The Congress of Vienna





Congress of Vienna (1814-1815)



- European monarchs sought to turn back the clock to 1789 and restore Europe's Old Regime
- Members included the "Big Four" and France
 - Austria Prince Metternich
 - England Duke of Wellington and Lord Castlereagh
 - France Talleyrand
 - Prussia Frederick William III, Hardenberg, and Humboldt
 - Russia Tsar Alexander I







Metternich (1773-1859)



Opposed democracy and nationalism

Proposed principles of compensation and

legitimacy





Compensation and Legitimacy



Compensation

- Napoleon's enemies rewarded with land
- Other nations compensated for land taken
- Redrew the map of Europe

Legitimacy

- Restoration of pre-Napoleon rulers
- House of Bourbon France, Spain, and the two Sicilies
- House of Braganza Portugal
- House of Orange Netherlands
- House of Savoy Sardinia
- German princes territories in the Confederation of the Rhine
- Pope and Catholic Church Papal States



Territorial Changes



- Austria gained Lombardy, Modena, Parma, Tuscany, and Venetia (all are areas in Italy)
- England gained Cape Colony, Ceylon, Heligoland, Guiana, and Malta (areas in Africa, the Americas, and Asia)
- Holland gained Austrian Netherlands (Belgium)
- Prussia gained part of Poland, land along the Rhine River, 40% of Saxony, Swedish Pomerania, and Westphalia
- Russia gained Finland and part of Poland
- Sweden gained Norway



Fate of Nationalism



People had no say over territorial changes

 Language, nationality, and religion weren't taken into consideration

 Ideas of democracy and self-government were rejected by European leadership

Soon enough, concessions were made



Louis XVIII of France



No more divine right of kings

Charter (Constitution) granted in 1814

Could not restore feudalism and serfdom

Continuing religious toleration guaranteed



Buffer States



 Designed to prevent France from again becoming a threat

 Holland and Sardinia enlarged and strengthened

European nations guaranteed Switzerland's neutrality



Quadruple and Holy Alliances



- Metternich desired to maintain the status quo and make the Vienna treaties permanent
- Quadruple Alliance of 1815
 - Austria, England, Prussia, and Russia
 - France joined in 1818
 - Pledged to put down democratic or nationalistic revolts
- Holy Alliance
 - Organized by Tsar Alexander I of Russia
 - Most European monarchs joined
 - Pledged to govern with charity, justice, and peace
 - But none of them did so



Results of the Congress of Vienna



- Concert of Europe group of leading nations which periodically met to discuss issues regarding stability
- Temporary suppression of democratic and nationalistic ideals
- International peace no general war in Europe until World War I a hundred years later
 - Crimean War (1854-1856)
 - Austro-Prussian War (1866)
 - Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871)



Review Questions



- What countries made up the "Big Four" at the Congress of Vienna?
- What were the principles of compensation and legitimacy?
- How did the Congress of Vienna redraw the map of Europe?
- What was the purpose of the Quadruple Alliance?
- What were the results of the Congress of Vienna?