



I. The French Revolution

In 1789, France had a population of more than 25 million people and a culture that dominated Europe.¹ At the center of the Enlightenment, an 18th-century movement that championed inalienable individual rights and rationalism, France had a large sphere of influence. However, France in 1789 was corrupt, inefficient, and in debt. Its institutions were stuck in the past: medieval institutions of aristocracy represented the nation's social stratification and disregard for the grand majority of the population. The French nation was in famine and economic collapse. The King of France, Louis XVI, saw it necessary to call the *Estates-General* (the French Parliament), which had not met in 175 years in order to levy taxes. This legislative body was made up of representatives of three classes: the clergy, the nobility, and everyone else. This meeting of the *Estates-General* that began in May 1789 led to the unity of some members of the first two estates with the Third: represented by the Tennis Court Oath (June 20, 1789), this new group promised not to disperse until they had been recognized as the National Assembly of France and had written a new constitution. While these delegates were fighting within the political sphere, the common people of France were in economic ruin. A poor harvest in 1788 caused famine and inflation, causing a fourth of the Parisian population to be unemployed in July 1789.² The people of Paris were angry: on July 14, 1789, several hundred people stormed the Bastille royal prison, attempting to gain weapons for their own defense. As a result, troops that were used to bring the delegates of the *Estates-General* were withdrawn, and the new legislative body of France was able to work freely. With this body in place, the French Revolution was now underway.

The French Revolution turned France on its head: the nation went from a monarchical government to a radical republic, then a 5-man executive committee, to finally, a strong dictatorship. With three distinct phases (The Liberal, Radical, and Reactionary stages), the French Revolution became more and more radical until July 1794, when a counter-revolution in reaction to the Reign of Terror, in which more than 25,000 victims were killed (including King Louis XVI), took place. This counter-revolution, known as the Thermidorian Reaction, was kicked off by the execution of Maximillian Robespierre on July 27th, 1794. This movement called for the re-establishment of more conservative policies that resembled that of 5 years prior: the influence of the wealthy replaced the influence of the radical poor, known as *sans-culottes*. A new government (known as the National Convention) restructured the dictatorial-like Committee of Public Safety, closed radical political clubs, and, most importantly, established a new constitution that

¹The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, "French Revolution," Encyclopaedia Britannica.

²McKay et al., *A History*, 621.

rejected both constitutional monarchies (established during the Liberal stage of the French Revolution) and democracy (republic established during the Radical stage of the French Revolution). Instead, the National Convention chose a 5-man Directory that seemed to prove that, in the end, the French Revolution was *not* a victory for the lower classes, but one for the bourgeois — those whose wealth stemmed from commerce and professions. The Directory was corrupt and ineffective in its policy, using wars to respond to domestic economic problems.³ For example, wars were used to employ large armies, causing an alienation between state and populus that caused distrust and discontent with the Directory. It was in 1799 that a *coup d'état* would take place, putting Napoleon Bonaparte, a keen and able military leader, as France's undisputed commander.

In addition to the events that occurred in France, the French Revolution also led to widespread international response by different nations during different periods of the French Revolution. The following table synthesizes key information of the interactions between France and the outside world during the French Revolution in chronological order:

Date	Event	Parties involved
August 27 1791	Austria and Prussia issue the <u>Declaration of Pillnitz</u> , proclaiming to intervene in France if they deemed Louis XVI's rule was under serious threat. This comes two months after Louis XVI and his royal family are arrested in an attempt to escape France.	Austrian and Prussian monarchies align with French monarchy, but not with Revolution
April 20-November 6 1792	Jacobins, or radical French republicans, declare war on Francis II of Austria. The French defeat the Prussian and Austrian armies in the first of many conflicts known as the <u>War of the First Coalition</u> (1792-97). This victory saves Paris from attack.	Austria and Prussia v. France
February 1793	The National Convention declares war on	France v. Britain,

³McKay et al., *A History*, 634.

	Britain, the Dutch Republic, and Spain, as well as Austria and Prussia	Dutch Republic, Spain, Austria, Prussia
Spring 1794	<i>Levée en masse</i> proclaimed during the Reign of Terror in August 1793 imposed the draft on all unmarried young men: this led to a huge French army that outnumbered their enemies 4:1. French armies were victorious on all fronts and domestic revolt was largely suppressed.	France v. Britain, Dutch Republic, Spain, Austria, Prussia
October 1797	With enemy coalition crushed two years prior, Napoleon Bonaparte (as an army leader) concludes <u>Treaty of Campo Formio</u> , taking Austria out of the war and placing Austrian-controlled Italy and Switzerland under French hands.	France v. Austria

