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**VIENNA REVIVED:
TAKING ANOTHER STAB
AT THE CONGRESS OF VIENNA**



**CLAREMONT
MCKENNA
COLLEGE
APRIL 20 - 21, 2024**

Letter from the Director

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to McKenna MUN XI!

My name is Anson Bouchard and I'm excited to be directing this crisis committee about the Congress of Vienna! I'm currently a sophomore at Claremont McKenna College studying economics and data science. This year is my first on CMC's MUN team, although I have prior speech and debate experience.

The Congress of Vienna set the foundation for the European stage in the 19th century, which influenced notions of nationality as well as major alliances aimed at securing defensive protection against changes of the power of balance established by the congress. The shift the congress created was in an astoundingly diplomatic way, leading to a clear break between the Napoleonic Wars and the restoration of power to the monarchies of Europe.

Because its change has drastic impacts on European and global history as we know it, I'm very excited for this simulation. I look forward to seeing you all in April! Please feel free to contact me about any questions you may have regarding this background guide or committee.

Sincerely,

Anson Bouchard

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Committee Director, Congress of Vienna - McKenna MUN XI

Introduction to the Committee

This committee's purpose was to set ground rules for how Europe would look after Napoleon.¹ The Congress of Vienna was established following Napoleon's downfall to restore the balance of power and legitimacy of the monarchy. It met throughout 1814 and 1815 at the Ballhausplatz in Vienna, Austria.² The most powerful delegates were from Austria, Prussia, Russia, Great Britain, and France; however, delegates from many nations were represented at the Congress. The Congress's result was largely a restoration of pre-1792 territorial boundaries, with some changes made to account for the Napoleonic Wars and the European balance of power. It was also a meeting where monarchs discussed how to quell stirring anti-monarchy revolutionary spirit, which was successful to varying degrees in the decades afterward. The Congress marked the start of what is known as "the Concert of Europe," where European powers worked together to address domestic uprisings.³ This ensured the political and territorial stability of the decisions made at the Congress, at least until later rebellions in 1830 and 1848.⁴ The Congress achieved relative (albeit temporary) European peace, standing in contrast to the wars that preceded it.

¹ Robert Palmer and Joel Colton, *A History of the Modern World* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1987), 418-419.

² "The Congress of Vienna," Federal Chancellery Republic of Austria, accessed January 25, 2024, <https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/en/federal-chancellery/visit-us/history/the-congress-of-vienna.html#:~:text=In%201814%20and%201815%20the,hub%20of%20European%20political%20activity>.

³ Muriel Evelyn Chamberlain, "Congress System," in *The Oxford Companion to British History*, ed. Robert Crowcroft and John Cannon (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015). <https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780199677832.001.0001/acref-9780199677832-e-1085?rskey=lzxf5v&result=7>.

⁴ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 424.

History of the Committee

The Congress of Vienna was created by the monarchies of Europe in response to their victory over Napoleon Bonaparte and his French army. The series of Napoleonic wars (1803-1815) had been led by Napoleon and his army and led to tremendous territorial control for France.⁵ This map shows what Europe looked like from 1783 until 1792, which was right after the French Revolution:⁶



⁵ Charles J. Esdaile, "Napoleonic Wars" in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, ed. Peter Stearns (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).

<https://www-oxfordreference-com.ccl.idm.oclc.org/display/10.1093/acref/9780195176322.001.0001/acref-9780195176322-e-1078?rsk=JD025b&result=1078>.

⁶ Bryan Rutherford, "Europe 1783-1792," Wikipedia, accessed 25 January, 2024, https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Europe_1783-1792_en.png.

And this map shows France under Napoleon at its height before the invasion of Russia in 1812:⁷



Napoleon continued this campaign with a war against Russia in response to them breaking the continental system. The continental system was created by Napoleon in 1806 in order to punish Great Britain, a French rival at the time; it forbade continental European countries from trading with Great Britain. Russia broke this trading with Great Britain, resulting in Napoleon's invasion

⁷ Alexander Altenhof, "The French Empire in 1812 at its greatest extent", Wikipedia, accessed 25 January 2024, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napoleonic_Wars#/media/File:Europe_1812_map_en.png.

of it. Napoleon's invasion failed and ultimately led to his downfall.⁸ His army was able to march to Moscow with few battles, as the Russians used a scorched earth strategy in order to let the harsh weather conditions break down Napoleon's army. While his army was successful in occupying a mostly evacuated Moscow for a couple of weeks, he ran out of resources and his army numbers were drastically decreased. Thus he started to retreat.⁹ After Napoleon and his army started retreating out of Russia, other powers in Europe that were either under his control or allied with him sensed his weakness and worked together to defeat him. Prussia, Sweden, some German states, and later Austria joined the countries already fighting against Napoleon - Russia, Great Britain, Portugal, and Spain. These powers defeated him at various battles across Europe, notably the Battle of Nations at Leipzig on the 19th of October of 1813, pushing him further and further westward back to France.¹⁰ On March 1 1814, the allied powers of Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Great Britain signed the Treaty of Chaumont, demanding a ceasefire with Napoleon if he returned France's borders to those in 1791.¹¹ He refused, and so they marched to

⁸ Charles J. Esdaile, "Continental System" in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, ed. Peter Stearns (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).
<https://www.oxfordreference-com.ccl.idm.oclc.org/display/10.1093/acref/9780195176322.001.0001/acref-9780195176322-e-362>.

