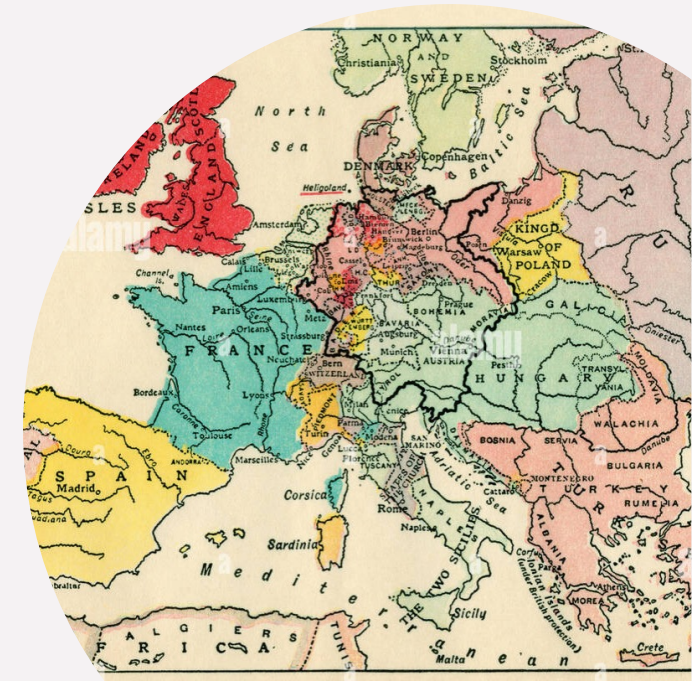


Post-1815 Europe

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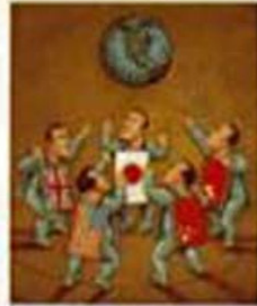
Post-1815 Europe

- Last week we looked at the Industrial Revolution on a little island that came to dominate the largest part of the globe. Great Britain became the birthplace of a watershed moment in world history because the Industrial Revolution generated efficiencies of productivity that shattered the Malthusian Trap, the unequal growth of productivity, and the means of subsistence for the population.
- Today, we will begin the first of our three conversations about Europe post-1815, discussing some salient historical developments. The slave trade and emancipation are on our schedule for next week, and 1848 and its contributory factors will be the last lecture of this unit.

BY THE AUTHOR OF
PREPARING FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

"A fresh enlightenment of the problems of our
own time." —The New York Times Book Review

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE GREAT POWERS



PAUL KENNEDY

Post-1815 Europe

- Historian Paul Kennedy defined several characteristics of post-1815 Europe.
- This historical period witnessed a steady, and after the 1840s spectacular, growth of an integrated global economy, which drew ever more regions into a transoceanic and transcontinental trading and financial network centered upon Western Europe and especially Great Britain.
- Technology deriving from the Industrial Revolution began to make its impact on military and naval warfare. The pace of change was slow but in the second half of the century the railways, telegraphs, quick fighting guns, steamed propulsion, and armored warships became decisive indicators of military strength.

Post-1815 Europe

- This era also experienced massive expansion of national and international banking, the growth of governmental bureaucracies, and the ability of different regimes to raise funds from the money markets.
- Enhanced efficiencies and productivity gave an enormous edge to Great Britain. Kennedy highlights the Machine Age advantage over time. According to him, real wages in Britain rose between 15 and 25% in the years 1815 to 1850 and by an impressive 80% in the next half-century.

Non-Europeans Eclipsed

- This era also marked the eclipse of the non-European world. The share of non-Europeans including China and British India in the world economy shrank. They experienced de-industrialization because of the penetration of the traditional markets by the cheaper and better products of the Lancashire textile factories.
- Despite the dismemberment of the Latin American empires of Spain and Portugal early nineteenth century, the European colonial outreach expanded stupendously. In the year 1800, they occupied or controlled 35% of the land surface of the world; by 1878, 67%, and by 1914 over 84%.

