The Congress of Vienna

The Establishment of a Conservative Order
Napoleon’s Surrender
Ends a quarter century of continual warfare in Europe.
European leaders met in Vienna, Austria, to re-establish order.
Congress of Vienna was attended by conservatives from Austria, Prussia, Russia, Britain, France and was led by Austrian minister Klemons von Metternich.

Metternich & other delegates disliked democracy, feared the ideas of the French Revolution, & wanted to restore Europe to the way it was before Napoleon.
Prince Klemens von Metternich

Austrian Foreign Minister
"The Congress"

the defeated and exiled Napoleon watches from Elba as the leaders of the Restoration divide Europe anew

(from left) Czar Alexander I of Russia (1777-1825), Emperor Franz I of Austria (1786-1835), and King Friedrich Wilhelm III of Prussia (1770-1840)
Objective: UNDO THIS
The New Old Map of Europe

Boundaries re-drawn
(largely resembling old boundaries)
France

Restored to 1792 boundaries

Bourbons Restored

King Louis XVIII
The Congress of Vienna

- Two alliances were formed to enforce the agreements of the Congress of Vienna:

**Alliances**

**The Holy Alliance**
- Russia
- Austria
- Prussia

**The Quadruple Alliance**
- The three members of the Holy Alliance and Great Britain
Quadruple Alliance
France must remain a great power.
“Concert of Europe”
Britain, Austria, Russia, and Prussia

Aim was to maintain status quo of pre-revolutionary Europe and prevent the spread of revolutionary ideas.
COLLECTIVE SECURITY

The Concert system was an informal precedent for the more formal European associations of the 20th century (League of Nations, NATO, UN, EU).
Conservatism

I. Stability *within* states
II. Stability *between* states
STABILITY within states
Conservatism

Liberal Reform
Popular Government
Nationalism
Examples

• Prussia:
  • Burschenschafts
    • radical student groups dedicated to German unification
    • made German rulers uneasy
    • in March 1819, a student (Karl Sand), assassinated the conservative August von Kotzebue for ridiculing the Burschenschaft movement
      • Sand was tried and publicly executed
      • became a nationalist martyr
      • Metternich used the incident to suppress institutions associated with liberalism
        • sponsored the Carlsbad Decrees in July 1819
          • banned Burschenschafts and censored materials that called for unification
          • set up secret police on campuses
Students marching to Wartburg Castle.
Karl Sand stabbing August von Kotzebue

Sand being publicly executed
Examples

- France:
  - in 1820, the Duke of Berri, (heir to the throne) was murdered by an assassin
  - King Louis XVIII responded with repressive measures
  - An opportunity to sweep away all the revolutionary changes and return to an age of royal absolutism
  - press censorship was imposed
Examples

• Britain:
  • British aristocracy panicked about ideas from French Revolution disrupting the status quo
  • repressed every kind of popular protest
    • Combination Acts in 1799 – outlawed unions and strikes
    • Corn Law in 1815 – taxes on foreign; protected British farmers from foreign grain by enacting a tariff on it
    • Coercion Acts in 1817 – temporarily suspended rights to “seditious gatherings” and habeas corpus
    • Peterloo Massacre in 1819 – police shot and skilled 15 people at a reform campaign meeting in city of Manchester
    • Six Acts in 1819 – laws that forbade large, unauthorized public meetings, sped up trials of political agitators, and prohibited the training of armed groups
    • Cato Street Conspiracy in 1820 – group of extreme radicals had plotted to blow up the entire British cabinet
The Blessings of Peace or the Curse of the Corn Bill.
“Peterloo” MASSACRE 1819
The Cato Street Conspiracy
STABILITY
between
states
The Congress of Vienna

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  - Austria
  - Prussia

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  - The three members of the Holy Alliance and Great Britain
The “Holy Alliance”  

Agreement between rulers of Russia, Prussia, & Austria to assist each other in times of trouble  

1815-1825
Russian Tsar Alexander I, Austria’s Emperor Francis I, and Prussia’s Friedrich Wilhelm III
The “Holy Alliance” 1815-1825

(i.e., to assist one another in crushing revolutionary activity).
Kingdom of the Two Sicilies
- In 1820, revolution erupted in Naples, where the king of the Two Sicilies, Ferdinand I, quickly accepted a constitution.

Spain
- Ferdinand VII of Spain was placed back on the throne after Napoleon.
- 1820, army officers rebelled.
- The king announced that he would abide by a constitution.
Examples

- Metternich was horrified called for “active intervention” to suppress revolution and maintain absolute regimes whenever they were threatened.

- In 1821, Austrian troops marched into Naples and restored Ferdinand I as the king of the Two Sicilies.

- In 1823, France and Austria suppressed the Spanish revolution.
Examples

• But there were times when revolution was good for the European powers
  • supported Greek independence
    • part of the Ottoman Empire
  • Independence would benefit their strategic interests and wouldn’t threaten their domestic security
  • Britain, France, and Russia sent troops to support the Greek War of Independence (1821-1830)
    • In the 1830 Treaty of London, European powers declared Greece an independent kingdom
ΕΚ ΤΟΥ ΕΛΛΗΝΟΤΥΡΚΙΚΟΥ ΠΟΛΕΜΟΥ 1921
Η ΠΟΛΥΝΕΚΡΟΣ ΜΑΧΗ ΠΡΟ ΤΗΣ ΑΓΚΥΡΑΣ
Η ΚΑΤΑΤΡΟΠΗΣ ΤΩΝ ΤΟΥΡΚΩΝ ΠΑΡΑ ΤΑΣ ΠΗΓΑΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΑΓΤΑΡΙΟΥ

DE LA GUERRE GRECOTURQUE DE 1921
COMBAT TERRIBLE DEVANT ANGUIRA
DÉFAITE DES TURCS PRÈS DES SOURCES DU FLEUVE SANGARIO
The GREEK WAR of INDEPENDENCE

The Struggle for Freedom from Ottoman Oppression and the Birth of the Modern Greek Nation
Balkan Nations Gain Independence from Ottoman Empire

Serbia Takes from Bulgaria (1912)

Montenegro (1878)

Albania (1912)

Greece Takes from Bulgaria (1912)

Romania (1881)

Serbia (1882)

Bulgaria (1878)

Greece (1829)
1815-1848
The Age of Metternich