II. Napoleon Bonaparte

Napoleon Bonaparte (born August 15, 1769— died May 5, 1821) is one of the most celebrated figures in European history. Napoleon was both a genius reformer and able military leader. To say the least, Napoleon Bonaparte was an ambitious man. Although he was born in Corsica (shortly after the Genoese ceded the Mediterranean island to France), Napoleon studied in France, studying in military colleges and becoming a second lieutenant of the French Army before turning twenty five.⁴

During the French Revolution, Napoleon called for social change within the Jacobin Club in its early stages, favoring the formation of constitutional monarchy. As the French Revolution became more radical and Maximilian

⁴Godechot, "Napoleon I EMPEROR," Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Robespierre came to power, Napoleon was named as the commanding officer of the French Army in Italy. However, once the Thermidorian Reaction took place and the Directory was established, Napoleon was ousted from the government, as he was considered to be an ally of Robespierre. In spite of this, Napoleon was able to make himself a respected military advisor of the new government, which led to new opportunities for the military tactician.

Appointed commander in chief of the Army of Italy in March 1796, he won decisive battles in the peninsula, leading to the acquisition of Italy (see chart above). As a military commander, Napoleon was shrewd and innovative. In fact, there existed a correlation between his personality and his aptitude as a tactician: “[m]any factors helped him rise to fame and enhance his abilities; his almost hypnotic power over his contemporaries; his intellectual capacity; the ability to work for long periods continually; his iron will and irresistible charm all helped during the early part of his career to establish himself at an early age as a very competent general.”⁵ Moreover, his leadership of the Italian Army at just 27 years old is a mere example of his precocious talent. Also instrumental in his victory was his use of multiple army corps, which “allowed [for] greater mobility, was deceptive to the enemy, and eased the burden of logistics.”⁶ Although his Egyptian campaign in 1798 was a failure, Napoleon was able to make it back to France with his reputation still intact.⁷ Once he returned, a power vacuum in France was evident. Public support for the Directory was at an all time low and, on November 9, 1799, Napoleon and his conspirators ousted the 5 man executive committee and disbanded the legislature. With a *coup d’état*, Napoleon was named first consul of a new French republic, with a new constitution consolidating his power approved by a December 1799 vote.

III. The Napoleonic Wars

Napoleon’s self-proclamation as the First Consul of the Republic of France is considered to be the event that instigated the Napoleonic Wars, as Napoleon was essentially granted full dictatorial powers over the French regime.⁸ One of his first acts as leader was the selling of French Louisiana to the now independent United States in 1803. After the Haitian Revolution curtailed his attempts to expand his American Empire.⁹ This purchase not only economically stabilized the French regime but also cemented Napoleon’s intentions to relinquish his conquest of the western world and focus his efforts on the suppression of the European hemisphere. Napoleon, worried about the economic and political might of the French regime, proposed a temporary ceasefire with Great Britain in 1802, so as to better the

⁵Dean, "Napoleon as a Military," Research Subjects: Napoleon Himself.

⁶Dean, "Napoleon as a Military," Research Subjects: Napoleon Himself.

⁷McKay et al., *A History*, 635.

⁸Pointon, "Napoleonic Wars," History of War.

⁹Fraser, *By the People*, 230-231.

conditions of France and regrow as a prominent military power. This was achieved in the Treaty of Amiens, which was disbanded a year later when Britain was made aware of France's growing military prowess, an act which left Britain declaring war on France.¹⁰ In 1803, the war was renewed with Britain, who was soon joined by Austria, Russia, and Prussia. In a series of battles at Ulm, Austerlitz, Jena, and Eylau from 1805 to 1807, Napoleon's Grand Army defeated the Continental members of the Coalition, thus giving him the opportunity to create a new European order.¹¹ One of the few countries impervious to Napoleon's reign was Great Britain, who posed naval superiority against the French.

At that point, Napoleon contemplated an invasion of Great Britain, a feat that was proven to be almost impossible, as emphasized through his devastating defeat in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, in which a combination of French-Spanish forces were defeated by Lord Nelson of the British Royal Navy. Soon afterward, Napoleon mobilized inland, across the Holy Roman Empire, conquering Austria and occupying Vienna for a short time. Soon after, a Third Coalition, consisting of Britain, Austria, Sweden, and Russia, with the goal of expelling Napoleon out of the Netherlands and Switzerland, was created, all of which clashed in the Battle of Austerlitz. This was one of Napoleon's first great victories, "His 68,000 troops defeated almost 90,000 Russians and Austrians nominally under General M.I. Kutuzov, forcing Austria to make peace with France (Treaty of Pressburg) and keeping Prussia temporarily out of the anti-French alliance."¹² This defeat, brought Napoleon one step closer to complete European domination, as his Grand Empire was potent and expansive.

