

Question

Examine Napoleon's Continental System is a strategic and economic policy during early 19th century. Discuss the motivation behind its implementation and its impact on European trade and economies.

Answer

The Napoleon's continental System had been formed after the defeat of French and Spain armies at the place of Trafalgar by British Navy 1805. British have a full control on sea's so they cut off the food line and supply line of allies and make the possible for French and Spain to go back.

Strategic Policy of Continental System:

The first strategy of continental system is to make allies to stop the trade of goods between Europe and Britain. So British cannot sell its goods in

Europe countries and become economically stable. The intention of stop trade is to weaken the British empire and they ~~cannot~~ stop the war with French.

The second strategy is to destroy the naval British force because the reason of British dominance in all over the world is due to domination on seas. All the trade of British done with other countries were by ^{the} sea. By continental system that wanted to weak the navy force and stop the trade.

The third strategy of commercial dominance of Britain. All big industries are belongs from British. They producing goods on large level and by selling to stop enemies and defeat enemies. By Continental system policy they want to de-commercialize the dominance of Britain.

The fourth thing is to force the British on Napoleon's terms. So Napoleon empire

could become a solo power of Europe. To increase its empire area by defeating the French. French giving support to royal families and Napoleon were against this.

Napoleon's wanted to negotiate the land that France had lost in previous wars.

- At the end French wanted to stop the war between French and Britain.

The fifth strategy is to unify Europe under French control so they could create a self sufficient economy of continental system. All the trade can be done with France. They could claim themselves as a global power of the world.

Economic Policy:

The first economic policy is to ban the goods of Britain in Europe that are controlled by French empire. So that they can weaken the British empire economically but it failed due to two reasons

- 1- Some allies cheated with French policy
- 2- Some of the allies opposing the policy.

and some of the countries only obey it. But it turned in the benefit of britian. It opened a new markets in middle east and latin america and they export the goods on high rates.

The second economic policy is to prevent the neutral economics like Russia and USA to do trade with britian. Because the french invaded and got victory in these countries. Napoleon emphasizes its economic policy to be followed by these countries to stop trade with britian. But it failed due to opposing and cheated with french policy. They continued to do trade with Britian to fulfill their people needs.

The third economic policy was to commercialize the europe. Britian was a solo in a commercial industry and Napoleon's wants to shift it to europe. So they can generate more profits and make the french empire more powerful in terms of military and economical power.

The fourth policy is to give power to local market to less the reliance of britian goods in europe. If local market become strong the innovation, global power of french, wage of war of french empire will be highly increased.

The fifth policy create a continental market in europe to free from oppose of britian market. All the trade done from europe. So they can solely run the market of the whole world. So they can strong the currency of europe.

Napoleon Motivation of policy implementation

- 1- They did not want to directly engage with british navy. Because at the place of Trafalgar 1805, France and Spain army had been defeated. So it changed the war field to & economically weaken the british. So they could not support thier navy.

2- Napoleon wanted France goods to be self sufficient in against of British goods. Napoleon wants to ~~reach~~ made available French products in every country. So the other countries become dependent of French products.

3- Napoleons warned its allied states that are under influenced of britian empire like Spain, Russia, Portugal still doing trade with britian. Napoleons threatens the allies to stop trade or they will be attacked by French army.

4- Napoleons wants a unified dominance of French empire over the Europe. They can only do with dominance in economy. By doing this they can give more power to its military and economy.

5- ~~The~~ Napoleon's wanted to weaken the britian and French can become dominant power of Europe and all over the world. So it imposed economic sanctions

on britian under its influence stata

Impact on Trade:-

- 1- The French and europe market fall sharply due to banned of britian goods and limited availability of goods that could replaced.
- 2- Smuggling become widespread throughout the europe and prices of goods that were banned and britian made will be all ~~say~~ time high.
- 3- Many european countries relied on colonial trade like sugar, tea etc it can create the shortage of these goods
- 4- Major ports of europe Amsterdam, Lisbon etc had been collapsed or closed due to no trade of europe and britian.

5. Europe lost access of commercial industry products like textile; machinery and supply chain of products.

Impact on Economics

- 1- Mostly people who are relying with on britian products could become unemployed and facing problems in daily needs of life
- 2- Many allied countries could become against the french like russia, spain, US because it also imposing economics threats to there countries and they tried to oppose this economic policy.
- 3- The britian banned products went to shortage and inflation. The prices of imported will be high and unable to find in the local market.

4- Agriculture and local industry causing
harm. All the agriculture material were
exported to britain and the raw material
that were imported from britain caused
the suspension of local business.

5- The people of France, Spain, Italy were
become against the napoleon's empire and
and it led to resentment, riots