

## **The Congress of Vienna:**

### **The demands of the great powers present at the congress:**

- Great Britain: establishment of a balance of power on the continent
  - France (ruled by the restored Bourbon monarchy): returned to the borders of 1792 and the 'pentarchy' (= the rule of five big states) or 'concert of Europe'
  - Austria: preservation and expansion of her possessions in Middle and Eastern Europe
  - Prussia: expansion of her power in Northern Germany
  - Russia: keeping territories won in the west and north (Kingdom of Poland, Grand Duchy of Finland)
- ➔ the rulers hoped for calmness – i.e. no revolutions
- ➔ return to the principles / ideas of 'legitimacy' (the princes, who said they had been placed into their positions by God, had the right to rule their inherited realms); restoration (restitution) of the princes expelled by the revolution; Holy Alliance of the czar of Russia with the Emperor of Austria and with the King of Prussia
- ➔ But: no re-establishment of the Holy Roman Empire of German Nation, only foundation of the German Confederation, which consisted of 39 states ➔ no German nation state

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