

CHV20 8 key documents in the evolution of democracy:

The Code of Hammurabi (1754 B.C.)

A set of rules that reinforces the idea that every individual has worth and that lays out consequences for mistreatment of others.

The Magna Carta (1215 A.D.)

This document made the king accountable and confirmed that leaders are not above the law, and must respect it, as well as treat citizens as equals with both worth and dignity.

John Locke's essay (1689)

Each man should be free to do as he wishes with law to govern and protect him. The government should make rules and govern based on the voice of the people.

The Declaration of the Rights of Man (1789)

After the Revolution, the National Assembly of France laid out the fundamental rights of a human, which included the right to vote and have a voice in how he/she is governed.

America's 15th Amendment (1870)

This amendment stated that each man had the right to vote, regardless of race or colour.

New Zealand Election Act (1893)

The first law of its kind, giving women the right to vote.

U.N. Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

This declaration was agreed upon by all members of the UN, and affirmed the human rights of all individuals, including the right to vote and have a voice in their government.

European Union formed (1957)

The Union upheld human rights throughout Europe, including the right to vote.