

# Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	vii
<i>Contributors</i>	viii
1 A simple sentence: Towards a new interpretation of sovereignty in the Belgian Constitution RAF GEENENS, BRECHT DESEURE, AND STEFAN SOTTIAUX	1
<b>PART I</b>	
<b>Intellectual context</b>	<b>17</b>
2 Constitutionalism in Restoration Europe MARKUS J. PRUTSCH	19
3 Benjamin Constant and the limits of popular sovereignty NORA TIMMERMANS	37
4 Abbé Sieyès: The immanent and transcendent nation OLGA BASHKINA	55
<b>PART II</b>	
<b>1831 – the Belgian moment</b>	<b>73</b>
5 The liberal and Catholic origins of the Belgian Constitution: From the opposition under the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the constitutional debates of 1830–1831 STEFAN MARTEEL	75
6 The Coppet Group and the political liberalism of the Belgian founding fathers CHRISTOPHE MAES	96

7	Constituent power in the Belgian National Congress and the 1831 Belgian Constitution CHRISTOPHE MAES AND BAS LEIJSSENAAR	116
8	'All powers emanate from the Nation': People, nation, and sovereignty in the Belgian Constitution of 1831 BRECHT DESEURE AND CHRISTOPHE MAES	135
9	Belgium's 1831 representative system: Making representation national again CHRISTOPHE MAES AND BRECHT DESEURE	153
<b>PART III</b>		
	<b>Sovereignty and civic participation</b>	<b>173</b>
10	The monist nation and the general will: Raymond Carré de Malberg on sovereignty OLGA BASHKINA	175
11	Pulling the curtain on the national sovereignty myth: Sovereignty and referendums in Belgian constitutional doctrine CHRISTOPHE MAES, BRECHT DESEURE, AND RONALD VAN CROMBRUGGE	191
12	Laboratories for democracy: Democratic renewal in the Belgian federation RONALD VAN CROMBRUGGE	216
13	A non-populist direct democracy for Belgium NENAD STOJANOVIĆ	236
14	Democratic constitution-making under the Belgian Constitution: Utilising its untapped potential RONALD VAN CROMBRUGGE	252
15	Sovereignty without sovereignty: The Belgian solution RAF GEENENS	270
	<i>Index</i>	297