The Grand Empire was composed of three major parts: the French empire, a series of dependent states, and the allied states. The inner empire consisted of an enlarged France which extended to the Rhine in the east and included the western half of Italy north of Rome. Dependent states included Spain, the Netherlands, the kingdom of Italy, the Swiss Republic, the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, and the Confederation of the Rhine (a union of all German states except for Austria and Prussia), with various Duchies and kingdoms allied to France. Allied states were those that were defeated by Napoleon and forced to join his struggle, they included Prussia, Austria, and Russia.¹³ Austria receded the war, but a Fourth Coalition, consisting of Prussia, Russia, and the UK, Saxony, and Sweden was created in 1806. Napoleon defeated Prussia and pushed to the Russian frontier, creating more puppet states and the Duchy of Warsaw.¹⁴ All of this didn't manage to quench Napoleon's thirst for power, and in 1806 Napoleon relied on economics instead of brute force in an effort to bring forth the destruction and conquest of Great Britain.

¹⁰The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Treaty of Amiens," Encyclopaedia Britannica.

¹¹Spielvogel, *Western Civilization*, [Page #547].

¹²The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica, "Battle of Austerlitz," Encyclopaedia Britannica.

¹³Spielvogel, *Western Civilization*, 548.

¹⁴Moore, "The Fourth," Napoleonic Guide.

Put into effect between 1806 and 1807, the Continental System attempted to prevent British goods from reaching the European continent in order to weaken Britain economically and destroy its capacity to wage war: an effort which failed. Allied states resented the ever tightening French economic hegemony; some began to cheat and others to resist, thereby opening the door to British collaboration. New markets in the Eastern Mediterranean and in Latin America also provided compensation for the British.¹⁵ Fear of France's expansion caused the British to invade the neutral country of Denmark, out of fear that the French would seize their ships to invade Britain. This enraged both Denmark and Russia, whom then allied themselves with the French. Russia and Prussia even agreed to join the Continental System so as to undermine Britain's commerce, by closing their ports to British ships and neutral ships engaged in British trade.¹⁶ By the end of the Fourth Coalition War, Napoleon would have controlled most of Western and Central Europe.

Being long-term allies, Portugal continued to trade with Great Britain. Enraged by this, the French, along with Spain, mounted an invasion of Portugal. It's at this point, that Napoleon turned on Spain and took control of the Iberian Peninsula. This is considered to be the turning point for the Napoleonic Wars, as the Spanish would fight for years using Guerrilla Tactics. The Spanish were relentless in their conquest against Napoleon and would continue to undermine the French for the duration of the war. "A Spanish uprising against Napoleon's rule, aided by British support, kept a French force of 200,000 pinned down for years."¹⁷ In 1809, the Fifth Coalition is established between Britain and Austria. This coalition brought about one of Napoleon's most disastrous defeats: the Battle of Aspern-Essling. During his crossing of the Danube, the Austrian army was able to catch Napoleon's troops off guard, thus severing his forces. "Suitably chastened, the French emperor ensured his next crossing of the Danube was carried with proper care and he fell upon the Austrians at Wagram. In two days, he inflicted 40,000 casualties upon his enemies and forced Austria to sue for peace, agreeing to give up large territories and join the Continental System of trade against Britain."¹⁸

The beginning of Napoleon's downfall came in 1812 with his invasion of Russia. The latter's defection from the Continental System left Napoleon with little choice. In June of 1812, Napoleon's Grand Army of more than 600,000 men entered Russia. Napoleon's hopes for victory depended on quickly meeting and defeating the Russian armies, but the Russian forces refused to battle and retreated hundreds of miles while torching their own villages and countryside to prevent Napoleon's forces from finding food and forage. Once arrived in Moscow, the Russians found the city ablaze. Lacking food and supplies, Napoleon abandoned Moscow in late October and made the "Great Retreat" across Russia in terrible winter conditions. Only 40,000 troops managed to struggle back to Poland in January 1813, and

¹⁵Wilde, "A History," ThoughtCo.

¹⁶Cavendish, "The Treaty," History Today.

¹⁷Spielvogel, *Western Civilization*, 549.

¹⁸Moore, "The Fifth," Napoleonic Guide.

