

# • Congress of Vienna- 1814-1815

• -this was the conference to restore peaceful order after the Napoleonic Wars

• -Vienna was (and is) the capital city of Austria

- the congress was run by Prince Klemens von Metternich of Austria

- the overriding theme was that nationalism was bad;

- limiting individual rights of the lower + middle class...

- ending extreme loyalty to ones nation...

all emphasized

- representatives of the victorious alliance of nations that defeated France & Napoleon were invited

- France was also invited

- Goals of the Congress  
1) reconstruct the map of Europe

2) restore the nobility to the leadership roles of the nations of Europe

3) create a "balance of power" among the nations of Europe (in size, population, military)

4) to prevent another nation (or person) from assuming too much power

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- the congress was interrupted from 3/1815 til 6/1815; when Napoleon escaped from Elba & re-took control of France until his defeat at Waterloo (the "100 Days")

## importance

- A) individual rights were suppressed, therefore the ideas of the French Rev. & what it won for people,

• were continued to be fought for by lower & middle class people

B) France was not punished for the acts of Napoleon

C) peace in Europe was maintained for 40 years, and then only between two nations; no large scale, continent-wide conflict occurred for 99 years