Liberalism
A Very Short Introduction
By Michael Freeden

Questions for Thought and Discussion

- Is liberalism the ‘winning ideology’?
- In what sense is liberalism a universal theory? Should it be?
- Has liberalism changed over time or are its principles constant?
- Does liberal thought display a contradiction between the importance of markets and the striving for equal opportunities?
- How do liberals resolve the tension between individualism and social membership, if at all?
- Is neoliberalism a variant of liberalism?
- What are the main shortcomings of liberalism as an ideology?
- Who in your view is the most significant liberal thinker or philosopher?
- What limits do liberals attach to liberty?
- What was the liberal contribution to the modern welfare state?
- Do liberals have ‘red lines’ - articles of belief they will never give up?
- Is there something special about the way liberals imagine a just society?
- How does liberalism combine rational and emotional arguments?
- Does it make sense to talk of a liberal world order?

Other books by Michael Freeden


*Taking Ideology Seriously* [co-editor and contributor, with G. Talshir and M. Humphrey] (Routledge, 2006)

*The Meaning of Ideology: Cross-disciplinary Perspectives* [editor and contributor] (Routledge, 2007)

*Comparative Political Thought: Theorizing Practices* [co-editor and contributor, with Andrew Vincent] (Routledge, 2013)


*The Oxford Handbook of Political Ideologies* [edited with Lyman Tower Sargent and Marc Stears, and contributor] (Oxford University Press, 2013)

Further Reading

Further reading can be found at the back of *Liberalism: A Very Short Introduction*