

UNIFICATION OF GERMANY 1871



Unification of Germany 1815-71



Questions

1. Bismarck created a new Germany with the policy of 'blood and iron'. Comment
2. "Napoleon kindled the national sentiment, but German unity was achieved by Bismarck". Comment
3. At the end of the Battle of Sedan(1870), "Europe lost a mistress and gained a master". Comment

Synopsis

- **Introduction**

- **Roots of German Nationalism**>

1. **Impact of the French Revolution**

2. **Impact of the Napoleonic Wars**

- a) **Impact on the German States**

- b) **Impact of the Battle of Jena on Prussia**

3. **Congress of Vienna**

Its impact on German Nationalism

Impact of the Policy of reaction on German Nationalism>

Carlsbad Decrees-1819

Continued

- 4. 'Zollverein' or Commercial Union-Its impact on German Nationalism**
- 5. July Revolution(France) of 1830-Its Impact on German Nationalism**
- 6. Romanticism (1840-48)-Its impact on German Nationalism**
- 7. February Revolution(France) of 1848-Its impact on German Nationalism**

Continued

❑ Change in the Character and Course of the German National Movement

- 1) Annexation of Schleswig-Holstein
 - Prussio-Danish War & Treaty of Vienna-1864
- 2) Austro-Prussian War-Battle of Sadowa & Treaty of Prague-1866
- 3) Franco-Prussian War (1870-71)-Battle of Sedan & Treaty of Frankfurt (1871) &
Completion of Unification of Germany

□ Introduction:

- Treaty of Frankfurt, 1871-Completion of German unification mvt, emergence of German empire
- **18 AD**: Germans lived in 2 geographical regions-German states (300) & Prussia

Germany from Confederation to Empire



□ **Roots of German Nationalism:**

1. Impact of the French Revolution

- French Revolution-Democracy, Nationalism, Liberalism, Civil Rights, etc.
- Electors-Despots
- German states(Holy Roman Empire)-**Denmark, Austria & France**

2. Impact of the Napoleonic Wars

a. Impact on the German States(300)

- 1804: Napoleon emperor
- 1805: England, Austria, Prussia, Russia
- Napoleon defeated Austria & Prussia-Holy Roman Empire destroyed

- i. Abolition of Holy Roman Empire
- ii. End of Austrian domination over German states
- iii. Confederation of Rhine(16)-Protector
- iv. Modern social, and political institutions- abolished medieval German institutions
- v. French troops-spirit of German nationalism

