

## Section A (Question No 2)

### Period of 1815-1848

The period of 1815 to 1848 in European history is considered as an quest to maintain Status quo.

All the great powers including British, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Prussia, Russia and even France were committed to maintain balance of power by suppressing the growing ideologies of nationalism and liberalism.

These efforts lasted for 33 long years, that successfully maintain the status quo and didn't allowed any European power to disturb balance of power in Europe.

However, declining Ottoman Empire, rising nationalism & liberalism and Russian quest for gaining Ottoman territories severely challenged the Congress of Vienna or Concert of Europe and ultimately lead towards its decline in 1848 after the final revolutions.

In this backdrop, following essential events played an important role in triumph of 1848 revolutions and end of Congress of Vienna including the Greek Revolution and its independence, Rising Nationalism, Crimean War and resistance against Absolute Monarchy. However, before digging deeper in to all these events, it is essential to have understanding of background of Concert of Europe.

### Background

The events that forced Europe towards Concert of Europe were mainly the French Revolution

and expansion of French territories due Napoleonic Wars.

All European empires in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century were lead by Absolute Monarchy, who were thought to be have divine rights to rule the territory, except the Britain due to Glorious revolution. Due to which, King Louis XVI of France use his so called divine powers to favour his nobles and clergy, who were only 3% of whole population of France, while leaving the other 97 percent commoners stranded and vulnerable.

This lead to severe resentment among the majority and caused French Revolution, wherein the King Louis along with his wife Mary Antoinette was first removed from their Kingship and then killed them. This event ended the Absolute Monarchy in France and gave rise to Nationalism.

Furthermore, after Napoleon Bonaparte took control of France (by ending reign of terror), the Napoleonic Code was introduced in France, which gave all the citizens equality leading to give formal birth to liberalism in Europe.

Similarly, Napoleon captured territories of other Empires through Napoleonic Wars, wherein these ideas of Nationalism, Liberalism, Capitalism and ending the Absolute Monarchy spreaded in Spain, German Confederation, Italy, Greece and all other European countries.

In the War of Waterloo, Napoleon was defeated by British and Prussian Empire, ending his rule.

However, the threat of new emerging ideas persisted and threatened the European Empires which lead it towards this era of Concert of Europe.

# Concept of Europe

The Concept of Europe ~~was~~ comprises those meeting and discussions held in Europe after the end of Napoleonic War to keep the Status Quo, that lead to both of Congress of Vienna.

## Congress of Vienna

Congress of Vienna was the first step to maintain the absolute monarchy in Europe and suppress new ideas after age of Enlightenment, comprising following members:-

### Austro Hungarian Empire and its role

Napoleonic Wars and French Revolution posed the largest threat to Austro Hungarian Empire due to its complex geography. Austro Hungarian Empire constituted of multiple nationalities and sects. Nationalism posed threat to it due to which Prince Otto von Metternich was allocated to participate in (O) Vienna -

### French Empire and its role

Although French Empire was defeated by Britain and Prussia & Russia but still it was a great power that was forcing Europe to make it part of Congress of Vienna. Due to which, Talleyrand participated from the French side. Furthermore, France was restricted to Pre Napoleonic size and Absolute monarchy was installed in it again.

### Role of TSARist Russian Empire

Napoleon's main target was Russia due to which, he destroyed the Moscow, however lost it majority of Army in Russia. Thus, TSAR Alexander-I participated from Russian to keep the status quo and avoiding further events of war.

### Role of Britain and Prussia

Britain, being the major power of Europe also became part of Concept of Europe to maintain balance of power and get access to soilan and South Asian countries for its East India Company. Prussia was also another German power that was included in the said concept.

