

	Philosopher	Socio-historical period	Dominant motifs or ideas	Type or form of govt. advocated	Gave rise to:
Social Contract 1	Thomas Hobbes 1588-1679	Late feudal/early capitalist.	State of nature is a state of war of all against all. Social contract established for enhanced security/livelihood. Basis for all action is maximization of pleasure and minimization of pain => desire for power. Peace will only be attained if individual power is contained. Only form of liberty is negative liberty.	A dominant sovereign must rule. All individual rights must be surrendered unto the sovereign. Absolute power is devolved unto the sovereign. However, the form of rule advocated is authoritarian, not totalitarian as the state is called upon to intervene only on the political level. sovereign is the law.	Absolutist (hereditary) monarchy
Social Contract 2	John Locke 1632-1704	Early industrial/capitalist	State of nature is moderated by reason. Humans are social creatures, capable of following natural law. Social contract is based upon reason, and forms the basis first of society, and next of political authority. "Father of liberal-democracy." Inalienable rights to life and property. Sovereignty is to reside in the people, represented by election.	Popular sovereignty advocated, rule by a representative elected legislature. But electors drawn from propertied class only. Gov't. should be limited in nature based upon term limits and separation of power (advisable but not necessary). Pluralism is to be advocated. People are to respect the laws and the state must respect the people's rights. If not, revolution might be contemplated.	Representative democracy (presidential system: U.S. or parliamentary system: U.K.)
Social Contract 3	Jean-Jacques Rousseau 1712-1778	Early industrial/capitalist	In this state of nature, humans are amoral, asocial but compassionate. Social contact is based upon need to overcome obstacles of nature. "Father of true democracy." Believed in direct democracy only: rights may not be surrendered to any outside sovereign. Belief in positive liberty and a positive state. Freedom for, not freedom from . . . Unity of ethics and politics is established based upon the general will.	Direct democracy is only acceptable form. All members of society must participate in the task of legislating. Positive state is to be created and will intervene in many aspects of the people's lives to provide for their needs. Property rights are to be discouraged as the primary basis for social and economic inequality. Democracy and all human rights are inalienable. State should be small and ideally of an agrarian or riparian nature. In large states, an elective aristocracy is more practical.	Direct democracy (Confederation Helvetique to some extent . . .) Proto-socialism (?)