There is a consensus about the existence of an international right to vote in democratic elections. Yet states disagree about the limits of this right when it comes to the case of prisoners’ disenfranchisement. Some states allow all prisoners to vote, some disenfranchise all prisoners, and others allow only some prisoners to vote. This chapter argues that national courts view the international right to vote in three fundamentally different ways: some view it as an inalienable right that cannot be taken away, some view it merely as a privilege that doesn’t belong to the citizens, and others view it as a revocable right that can be taken away under certain conditions. The differences in the way states conceive the right to vote imply that attempts by the European Court of Human Rights to follow the policies of the majority of European states by using the Emerging Consensus doctrine are problematic.

A judge is rooted in various relationships with the other judges on a panel or on the court as a whole, and with other institutions such as the legislature. This chapter looks at whether these relationships influence how judges vote. It finds that a judge does tend to respond differently depending on who else is with her on the panel deciding the
appeal. However, this chapter finds only mixed evidence that a judge is influenced by his position on the bench (either as a new judge hearing his first few terms of cases or, at the other extreme, as the chief justice), or by other branches of government.

Rethinking Women’s Suffrage in the Nineteenth Century
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This chapter attempts to clarify the historical significance of limited suffrage for women in the context of constitutionalization and major socio-economic change in nineteenth-century Europe. A shift in perspective, away from universal suffrage and its discourse, which generally linked the gradual individualization of the franchise to men, offers a new view of citizenship. Taking suffrage norms and electoral practices not only on the national but also on the local level into account reveals the significance of women’s local political rights. This case study of the Austrian half of the Habsburg monarchy in comparison with Sweden and the United Kingdom underlines the continuing emphasis on property rights in the field of suffrage in the nineteenth century, and the realization that women could be of use for party interests intent on upholding privileges in manifold ways.