## Efforts to suppress newly emerged Ideas:

The Congress of Vienna in the Chairpersonship of Prince Otto von Metternich, succeeded for over three decades to keep monarchy and conservatism in Europe by ending or crushing any new emerging ideas, mainly to save its own Austro-Hungarian Empire. Thus, following was decided:-

1. France was played back to its original size under King Louis the 18<sup>th</sup> and a strong Prussian empire was created in its boundary.
2. It was decided to interfere if any other revolution takes place.
3. Secret Policing was another attempt to keep check & balance.
4. Controlled Press in order to suppress ideas of Nationalism.

## Decline of Congress of Vienna

After lasting for 33 years, Congress of Vienna was put to an end due to following major events:-

### 1. Eastern Question

Once the mightiest and strongest Ottoman Empire in Europe was now at the verge of end. This weakness to keep its territories posed threat to balance of power in Europe i.e. any European Empire who gets Ottoman territories will become more powerful than others.

### 2. Greek War of Independence

Greece was under control of Ottoman Turks for a long period of time. However, growing Nationalism in Greece and its Romanticism gave birth to rebellion against Ottoman. Although the 1st revolution was brutally crushed by Ottomans.

This event led to Anger in other Europe due to common religious and love for ancient Greek philosophy.

Thus, in 2nd revolution in 1830, European powers intervened to defeat Ottomans and declare Greek Independence.

### 3- Russian quest to gain Ottoman territories:

Greek Independence already posed the threat to Congress of Vienna because it was success of Nationalism. However, Russia put more fuel on the fire by intending to capture Balkan and Slavic states of Ottoman Empire. Britain, France and Austro-Hungarian Empires ~~strongly~~ felt threatened as it would have given power to Russia more than any other Empire.

### 4- Resistance of Britain and France against Russia:

France and Britain along with Austria-Hungary opposed Russian intention to maintain the balance of power. In this regard, the ~~Union with ages~~ built under the Congress of Vienna was already under threat. Furthermore, the wars fought between the Congress of Vienna's member to defeat and save the Ottoman Empire put another nail in the coffin.

### 5- Rising Nationalism in German Confederation

Germany was not a united state rather many of its sub-divisions were under the control of Prussia and Austro-Hungarian Empire. However, after the Napoleonic Wars and French revolution, there was rise in nationalism among the German speaking population. This posed threat to Congress of Vienna, specially to Austria-Hungary which later ended the said Congress and resulted in German unification.

### 6- Rising Nationalism in Italian ~~and~~ States:

Like Germany, Italy was also divided into many states including the major Piedmont Sardinia, Papal States and other states in Northern and Southern Italy.

This nationalism was again a threat against the Vienna's Congress and Catholic Church too that was the another factor of maintaining conservatism in Europe.

## 7. Crimean Wars

The most important event that weakened the Concert of Europe was Crimean Wars between the Ottomans and allies against the Russians.

Russian Pan slavism and its claim over keys of main Church in Ottoman territory was the reason for the wars - Ottoman Sultan handed over the keys of Church to France, which were claimed Russia - Moreover, Russia presented it brother of Slavs in Ottoman territories - Thus 1st Crimean War occurred where in the Russia was defeated - However, 2nd Crimean War broke ottomans in many pieces that were obtained by Russia damaging Balance of Power -

## 8- Resignation of Otto von Metternich ::

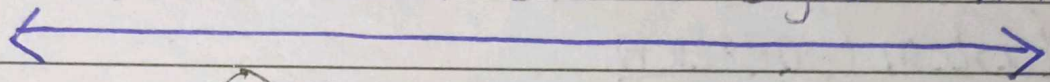
Prince Otto von Metternich was thought to be brain behind the Congress of Vienna - However, the revolution of 1848 forced him to resign and leave towards Vienna - This removal of Metternich was also the last nail in the coffin which formally ended the Congress of Vienna -

## 9. Revolutions of 1848

Thus, Revolutions of 1848 also failed to unify Italy or Germany and to break the Austro Hungarian Empire - But, it brought the nationalism and liberalism and Romanticism at their Peak - Due to which it was not longer possible for Metternich and other member of European empires to maintain status quo or to suppress the revolutionary power - Hence, declaring the success of 1848 revolutions regardless of their failure in immediate objective -

## Conclusion

Aforementioned in view, French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars gave birth to Concert of Europe - Congress of Vienna - ~~However~~ Although, the Congress of Vienna was initially success in its Goals - However, significant events including Greek revolution, <sup>1848 revolution</sup> ~~1848 revolution~~ and finally <sup>Crimean Wars</sup> ~~1848 revolution~~ ended the Congress of Vienna.