⁹ "French invasion of Russia," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Britannica, last modified November 23, 2023,
<https://www.britannica.com/event/French-invasion-of-Russia>.

¹⁰ David Gates, "Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815)" in *The Oxford Companion to Military History*, ed. Richard Holmes, Charles Singleton, Spencer Jones (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011).
<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780198606963.001.0001/acref-9780198606963-e-891?rsk=HXqLM1&result=8>.

¹¹ Chamberlain, "Congress System," in *The Oxford Companion to British History*.

Paris, which they occupied.¹² In response, Napoleon signed the Treaty of Fontainebleau in April of 1814, which ended his rule as emperor of France and sent him into exile on the island of Elba, near the coast of Italy. Following this, the victors signed the Treaty of Paris (1814), which reinstated the Bourbon monarchy by appointing the king to be Louis XVIII, reinstating the 1792 French borders, and outlining that a congress was to be held to continue talks about the future of Europe.¹³ This congress came to be the Congress of Vienna, the topic of this committee. While this congress was proceeding in 1815, Napoleon unexpectedly escaped Elba and returned to France, where he was accepted by most of the public and soldiers.¹⁴ In response, the victors set out to defeat him, which they did at the Battle of Waterloo, sending him to the remote and heavily guarded island of St. Helena in the Atlantic as part of the Second Treaty of Paris (1815). The return of Napoleon led to punishment for France in the Congress: it lost some territory, was charged an indemnity fee of \$14 million, and was occupied militarily by the victors.¹⁵

The Congress of Vienna can be said to have been a predecessor to modern institutions like the European Union or United Nations in that almost all nations of Europe were

¹² Katherine B. Aaslestad, "Serious Work for a New Europe: The Congress of Vienna after Two Hundred Years," *Central European History* 48, no. 2 (2015): 226, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/43965147>.

¹³ Henry Garland and Mary Garland, "Napoleonic Wars," in *The Oxford Companion to German Literature* ed. Henry Garland and Mary Garland (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).
<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780198158967.001.0001/acref-9780198158967-e-3790?rskey=jjQ98A&result=2>

¹⁴ Gates, "Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815)," in *The Oxford Companion to Military History*.

¹⁵ Ira William Zartmann, "Vienna, Congress of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, ed. Peter Stearns (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).

<https://www-oxfordreference-com.ccl.idm.oclc.org/display/10.1093/acref/9780195176322.001.0001/acref-9780195176322-e-1667?rskey=zamZKr&result=2>.

represented, a historic feat that stands opposed to previous settlements either via correspondence or only for the few powerful nations.¹⁶ Its goals of balancing power as well as preserving peace on the continent are also important components we see today in those international bodies.

McKenna MUN XI Sensitivity Statement

Claremont McKenna College's McKenna MUN conference is committed to promoting inclusivity, respect, and diversity among its participants. We recognize that participants come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences, and we are dedicated to creating an environment that is welcoming and safe for all. We encourage all participants to engage in productive and respectful dialogue that considers different perspectives and values. We also strive to ensure that our conference is accessible to all individuals regardless of ability, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or nationality.

For these reasons, McKenna MUN has a conference-wide zero-tolerance policy for any forms of discrimination or bigotry, including but not limited to homophobia, sexism, racism, and xenophobia. Be mindful of this policy as you research, speak, and write. We insist that all delegates adhere to our zero-tolerance policy, even when representing characters whose beliefs would not fall in line with that policy. If you have any questions about how you can represent the policies of your allocated position with integrity while maintaining our conference-wide

¹⁶ Zartmann, "Vienna, Congress of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

commitment to inclusivity, please ask your Chair, who will be more than happy to help you navigate that challenge. When navigating General Assembly, ECOSOC, and Crisis Committees, the following restrictions will be imposed:

1. In light of COVID-19, any attempts to use biological warfare are expressly prohibited. Arcs or policies that deny real-world events or facts such as COVID-19, genocides, or exoduses are expressly prohibited.
2. Arcs or policies involving the exploitation or oppression of historically marginalized communities, the invocation of ethnic cleansing, or the use of human trafficking are strictly prohibited.
3. Anything else that is deemed inappropriate, insensitive, or offensive by the conference staff will not be a part of the proceedings.

We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining a safe and respectful conference environment, and thank you for your commitment to upholding our policies and values. We welcome feedback regarding our efforts to maintain an inclusive environment at McKenna MUN X at Advisor Feedback sessions.

Rules of Procedure for Crisis

Scope

The rules of procedure outlined below are offered as a framework for both delegates and conference staff. These rules are not perfect, nor absolute. In the event of confusion or conflict of information in this guide, ultimate discretion is given to the dais for their respective committee.

Plagiarism

McKennaMUN XI has a zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism of any kind. This includes plagiarism in position papers, working papers, and draft resolutions. McKennaMUN also has a strict policy against the prewriting of clauses. If it is discovered a delegate has prewritten clauses, they will be disqualified from awards.

Electronics

Electronic devices including laptops, cell phones, and tablets may not be used in committee rooms during formal debate, moderated caucuses, or unmoderated caucuses. Conference staff may be using electronics to keep track of speeches, time, and notes on committee.

Decorum

Delegates and conference staff must present themselves with respect and decorum throughout the entirety of the conference. This includes appropriate dress, restraint from interrupting other

delegates, and interacting in a courteous manner. Conference staff and Secretariat reserve the right to penalize or disqualify delegates who do not adhere to decorous manners. In accordance with the sensitivity statement, behavior deemed unacceptable will result in disqualification from the conference.