Post-1815 Europe

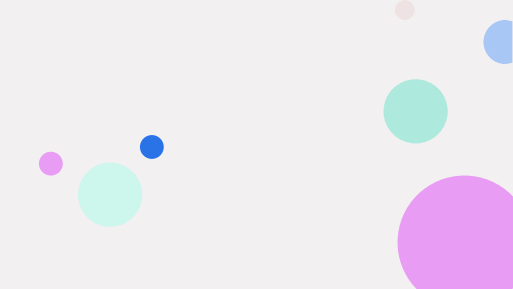
- England was the home of the Industrial Revolution.
- Europe faced equally transformative movements affecting its socioeconomic and geopolitical environment.
- European old order firstly struggled to overcome the shocks of the French Revolution, the Revolutionary Wars, and the Napoleonic Wars that ensued, and secondly, sought to consolidate their ability to stop such occurrences in the future.
- Congress of Vienna 1815 codified the monarchical resolve to establish and sustain the balance of power among them and to secure peace.
- We will see how events such as the French Revolutionary Wars and Napoleonic Wars made this consolidation of the European old order possible.

Post-1815 Europe

- The French Revolution of the 1790s had radically changed the French sociopolitical system. The European monarchies worried about its spillover effects and considered ways to support the Bourbon dynasty.
- Austria moved its troops along its borders with France. The French retaliation initiated a series of wars between France and the changing coalitions of European monarchies.
- The European old order also wrestled with the campaigns that Napoleon led against them. He became the emblem of the massive mass of sociopolitical energy the French Revolution had unleashed, resorted to military means to transform the neighboring monarchies of Europe, and attempted to control the Middle East and Caribbeans.

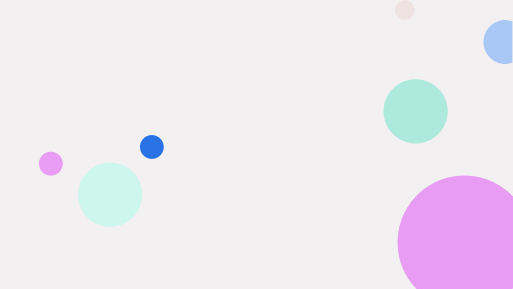


Napoleon

- Waging wars, victoriously and disastrously, was not the sole expression of Napoleon's genius. He had fundamentally changed the legal structures in France and introduced many similar reforms in the short-lived Napoleonic Empire which were equally worrisome to the European old order.
 - Code Napoleon, reminiscent of the Justinian Code, was a milestone document for its epoch. France today would not permit several of its provisions that he introduced in the early nineteenth century.
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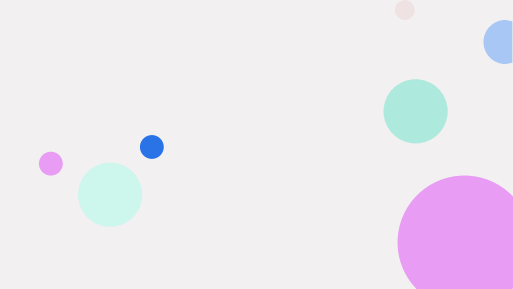


Napoleon

- The patriarchal system, for example, that the Code sought to anchor as the cornerstone of social stability, has disappeared. Fathers cannot have their sons imprisoned in modern-day France.
 - Honor killing is no longer a privileged right available to alpha males.
 - Divorce and adultery have a gender balance, at equal footing.
 - Girls are no longer marriageable at the age of 15 and in no case require permission from the paterfamilias.
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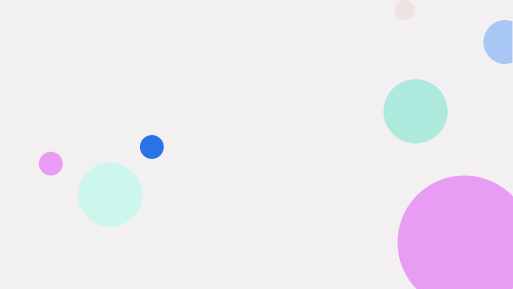


