Congress of Vienna

Background
- After the defeat of Napoleon
  o Napoleon exiled
- Peace conference
- **Purpose**
  o Redraw map of Europe
  o Make Peace
    ▪ Prevent future revolutions

Leaders
- Castlereagh
  o English
  o To protect the empire
  o Keep France weak
  o Maintain freedom of the sea
- Talleyrand
  o French
  o To protect French interests
- Alexander I
  o Russian
  o Wanted Poland
  o International system of collective security
    ▪ Holy Alliance
      ● Christian principles
- King Frederick William III
  o Prussian
  o Enlarge empire
- **Metternich**
  o Austrian
    ▪ Foreign minister
  o Most powerful
  o **Leader of the congress of Vienna**
    ▪ Dominates European politics for 30 years
      ● Age of Metternich
  o Principles
    ▪ Keep the status quo
    ▪ Balance of power
    ▪ Opposed nationalism
    ▪ Issued Carlsbad Decrees
      ● Censorship that controlled universities

Political Setup
- Liberals
  o Left
  o Wanted change
  o 19th Century
    ▪ Middle class
    ▪ Supported Enlightenment and French Revolution
    ▪ Supported social reform
- Reason, progress, social reform
  - Wanted political reform
    - Written constitutions
    - Limited monarchy or republic
  - Extended suffrage to all eligible citizens
  - Favored break-up of large empires
  - Individual freedoms
    - Speech
    - Religion
    - Press

- Conservatives
  - Right
  - Opposed change
  - 19th century
    - Upper class
    - Supported old regime
    - Favored old traditions
      - Wanted to go back to the old times
      - Undo French Revolution
        - And prevent future revolutions
  - Supported status quo
    - The way things always have been
  - Favored law order stability
  - Opposed to political change
    - Monarchy
    - Legitimacy
      - Return old king
      - Hereditary monarchy
  - Restrict vote
  - Restrict civil rights
    - Censorship
    - Established church
  - Opposed to nationalism and liberalism
    - Ideology

- 1st Treaty of Paris
  - 1814
  - Very lenient because wanted to maintain peace
    - Also solidify power of Louis XVIII
  - Restored 1792 borders
  - No indemnity or reparations
  - No occupation army
  - Napoleon to Elba
    - Him not staying messed this up

- 2nd Treaty of Paris
  - 1815
  - Peace with France after 100 days and Waterloo
  - More severe
    - Restored 1790 borders
    - Indemnity imposed
    - Occupying army until debt is paid
Territorial changes

- Buffer along France’s eastern border
  - United provinces combined with Austrian Netherlands
    - Form Kingdom of Netherlands
- New country
  - Switzerland
- German Confederation
  - Replaced confederation of the Rhine
  - Prussia got left bank
- Piedmont and Sardinia form Kingdom of Sardinia
- Austria got Lombardy and Venetia
- Kingdom of the two Sicilies
  - Returned to Bourbons
  - Papal states restored
- Polish-Saxon question
  - Russia wanted Poland
    - Britain and Austrian fear Russian expansion
  - Prussia wanted Saxony
    - Austria feared Prussian expansion
  - Compromise: Alexander became king of congress of Poland
    - Gave Saxony to Prussia
    - Gave Malta, Ceylon islands in East and West Indies, and South Africa to England

Significance

- Minimum resentment in France
- Britain becomes undisputed colonial leader
- Smoothed over problems of Poland and Saxony
  - German Dualism remains
- Triumph of conservatism
  - Disappointment to liberals and nationalists
- Congress system
  - Anytime there was a problem could meet and fix problems