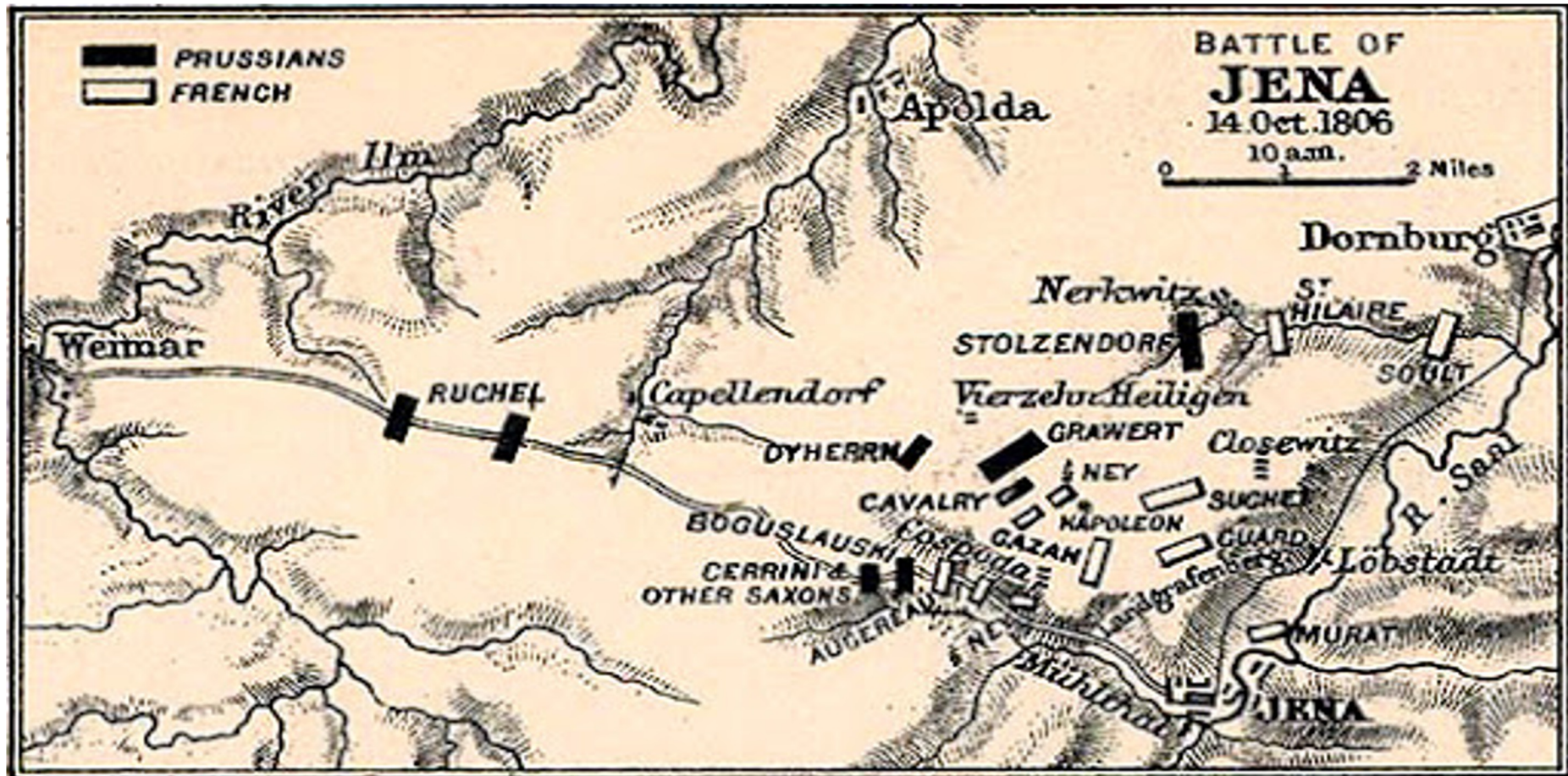
b. Impact of the Battle of Jena on Prussia

- Battle of Jena, 1806-Prussia defeated
- Frederic William (Prussia)-Hardenberg & Stein>**Edict of Liberation**-Changes

