



DOES THE UK NEED A WRITTEN CONSTITUTION?

with Professor Robert Blackburn, Department of Law.

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LINKED SUBJECTS:

History, Government & Politics

DISCUSSION POINTS FOR... HISTORY

1. What significant events led to King John signing the Magna Carta in 1215?
2. How were the principles of the Magna Carta reinterpreted during the constitutional conflicts of the 17th Century?
3. How did the Magna Carta influence the idea of kingship in medieval and modern history?

Further Reading:

For further discussions, review other radical constitutional documents in UK history since the Magna Carta 1215, including 'Provisions of Oxford 1258', 'Petition of Right 1628', 'Bill of Rights 1688', 'Act of Settlement 1701', 'Acts of Union 1706/07', 'Parliament Acts 1911 – 49', 'European Communities Act 1972' and 'Human Rights Act 1998'.



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DISCUSSION POINTS FOR... GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

1. Discuss the idea of limited government and the rule of law as it relates to the Magna Carta.
2. What is the symbolic importance of the Magna Carta related to the protection of individual rights against the state?
3. Does the UK need a written constitution? Build your case and refer to the principles of the Magna Carta.

Further Reading:

To learn more about the rich tradition of constitutional documents in UK history, refer to documents like the Magna Carta 1215, 'Provisions of Oxford 1258', 'Petition of Right 1628', 'Bill of Rights 1688', 'Act of Settlement 1701', 'Acts of Union 1706/07', 'Parliament Acts 1911 – 49', 'European Communities Act 1972' and 'Human Rights Act 1998'.



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