

Spread of Philosophies

Directions: Read the documents below, and then answer the question that follows.

“The pretended power of suspending [ending] of laws...by [the king’s] authority without consent of Parliament is illegal...It is the right of the subjects to petition the king...The levying of money for... the use of the crown...without grant of Parliament...is illegal. The raising and keeping of a standing army within the Kingdom in time of peace unless it be with the consent of Parliament is against the law. The speech and debates... in Parliament ought not to be...questioned in any court or place out of Parliament.... Excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishments inflicted.”

---Bill of Rights, England (1689)

“Men are born free and remain equal in rights.... Law is the expression of the general will. Every citizen has a right to participate personally or through his representative in its [the law’s] formation All citizens, being equal in the eyes of the law.... no person shall be accused, arrested, or imprisoned except in the cases and according to the forms prescribed by law. No one shall be disquieted [attacked] on account of his opinions, including his religious views.... Every citizen may speak, write, and print with freedom, but shall be responsible for such abuses of this freedom as shall be defined by law.”

---Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, France (1789)

“Congress shall make no law respecting [having to do with] an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging [taking away] the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government...

No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner...

...Nor shall [any person] be compelled...to be a witness against himself.....

....the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury....; to be confronted with witnesses against him...

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.”

---Bill of Rights, United States (1791)

How do these three documents illustrate the spread of the philosophies of government?