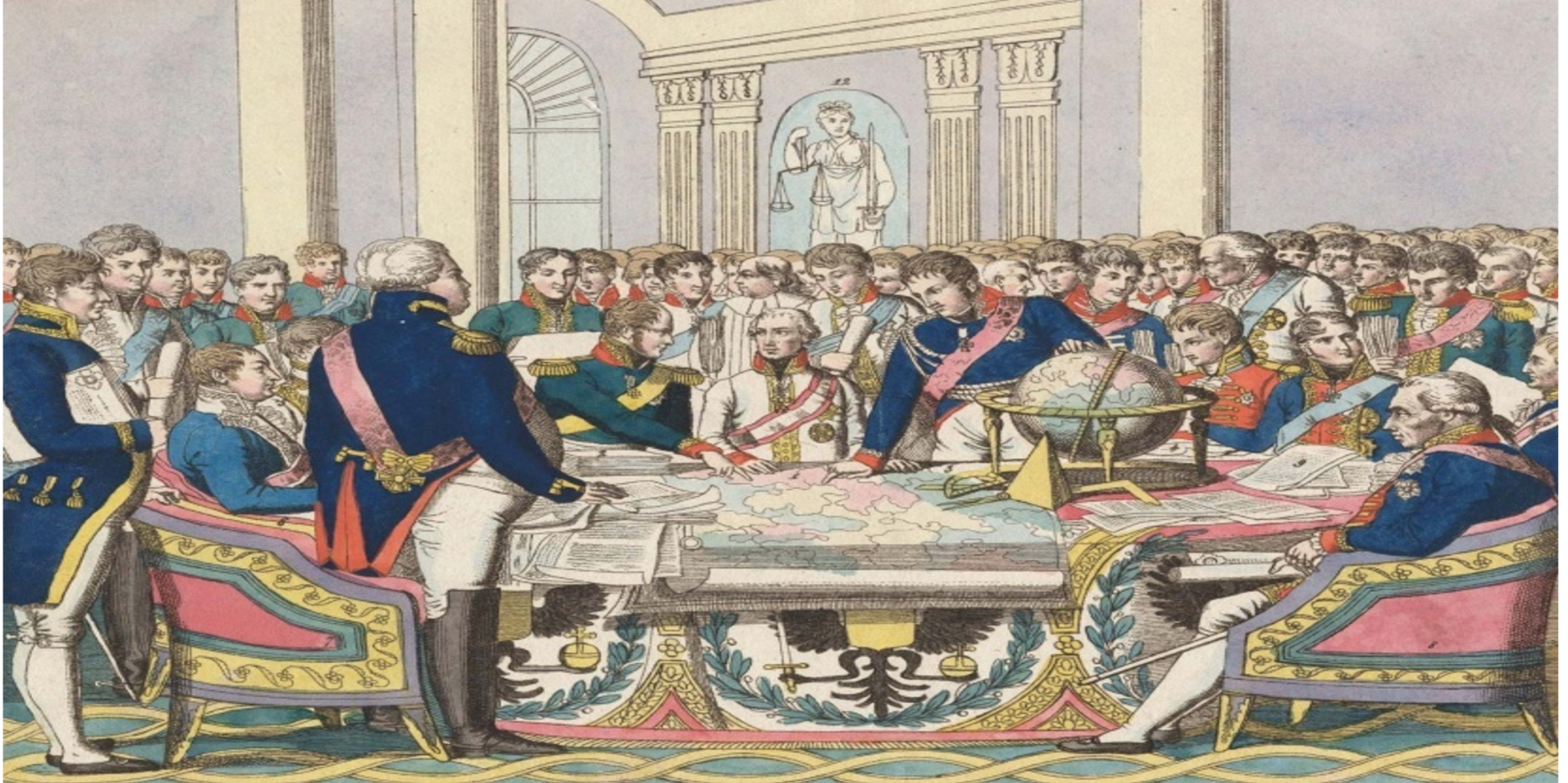
- i. End of feudalism & serfdom
- ii. Introduction of free trade
- iii. Military reforms-conscription, national army, foreigners>Element of Militarism (aggressive militarism)

- Junker aristocrats (rich landlords) resisted

Battle of Jena-1806



3. Congress of Vienna, 1815 & Its impact on German Nationalism



Klemens von Metternich



- 1815: Waterloo
- **Congress of Vienna**- President: **Klemens von Metternich**

□ Key Principles Established at Vienna

- **METTERNICH'S** 3 goals at Congress

1. **Prevent** future **French aggression** & surround France w/stronger countries
2. Restore a **balance of power** (no one country is a threat)
3. **Restore legitimacy**: Europe's royal families back on thrones

❑ Ignored principles of French Revolution-Democracy, Nationalism, People's rights, etc, the sentiment of nationalism receded-policy of reaction gained ground.