Working Outside Committee

Delegates in all committees are *not* permitted to work outside committee. The writing of working papers and draft resolutions and meetings to make alliances and cooperate must all be conducted during committee time. This is to ensure that delegates are able to put in the same amount of time into committee, and that all delegates are able to take the time they need to take care for themselves outside of committee.

Crisis Committee Structure:

Crisis represents a faster-paced, dynamic version of Model United Nations, in which delegates represent individuals responding to issues in real-time as they develop. Rather than debating long-term issues with international implications, delegates will instead make up regional bodies with individual powers and mandates and seek to solve the issues of their topic using their designated powers.

Parliamentary Procedure:

While the procedure in Crisis is similar to that of General Assembly, there are a few notable differences. All motions and points acceptable in McKennaMUN crisis committees can be found below:

- Motion to Open Debate: Before any discussion can occur, a motion to open debate must pass by a simple majority, and a quorum must be present.
- Moderated Caucus: This sets up a designated space and time for delegates to speak in turn decided by the chair, and articulate their points with individual speeches. Delegates can make this motion by stating a total time, individual speaking time, and topic for the moderated caucus. This passes by simple majority. The individual speaking time must break up the total speaking time evenly.
 - Ex: “I move for a 6-minute moderated caucus with 45-second speaking times on the topic of rebel disarmament.”
- Unmoderated Caucus: This designates a period of time in which delegates can freely move about the room and discuss and write about issues. This typically takes place after a moderated caucus in which opinions have been stated and when delegates are ready to begin writing directives to solve the issue. Only a total time needs to be given for this motion, no topic.
 - Ex: “I move for a ten minute unmoderated caucus.”

- Introduce Directives: Once directives have been submitted to the dias, delegates can motion to introduce those directives and have them read aloud. Directives must be introduced before they can be voted on.
 - Ex: “I move to introduce directives currently on the dias.”
- Enter Voting Bloc: If directives have already been introduced, delegates can motion to enter voting bloc on these directives. Unique to crisis, delegates can designate a number of speakers for and against that directive, and state the individual speaking time for those speeches. This will allow delegates one final chance to argue in favor of or against the directives before voting. The number of pro and con speeches must be equal. Delegates can designate as many or as few speakers as they want. Directives will be voted on in the order introduced.
 - Ex: “I move to enter voting bloc on the directives, with two speakers for and two speakers against, each with thirty second speaking time.
- Motion to Divide the Question: After for and against speeches but before voting on the directives, delegates can motion to divide the question on a clause of a directive. This separates out a portion of the directive during voting. This motion requires a two-thirds majority. If it passes, the section designated by the division of the question will be voted on separately. This means the main directive can pass without this separated portion, or

the separated portion can pass without the main directive. In its simplest form, it is a way of splitting up a directive, or removing unpopular portions.

- Ex: “I move to divide the question on clause 3, subclause a.”
- Motion to suspend debate: Each committee session will close with this motion.
- Motion to adjourn: The final committee session will close with this motion, officially ending the debate.
- Point of Personal Privilege: This entails all requests that are not related to debate, and can include requests to use the restroom, change the temperature, move seats, etc.
 - Ex: “Point of personal privilege, could we turn up the air conditioning?”
- Point of Parliamentary Procedure: If a delegate is concerned that the dias has acted out of order concerning rules of procedure, delegates can make this point to request that the issue be fixed. Delegates are encouraged to make this point if they are concerned, and will not be penalized for fixing incorrect parliamentary procedure.
 - Ex: “Point of parliamentary procedure, we cannot entertain a motion to enter voting bloc before directives have been introduced.”
- Point of Inquiry: If a delegate has a question about rules of procedure, they can ask using this point.
 - Ex: “Point of inquiry, do I need to set a topic if I motion for an unmoderated caucus?”

- Point of Clarification: If a delegate has a question about the material facts of the crisis committee, they can ask using this point. Typically, time will be given after each crisis update for asking questions. The dias will decide if a point of clarification is valid, or if time has already been given for answering such a question.
 - Ex: “Point of clarification, how many soldiers do we currently have at our disposal?”
- Right of Reply: If a delegate is personally attacked in the speech of another delegate, they may request a right of reply speech in order to address the attack. Note: right of reply is only reserved when a delegate is attacked on a personal level, not if their policy or character ideologies are attacked. Right of replies should rarely occur.
 - Ex: “Point, the previous speaker said my shoes are ugly. Right of reply?”
- Motion for a Suspension of the Rules: If delegates are interested in developing a motion that is out of typical rules of procedure, whether that be merging two motions, conducting a trial, censuring a delegate, etc., these will be considered a suspension of the rules, and will typically require a two-thirds majority to pass.
 - Ex: “Motion for a suspension of the rules to put Delegate A on trial for treason.”

A Few Important Distinctions between General Assembly and Crisis:

Speakers List: There will be no speakers list in crisis committees. Instead, the chair will immediately take motions for moderated caucuses to discuss issues.

