

The Conservative Reaction to the Radicalism of Liberalism and Nationalism



European Conservatism

- First great conservative treatise was written by...Edmund Burke!
- After 1815, Metternich became the symbol of conservatism
- Basic beliefs:
 - Obedience to a hereditary monarch and an official state religion
 - Existence of a privileged landowning class
 - Community above individual
 - Tradition brings order!
- Reactionary philosophy
 - Emerges as a means to suppress liberalism and nationalism!



The Growth of *Political* Liberalism

- Has its roots in the Enlightenment and 18th century revolutions
- Voice of Liberalism: John Stuart Mill of Britain
 - Representative and constitutional government
 - Equality before the law
 - Individual liberties
 - Protection from both the gov't and the tyranny of the majority
- Britain and France were liberalized to an extent!
 - After 1815, we will see a growth in democrats and republicans, who feel that the *middle-class* liberal movement has not done enough to destroy the old order!



The Growth of Nationalism

- Has its roots in the FR and the Napoleonic Wars
- Two main concepts:
 - Shared bond based upon common ***language***, history, territory, or culture
 - Belief in self-determination
- Nationalism and Liberalism worked together!
 - Self-government was only possible if the people were united!
- However, it sparked beliefs in national superiority and national mission!
 - Causes of imperialism and WWI



The “Hinge Upon Which the Fate of Europe” rests



Conservative Domination of the 1820s

- Congress of Troppau 1820
 - Called in response to liberal revolutions in Spain and Italy
 - Officially adopted the policy of intervention
 - Crushed the liberals and restored the LEGITIMATE rulers to their thrones
- However, British refused to accept the policy of intervention
 - It's truly a Central and Eastern European movement to crush liberalism and nationalism



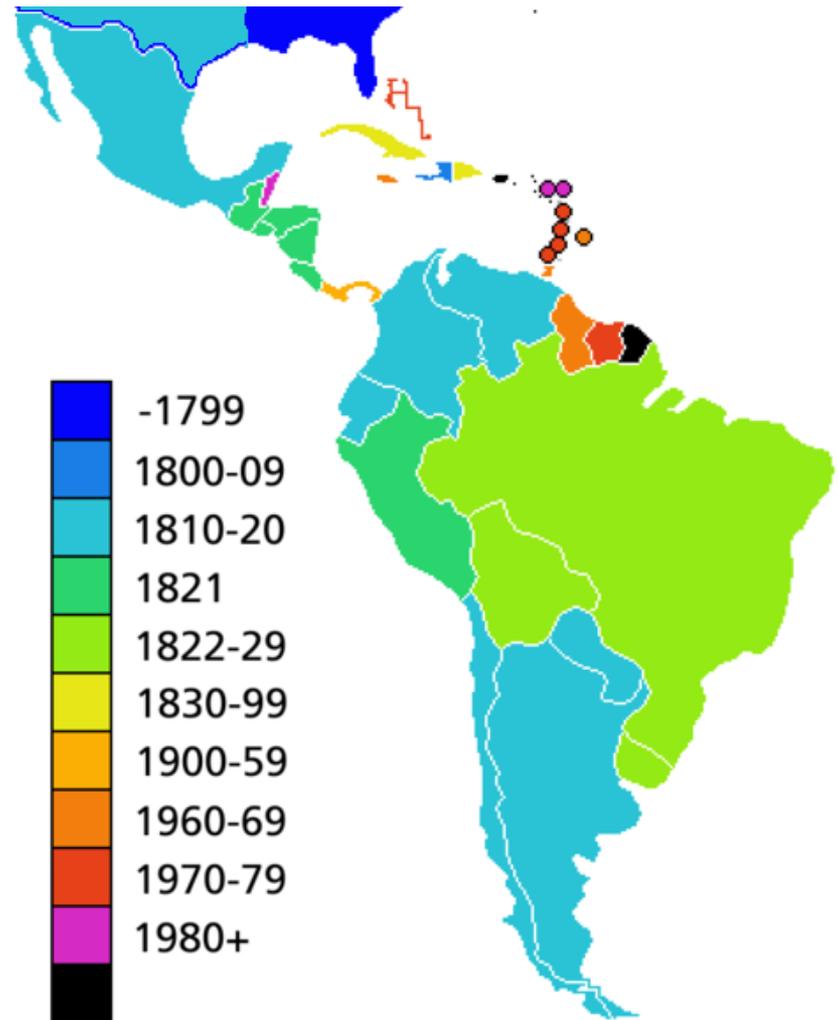
More Conservative Victories

- Great Britain
 - Rule of the Tories (ex. 1819 Peterloo Massacre)
- France
 - Succession of the Ultraroyalist Charles X
- Germany
 - Carlsbad Decrees limit the Burschenschaften
- Russia
 - Failure of the Decembrist Revolt in 1825 to overthrow the new Tsar Nicholas I



Conservative Failure in Latin America

- Napoleon's conquest of Spain allowed the creoles to form independent gov'ts
 - Bolivar and San Martin were heavily educated in Enlightenment and revolutionary philosophy
- Continental powers wanted to regain this land for Spain, but the British said "NO"
 - US issues the Monroe Doctrine, but really, British ships protected the new nations in Latin America



The Dual Revolution

- Though the conservative backlash takes place after 1815, peace also allows the economic revolution to join forces with the effects of the political revolution!
 - This Dual Revolution allows the “ISMs” of liberalism and nationalism to grow into a destructive *middle-class* force that brings about further revolutions in 1830 and 1848!

