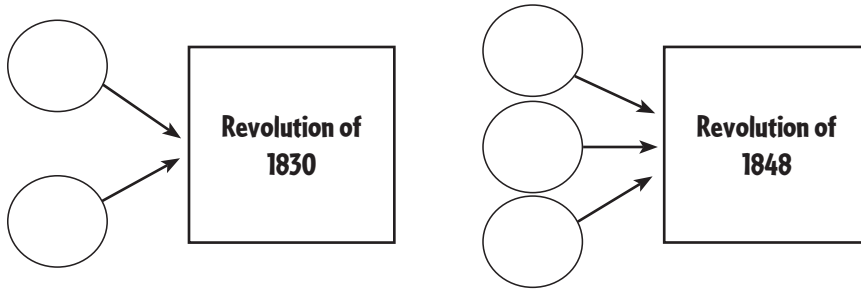


Reaction and Revolution

Big Idea

In 1848 liberals and nationalists rebelled against many of the conservative governments of Europe. As you read, use a chart like the one below to summarize the causes of the revolutions in France in 1830 and 1848.



Read to Learn

The Congress of Vienna *(page 624)*

Identifying the Main Idea

Paragraph 2 describes Metternich's plan to restore _____ rulers.

Paragraph 3 defines a political philosophy called _____.

Paragraph 4 explains how the leaders tried to establish and maintain a _____ of _____.

The powers that had defeated Napoleon met in September 1814 at Vienna, Austria. There they redrew the map of Europe as part of a final peace settlement.

The most influential leader at the Congress of Vienna was Prince Klemens von Metternich, the foreign minister of Austria. His plan was to restore to power the legitimate rulers, that is, members of the royal families who ruled before Napoleon. He and other leaders followed conservative values.

Conservatism is a political philosophy based on tradition and social stability. Conservatives at that time favored political authority and organized religion. Hating revolutions, they did not value individual rights or representative government.

Leaders at the Congress of Vienna wanted to establish a balance of power in which no one country would dominate Europe. For example, because Russia had gained land, it gave new lands to Austria and Prussia as well. Great Britain, Russia, Prussia, and Austria agreed to meet from time to time to maintain the balance of power. Over time, the leaders of Europe (except Great Britain) adopted a **principle of intervention**. They claimed the right to intervene in other countries after a revolution to restore legitimate rulers to their thrones. On this basis, they crushed revolutions in Spain and Italy.

Forces of Change (page 626)**Comparing and Contrasting**

How were liberalism and nationalism alike and different?

Alike:

Different:

Liberals and nationalists opposed conservative ideas and the existing political system. **Liberalism** and nationalism were forces for change.

The political philosophy called liberalism grew out of the Enlightenment. Liberals believed that all people should be equal before the law. They wanted freedom of assembly, speech, and the press. Many liberals wanted representative government, separation of church and state, and a constitution or a bill of rights. Liberalism especially attracted wealthy men in the industrial middle class who wanted voting rights for themselves, not a real democracy. Liberalism was similar to republicanism in the belief that a government's power comes from the rule of law and the voting citizens.

Nationalism arose after the French Revolution. Nationalists believed each nationality (group with shared language and customs) should have its own government. German nationalists wanted a united German state. Hungarian nationalists wanted freedom from Austria.

In 1830 liberalism and nationalism led to revolutions in several countries. Belgium won its independence from the Dutch Republic. French liberals overthrew King Charles X and established a constitutional monarchy under his cousin Louis-Philippe.

The Revolutions of 1848 (page 627)**Making Generalizations**

Apart from France, what was the outcome of most revolutions in Europe in 1848?

Revolutions occurred in a number of European countries in 1848, starting in France. While the French middle class demanded the right to vote, peasants and workers faced economic hardships. The government of Louis-Philippe refused to make changes. Revolutionaries overthrew the king and set up the Second Republic. A new constitution allowed **universal male suffrage**, meaning all adult men could vote. Napoleon's nephew, Charles Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, was elected president.

News of the revolution in France sparked other movements for change. Many German rulers promised reforms, and elected representatives wrote a united German constitution. However, German rulers did not accept it, and the states did not unite.

The Austrian Empire was a **multinational state**—a state made up of many different nationalities. In 1848 demonstrations broke out in major cities. The Austrian rulers crushed nationalist revolutions by Hungarians and Czechs.

As in Germany, liberals and nationalists in Italy tried to create a unified constitutional state. However, their former rulers (including Austria in the north) succeeded in regaining control.

Section Wrap-up

Answer these questions to check your understanding of the entire section.

1. What were two principal goals of the Congress of Vienna?

2. Explain why radical revolutionaries and members of the working class might not be satisfied with reforms made by the liberals.

Persuasive Writing

Take the position of a European conservative, a liberal, or a nationalist in the period from 1815 to 1848. Write as if you were trying to persuade other people to adopt your position. State what you want to happen and why others should agree. Assemble facts and information to support your point of view. Explain why you consider the opposing viewpoints incorrect. Present arguments to draw undecided readers to your side.
