

Renaissance and Humanism

Political Realism (1513/1532)



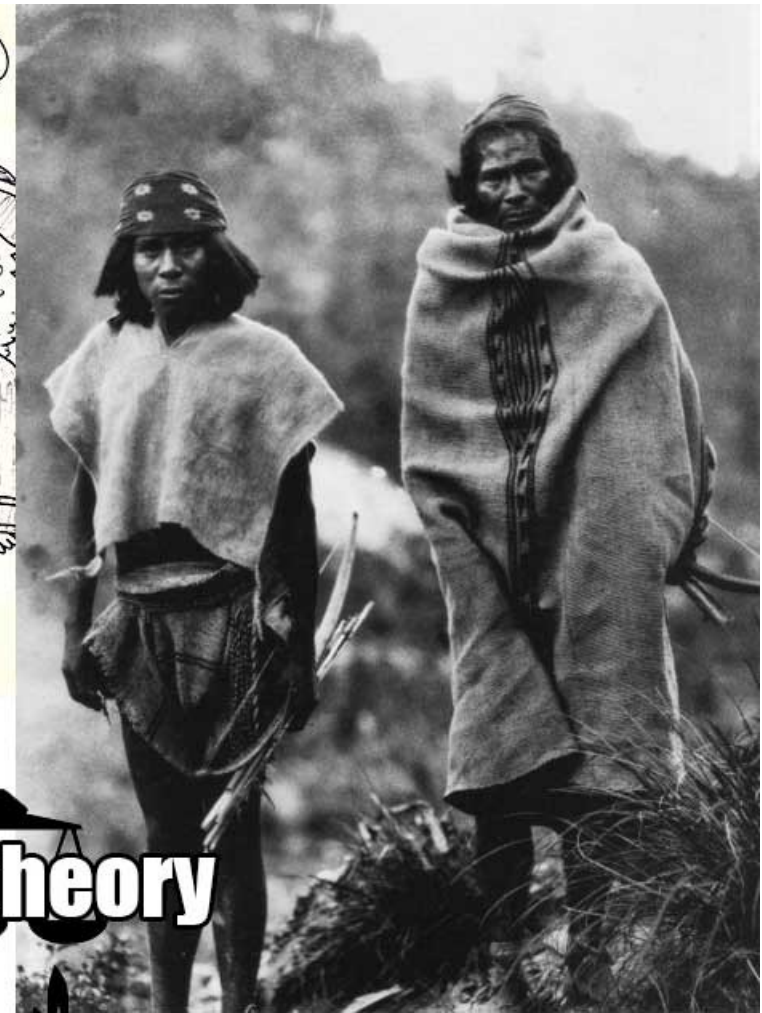
Political Utopism (1516)



