tsar in 1866, the government reinstated censorship, but not with the severity of pre-1855 control. The government also put restrictions on universities in 1866, five years after they had gained autonomy. The central government attempted to act through the zemstva to establish uniform curricula for elementary schools and to impose conservative policies, but it lacked resources. Because many liberal teachers and school officials were only nominally subject to the reactionary Ministry of Education, however, the regime's educational achievements were mixed after 1866.