- i. Loose confederation of 39 states
- ii. Germanic confederation –Federal Diet (FD)
- iii. FD-Austria President
- iv. FD-delegates selected not elected
 - Influence of Metternich & selfishness of German princes

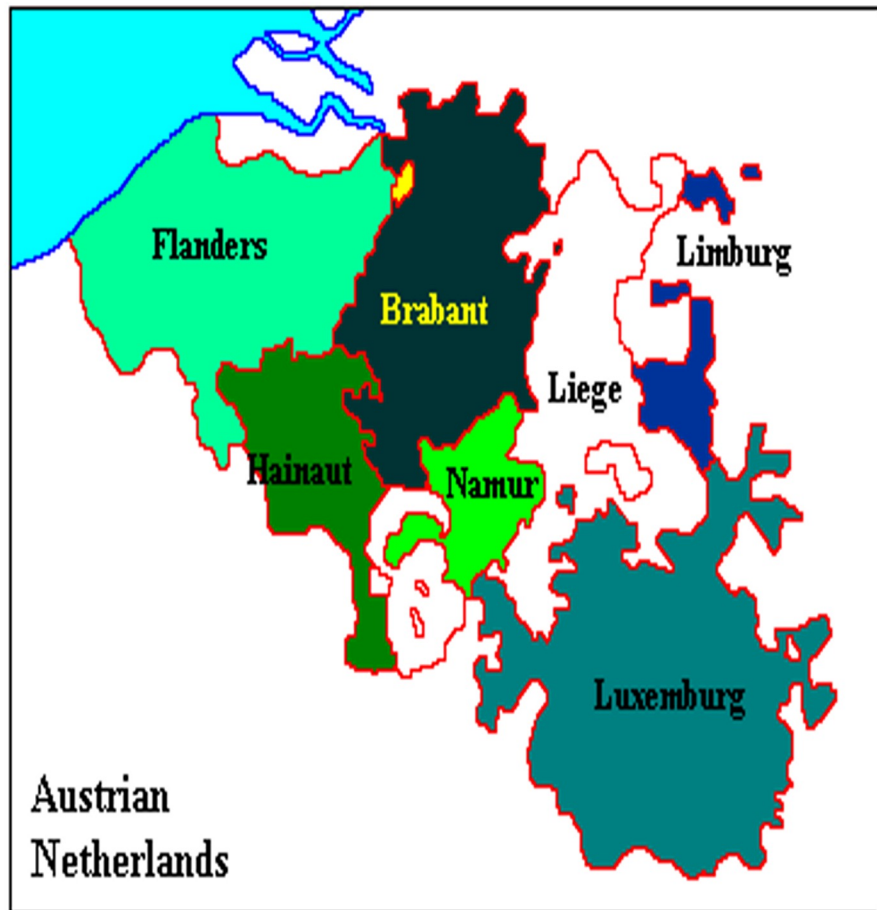
- Congress of Vienna-Territorial adjustments-Impacted German nationalism
 - i. Acquisition of Rhine lands by Prussia
 - ii. Austria abandoned outposts-west (Austrian Netherlands)in exchange 4 Italian possessions-neglected German affairs
- Austria-finally expelled



2 The unification of Germany, 1815-71

- Prussia in 1815
- acquired by Prussia 1815-66
- boundary of German Confederation of 1815
- boundary of North German Confederation 1866
- Imperial territory of Alsace-Lorraine 1871
- boundary of German Empire 1871
- Austro-Prussian forces attack Denmark 1864
- Prussian armies in the war with Austria 1866
- German armies in the Franco-Prussian war 1870-71