380,000 died either presumed missing or captured. This military disaster then led to a war of liberation all over Europe in the form of the Sixth Coalition, in which the British, Portugal, Austria, and Spain, retaliated against the French regime. The Battle of Leipzig brought about Napoleon's end, his army was reduced to almost nothing, and Napoleon returned to France where he surrendered and was exiled to the island of Elba, off the coast of Tuscany, while the Bourbon monarchy was restored to France in the person of Louis XVIII, brother of the executed king.¹⁹

IV. The Congress of Vienna and The Hundred Days War

Soon after Napoleon's defeat in the Battle of Leipzig, the victorious Great Powers (Russia, Great Britain, Austria and Prussia) invited the other states of Europe to send plenipotentiaries to Vienna for a peace conference. At the end of summer 1814, emperors, kings, princes, ministers and representatives converged on the Austrian capital, crowding the walled city. The first priority of the Congress of Vienna was to deal with territorial issues: a new configuration of German states, the reorganisation of central Europe, the borders of central Italy and territorial transfers in Scandinavia.²⁰ Essentially, its main objective was to undo everything that Napoleon had done, this included, reducing France to its old boundaries (the ones set in 1790-91), and restoring as many of the old monarchies as possible which had lost their thrones during the Napoleonic era. Key players at the Congress included figures such as Tsar Alexander I (Russian), Prince Klemens Von Metternich (Austrian), Viscount Castlereagh (British), King Frederick William III (Prussian), and Maurice de Talleyrand (French). Many key principles established at Vienna were the balance of power, legitimacy in terms of reigning governments, and compensation to those affected by Napoleon's siege.

Following the Congress of Vienna, Europe would undergo complete economic and political restructuring, with many countries gaining compensations such as territories, and economic compensation. The Congress of Vienna however, had to be placed on hold following Napoleon's return to France. Upon escape of his exiliation, Napoleon returned to Paris, eager to rebuild his empire. French soldiers were sent to stop him, to which Napoleon retorted to them, "Soldiers of the fifth regiment, I am your emperor... If there is a man among you would kill his emperor, here I am!" No one fired a shot. Shouting "Vive l'Empereur!", the troops went over to his side, and Napoleon entered Paris in triumph in March 20, 1815.²¹ The Congress of Vienna then had to be placed on hold, and a final Seventh Coalition was then formed, consisting of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia and Russia, whom once again declared war on Napoleon. This final uprising, beginning with Napoleon's uprising in 1815, and culminating with his ultimate defeat in the Battle of

¹⁹Spielvogel, *Western Civilization*, 549.

²⁰Ghervas, "What was the Congress," *History Today*.

²¹Spielvogel, *Western Civilization*, 550.

Waterloo, came to be known as the Hundred Days War, or Napoleon's 100 Days. After his ultimate defeat, the Congress of Vienna was resumed, and the treaties and sanctions established would dominate the European hemisphere up until the dawning of the First World War in 1914.²²

V. Timeline of Events

Delegates, due to the longevity and surplus amount of information which the committee contains, we have decided to provide you with a complete timeline of the most important pieces of information pertaining to both the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars. The following point, "Contextualizing the Committee" will elaborate on when exactly this committee will take place in. Thus, you can use the timeline to keep track of the events which have already happened and those which haven't. The timeline pertaining to the Napoleonic Wars was provided by *HistoryHIT*, a footnote and direct source to the page will be provided below.²³

French Revolution

1. Liberal Stage

- a) May 1789: *Estates-General* meets for the first time in 175 years
- b) June 20, 1789: Tennis Court Oath proclaimed
- c) July 14, 1789: Parisians storm the Bastille
- d) August 1791: Declaration of Pillnitz

2. Radical Stage

- a) April 1792: France declares war on Austria, War of First Coalition begins
- b) January 1793: Louis XVI (former monarch) executed during the Reign of Terror
- c) February 1793: The National Convention declares war on Britain, the Dutch Republic, and Spain
- d) August 1793: *Levée en masse* proclaimed during the Reign of Terror in August 1793
- e) Spring 1794: French armies victorious on all fronts
- f) July 1794: Maximilian Robespierre is executed; Thermidorian Reaction begins

3. Reactionary Stage

²²University of Warwick, "The Last," University of Warwick.

²³Atkins, "From Marengo," History HIT.

- a) 1795: Directory consolidates power and economic controls are abolished
- b) October 1797: Napoleon Bonaparte concludes Treaty of Campo Formio, taking Austria out of the war and placing Austrian-controlled Italy and Switzerland under French hands.
- c) 1799: Napoleon seizes power in a *coup d'état*

The Napoleonic Wars

1. 1802

- a. 25 March: The Treaty of Amiens briefly ended hostilities between Britain and France.
- b. 2 August: Napoleon was made Consul for life.

2. 1803

- a. 3 May: The Louisiana Purchase saw France cede its North American territories to the United States in return for a payment of 50 million French Francs. The funds were supposedly allocated to a planned invasion of Britain.
- b. 18 May: Troubled by Napoleon's actions, Britain declared war on France. The Napoleonic Wars are usually considered to have started on this date.
- c. 26 May: France invaded Hanover.

3. 1804

- a. 2 December: Napoleon crowned himself Emperor of France.

