

## Notions abordées : Lieux et formes de pouvoir L'idée de progrès

An interview with Gill Cina by Shelly De Vito

British and US Voices

# British Constitution

**Shelly:** Believe it or not, the UK does not have a written constitution! I interviewed Gill Cina, a former UK magistrate. I had a lot of questions for her, about the way things work in the UK, starting with how Britain can function without a written constitution, something unfathomable for me as an American.

**Gill:** Our constitution is made up of Common Law, which is things which have been settled generations ago, and have become part of the foundation for our legal system. We have law which is made by... in Parliament, which is Statute; we now have, incorporated into our legal system, European Law; what we have never had is a totally clean slate upon which to write all the laws of the land. We've never had a true revolution in England... I think what we have is much, much more interesting and more adaptable, and more in line with how people and countries and attitudes change, but the most important thing we have is the umbrella of European Law and Human Rights Law.