Austrian Netherlands

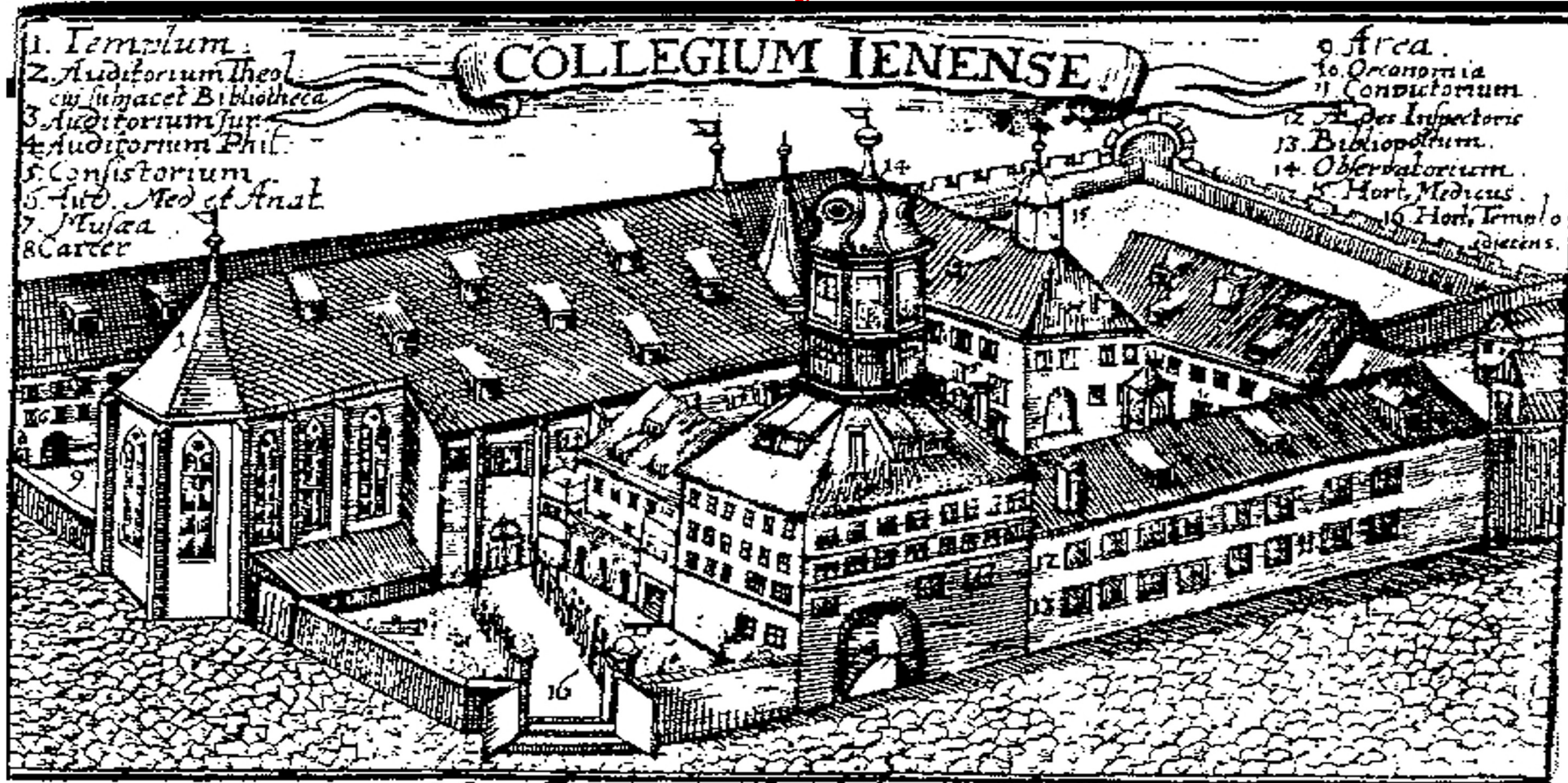


Italian Possessions (Austria)



- **Impact of the Policy of reaction on German Nationalism & Carlsbad Decrees (1819)**
 - Congress of Vienna-crushed hopes of liberals
 - Underground-Universities of Germany
 - Jena-secret societies; 2 yrs-16 universities
 - Metternich symbols of revolutionary unrest

University of Jena



❑ Carlsbad Decrees-1819

- Metternich-Frederic Williams (Prussia), etc-Carlsbad
- Resolutions-Carlsbad-approved by Federal Diet

