

The Congress of Vienna

Slide 1:

1. European government figureheads were looking to establish long lasting peace and stability on the continent after Napoleon was defeated
2. A series of meetings called the congress of vienna were called to set up policies to achieve this goal.
3. was supposed to only last four weeks, but lasted eight months

Slide 2:

- Five great powers: Russia, Prussia, Austria, Great Britain, and France made most of the decisions in secret
- most influential was the prime minister of Austria
- Prince Klemens von Metternich (MEHT-uh-nihk)
- Metternich distrusted democratic ideals and thought Napoleon's downfall was his experiments with democracy. He had three goals

1. prevent future french aggression (surround it with powerful nations)
2. restore a balance of power (so no country could be a threat to others)
3. Restore Europe's royal families to thrones they had held before Napoleon

Slide 3: To make countries stronger:

- united Dutch Republic and Austria Netherlands making Kingdom of the Netherlands
- 39 german states united loosely to create the german confederation (dominated by austria)
- switzerland became independent
- Kingdom of Sardinia (in italy) was given Genoa

This prevented France from over taking weaker nations

Slide 4:

1. Leaders of Europe wanted to make France weaker, not powerless.
2. if they punished France they might take revenge (Germany WW2)
3. if they broke up france, another country might become too powerful.

Slide 5:

1. Great powers restored as many rulers to the throne that napoleon chased away as possible. this was known as the principle of legitimacy.
2. Ruling families of France, Spain, and several states in Italy and Central Europe regained their thrones.
3. members of the Congress of Vienna thought this would restore good relations between nations

Slide 6: Congress of Vienna was a success in many ways

- first time nations of an entire continent cooperated to control political affairs.
- agreements were fair, no one had a grudge.
- agreed they would come to one another's aid in case of threats to peace.

prevented war for 40 years until France and Britain fight Russia in the Crimean War

Slide 7:

1. Congress of Vienna was a conservative victory. Kings and princes resumed power in country after country.
2. Britain and France now had constitutional monarchies.
3. government in eastern and central Europe were even more conservative
4. rulers in Russia, Prussia, and Austria were absolute monarchs

Slide 8:

1. Rulers of Europe were still nervous about the legacy of the French revolution.
2. were worried about the ideas of liberty, equality and other rights might encourage revolution elsewhere
3. This prompts Czar Alexander I of Russia, Emperor Francis I of Austria, and King Frederick William III of Prussia to sign an agreement known as the Holy Alliance
4. in it they pledge to base their relations with other nations on Christian principles in order to combat the forces of the revolution

Slide 9:

1. Conservatives held firm control of the governments, but they could not contain the ideas that the French Revolution brought
2. For instance: France was divided politically between conservatives, who were happy by the reign of Louis XVIII and those who wanted the king to share more power with the legislature
3. lower class was still clinging to the ideas of equality, liberty and property as well.
4. Congress of Vienna could not go back in time.
5. revolution brought the first experiment with democracy. While it did not succeed, it had set the wheel in motion.

Slide 10:

1. Actions the Congress of Vienna had taken also impacted countries outside of Europe.
2. when Napoleon deposed the king of Spain during the Peninsular War, a group known as liberal creoles (colonists born in Spanish America) seized control of colonies in the Americas.
3. After the king was restored to the Spanish throne royalist peninsulares (colonists born in

- spain) tried to regain control of those governments
4. Creoles, attempted to retain and expand their power.

Slide 11:

1. Spanish king then took steps to tighten control over the American colonies
2. this action angered the mexicans, who would revolt and successful throw off spanish control
3. other spanish colonies also claimed independence.
4. Brazil also declared independence from Portugal

Slide 12:

1. Congress of Vienna's legacy would have an impact for the next century.
2. Nationalism spread in Italy, Germany, Greece and other nations. These feelings would turn into revolutions and new countries would be formed.
3. Spanish colonies took advantage of the events in Europe to break away from Spain and declare their independence.
4. ideas about power and authority had changed permanently after the French revolution
5. people saw democracy as the best way to ensure equality and justice for all.