Thomas More

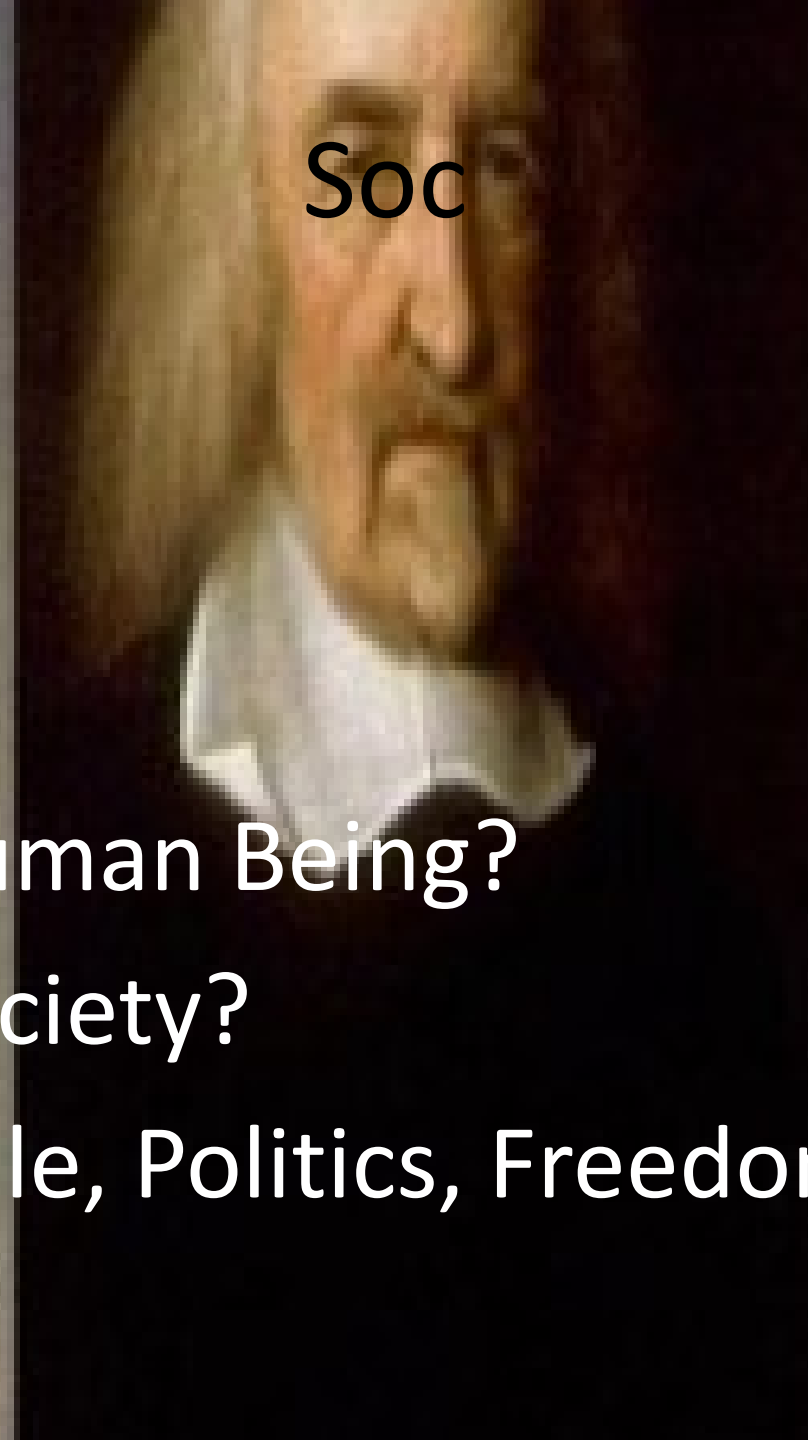
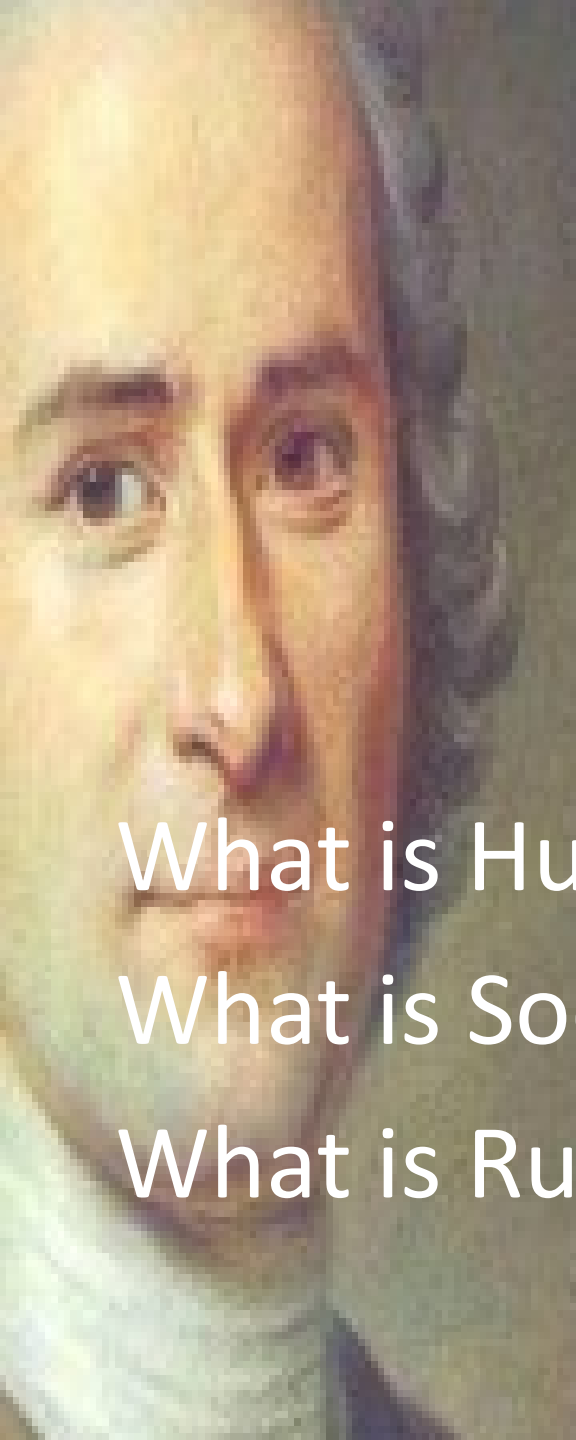
- 1478 – 1535
- Lawyer
- 1504 (Parliamentarian)
- 1516 (Utopia), limited reception
- Inspired by Geographical Discoveries
- 1529 – 1532 (Chancellor)
- Henry the VIII.
- 1535 (executed for disavow of Act of Succession)
- 1935 Canonized