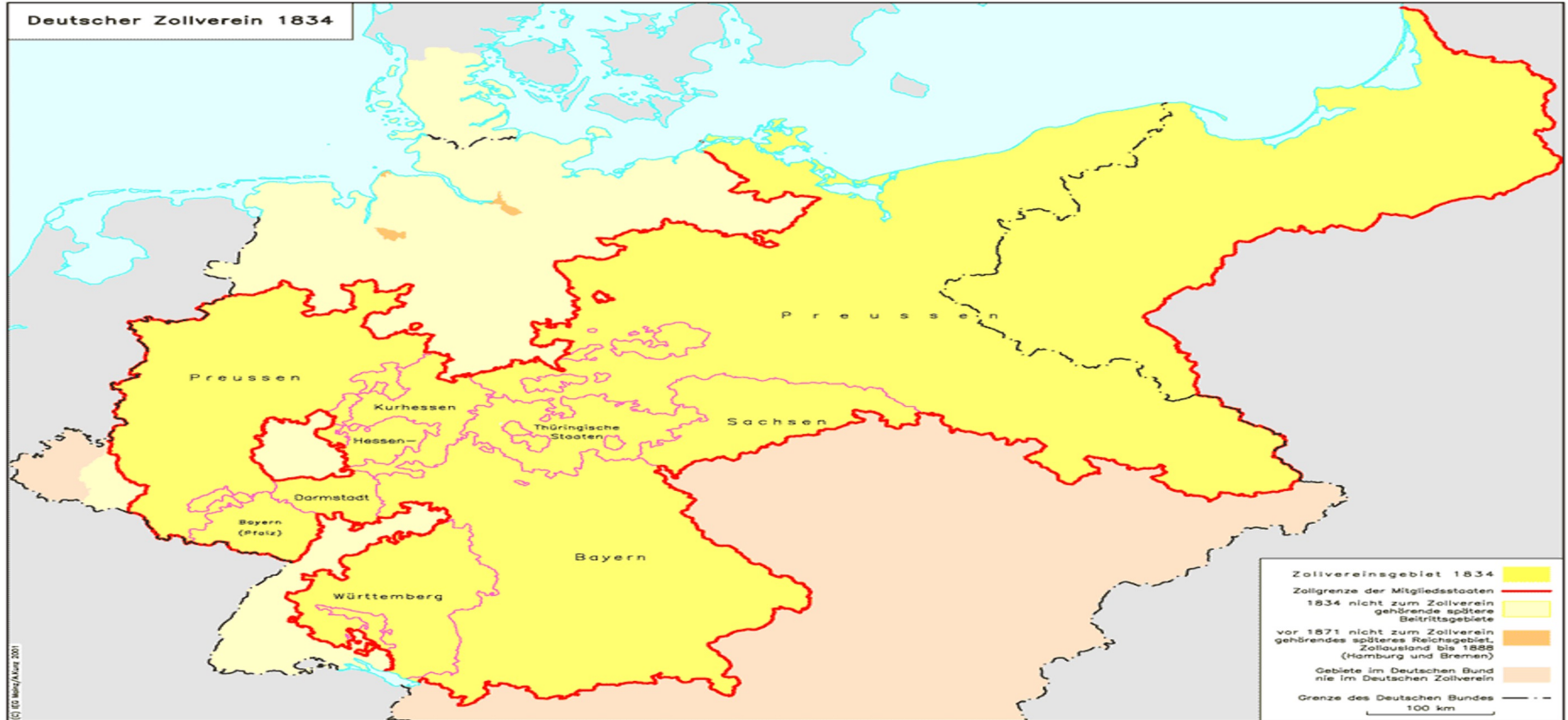
- i. Press put under strict censorship
- ii. Uni's-govt control
- iii. Teachers, students-dismissed
- iv. Secret/unauthorised societies-public offices

- German Nationalism -checked-Metternich
- **Württemberg**-liberal reform-German Nsm aggressive/assertive.

Carlsbad Decrees-1819



4. 'Zollverein' or Commercial Union-Its impact on German Nationalism



- 1818-Prussia-67 tariff zones
- **1818: Tariff Reform Law**
 - i. Internal customs abolished
 - ii. Heavy transit duties on goods imposed-compel
- Prussia-Free Trade Area
- Internal trade>, revenue>
- **1837**:Most German states joined
- **Main terms of entry** into the Zollverein-

- i. Compete Free Trade state-state
- ii. Uniform tariff-frontiers
- iii. Net proceeds-proportion = population
 - Metternich-ignored Zollverein
 - Prussia-leader of German states
 - Economic interdependence-material lever for unification

“For the first time, Germany became a fiscal and commercial unit. The Zollverein united the German states in bonds of mutual economic interest; it united them under the leadership of Prussia and it accustomed them to the exclusion of Austria from the German body”.