Napoleon

- The spirit of the Code Napoleon nonetheless survives as might be some of its stipulations.
 - The code standardized the rights and duties of the citizens and the government adopting Roman law principles, introduced the metric system, and provided an immediate source of guidance to the countries and territories that France conquered and where it lasted longer than the victor, Many other countries have adopted it.
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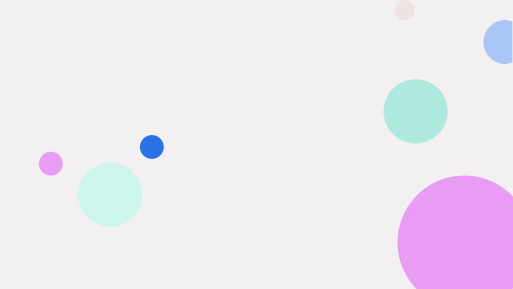


Napoleon

- Napoleon recognized the value of self-induced social control that only religion could impart to human beings. He had therefore walked a tightrope in his equations with the Catholic Church whose Papal States he had smashed into subjugation.
 - Within France, after secret negotiations, the Concordat won him the right to nominate Bishops and require them to assist the Republican state in many ways at the diocese and the national level.
 - He secured an annulment of his marriage to Josephine more successfully and less radically than Henry VIII.
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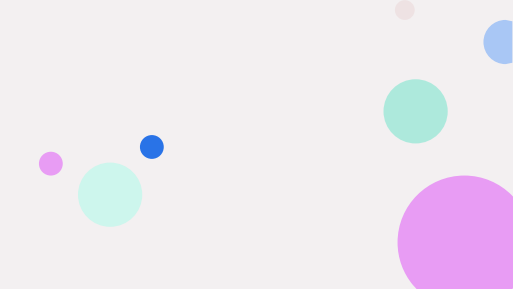


Napoleon

- Besides social control, Napoleon conceded that the Catholic Church had a role in primary education.
 - Primary schooling is no longer the realm of the Church in France, the education as well as the state are laic.
 - The Lycée at the secondary school, however, has been a Republican institution since then and continues to persist in its quest to cultivate young minds.
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Napoleon

- Napoleon eliminated the notion of noblesse by birth.
 - Legion d' honor replaced the old titles.
 - The French institutions like Conseil d'état and Cour des Comptes continue to undertake the same functions he assigned to them.
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Post-1815 Europe

- Napoleon was a stupendous though destructive force of nature, a bundle of contradictions like several great achievers.
- The Continental System was one of his biggest mistakes. He devised it to cut off the trade between Continental Europe, which he growingly viewed as his fief, and England.
- Napoleon had this hallucinating idea that he could monitor and control the Atlantic and Mediterranean coastlines of Europe, spread over the Northern Sea, Adriatic, from Scandinavia to Anatolia, to enforce a trade embargo against Britain.

Post-1815 Europe

- Napoleon harbored serious grievances against Great Britain. The island nation had taken away valuable French colonial possessions in North America in the eighteenth century. Since the beginning of the Revolutionary Wars, it had also resolved to oust Napoleon, blockaded the French coast, and added and abetted financially the European forces that opposed him.
- A French ally since the Treaty of Tilsit (1807), Russia found its economy suffering from the restricted trade. Czar Alexander I also apprehended Napoleonic ambitions for Russia's share of the divided Polish territories and most recent expeditions against Scandinavian ports.
- Britain, in the meanwhile, discovered other trading partners despite feeling the pinch.