4. 1805

- a. 11 April: Britain and Russia ally, effectively beginning the formation of the Third Coalition.
- b. 26 May: Napoleon was crowned King of Italy.
- c. 9 August: Austria joined the Third Coalition.
- d. 19 October: The Battle of Ulm pit Napoleon's French troops against the Austrian army, under the command of Karl Mack von Leiberich. Napoleon plotted an impressive victory, capturing 27,000 Austrians with very few losses.

- e. 21 October: The British Royal Navy were victorious over French and Spanish fleets at the Battle of Trafalgar, a naval engagement at Cape Trafalgar off the South-Western coast of Spain.
- f. 2 December: Napoleon lead the French army to a decisive victory over much larger Russian and Austrian armies at the Battle of Austerlitz.
- g. 4 December: A truce was agreed in the War of the Third Coalition
- h. 26 December: The Treaty of Pressburg was signed, establishing peace and amity and the retreat of Austria from the Third Coalition.

5. 1806

- a. 1 April: Joseph Bonaparte, an older brother of Napoleon, became King of Naples.
- b. 20 June: Louis Bonaparte, this time a younger brother of Napoleon, became King of Holland.
- c. 15 September: Prussia joined Britain and Russia in the fight against Napoleon.
- d. 14 October: Napoleon's army won simultaneous victories at the Battle of Jena and the Battle of Auerstadt, inflicting significant losses on the Prussian Army.
- e. 26 October: Napoleon entered Berlin
- f. 6 November: The Battle of Lübeck saw Prussian forces, retreating from defeats at Jena and Auerstadt, suffer another heavy defeat.
- g. 21 November: Napoleon issued the Berlin Decree, beginning the so-called "Continental System" that effectively acted as an embargo on British trade.

6. 1807

- a. 14 June: Napoleon achieved a decisive victory against Count von Bennigsen's Russian forces at the Battle of Friedland.
- b. 7 July and 9 July: The two Treaties of Tilsit were signed. First between France and Russia then between France and Prussia.
- c. 19 July: Napoleon instituted the Duchy of Warsaw, to be ruled by Frederick Augustus I of Saxony.
- d. 2-7 September: Britain attacked Copenhagen, destroying the Dano-Norwegian fleet, which Britain feared may have been used to bolster Napoleon's own fleet.

- e. 27 October: The Treaty of Fontainebleau was signed between Napoleon and Charles IV of Spain. It effectively agreed to drive the House of Braganza from Portugal.
- f. 19-30 November: Jean-Andoche Junot lead an invasion of Portugal by French forces. Portugal offered little resistance and Lisbon was occupied on 30 November.

7. 1808

- a. 23 March: The French occupied Madrid following the disposal of King Charles IV, who was forced to abdicate. Charles was replaced by his son Ferdinand VII.
- b. 2 May: Spaniards rose up against France in Madrid. The rebellion, often referred to as the *Dos de Mayo Uprising*, was quickly suppressed by Joachim Murat's Imperial Guard.
- c. 7 May: Joseph Bonaparte was also proclaimed King of Spain.
- d. 22 July: Following widespread uprisings across Spain, the Battle of Bailen saw the Spanish Army of Andalusia defeat the Imperial French Army.
- e. 17 August: The Battle of Roliça marked Britain's first entry into the Peninsular War with an Arthur Wellesley-led victory over French forces en route to Lisbon.
- f. 21 August: Wellesley's men defeated Junot's French forces at the Battle of Vimeiro on the outskirts of Lisbon, putting an end to the first French invasion of Portugal.
- g. 1 December: Following decisive strikes against the Spanish uprising at Burgos, Tudelo, Espinosa and Somosierra, Napoleon regained control of Madrid. Joseph was returned to his throne.

8. 1809

- a. 16 January: Sir John Moore's British troops repelled the French, led by Nicolas Jean de Dieu Soult, at the Battle of Corunna — but lost the port city in the process. Moore was mortally wounded and died.
- b. 28 March: Soult lead his French corps to victory in the First Battle of Porto.

- c. 12 May: Wellesley's Anglo-Portuguese army defeated the French at the Second Battle of Porto, taking back the city.
- d. 5-6 June: The Battle of Wagram saw the French win a decisive victory over Austria, ultimately leading to the break-up of the Fifth Coalition.
- e. 28-29 July: Anglo-Spanish troops led by Wellesley forced the French to retire at the Battle of Talavera.
- f. 14 October: The Treaty of Schönbrunn was signed between France and Austria, ending the War of the Fifth Coalition.

9. 1810

- a. 27 September: Wellesley's Anglo-Portuguese army repelled Marshal André Masséna's French forces at the Battle of Bussaco.
- b. 10 October: Wellesley's men retreated behind the Lines of Torres Vedras — lines of forts built to defend Lisbon — and succeeded in holding off Masséna's troops.