5. July Revolution (France) of 1830- Its Impact on German Nationalism

- Louis XVIII-Charles X-**Louis Philippe** (July)

- German States

N-Brunswick, Hanover, Saxony, Hesse-liberal

S-Bavaria, Württemberg-Confirmed



6. Romanticism (1840-48)-Its impact on German Nationalism

- **Romanticism** is the artistic **movement** of the 18th and 19th centuries which was concerned with the **expression of the individual's feelings and emotions**.
- Fostered-Spirit of faith, reverence, veneration
- **Goethe, Kant, Hegel, Beethoven**
- German unity, Teutonic race
- **Fichte, Hegel: Pan Germanism**

Goethe



Immanuel Kant



Hegel



Fichte



Beethoven



7. February Revolution(France) of 1848-Its impact on German Nationalism

- Louis XVIII-Charles X-Louis Philippe-**Louis Bonaparte**
- New Constitution-**Baden,Nassau,Hesse-Cassel**
- **Frederick William IV**(1840-61)-**Prussia**
 - i. Leader of German nationalist movement
 - ii. Forced-Liberal Constitution
 - iii. National Parliament to frame a Constitution

- **1848:Frankfurt Parliament-Constitution**
 - i. Single Hereditary Emperor-Germany
 - ii. Legislature-2 Houses
- Frederick refused crown -conservative,fear Austria
- Proposed union of purely German states-**Erfurt** (President)-Austria excluded
- **1850:Convention of Olmutz**
- Austria revived-old German Confederation of 1815-postponed plan of German unity

❑ Change in the Character and Course of the German National Movement

○ 1848-49:repeated failures-lessons

- i. Unity by Constitutional means impossible
- ii. As long as Austria strong-Unification of Germany impossible
- iii. Austria can be thrown out-Germany had stronger force-
Prussia

- **King Wilhelm I** (1861-88), brother of King Frederick Wilhelm IV was responsible for creating a strong army for Prussia.
- Opposed-Liberals & Prussian **Landtag (Parliament)**-stood for constitutional reforms
- Recalled Bismarck from France (Ambassador)
- Bismarck-**Minister President** in 1862.

Wilhelm I-King of Prussia



Otto von Bismarck
(The Iron Chancellor)



“ I will rather perish with the king than forsake your Majesty in the contest with the parliamentary government”

“ Not by speeches and resolutions of the majorities are the great questions of the day to be decided, but by **blood and iron**”

Otto von Bismarck

- i. Re-organised Prussian army
 - ii. Prepared to oust Landtag-refused to sanction financial assistance
 - iii. Improved agriculture, trade & industry
- ☐ Turned attention towards-

1. Denmark

2. Austria &

3. France

Possessed substantial German territories



1) Annexation of Schleswig-Holstein (Denmark)

(Prussia-Danish War & Treaty of Vienna-1864)

- 2 Duchies-Denmark
 - **Schleswig**: German and Danes
 - **Holstein**: German in blood (Germanic Confederation of 1815)
 - Denmark had forcibly occupied it.
 - **Diplomatic isolation of Denmark-**
 - a. **England, France, Russia-Neutral**
 - b. Agreement with **Austria** to take **joint action** against Denmark
- Austria-Spoil
- Bismarck-Opportunity to pick up quarrel

- **1864: Prussia-Danish War**

- **Prussia (Austria) X Denmark**

- Denmark defeated-**Treaty of Vienna, 1864**
 - Denmark surrendered Duchies

Question division of spoils with Austria

- Temporary Compromise:
 - a. **Austria-Holstein**
 - b. **Prussia-Schleswig**
 - c. Question of duchies-German Diet