social contract theory





What is Human Being?

What is Society?

What is Rule, Politics, Freedom?

A portrait of Thomas Hobbes, an English philosopher, depicted with a full, dark beard and mustache, wearing a white ruffled collar. The background is dark and textured.

Thomas Hobbes

1588 – 1679



Leviathan 1651

et potestas Super Terram quae

Comparetur

ei Job

You're all short, nasty & brutish.



St. Bartholomew's Night massacre

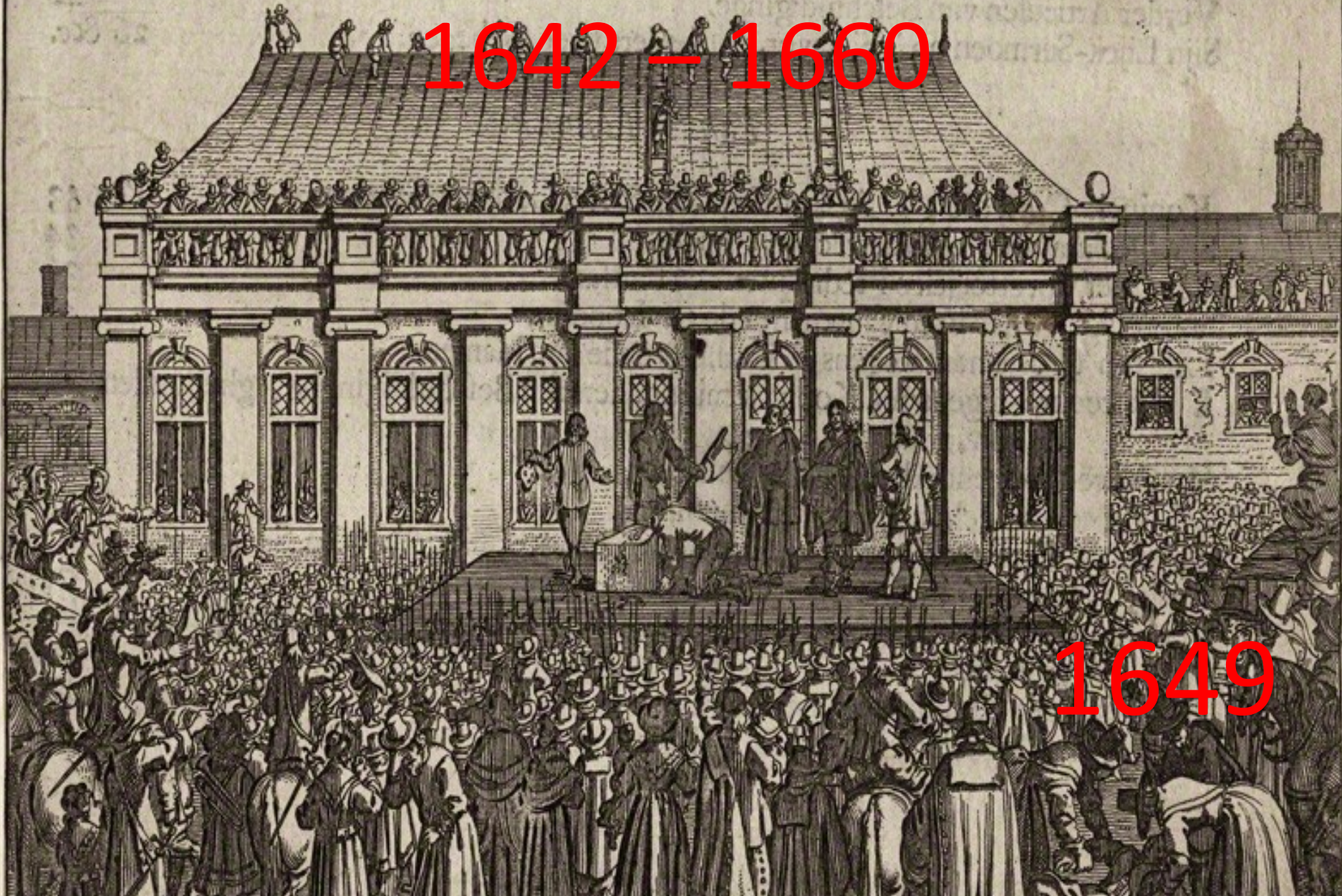
A historical painting depicting the St. Bartholomew's Night massacre in Paris, 1572. The scene is filled with chaos and violence, showing people being killed in a city street with a large church in the background.