Napoleonic Wars 1803-1815

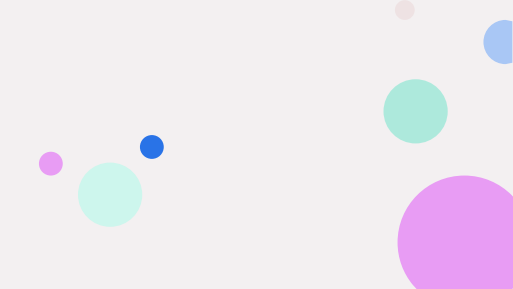
- Napoleon's campaigns had thundered through the monarchical domains of Europe.
- These campaigns were huge military operations. His triumphal army of Italy transformed its poorly clothed, supplied, and demoralized troops into great conquerors coveting material and human bounties.
- War booty, occupation, and control over the financial, artistic, human, and technical resources of other people became an incentive for the government, generals, and soldiers to keep marching on. Napoleonic rhetoric imbued them with a vengeful purpose and pursuit of glory and honor. In the process, Napoleon acquired wealth and properties to wipe out the economic worries of his war machine.

PoPost-1815 Europe

- Napoleon's pursuit of vendetta against the violators of the Continental System led to the most devastating war against Russia in 1812.
- Of the 60 battles Napoleon waged, the battle of Leipzig (1813) was one of the seven most crucial defeats, with Waterloo ending his adventurous career forever. The anti-Napoleonic forces chased him out of power and onto the distant island of St. Helena, a possession of the East India Company, as a prison.



Royalty

- Napoleon also changed the fortunes of his modest Corsican family whom he lodged in the palatial houses occupied in Italy and set them on a path that turned them into a self-proclaimed imperial dynasty.
 - Even when he resorted to the monarchical modes to run the empire, he inducted his family, companions on the battlefield, and meritorious individuals as nobles and princes of the empire. At the pinnacle of his power, he also successfully inserted these Napoleonic princes and princesses into the European imperial bloodlines as much as he chose to do so for himself.
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Royalty

- Napoleon himself found reasons to divorce Josephine and become the son-in-law of the Austrian Emperor Francis I, marrying his daughter, Marie Louise. She bore him a son and plugged him into inextricably interrelated European monarchical dynasties until they imposed on him his first abdication in 1814 and exiled him to Elba.

Post-1815 Europe

- Following Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, the allied forces of Russia, Prussia, and Austria, the land of his in-laws, moved to roll back the French stranglehold against them.
- Congress of Vienna and the Concert of Europe codified guarantees for peace and settlement of outstanding territorial claims.
- Postwar accommodations functioned differently than the Versailles Treaty. The focus was on the restoration of the old order rather than punishing the French aggressor.
- After forcing Napoleon's first abdication in 1814, the Allied forces of Russia, Prussia, Britain, and Austria, placed Louis XVIII on the Bourbon throne.

The Congress of Vienna 1814-15

- The terms of settlement toward France were lenient, the objective being to turn France into an ally rather than a resentful enemy. They reduced France to its 1789 boundaries.
- Because Napoleon escaped from Elba and returned to France after his first abdication, they imposed an indemnity of 700 million francs and required the French to return stolen artifacts and submit to the occupation powers and their allied forces until the indemnity was paid (done by 1818).

The Congress of Vienna 1814-15

- The Congress of Vienna emphasized legitimacy and stability.
- By legitimacy, they meant that territories should once again be placed under the control of the old ruling houses of the traditional order, adjusting to new ground realities.
- By stability, they meant establishing and maintaining a balance of power within Europe, with a particular focus on restraining France.
- They also agreed that the settlement should apply to all of Europe.

The Congress of Vienna 1814-15

- They traded and acquired territories by mutual consent ([Final Document](#)).
- Napoleon had demolished the Holy Roman Empire in 1806. This flexible structure had existed since 800 but breathed its last in the nineteenth century. They created the German Confederation of 39 states to replace it.
- Russia, Austria, and Prussia became the linchpins of a Holy Alliance committed to preserving the Vienna settlement and indicated a possibility of intervening in other countries in support of their conservative principles.

