

PRAMUN X, January 10–14, 2018
Gymnázium Jana Nerudy, Prague

HISTORICAL CRISIS

THE 1815 CONGRESS OF VIENNA

Chaired by **Hannah** Vaughan & **Barbora** Wenzelová
Managed by **Kája** Janiková (kajanikova@gmail.com)

a. How to become a part of the Historical Crisis Committee?

The first difference from regular committees and Security Council is a country application. Where other committees are decided through the registration form, application for countries in Historical Crisis Committee are send directly to the HCC supervisor Karolína Janiková (kajanikova@gmail.com). Every delegate should send a list of three countries he/she would like to represent.

After the allocation of a country, the delegate will be asked to prepare policy papers for both topics containing *General background, Country's policy and possible solutions* and *Works cited*. This policy statement should be send to your Chairs by mid-December.

b. HCC procedures and rules

Historical Crisis Committee is something new to many PRAMUNers and therefore we find it necessary to explain how the session goes:

- First of all, there are fewer delegates in Historical Crisis Committee than in regular committees and because of this, delegates get to / have to speak more often.
- Each delegate makes a policy statement right before the debate starts.
- The debate procedures are the same as in a regular committee: each delegate can ask to be added to the speaker's list and each delegate has the right to ask questions.
- It is very likely that during the session, an unexpected historical event takes place, so be ready to change your policy or your allies. **The goal is not to copy history, the goal is to alter it.**
- The outcome of session is an agreement in form of a regular committee resolution.
- The proposal of agreement has to be signed by 1/3 of the committee members before it is submitted to the chair.
- The agreement along with the brief summary of the process in committee is presented by three delegates at the General Assembly.

If you have any questions or you want to apply for a country, please **contact the committee manager, Kája Janiková at kajanikova@gmail.com**.

c. List of participating entities



[Austria](#)

Austria came out of the war against Napoleon as a winning country. Although the king of Austria is Francis I, the actual power is in the hands of the Foreign Minister, later on Chancellor of State, Klemens von Metternich. Austria has strong conservative views and doesn't want revolutionary thoughts to enter the country. Austria is trying to protect conservatism and if possible absolute monarchies in Europe. After the Napoleonic wars Austria is also trying to annex some parts of Germany. One of the main signatories of the Holy Alliance.



[Bavaria](#)

Bavaria is not one of the main players at the congress. It is trying to secure its border but also gain some more land.



France – Bourbons

France has lost the war. It is economically in a very bad situation. The Bourbons have become the ruling dynasty (Louis XVIII). The foreign minister Talleyrand is a skilled negotiator trying to help France in any possible way.



Netherlands

The Kingdom of the Netherlands has only just been created. It includes the whole of today's Benelux including what used to be Austrian territory. As a new country, they are trying to secure their borders. The Prince of Orange is represented by Hans Christoph Ernst von Gagern.



The Pope

The Pope Pius VII is trying to secure the Papal state. He doesn't want Italy to unite, which is partly the reason for his close cooperation with Austria.



Portugal

Portugal is quite cut off from happenings in Europe. However, it's a close ally of the United Kingdom.



Prussia

Prussia is one of the main winners of the war. It has gained a lot of power and is a rival of Austria, as both countries are trying to win over as much of the German territory as they can. One of the main signatories of the Holy Alliance.



Russia

Russia has also won the war. It shares Austria's conservative values and is Austria's strong ally. It is trying to extend its territory not only by definitely annexing Poland but also by extending into the Middle East. One of the main signatories of the Holy Alliance.



Sardinia

Sardinia is afraid of Austria and would potentially like to unite Italy.



Saxony

Saxony was an ally of Napoleon. Prussia has taken away a noticeable chunk of their territory, thus they are inclined more to Austria.



Sicily

Sicily is a conservative country just like Austria with King Ferdinand as head of state.



Spain

Spain is a bit out of touch with what is going on in Europe, just like Portugal. It is trying to secure its borders with France.



Sweden

Sweden is neutral, but is prone to mistrust Russia.



United Kingdom

The UK is on the winning side of the war. Though mainland Europe is not its top priority, it wants peace and a stable balance of powers. Viscount Castlereagh, the foreign minister of the UK, tries to achieve the balance of powers by working with Russia, Prussia and Austria.



Württemberg

Württemberg being a small country on the German territory does not have a big say. It's against a united Germany.

d. Synopses

As it stands, the **Congress of Vienna** was one of the most pivotal moments in history. The French imperialist ambitions have swept across Europe, forcing its individual monarchies to unite against a common enemy. On May 1814, this however fragile alliance was successful at defeating France after nearly 25 years of war, exiling Napoleon at the remote island of Elbe. Still, Europe is far from being at peace. Napoleonic wars have shuffled the odds, sparking national and liberal movements, threatening the old monarchies existence. Furthermore, in the turmoil of war, many territories have been exchanged and annexed raising the question of territorial integrity. One is clear, the bourbon monarchy in France is reinstated and is present on November

1814 in Vienna, where its future and the political climate of Europe up until World War 1 will be decided.

Subtopic I:

Post-war borders and rebuilding of France

I. Background

The congress of Vienna changed the borders of countries in Europe to the state which still can be seen today. Firstly, the dissolution of Holy Roman Empire in 1806 is very important. After the Napoleonic wars, the German territory was devastated and distorted. To unite these territories, German Confederation consisting of 39 states was established during the Congress, Austrian Empire and Prussia included. Austrian Empire as the winner of the Napoleonic wars defends the old and conservative orders in the German Confederation. In the meantime, Prussia is a rival of Austrian Empire, which causes many political problems. The Kingdom of Bavaria is also a part of the German Confederation. Yet, there are states which don't agree with the unification of Germany, such as Württemberg, but still are a part of the German Confederation. States, which were allies of Napoleon in the wars had to take measures regarding their punishment – such as Saxony, whose part of territory was captured by Prussia.