Directives: Rather than writing a single resolution on an overarching topic, delegates will write shorter, substantive documents designed to take immediate action. Directives leverage the power of the committee. Directives will take the following structure:

Title: Prohibition Commission

Sponsors: Joseph D. Leeson, Lyle B. Chapman

Signatories: Paul W. Robsky, Jim Seeley, Mike King

1. Build a set of five fake distilleries in the warehouse region of Chicago
 - a. The distilleries will be made in five warehouses purchased using funds from an LLC funded by the Bureau
 - b. The distilleries will be used as a base of operations for spying on nearby illegal alcohol operations and will be staffed by five agents each
2. Set up an investigation of the Chicago post office
 - a. Have two agents go to each post office pretending to be interested in purchasing alcohol to search for contraband
3. Develop a new system of background checks that will require proof of the following for all Bureau of Prohibition agents:
 - a. Birth Certificates
 - b. Social Security Numbers
 - c. Statements from previous employers

Note that as opposed to resolution, directives are shorter and take direct action. Operative clauses and preambles are not present. Sponsors are those who contribute significantly to the writing of the paper. Signatories are those who are interested in seeing the topics debated. A sponsor maximum and signatory minimum will be provided in committee that each directive will need to be within before submission. Directives are voted upon by committee, and if passed by simple majority, will affect the world that the crisis committee is occurring in. Responses to directives will typically come in the form of “crisis updates.”

Crisis Notes: Crisis notes are one of the more abstract portions of crisis, and may be difficult for first-time delegates to understand. Each delegate will have an opportunity to write notes to characters outside of the room in order to improve their own personal standing and influence what is happening in committee. An example of a crisis note written from the perspective of President Richard Nixon:

Dear Spiro Agnew,

As my vice president, I need your immediate assistance. The next presidential election is growing near, and my anxiety is mounting. We had better take some drastic actions or risk losing to the Democrats. Install two wiretapping devices inside the phones of Robert Spencer Oliver and Larry O'Brien. Have four of our bribed former secret service members go to the Watergate hotel.

Have one of them buy a hotel room across the way under a pseudonym and watch for approaching police. The other three members will purchase a hotel room adjacent to the conference room on the sixth floor. Have them drill a hole in the wall to place a secret listening device into the wall. With all of this, we will be able to spy on the Democrats during their next meeting in the hotel and get a leg-up on their election campaign!

Warm regards,

President Richard Nixon

Crisis notes consist of a variety of pieces as shown above. Delegates can write to individuals outside of committee that their character would reasonably be able to contact, and can request them to do certain actions. In response, delegates will receive answers from backroom staff indicating how successful their efforts were and may be included in a crisis update if their efforts were substantial. The point of crisis notes to accomplish a character's individual goals in the committee. These may or may not align with the goals of the whole committee, but it is up to each delegate to decide what their character is interested in doing, and develop creative plans using their resources to accomplish this.

Dynamic updates: “Crisis updates” will be conducted by crisis staff informing the delegates about real-time updates in their situation. Just as the committee takes action, their opponents and allies will be taking action as well, and crisis updates will give the committee an idea of what is happening in the world around them. Directives are designed to respond to these updates in a cyclical fashion.

Helpful Key Terms:

1. Directives: The crisis version of resolution, directives are written by the committee for the purpose of taking action as a whole, in this case as the Bureau of Prohibition. Directives are written with direct instructions on what to do, and will be interpreted by crisis staff as the Bureau’s response to crisis updates. Directives must have sponsors and signatories and must be passed by committee with a simple majority.
2. Sponsors: The delegates primarily responsible for writing a directive. Typically only one or two delegates will sponsor a directive, but a larger, more collaborative directive may have more.
3. Signatories: Delegates who didn’t necessarily write or even agree with a directive, but believe it has merit to be debated and voted upon. Typically directives will need a signatory minimum to show that the ideas contained are considered serious enough to be discussed by the committee.

4. Crisis notes: Notes sent by delegates as their character to members outside of the committee for the purpose of pursuing their own agenda. Delegates should use the powers outlined in their character's description as inspiration for crisis notes, and should have a goal in line with what their character is interested in.
5. Frontroom: What is happening in the room where the committee is occurring. This includes moderated caucuses, unmoderated caucuses, voting bloc, crisis updates, etc.
6. Backroom: Everything going on that the delegates cannot see. This includes staff responding to their notes, the action of outside-of-committee characters, etc.
7. Crisis/backroom staff: The members of the McKennaMUN staff answering your notes, performing crisis updates, and generally pulling the strings of committee.

Any questions? Clarifications? Totally confused? Please route all questions to jmorganstein25@students.claremontmckenna.edu, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

The Task of the Congress

Topic History

Now that the basic facts of the committee and its history have been discussed, this part of the background guide will detail the actual proceedings of the Congress of Vienna. The goal of this is to give you an outline of what actually happened during the Congress as well as the different interests of the states, their officials, and other relevant actors.

Timeline

The Congress itself never met in a plenary session, meaning that not all members were in the same room at the same time discussing these topics, as we would expect in modern institutions like the UN GA for example.¹⁷ Rather, delegates met in smaller settings in the Congress, which lasted from September of 1814 until June of 1815.¹⁸ In addition, the fact that so many statesmen and their entourages were all present in the same place around the same time, meant that informal conversations were common. These occurred both within and outside of the official Congress, for example in salons or cafes.¹⁹ Of course, for the sake of this committee we will be meeting continuously over the course of the weekend.

¹⁷ Aaslestad, "Work for a New Europe," 226.

¹⁸ "Congress of Vienna," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, last modified November 14, 2023, <https://www.britannica.com/event/Congress-of-Vienna>.