10. 1811

- a. 5 March: After several months of stalemate at the Lines of Torres Vedras, Masséna began to withdraw his troops.

11. 1812

- a. 7-20 January: Wellesley besieged Ciudad Rodrigo, ultimately capturing the city from the French.
- b. 5 March: The Treaty of Paris established a Franco-Prussian alliance against Russia.
- c. 16 March-6 April: The Siege of Badajoz. Wellesley's army then moved south to capture the strategically important frontier town of Badajoz.
- d. 24 June: Napoleon's army invaded Russia.
- e. 18 July: The Treaty of Örebro brought about the end of wars between Britain and Sweden and Britain and Russia, forming an alliance between Russia, Britain and Sweden.
- f. 22 June: Wellesley defeated Marshal Auguste Marmont's French forces at the Battle of Salamanca.

- g. 7 September: The Battle of Borodino, one of the bloodiest of the Napoleonic Wars, saw Napoleon's army clash with General Kutuzov's Russian troops, who attempted to block their path to Moscow. Kutuzov's men were eventually forced to retreat.
- h. 14 September: Napoleon arrived in Moscow, which was mostly abandoned. Fires broke out in the city, all but destroying it.
- i. 19 October: Napoleon's army began a retreat from Moscow.
- j. 26-28 November: Russian forces close in on the French Grande Armée as it retreats from Moscow. The Battle of the Berezina broke out as the French attempted to cross the Berezina River. Though they succeeded in crossing, Napoleon's troops suffered massive losses.
- k. 14 December: The Grande Armée finally escaped Russia, having lost more than 400,000 men.
- l. 30 December: The Convention of Tauroggen, an armistice between Prussian General Ludwig Yorck and General Hans Karl von Diebitsch of the Imperial Russian Army, is signed.

12. 1813

- a. 3 March: Sweden entered into an alliance with Britain and declared war against France.
- b. 16 March: Prussia declared war on France.
- c. 2 May: The Battle of Lützen saw Napoleon's French army force Russian and Prussian forces into retreat.
- d. 20-21 May: Napoleon's troops attacked and defeated a combined Russian and Prussian army at the Battle of Bautzen.
- e. 4 June: The Truce of Pläswitz commenced.
- f. 12 June: The French evacuated Madrid.
- g. 21 June: Leading British, Portuguese and Spanish troops, Wellesley won a decisive victory against Joseph I at the Battle of Vitoria.
- h. 17 August: The Truce of Pläswitz ended.

- i. 23 August: A Prussian-Swedish army defeated the French at the Battle of Großbeeren, south of Berlin.
- j. 26 August: Over 200,000 troops are involved in the Battle of Katzbach, which resulted in a crushing Russo-Prussian victory over the French.
- k. 26-27 August: Napoleon oversaw an impressive victory over Sixth Coalition forces at the Battle of Dresden.
- l. 29-30 August: Following the Battle of Dresden, Napoleon sent troops in pursuit of the retreating Allies. The Battle of Kulm ensued and substantial Coalition forces — led by Alexander Ostermann-Tolstoy — prevail, inflicting heavy losses on the French.
- m. 15-18 October: The Battle of Leipzig, also known as the “Battle of Nations”, inflicted brutally severe losses on the French army and more or less concluded France’s presence in Germany and Poland.

13. 1814

- a. 10-15 February: Outnumbered and on the defensive, Napoleon nonetheless masterminded a succession of unlikely victories in north-eastern France over a period that became known as the “Six Days’ Campaign.”
- b. 30-31 March: The Battle of Paris saw the Allies assault the French capital and storm Montmartre. Auguste Marmont surrendered and the Allies, led by Alexander I who was supported by the King of Prussia and Prince Schwarzenberg of Austria, took Paris.
- c. 4 April: Napoleon abdicated.
- d. 10 April: Wellesley defeated Soult at the Battle of Toulouse.
- e. 11 April: The Treaty of Fontainebleau formally sealed the end of Napoleon’s rule.
- f. 14 April: The Battle of Bayonne was the final sortie of the Peninsular War, continuing until April 27 despite news of Napoleon’s abdication.
- g. 4 May: Napoleon was exiled to Elba.

14. 1815

- a. 26 February: Napoleon escaped Elba.

