



**CALIFORNIA CONTENT  
STANDARD 10.2.5**

## *European Nationalism from Napoleon Until the Revolutions of 1848*

**Specific Objective:** Discuss how nationalism spread across Europe with Napoleon but was repressed for a generation under the Congress of Vienna and Concert of Europe until the Revolutions of 1848.

**Read the summaries to answer the questions on the next page.**

After **Napoleon Bonaparte** seized control of France in 1799, he went on to expand his power across the continent. By 1812, he controlled much of Europe. However, many of the conquered lands rumbled with **nationalism**—loyalty to their own nations above all. Nationalists rose to throw off Napoleonic rule. As a result, Napoleon suffered a series of significant military defeats from 1812 to 1815, when his empire came to an end at the Battle of Waterloo.

### **The Congress of Vienna, 1814–1815**

**What and why:** A series of international meetings to secure peace across Europe

**Who:** King Frederick William III of Prussia, Czar Alexander I of Russia, Emperor Francis I of Austria; foreign ministers from Britain and France; and, most importantly, **Klemens von Metternich**, foreign minister of Austria

- Countries around France were made stronger to **weaken France** and provide a **balance of power** across Europe.
- **Monarchies** that had been dethroned under Napoleon were **restored** and their **legitimacy**—hereditary right to rule—was proclaimed in France and elsewhere.

### **Concert of Europe, c. 1820–1853**

**What and why:** An international alliance that met when peacekeeping issues arose

**Who:** the “Holy Alliance” of the **leaders of Russia, Austria, and Prussia**, led by Klemens von Metternich

- Royal rulers **promised to help each other in the event of revolution.**

### **Revolutions of 1848**

**What and why:** Uprisings for self-government in France, the Austrian Empire, and the German and Italian states

**Who:** **Nationalists** who claimed loyalty to their fellow people rather than royal rulers

- Nationalists wanted **nation-states**—national governments that are independent from royal rule and serve the people and their ideals.
- Nationalists believed they would be united by their shared history, culture, and land rather than by any one ruler.
- The uprisings were quickly repressed, but their ideals persisted; within 20 years nationalist movements had turned the scattered states of **Germany and Italy** into two new, unified nation-states.



PRACTICE

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## European Nationalism from Napoleon Until the Revolutions of 1848

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

1. Who was the *most* important European leader at the Congress of Vienna?
  - A Napoleon Bonaparte
  - B King Frederick William III
  - C Czar Alexander I
  - D Klemens von Metternich
  
2. Which statement is *true* of the outcome of the Congress of Vienna?
  - A Its leaders created a balance of power in Europe.
  - B The French king was permanently exiled.
  - C Monarchy throughout Europe was weakened.
  - D The first nation-states were formed.
  
3. What was the primary concern of the Concert of Europe?
  - A Napoleonic control of Europe
  - B weakening the power in France
  - C the possibility of revolution
  - D the unification of Germany and Italy
  
4. The Revolutions of 1848 had a lasting impact because they
  - A proved nationalism had triumphed.
  - B were put down, but their ideals persisted.
  - C showed that nationalism had outlived its usefulness.
  - D all led to stable democracies.
  
5. Which statement would an Austrian nationalist in the 1840s be *most* likely to make?
  - A "My greatest loyalty is to my leader."
  - B "I believe in the legitimacy of the monarch."
  - C "The Holy Alliance is the key to our independence."
  - D "Our shared history and culture unite me with my people."
  
6. Germany and Italy became two unified nation-states as a result of
  - A the Congress of Vienna.
  - B the Concert of Europe.
  - C nationalist movements.
  - D the Holy Alliance.

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