¹⁹ Aaslestad, "Work for a New Europe," 227.

Members

In total, there were around 216 heads of mission present at the Congress, representing virtually every country in Europe.²⁰ Important to note is that not all members were always present at the same time and that the majority of the negotiations were decided by the strongest powers (Austria, Prussia, Great Britain, and Russia, as well as later including France). Portugal, Spain, and Sweden were also included as part of the “eight” powers to determine the direction of the Congress for their parts in fighting against Napoleon alongside the other powers.²¹

Setting the Scene

To give you a sense of what the Congress itself was like to contextualize the negotiations, this section will briefly outline the character of the Congress. An oft-quoted saying from Charles-Joseph, the 7th Prince of Ligne about the Congress of Vienna characterized its extravagance: “You have come at the right moment. If you like fêtes and balls you will have enough of them; the Congress does not move forward, it dances.”²² The fact that so many aristocrats and monarchs were present at the Congress, meant that there were many festivities that were brought there. These celebrations included parades, hunting parties, dinners, balls, concerts, and opera. There were also private dinners, salons, teas, soirees, and church services to

²⁰ Zartmann, “Vienna, Congress of,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

²¹ Britannica, “Congress of Vienna.”

²² David King, *Vienna, 1814: How the Conquerors of Napoleon Made Love, War, and Peace at the Congress of Vienna* (United States: Crown, 2008), ix.

provide more intimate discussions. The largest events were “the Festival of Peace on the first anniversary of the Battle of Leipzig, followed by Metternich’s Peace Ball; a medieval jousting tournament [...]; the performance of Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony, conducted by the composer himself; the funeral of Field Marshal Prince de Ligne; and a memorial mass for Louis XVI.”²³

Another important aspect of the Congress was the spying involved. Austria recruited civilians to help spy on the conversations of everyone else present at the Congress, giving them an information advantage. This also reinforces the theme of monarchical oversight of the time that was meant to suppress domestic populations in the same way. The Congress of Vienna stood in contrast to previous diplomacy in two main respects. The first is that it gathered representatives from nearly the entire continent in one place for a period of time to all discuss the same matters. Secondly, as opposed to previous diplomatic conferences, the public played a role in decisions that were made. Press played an important role in informing people of individual states about the proceedings - there were even publicity fights. It has also been recorded that the public opinion that occurred through the press had an impact on the committee members. For example, “Identifying the key papers, writers, and state players — in particular in the Prussian-Bavarian contest to win the German public opinion — as well as European-wide press campaigns, he concludes that the decisions in Vienna on Saxony embodied a compromise

²³ Aaslestad, “Work for a New Europe,” 227.

between the dictates of power politics and the need to appease public opinion in Europe.”²⁴

The difference between this Congress and prior ones was that far more people were present, allowing more conversations to be had involving usually overlooked states. At the end of the day, however, the main five powers still had the largest negotiation power.

Members’ Ambitions and Fears

The main clashes within the Congress naturally evolved from differing goals, ambitions, and fears for what the future would look like. Important to note is that the Congress is often criticized for not taking the ideological and social goals of the nations’ peoples into account when making decisions. It was not important to the delegates whether revolutionary or nationalist sentiments of the public were achieved. Rather, the goals of the statesmen were often more cold-trading territories and populations without taking into account the trouble this may create for the populations living in those regions.²⁵ To aid in this, a statistical commission was even created.²⁶ The goal of this was to avoid a European system where any one country had an outsized power and was able to take conquest like Napoleon had.²⁷ In this sense, the goal was European peace.

²⁴ Aaslestad, “Work for a New Europe,” 227-237.

²⁵ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 424.

²⁶ Zartmann, “Vienna, Congress of,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

²⁷ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 419.

Broadly speaking, these were the goals of the main nations:²⁸

- Austria most wanted to secure a balance in Europe and to keep other powers from becoming too individually powerful.
- Russia wanted to gain more control in Europe, particularly of Poland, as well as a constitutional government there and an “international system of collective security.”
- Great Britain also wanted a balanced system much like Austria. In addition, it also wanted to deter continental Europe from being too influenced by Russia, which is one reason they cautioned against total Russian control of Poland.
- Prussia wanted to gain as much territory as it could, particularly in Saxony.
- France wanted to minimize its losses, given that it had just lost a major battle and its negotiation power at the Congress was weaker than the victors Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Great Britain. Later on in the Congress, it had managed to get a seat at the table by using the divisions of the other four powers in disputes over the Polish-Saxon question and used this to regain its spot in Europe.

The four victor nations wanted to ensure France’s power was balanced by the creation of more “buffer” states like the Netherlands incorporated with Belgium and a greater westward expansion of Prussia in order to prevent it from conquest like in the Napoleonic wars.²⁹

²⁸ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 419-422.

²⁹ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 419.

The most controversial issues of the conference were about how to balance power so that the largest players - Russia, Great Britain, Prussia, Austria, and France - would be satisfied. This was specifically tied to territorial disputes, most importantly the Polish-Saxon question. The question was what to do with Polish and Saxon territory, which had previously fallen under Napoleon's domain. Essentially, Russia wanted full control of Poland and Prussia wanted all of Saxony. The problem is that Austria and Great Britain thought this would increase Russian and Prussian influence in Europe to an undue degree. This question stalled negotiations for a while and even threatened the halting of the Congress when Austria and France signed a secret treaty to defend each other in the case of war against Russia or Prussia. After this treaty was discovered, Russia backed down and agreed to take a reduced territory of Poland, where it installed a constitutional monarchy with Alexander I as the king. Prussia only received about two-fifths of northern Saxony, the rest being left to the Saxon king.³⁰

Results of the Congress

To fill the power vacuum occupied by Napoleon, decisions about Belgium, Holland, Germany, Poland, Italy, Spain, and other territories had to be made. The main exchanges after the Congress ended in June of 1815 were the following:³¹

³⁰ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 422-423.