- b. 1 March: Napoleon landed in France.
 - c. 20 March: Napoleon arrived in Paris, marking the beginning of a period known as the “Hundred Days”.
 - d. 16 June: The Battle of Ligny, the last victory of Napoleon’s military career, saw the French troops of the Armée du Nord, under his command, defeat part of Field Marshal Prince Blücher’s Prussian army.
 - e. 18 June: The Battle of Waterloo marked the end of the Napoleonic Wars, inflicting a final defeat on Napoleon at the hands of two Seventh Coalition armies: a British-led force under the command of Wellesley and Field Marshal Prince Blücher’s Prussian army.
 - f. 28 June: Louis XVIII was restored to power.
 - g. 16 October: Napoleon was exiled to the island of Saint Helena.
-

VI. Contextualizing the Committee

Due to the expansive nature of this era, the abundance of events that take place within it, and the fact that this committee will run as a *crisis*, we have decided that the best way to present and contextualize this committee would be to create our own timeline of events. The committee will take the form of The Congress of Vienna, ***which will take place during Napoleon’s march on Russia, instead of after his surrender in Paris.*** Delegates will be meeting covertly in Vienna to talk about an array of topics, including: ***the balance of power Post-Napoleon’s rule, the geographical reorganization of Europe, economic stabilization of the European hemisphere, reforms, and the promotion of everlasting peace in the region.*** All the meanwhile, Napoleon is still waging war, has established alliances with a myriad of countries, and is on the verge of waging war on Russia. Thus, delegates will need to prepare to not only mitigate Napoleon's reign and diminish his empire, but also to work in conjunction to establish and promote the future economic, social, and political wellbeing of Europe after the crisis has been averted and Napoleon and his empire have been forced to surrender. Be prepared to emphasize your delegation’s policy in your plans and during debate, be very aware of the events which have already transpired, and the economic, social, and political effects they’ve already had on your delegation and others’, as this committee will be very interactive and transcend what we know as history. The committee will take place on ***June 24, 1812.*** Thus, if making reference to the timeline above, all the events that occurred

before June 24th, 1812 will have already transpired, with our modified, “Congress of Vienna” happening on the same date. All events which take place after June 24th, 1812 have not taken place within the context of our committee. Given the nature and expanse of the conflict, we expect both short and long-term approaches as your actions *will* shape the committee’s development. Aim to have the most comprehensive and well formulated arguments in the room. What you propose and say in committee can very much alter your delegation’s power both positively and negatively.

VII. Guiding Questions

- A. What is your delegation’s stance on Napoleon? Are you for or against his actions?
 - B. What role has your delegation played in either mitigating or encouraging Napoleon’s expansion? What role could they play? Would it be economic, social, or political and what effects would they unearth upon the rest of Europe?
 - C. How does your delegation plan to establish peace in Europe? Does your delegation believe that this pertains to taking Napoleon out of power or by keeping him at the head of an Empire?
 - D. How have the Napoleonic Wars and the developments transpiring in Europe affected your delegation’s economic and political might? Could this stance change, and how?
 - E. What plans can your delegation propose to bring about the political restructuring of Europe? Who has legitimate power, and who does not? What role, if any, should the Ideals of the Revolution play in the development of a new Europe?
-

VIII. Message from the Días

Delegates, we are very eager to provide a thrilling crisis environment that tackles the problem at hand with efficiency, evoking intuitive, and driven mindsets from each and every delegate. The contributions that each person/group/country provides from that day on is up to your discretion as delegates. In such a promisingly active committee, we’d like to ensure that all delegates feel well instructed and are able to understand and react appropriately to the communicates. Furthermore, the restrictions for position papers are as follows: heading must include delegation name; MLA or Chicago style bibliography, *1.5 spacing*, must be in justified alignment, *Times New Roman 12pt, 1 in margins* all around, and length must be *no shorter than 2 pages and no longer than 4* (bibliography not included in limit). Please remember that position papers cannot include a delegate’s name. The deadline to submit position papers is

November 12th at 11:59 PM. Please work towards the set deadline, nonetheless, if an extension is necessary, do not hesitate to contact the members of the dais by the committee's email: napoleonicwarscommittee@gmail.com. To submit, attach your position paper (PDF) to an email addressed to both chairs and to the committee's email.

Delegations will be graded on their use of **Portfolio Powers** as well as the quality of their debate. **Crisis Notes will not be used in committee.** 60% of a delegation's final score will be based on debate. 40% will be based on Portfolio Powers as the committee will be very interactive and a delegation's political, economic, and social stance may be subject to change as the committee progresses. Portfolio Powers will not have to be in directive format (preambulatory clauses and operative clauses) and can be signed by more than one delegation. When Portfolio Powers with more than one signatory are graded, each signatory delegation receives the same score based on the quality of the portfolio power. The members of the dais will work in conjunction with a crisis staff. All portfolio powers will be digital, and will be sent and managed via an email address provided before committee begins (most likely the committee email). Lastly, this committee will run through the passing of both directives and an action plan. The directives will respond to crises as they occur, and, if there's enough time allotted, a final action plan will compile them all, and it's passing will serve as the committee's closure. Therefore, the passing of directives will be the most fruitful way to react and close crises as they occur. Delegates, if you have any questions or concerns, make sure contact either of the members of the dais via email. We are eager to see you all in committee, good luck!