The Congress had also created whole new states, considering the creation of The United Kingdom of the Netherlands, consisting of Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg.

In Northern Europe, some changes had also happened. Russia as an ally of the Austrian Empire is a winner in the wars, so it occupies the Duchy of Warsaw and changes it into the Polish Kingdom and establishes the personal union with it (sometimes also called the Russian Poland). Russia also occupies the territory of Finland, at the time belonging to Sweden. As can be seen, Russia intends to expand, but not only in Europe. There are other territories in the east that matter. The deteriorating Ottoman Empire is becoming more and more unstable. That is where Russia takes the opportunity.

After Russia took the Finland, Sweden becomes a rival, but still, Sweden gets the territory of Norway (which belonged to the Kingdom of Denmark), as a consequence of Denmark being ally of Napoleon during the wars.

Moving on to the south, the Pope Pius VII., who had many conflicts with Napoleon, has the main purpose of restoration of the Papal States. During the Congress, the Papal States were restored to the Pope. Still, his intention is to preserve the Papal States, that's why he doesn't stand for the unification of Italy. He keeps good relations with the Austrian Empire.

In the Sicily, which is largely conservative, king Ferdinand IV. was restored to be a king of Sicily and Kingdom of Naples. Sicily is cooperative with the Austrian Empire.

Similarly, Sardinia lost some territories to France (Savoy and Piedmont) which were congress restored to the Kingdom of Sardinia after the congress. On the other hand, Sardinia doesn't keep good relations with the Austrian Empire, which will lead to immense conflicts in the future.

Portugal, being historically the oldest ally of Britain, had lost the town of Olivenca to Spain in the wars, but with the support of the Britain and other states participating on the Congress, Portugal restored the town of Olivenca as the Congress agreed the occupation of the town to be illegal.

During the Napoleonic wars, Spain was invaded by Napoleon (common borders made Spain an obvious target) and occupied. Napoleon installed his brother Joseph on the throne. Spain reacted with a war for independence. After the Congress of Vienna, the king Ferdinand VII. returns to the throne.

One of the winners, Great Britain, gains territories in the south (Malta), South Africa and Asia (Ceylon).

The important value for Great Britain is to retain its reputation of a major power.

Last, but not least, France, as defeated country, has countless victims of the wars. In the aftermath of the Napoleonic wars, the economics collapses, as a consequence of the war reparations. The Congress causes the Bourbon restoration and king Louis XVIII. sits on the throne. French borders return to the state before year 1789 (Avignon excluded). The delegate of France on the Congress is French politician and diplomat - Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord.

II. Questions to consider

- Is France able to economically stand the war reparations?
- Is German Confederation, including Prussia and Austrian Empire, going to fulfil its function?
- Is Russian rapid territorial expansion safe for the rest of Europe? And won't be Europe concerned about that?
- Will France retain its significant reputation?

III. Sources

- <https://www.britannica.com/event/Congress-of-Vienna>

- <http://www.encyclopedia.com/history/modern-europe/treaties-and-alliances/congress-vienna>
- <http://opil.ouplaw.com/page/congress-vienna-1814-1815>

Subtopic II:

Establishment of the Holy Alliance

I. Background

The treaty was signed on September 26, 1815 in Paris, which is not long after the end of the Vienna congress in June 1815. The Holy Alliance was mostly created by Tsar Alexander I. as it was in his interest to reinstall and preserve peace in Europe. His two biggest allies were the Austrian chancellor Klemens von Metternich and the Prussian king Frederick William III. “The Three Contracting Monarchs will remain united by the bonds of a true and indissoluble fraternity”. Russia (orthodox), Prussia (protestant) and Austria (catholic) were all Christian countries, one of the treaty’s article establishes the three nations as a Christian nation. They believed in “the sublime truths which the Holy Religion of our Saviour teaches”. Other conservative countries (like Sicily) also supported the Holy Alliance and eventually all European rulers except King George IV. (UK), the sultan of the Ottoman Empire and the Pope Pius VII. joined the alliance.

The Holy Alliance was formed to protect monarchism, conservative values and peace in Europe. Its goal was to fight against any revolutionaries, liberalism, democracy and secularism. Russia, Prussia and Austria didn’t want any revolutionary thoughts entering their country. The question of national rights and liberties were also pushed aside and suppressed as their idea of peace was meant to be the main priority (along with promoting Christianity). Thus, revolutionaries viewed it with hatred and as a symbol of oppression.

The Alliance enabled the Austrian forces to overturn a liberal revolution in Sicily and supported the Spanish King Ferdinand VII to suppress (with help from France) a revolution in Spain. Furthermore, as Poland had been divided between Russia, Prussia and Austria there were countless uprisings against the three countries. All uprisings were suppressed by the Holy Alliance (formed of the three countries). Later on, to defeat the Hungarian Revolution of 1848–1849 Austria needed help, which they got from Russia on basis of the Holy Alliance.

II. Questions to consider

- Is your country in favour of the Holy Alliance? Why? Why not?

- Will the Holy Alliance be of any use in the future?
- For how long can it manage to protect conservative values in Europe? Can it at all?

III. Sources

- https://www.napoleon-series.org/research/government/diplomatic/c_alliance.html
- <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?ParagraphID=mjm>
- <http://westerncivguides.umwblogs.org/2012/02/28/the-holy-alliance/>
- <http://www.britainexpress.com/History/Holy-Alliance.htm>