³¹ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 418-424.; Zartmann, "Vienna, Congress of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

- Austria gained Tuscany, the Milanese, and Venice (Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom) to make it more powerful and again to deter French expansion there. It gave up the Austrian Netherlands (Belgium) so that the newly created Netherlands could be strengthened.
- Russia gained a considerable part of Poland, greater than it had in the last partition in 1795. It also established greater control over Finland and Bessarabia.
- Prussia received other parts of Poland, northern Saxony, the Swedish Pommeranian, and territory east and west of the Rhine river. This was meant to further deter French expansion eastward.
- The many German states formed a loose confederation - the German Confederation - although the states remained largely independent. This drastically reduced the number of states in Germany.
- France was meant to be surrounded by stronger powers to keep it weaker. Therefore, the Netherlands was joined with what was previously the Austrian Netherlands, Belgium. This buffer was meant to deter French expansion in Europe. France's boundaries were restored to those that it had before the French revolution.
- In Italy, the Kingdom of Piedmont was restored, to which the former Republic of Genoa was added. The pope's rule in the Papal States was restored. Former rulers were reinstated in smaller duchies. The Bourbon Monarchy was not restored in Naples.
- Britain acquired the colonies the Cape of Good Hope, Malta, and Ceylon.

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- In Spain, the Bourbon monarchy was restored.
- In Portugal, the Braganza monarchy was restored.
- Norway was ceded to Sweden from Denmark.

The below map outlines all of these differences.³²



³² Alexander Altenhof, "The national boundaries within Europe agreed upon by the Congress of Vienna," Wikipedia, accessed 25 January, 2024, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congress_of_Vienna#/media/File:Europe_1815_map_en.png.

These territorial changes lasted for decades after the Congress. The first major change came in 1831 with the establishment of the Kingdom of Belgium, followed by Italian unification in following decades and German unification in 1871.³³

Results less concerned with territorial changes but were still significant include:

- International regulation of certain rivers was created for mutual benefit.
- The Atlantic Slave Trade was condemned.

There was also an agreement for the main powers to hold congresses in the future to assess the Congress of Vienna and the state of Europe in general.

This Congress changed the way important diplomacy happened in Europe. Because there was an unprecedented level of participation in this Congress, by the many states that attended it, the amount of informal conversations about it, and the involvement of the media and public opinion in the negotiations, this Congress is part of a change in diplomacy that is still present today. The press is involved in conferences and most large reputable congresses are transparent in meeting time and place.³⁴

³³ Peter McPhee, "1830, Revolutions of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, ed. Peter Stearns (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).
<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780195176322.001.0001/acref-9780195176322-e-496?rsk=ey=CBK2MX&result=1>; "Italy summary," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, last modified April 20, 2021, <https://www.britannica.com/summary/Italy>; "Germany from 1871 to 1918," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, accessed January 25, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/place/Germany/The-economy-1870-90>.

³⁴ Aaslestad, "Work for a New Europe," 237.

Results in Following Decades

The Congress resulted in a peace between nations lasting from 1815 until 1853 with the beginning of the Crimean War.³⁵ Major wars between the powers were avoided until 1871 with the Franco-Prussian war and a war involving all great powers only happened in 1914 with the outbreak of the First World War. This external peace can also be contrasted with domestic turmoil, led by revolts within the countries.³⁶ In the decades after the Congress, there were numerous revolutions all throughout Europe seeking change. The Serbian Revolutions from 1804-1835 led to an independent Serbian state. The Greek War of Independence from 1821-1832 led to an independent Greece. The Revolutions of 1820 included revolutions in Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Russia, all seeking to either establish constitutions or dethrone the monarchy. The Revolutions of 1830 included ones by Belgium - which won its independence -, the July Revolution in France as well as revolutions in Poland, the Italian states, Portugal, and Switzerland.³⁷ The Revolutions of 1848 spanned over multiple nations in Europe and were the strongest wave that took place in Austria, Germany, Italy, and France, but were all suppressed.³⁸

³⁵ Stella Ghervas, "The Long Shadow of the Congress of Vienna: From International Peace to Domestic Disorders," *Journal of Modern European History* 13, no. 4 (2015): 458, <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26266203>.

³⁶ Ghervas, "Long Shadow of the Congress," 460.

³⁷ McPhee, "1830, Revolutions of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

³⁸ Peter McPhee, "1848, Revolutions of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, ed. Peter Stearns (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008).

<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780195176322.001.0001/acref-9780195176322-e-497?rsk=ey=eyKD98&result=2>.

Other Changes

In addition to the political restorations of the past, religion and art also reverted back similar to how they were before the era of enlightenment. Within art and writing, a new wave of romanticism emerged (1770/1800-1850), which placed the highest value on feelings and emotions in contrast to the reason and logic that had come during the enlightenment.³⁹ It placed a greater focus on nature and tales of a nostalgic past. Religious returns can be seen by the Holy Alliance, which centered around the European powers' common belief in Christianity.⁴⁰

The time was a reaction to what had come before: the monarchy was a reaction to French and American Revolutions, romanticism was a reaction to the stringent classicism that came before, a seeking of a balance of power was a seeking of peace in reaction to the long period of war that had come before.