Diego Ramos Bechara

dramos-bechara@baldwin-school.org

Diego Saavedra

saavedradaviladiego@gmail.com

Committee Email

napoleonicwarscommittee@gmail.com

IX. Works Cited & Additional Resources

1. AP European History Napoleonic Wars Overview (YouTube)
 - a. <https://youtu.be/NbI7IOHO09s>
2. Oversimplified: The French Revolution (Parts 1 and 2) YouTube
 - a. <https://youtu.be/8qRZcXIODNU> - Part 1
 - b. <https://youtu.be/EQmjXM4VK2U> - Part 2
3. The Napoleonic Wars Oversimplified (YouTube)
 - a. <https://youtu.be/Qb7ksUg4wBQ>

4. Crash Course European History Videos
 - a. The French Revolution: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fJl_ZX9110
 - b. Napoleon Bonaparte: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pd6E38FfuMg>
 - c. The Congress of Vienna: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Duvw9sGpWUc>
5. Western Civilization (Book)
 - a. Pages 544 - 550
 - i. Covers all of Napoleon's Reign as Emperor
6. A History of Western Society (Book)
7. The Western Heritage (Book)

Note! If anyone wishes additional PowerPoint Presentations and AP Euro Review packets on the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Era, please contact the committee email: napoleonicwarscommittee@gmail.com.

Bibliography

- Atkins, Harry. "From Marengo to Waterloo: A Timeline of the Napoleonic Wars." History HIT. Last modified June 18, 2018. Accessed October 31, 2019.
<https://www.historyhit.com/from-marengo-to-waterloo-a-timeline-of-the-napoleonic-wars/>.
- Cavendish, Richard. "The Treaty of Tilsit." History Today. Last modified July 2007. Accessed October 30, 2019. <https://www.historytoday.com/archive/treaty-tilsit>.
- Dean, Peter J. "Napoleon as a Military Commander: the Limitations of Genius." Research Subjects: Napoleon Himself. Last modified 2005. Accessed October 31, 2019.
https://www.napoleon-series.org/research/napoleon/c_genius.html.
- The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. "Battle of Austerlitz." Encyclopedia Britannica. Accessed October 30, 2019.
<https://www.britannica.com/event/Battle-of-Austerlitz#ref1262334>.
- . "French Revolution 1787–1799." Encyclopedia Britannica. Last modified September 27, 2019. Accessed October 31, 2019.
<https://www.britannica.com/event/French-Revolution>.
- . "Treaty of Amiens." Encyclopedia Britannica. Accessed October 30, 2019.
<https://www.britannica.com/event/Treaty-of-Amiens-1802>.
- Fraser, James W. *By the People: A History of the United States*. 2nd ed. New York, NY: Pearson, 2019.
- Ghervas, Stella. "What was the Congress of Vienna?" History Today. Last modified September 2014. Accessed October 31, 2019.
<https://www.historytoday.com/archive/what-was-congress-vienna>.
- Godechot, Jacques. "Napoleon I EMPEROR OF FRANCE." Encyclopedia Britannica. Last modified September 4, 2019. Accessed October 31, 2019.
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Napoleon-I>.
- McKay, John P., Bennett D. Hill, John Buckler, Clare Haru Crowston, Merry E. Wiesner, and Joe Perry. *A History of Western Society: For the AP® Course*. Twelfth edition, [abbreviated edition]. ed. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's, Macmillan Learning, 2017.
- Moore, Richard. "The Fifth Coalition." Napoleonic Guide. Accessed October 30, 2019.
http://www.napoleonguide.com/campaign_5coalit.htm.
- . "The Fourth Coalition." Napoleonic Guide. Last modified 2017. Accessed October 30, 2019. http://www.napoleonguide.com/campaign_4coalit.htm.

Pointon, Dugdale T. "Napoleonic Wars (1799-1815)." History of War. Last modified November 16, 2000. Accessed October 30, 2019.
http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/wars_napoleonic.html.

Spielvogel, Jackson J. *Western Civilization*. Princeton, N.J.: Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, 2002.

University of Warwick. "The Last Stand: Napoleon's 100 Days." University of Warwick. Last modified July 7, 2015. Accessed October 31, 2019.
https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/ehrc/events/100days/.

Wilde, Robert. "A History of Napoleon's Continental System." ThoughtCo. Last modified March 30, 2018. Accessed October 30, 2019.
<https://www.thoughtco.com/the-continental-system-1221698>.