

Restoring Order at Home

After seizing power as first consul, Napoleon kept many of the changes that had come with the Revolution by supporting laws that would both strengthen the central government and achieve some of the goals of the Revolution.

Napoleon set up an efficient method of tax collection and established a national banking system in order to improve the economy. In addition to ensuring the government a steady supply of tax money, these actions promoted sound financial management and better control of the economy. Napoleon also took steps to end corruption and inefficiency in government. He dismissed corrupt officials and, in order to provide the government with trained officials, set up [lycées](#), or government-run public schools. These lycées were open to male students of all backgrounds. Graduates were appointed to public office on the basis of merit (qualifications) rather than family connections.