The Concert of Europe

- Besides the Holy Alliance, Austria, Russia, Prussia, and Great Britain created a military alliance to guarantee the Vienna settlement.
- They called it the Quadruple Alliance or the Concert of Europe which showed its strength in authorizing military actions against insurrections or liberal revolts in Naples in 1821, and Spain in 1822.
- Monroe Doctrine of 1823 which the British supported, eliminated any possibility of European intervention in the Western Hemisphere to protect the interests of the Spanish crown.

The Concert of Europe

- The Concert of Europe did not end wars. Unlike the prolonged conflicts of the 18th century, however, occurrences of hostilities such as the Franco-Austrian War of 1859, instrumental to the unification of Italy in 1861, the wars of German unification in the 1860s, the Crimean War of 1853-1856, between the Russian Empire and an alliance of the Ottoman Empire, France, the United Kingdom, and Sardinia-Piedmont, were limited in duration and area.
- In 1870, France suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of a unified German Empire.

Post-1815 Europe

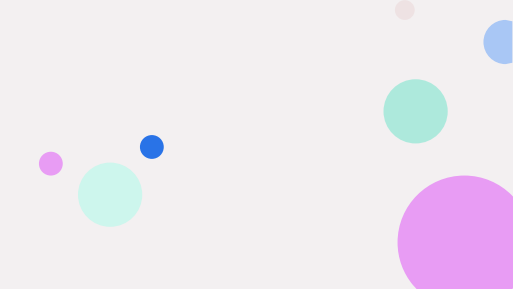
- This was a period of intense focus on ideologies such as conservatism or liberalism.
- The European Monarchs were thus responding to various internal pressures. The rising wave of nationalism threatening the multiethnic and multilingual imperial structures was one of them.
- Language became a major source of identity and a defining characteristic of nationalism, unlike the situation in Great Britain and the United States.

Ideas and Ideologies

- Nationalism was an idea that the French Revolution reinforced.
- Nationalism promised to unify nations, liberate subject people from foreign rule, create a sense of fraternity among the members of a national community, and lead that community to a common destiny. At its core was a feeling of cultural identity among distinct groups of people who shared a common language and traditions and belonged to a nation-state of their own.
- Nationalism posed a challenge to multi-ethnic empires like the Habsburgs where Czechs, Magyars, or Serbs (independence 1878), or, the Greeks under the Ottomans (independence 1829), the Poles under Russians, and Italians under Austrians felt either ethnically and linguistically discriminated against or suppressed by foreign domination.

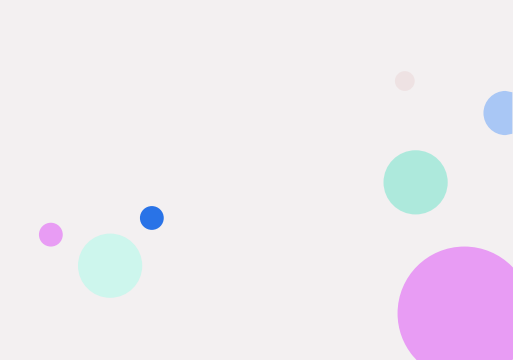


Ideas and Ideologies

- Essentially, conservatism opposed the revolutionary notion of equality and believed in order and hierarchy. The participants in the Vienna Congress were conservatives. They also resented the idea of individualism based on Enlightenment because it would fragment society and lead to anarchy.
 - Liberalism drew on the promises of the French Revolution and the Enlightenment. Liberals wanted a society that promoted individual freedom, or liberty, and opposed the dominance of politics and society by monarchs, aristocrats, and clergy. They demanded reform and fought resisting conservatives,
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Ideas and Ideologies

- Romanticism was another major trend. We began this unit by learning about it.
 - Socialism and Communist ideas developed in this period. We learned about Marx and Engels this morning.
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Conclusion

- The Industrial Revolution, French Revolution, Napoleonic Wars, growing colonialism, industrialization, and globalization dominated historical developments in post-1815 Europe.
- We will look at the slave trade and emancipation and how they connected to Europe next week.
 - Questions/Comments