## Question No 3

### Crimean Wars (1853 - 1856)

Crimean Wars fought between Russian against the ottoman empire and allies not only placed an end to Congress of Vienna but it also disturbed the balance of power that was kept for three long years by the efforts of Concert of Europe.

Thus, Crimean Wars are known to the wars that formally ended the congress of Vienna and opened the door to new epoch in European history.

### Formal End of Congress of Vienna

Crimean Wars were the events that ended the Congress of Vienna formally after its weakening due to failed revolutions of 1848 in Europe.

Congress of Vienna's main purpose was to suppress the Nationalism by keeping all the European major Powers united and maintaining the balance of Power.

However, declining ottoman empire and its weakness to maintain its captured territories, increased in quest and cover of

of Russia to capture the territories of Ottoman Empire mainly due to being the Orthodox Christian Power and its Pan Slavism. Moreover, the Russian aggression was also intended to gain the territories in order to make its access to sea possible ultimately increasing its Power. Thus, the ~~members~~ members of Congress of Vienna fought against each other leaving no reason for Congress to stand against

### Eastern Question

The Old man of Europe i.e Ottoman Empire became a threat to balance of Power and Congress of Vienna not because of its Power, but due to its weakness of ~~to~~ not being able to ~~to~~ keep its territories united.

This declining of major European Power was seen as an opportunity by Russia Empire in order to increase its territories and get access to Black Sea for strengthening of its Naval Power.

However, regardless of being common member of Congress of Vienna, France, Britain and other European Powers saw the Russian Intension as a threat to them. Thus, the weakening of this decades old unity started to grow in the Europe.

Moreover, the Crimean War of 1853, was a first attempt made by Russia to defeat the Ottomans in break its territories into pieces, in order to strengthen its own economy and military ended the efforts to suppress new emerging ideas in Europe as the whole focus was now to end and save Ottoman decline.

# Balance of Power in Europe

Crimean Wars shattered the three decades old Balance of Power maintained by the Congress of Vienna -

The said Congress not only kept the balance in Europe in order to end the nationalism, but also ended any possibility of formation of new Powers in Europe including the United Germans and Italy.

However, 1953 wars ended the Congress of Vienna forcing Metternich to resign and disturbed the balance of Power in Europe - This diverted the focus of Existing European Power from being help in creation of new Power and were indulging in *Witzengastocher* -

## German Unification

Crimean Wars gave formal birth to the idea of German unification - While the ending of Congress of Vienna, which was known to be the actual force of resistance against the new emerging ideas, it also increases the nationalism in the German Confederation -

This nationalism, regardless of failed 1848 revolutions allowed the Prussian empire to unite the German states under one large nation -

### Prussia and Otto von Bismarck

Germany was not unified rather it was Prussianized with the outstanding diplomatic mind of Otto von Bismarck of Prussia -

As the Crimean Wars ended the existing formal alliance to suppress equality and nationalism -

Bismarck saw an opportunity to unite all the

Princely States of Germany including those which were placed under direct control of Austro-Hungarian Empire. Thus, the finalization of German Unification took place in the end, which was accelerated by Crimean War.

### Italian Unification

Like the Germany, Italy also divided into many small states wherein the attempt to unify in 1848 was crushed by Congress of Vienna.

However, Crimean War also provided an opportunity to Piedmont Sardinia with the help of its Prime Minister Count Camillo and Garibaldi to unify the Italian States into one large country of Italy.