1572

Thousands killed

English Civil War

1642 – 1660



1649

England is Republic



- 1649 – 1660
- General, signatory of Charles I. execution
- Oliver Cromwell, Lord protector 1653 – 1658
- Dictatorship
- Radical puritan
- Massacre of Catholics (Ireland, Scotland)

Thomas Hobbes (1588 – 1679)

- What is man? What is society? What is the state?
- „Liberating“ man, society, politics from ...
- Negative anthropology (homo homini lupus + bellum omnium contra omnes)
- **State of nature** – no society, culture, development ...
- Natural state/human condition: rights, free, equal, autonomous (delegated to KING, no resistance)
- Security state (non-violence, peace, progress)
- Negative freedom – free of external obstacles
- Concertation of power, state/monarch **absolutism**
- Political power/state man made
- **Modern legitimacy** of Power/State



John Locke

1632 – 1704





William of Orange

1688





The London Gazette

Published by Authority.

From Thursday April 11. to Monday April 15. 1689.

Whitehall, April 11.

His Day the Coronation of their Sacred Majesties King *William* and Queen *Mary* was performed at *Westminster* in man-
 following.

Their Majesties being come from *Whitehall* to *Westminster*, and the Nobility, &c. being put in Order by the
 They came down in State into *Westminster* hall, the Swords and Spurs were presented to Them.
 which the Dean and Prebendaries of *Westminster*, brought the Crowns and other Regalia, presented them to Their Majesties; which, with the Swords and
 were thereupon delivered to the Lords appointed to
 them.

Thus Their Majesties in Their Robes of *Crimson Velvet* King with a Cap, and the Queen a Circlet in her
 the Nobility in *Crimson Velvet* Robes with their Crowns
 their Hands, and the rest of the Proceeding in the
 Habits marched on foot upon *Blew Cloth* to *Westminster*
 all the Way and Houses on each side being Crowded
 Numbers of Spectators expressing their great Joy
 faction by loud repeated Acclamations.