Executive Summary for Delegates

The revolutionary sentiments resulting from the Age of Enlightenment that spawned the French Revolution and the subsequent Napoleonic Wars that drastically changed the landscape of Europe were quelled when the other great European powers at the time—Great Britain,

³⁹ Ian Chilvers, "Romanticism," in *The Oxford Dictionary of Art*, ed. Ian Chilvers (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).

<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780198604761.001.0001/acref-9780198604761-e-3003?rsk=dfAkaB&result=10>.

⁴⁰ Jonathan Fulcher, "Holy Alliance," in *The Oxford Companion to the Romantic Age*, ed. Iain McCalman, et al. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009).

<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780199245437.001.0001/acref-9780199245437-e-321?rsk=asq6OB&result=2>.

Austria, Prussia, and Russia—defeated Napoleon and his army to usher in a new era of marked by a restoration of the monarchy that prevailed before it. This new era was created by delegates from most European nations at the Congress of Vienna and resulted in a new balance of power within the continent that led to relative peace for decades afterward. However, the revolutionary sentiments for a new system could not be completely suppressed as multiple rebellions and revolutions started across many different nations, some successful and others not. While the goals of these rebellions - often democracy and greater rights - may not have been achieved in the 19th century, the century to come would lead to many nations fulfilling these goals.

This committee is all about how this congress could have gone differently. Is there a way for your nation or delegate to achieve your goals further? Was the balance of power and territory rulings balanced - or not?

Committee Brief

The premise of this committee is to imagine how the Congress could have gone differently to lead to a different history. This committee diverges from how it actually historically went essentially after it starts. This means that the beginning of the crisis committee is set at the beginning of the Congress itself, which was in September of 1814 in Vienna at the Ballhausplatz. Each day of committee will represent multiple months, to speed up the process of the committee so that it can be simulated within the weekend. All other historical events that

occur within this time period of 1814-1815 may also be drawn upon in the committee, even if they are not specifically mentioned in crisis updates.

Feel free to email abouchard26@cmc.edu for questions regarding the timing of the committee.

Introduction to Delegate Roles

The following is the character outline for this committee. There is a brief description that is meant to serve as a starting point for research. The goals of each delegate depend on their character.

1. Klemens Wenzel von Metternich - Austria:

Prince Metternich was the Chair of the Congress and Foreign Minister of Austria. His main aims were to balance Europe and reinstate the monarchical power (as he was anti-democratic). To this end, he contributed to the creation of the secret police and public suppression in Austria. He was driven out of Austria by the democratic and liberal 1848 revolutions.⁴¹

2. Robert Stewart, Viscount Castlereagh of England - Great Britain:

Viscount Castlereagh was the foreign secretary of Great Britain. He aimed to create a balanced Europe and prevent the rise of Russian influence in it.⁴² His goals were also to secure British preeminence outside of continental Europe, in the waters and its colonies.⁴³

⁴¹ Zartmann, "Vienna, Congress of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

⁴² Zartmann, "Vienna, Congress of," in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

⁴³ Palmer and Colton, *A History of the Modern World*, 418.

3. *Tsar Alexander I of Russia - Russia:*

Tsar Alexander I of Russia was a “liberal, romantic mystic” who sought a balanced system of diplomacy in Europe. These were in part grounded in his “Christian principles of fraternity among monarchs and among peoples.” One of his goals was also a constitutional monarchy in Poland.⁴⁴

4. *Karl August von Hardenberg - Prussia:*

Karl August von Hardenberg was the Chancellor of Prussia. He wanted to increase Prussia’s strength by gaining more territory in Saxony. Domestically, he continued reforms focused on improving the military, abolishing serfdom and privileges of the nobles, reforming education, and civic equality for Jewish people.⁴⁵

5. *Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord - France:*

Talleyrand was a tact politician who was able to stay in power through various French regime changes and served as the foreign minister of France. As the main representative of the defeated France, his aim was to minimize French losses as well as reestablish France as a power that contended within Europe. He used divisions between the other great powers to gain more influence at the Congress.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ Zartmann, “Vienna, Congress of,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

⁴⁵ Edmund Wright, “Hardenberg, Karl August, Prince,” in *A Dictionary of World History*, ed. Edmund Wright (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015).

<https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/acref/9780192807007.001.0001/acref-9780192807007-e-1617>.

⁴⁶ Zartmann, “Vienna, Congress of,” in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*.

6. *Count Carl Löwenhielm - Sweden:*

Count Carl Löwenhielm represented Sweden at the Congress. He formerly had served as a military officer. He was involved with negotiations surrounding the Swedish Pommeranian with Prussia and Norway with Denmark at the Treaty of Kiel.⁴⁷

7. *Pedro de Sousa Holstein, 1st Duke of Palmela - Portugal:*

Pedro de Sousa Holstein was one of the plenipotentiaries sent from Portugal to the Congress. He participated in the Portuguese Liberal Wars (1828-1834), a fight between constitutionalists and absolutists on the liberal side. He later served as the first prime minister of Portugal's new constitutional monarchy in 1834. He had some British and German ties.⁴⁸

8. *Don Pedro Gómez de Labrador, 1st Marquess of Labrador - Spain:*

Don Pedro Gómez de Labrador was the Spanish representative at the Congress. His ambitions were to restore the Bourbon dynasty in Italy as well as in Spain. Because the great powers at the Congress refused the full Bourbon restoration in Italy, he refused to sign the Final Act until two

⁴⁷ "Treaty of Kiel," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, January 7, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/event/Treaty-of-Kiel>.