Thus, attempt of Italian unification was crushed by Global Powers in 1848, however, the Crimean

Wars which forced the European Powers fight each other in order to save or extend the Ottoman Empire

helped in Italian unification under Piedmont Sardinia.

### New Room in European History

Crimean Wars in 1853 between Russia and Ottoman Empire indeed created a new room in European

History - By giving birth to new states which were under the Ottomans control and leading

towards the unification of Germany and

Italy, these wars completely changed the

Geography of Europe that was maintained

from 1815-1853.

Moreover, German unification at first only

focused on its survival; however, under the

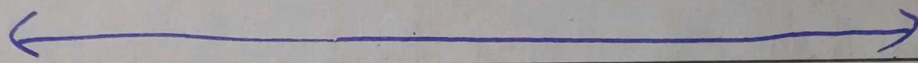
Kaiser Wilhelm its aim was completely

diverted from maintaining the peace in

Europe to Starting the great war (World War I). Thus, these events gave birth to new chapter in the European History that later modified Europe completely.

## Conclusion

Above in view, ~~conflict~~ wars fought during 1953-1958 between European Powers to save and end the Ottoman Empire, changed the European History by giving birth to new sovereign Powers including Germany and Italy that lead the Europe towards the Great War in 1914-



## Section B

### Question No 5

### Introduction

In the previous history of Europe, France and Germany have remained enemies of each other. While being the immediate neighbours and great powers of that time, both these countries undermined each other that lead to two great wars known as World War 1 and 2, which completely changed the structure of whole world and gave new birth to dozens of states that currently exists while also ending the centuries old Empire system, Colonial system and imperialism.

### Clemenceau's Statement

Clemenceau's statement that America is far away and protected by ocean and Napoleon didn't reach to England highlighted the vulnerability of France of being the immediate neighbour of

Germany that posed it under immediate threat if there was occurrence of another War in Europe - Thus, Clemenceau forced the US and Britain to shape the treaty of Versailles accordingly.

## Treaty of Versailles

Treaty of Versailles that was signed after the end of 1st World War was aimed to end any possibility of another war. However, French Empire due to its concerns and threat from Germany forced the Allied Powers to keep Germany under strict sanctions in order to save France from another war.

Moreover, France influenced the subject treaty to put limitations on military strength, economic growth and political influence of Germany to save itself from future aggression of Germany.

However, this attempt didn't save France or other powers from another war, rather it sowed the seed for more deadly war in the world.

## Harsh Punishment of Germany

Germany was treated harshly in the treaty of Versailles due to French pressure on Britain and America in order to save itself from German aggression.

- 1- Germany was forced to accept the responsibility and guilt for all the losses that occurred in the World War I. Moreover, it can't militarize Rhineland.
- 2- France was given control over few of German territories.
- 3- Germany was forced to pay reparations for the loss.
- 4- Germany was allowed to keep only little military without submarines, navy, tanks, air and aircrafts.

## Rise in Nazism in Germany

This harsh treatment with Germany due to french pressure gave birth to Nazism in Germany under the leadership of Adolf Hitler.

The main agenda of Nazism was to gain all the territories back from France and stop those huge payment that the Germany was forced to pay for the losses of World War I.

Great Depression further placed fuel on the fire ~~that~~ wherein US took its dollars back from German bank causing huge unemployment, inflation, poverty, hunger, currency ~~depression~~ depreciation and more importantly anger and resentment among Germany.

## 2nd World War

While the anger was growing among Germany, another fault of treaty of Versailles was its unfair treatment with Italy, that also went against the France and Britain allied with Germany to gain the promised ~~territories~~ territories back from them.

Thus this whole resentment due to the treaty of Versailles lead the world towards another world war results in millions of deaths, huge economic loss and also dawn of nuclear age - which is still ~~pl~~ placing this world under the threat of going extinct.

## Conclusion

Thus, it is evident that harsh treatment with Germany due to the Clemensen's statement and his influence in treaty of Versailles lead the world toward 2nd world war.