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Sommario/riassunto	Stourzh begins with ancient Greek thought contrasting isonomy - which is associated with the rule of the many - with 'gradated societies', oligarchies, and monarchies. He then discusses the American experiment with the development of representative democracy, as well as the French Revolution, which proclaimed that all people are born and remain free and with equal rights. But progress on the creation and protection of rights for all has been uneven. Stourzh discusses specifically the equalisation of slaves, peasants, women, Jews, and indigenous people. He demonstrates how deeply intertwined the protection of equal rights is with the development of democracy and gives particular attention to the development of constitutional

adjudication, notably the constitutional complaint of individuals. He also discusses the international protection human rights.