⁴⁸ "Pedro de Sousa Holstein, duque de Palmela," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, last modified October 8, 2023. <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Pedro-de-Sousa-Holstein-duque-de-Palmela>; "D. Pedro de Sousa Holstein, 1st Duke of Palmela, was the Portuguese envoy to the Court of St. James," Anglo-Portuguese Timeline, The British Historical Society of Portugal, accessed January 26, 2024, <https://www.bhspportugal.org/anglo-portuguese-timeline/d-pedro-de-sousa-holstein-1st-duke-of-palmela-was-the-portuguese-envoy-to-the-court-of-st-james->.

years later. He helped in the creation of the Duchy of Lucca, which was given to Maria Luisa de Bourbon, the sister of King Ferdinand VII.⁴⁹

9. Hans Christoph Ernst von Gagern - Netherlands:

Hans Christoph Ernst von Gagern was German, but represented the Netherlands at the Congress. He unsuccessfully attempted to create a greater political bond between the Netherlands and German states. One of his goals throughout his political career was advocating for the rights of smaller states.⁵⁰

10. Ercole Consalvi, Cardinal Secretary of State for the Pope - Papal States:

Ercole Consalvi was an Italian Cardinal Secretary of State for the Pope, meaning he represented Pope Pius VII and the Vatican at the Congress. His main goal was to restore the Papal States to greater power after French annexation by Napoleon. This included achieving more power for the Church within the state. His measures were more moderate than other reactionaries at the time.⁵¹

11. Niels Rosenkrantz - Denmark:

Niels Rosenkrantz was Denmark's main delegate to the Congress, serving King Frederick VI. He previously served as a foreign minister of Denmark to Russia, Prussia, and France. After defeats

⁴⁹ "Pedro Gómez Labrador, Marquis of Labrador," Actors, Utrecht University, accessed January 26, 2024, <https://erc-secure-db.sites.uu.nl/actor/pedro-gomez-labrador-marquis-of-labrador/>.

⁵⁰ "Hans Christoph, baron von Gagern," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, last modified January 21, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Hans-Christoph-Freiherr-von-Gagern>.

⁵¹ "Ercole Consalvi," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, last modified January 20, 2024, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ercole-Consalvi>.

in the Napoleonic Wars fighting on the French side, Denmark lost territory to Sweden at the Congress in the Treaty of Kiel.⁵²

12. Charles Pictet de Rochemont - Switzerland:

Charles Pictet de Rochemont was a diplomat at the Congress on behalf of Geneva and Switzerland. One of his goals was to make Geneva independent from France and to add it to the other Swiss cantons forming the Swiss Confederation. He also notably prepared the Swiss declaration of permanent neutrality, starting in 1815.⁵³

13. Marquis Filippo Antonio Asinari di San Marzano - Kingdom of Sardinia:

Marquis Filippo Antonio Asinari di San Marzano was a general and diplomat who served as plenipotentiary at the Congress for the Kingdom of Sardinia. He formerly worked under Napoleon. His work at the Congress led to the Kingdom gaining Genoa at the Congress.⁵⁴

14. Graf Ernst Friedrich Herbert zu Münster - House of Hanover:

Graf Ernst zu Münster was the representative from the House of Hanover, formerly a part of the Holy Roman Empire which dissolved in 1806. He opposed the French occupation by Napoleon

⁵² "Treaty of Kiel," Encyclopedia Britannica, January 7, 2024.

⁵³ "Charles Pictet de Rochemont," Encyclopedia Britannica, Britannica, last modified December 24, 2023, <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Charles-Pictet-de-Rochemont>.

⁵⁴ "Antonio Maria Filippo di San Marzano, Marchese di Caraglio," The British Museum, accessed January 26, 2024, <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/term/BIOG222469>.

and sought to expand his territory after Napoleon's fall. He sought restoration and opposed Prussian expansion in Saxony.⁵⁵

These are just introductions to get you started on your characters but feel free to do more research. Additionally, as extremely detailed historical facts are not known for all characters, especially those of smaller nations at the Congress, delegates may have to make some fictional decisions for their characters as long as they are reasonably plausible. An additional point of clarification for this committee is that while in the actual Congress, only the main four or five powers had a noticeable say on the most important decisions, this is a revised version of the Congress where this is not the case. The idea for this committee is to see how the Congress might have gone, had other nations in Europe had a greater say.

Questions to Consider in Preparation

These are some questions you may want to consider in your preparation for this committee:

1. What are the goals of my character and how do these align with that of my nation?
Which character or nation may have conflicting goals?
2. What resources do I have available to me to draw upon? Can I call on my nation for this support or can I look elsewhere?

⁵⁵ Martin Vogt, "Münster, Ernst Graf von," in *Neue Deutsche Biographie* 18, (Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 1997), https://www.deutsche-biographie.de/sfz67083.html#ndbcontent_leben.
Robert Palmer and Joel Colton, *A History of the Modern World* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1987), 418-419.

3. What are other events within this time and place that I can incorporate into my strategy?

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