Being Entred the Church, and all duly seated, the
 London, who performed this great Solemnity, began
 Recognition, which ended with a mighty Shout. Their
 Majesties Offered, and the Lords who bore the Regalia
 sented them at the Altar. The Litany was sung by
 Bishops, and after the Epistle, Gospel, and Nicene
 Bishop of *Salisbury* Preach'd on this Text, 2 Sam. 2

After Sermon Their Majesties took the Oath,
 Conducted to their Regal Chairs placed on the Throne
 they might be more Conspicuous to the Members of the
 Commons, who were seated in the North Cross) were

TWO
TREATISES
OF
Government:

In the former,
The false Principles, and Foundation
OF
Sir ROBERT FILMER,
And his FOLLOWERS,
ARE
Detected and Overthrown.

The latter is an
ESSAY
CONCERNING THE
True Original, Extent, and End
OF
Civil Government.

LONDON,

Printed for Andrew Churchill, at the Black
Swan in St. Mary-Lane, by Awn-
Corner, 1690.



John Locke (1632 – 1704)

Two Treatises of Government (1689), A letter Concerning Toleration

Complex gnozeological system (innate ideas)

State of Nature – perfect freedom, but insecure

Greed, conflicts, uncertainty (Hobbes x Locke – less pessimistic)

Who to blame? Inequality, money ... humans

Civil Society (x war states) – civil/natural rights to life, liberty, property

Freedom under the Rule of Law, constituted freedom – liberty,
„Freedom must be limited in order to preserve it“

Political mechanisms to protect freedom, equality, human rights

State is an officer of the law, division of power, rule of law,
representative government

Social contract in 3 steps: society/community, governance, taxes

Right to remove unlawful or unjust government (civil disobedience)

Positive freedom: ability, opportunity, might

1776, 1789 – liberalism, constitutionalism, democracy

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid World. — He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. — He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their operation, till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. — He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to Tyrants only. — He has called together legislative Bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. — He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the People. — He has refused for a long time after such Dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of Invasion from without, and convulsions within. — He has endeavoured to prevent the Population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Law for Naturalization of Strangers; refusing to pass others to encourage their Migration hither; and raising the Conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. — He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers. — He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their Offices, and the Amount and Payment of their Salaries. — He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance. — He has kept among us, in Times of Peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislature. — He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power. — He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: — For quartering large Bodies of armed Troops among us: — For keeping them, by a strict Watch, from Time to Time, from our Firesides; — For obstructing our Trade with all parts of the World: — For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: — For depriving us in many Cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury: — For transporting us across Seas to be tried for pretended Offences: — For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule into these Colonies: — For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: — For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with Powers to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. — He has abdicated Government here, by retaining us out of this Nation and waging War against us. — He has plundered our Seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our Towns, and destroyed the Lives of our People. — He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Opprobrium scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and lately exceeding the Head of a civilized Nation. — He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the Deceitful Friends and Allies, or to fall themselves by their Swords. — He has excited domestic Injuries amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of Warfare, is an undistinguished Destruction, of all ages, sexes and Conditions. In every Stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble Terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated Injury. A Prince, whose Character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free People. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British Brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislatures to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the Circumstances of our Emigration and Settlement here. We have appealed to their native Justice and Magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common Kindred to disavow these Usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our Connections and Correspondence. They too have been deaf to the Voice of Justice and of Amity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our Intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political Connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of Right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Written in Congress
Lynn Hall
17th Nov.

John Hancock
John Adams
John Jay
John Dickinson
Robert R. Livingston
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Thomas Jefferson
Benjamin Franklin
John Adams
Charles Carroll
George Mason
James Madison
George Washington
Francis Pickens
John Jay
John Adams
John Dickinson
Robert R. Livingston
George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
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Political Ideas x Political Reality

- Giovanni Sartori/Theory of democracy
- „Bad ideas hurt more than bad intentions“
- Bad idealism, bad realism
- Ideas are ideals/idols – routes rather than goals, things, or even rights/claims
- Optimize not maximize our ideals
- First and intermediary principles (Benjamin Constant 1767 – 1830, critic of GFR)
- Utopic realisms – Epistemological Reflexivity (Anthony Giddens)