2) Austro-Prussian War-Battle of Sadowa & Treaty of Prague-1866

- Austria-precarious position of Holstein
 - Austria-started anti-Prussian propaganda & Diet
 - **Diplomatic isolation of Austria**
 - a. **France**-Napoleon III-Rhine or Belgium
 - b. **Italy**-Venetia
 - c. **Russia**-Polish Revolt, 1863
- Neutral

Bismarck

- a. Convinced king-war with Austria
- b. Provoked Austria-troops into Holstein, Austrians expelled
- c. Tried to eliminate Austria from Germanic Confederation
 - Austria mobilized troops-Bismarck declared war
 - **1866:Austro-Prussian War (Seven Weeks War)**
Battle of Sadowa-Austria defeated

1866: Treaty of Prague

- i. Austria-expelled from German states; agreed to recognize any reconstruction of Germany to be made by Prussia
 - ii. Germanic Confederation-dissolved
 - iii. Italy-Venetia, Prussia-Holstein
- North German Confederation** (new organisation of German states on the basis of Prussian supremacy)
- i. **Schleswig** & holstein hostile northern states (Hanover, Nassau etc) annexed

- ii. All states located to north of R.Maine-Confederation (North German Confederation) President-Prussian king
- iii. Southern states-left free
 - Thus, Germany partially united
 - A. Austrian expulsion-Prussia supreme in Europe-hegemony
 - B. Italy-Venetia from Austria (one step-unification)
 - C. Success of Prussian army-shattering blow to Liberals-Militarism justified by success

3) Franco-Prussian War (1870-71)-Battle of Sedan & Treaty of Frankfurt (1871)

- **Southern German States**-Conciliation, compromise; Financial, military assistance; Did not interfere in internal affairs

“War with France lay in the logic of history”-**Bismarck**



- Diplomatic isolation of France

- a. Austria-lenient, moderation

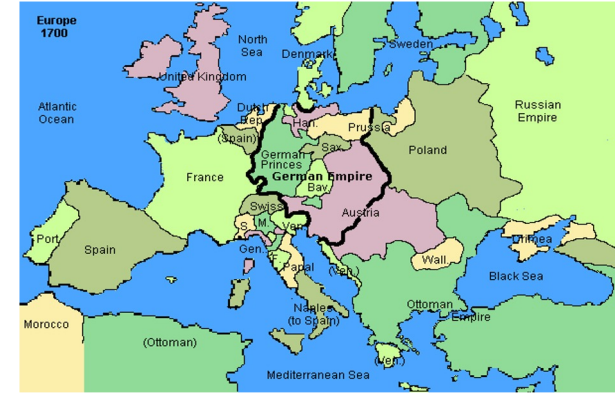
- b. Russia-Crimean War

- c. Italy-Rome

Neutral

- Napoleon III(France)-Austria would defeat Prussia-
diplomatic setback
- He demanded territorial concessions from Prussia for help
rendered in the Austro-Prussian war-Bismarck turned down

- French-revenge, Prussia-complete Unifn
- **Pretext-Spain**
- **1868**: Bourbon queen Isabella expelled
- Throne-**Prince Leopold** (Prussian descent)-twice
- France-Sandwiched Spain and Prussia-endangered
- Napoleon III-Assurance-Prussian king-Non renewal
- **Benedetti** (French Ambassador)-**Wilhelm I** (Prussian King)-**Ems Spa**



- Prussian king-Telegram-Bismarck (**Ems Dispatch**)
- **1871:Franco-Prussian War**
- **Battle of Sedan-France defeated**, Napoleon III abdicated
- During war-Bismarck treaties with Southern States
- **1871:Treaty of Frankfurt**
- Hall of Mirrors, Versailles-**Wilhelm I**-King of Prussia-
Emperor of Germany

Hall of Mirrors, Versailles Palace



□ Importance of Franco-Prussian War

- i. Completion of Unification of Germany, Creation **German Empire-WW II**
- ii. Paved way for completion of Italy-**VE II**-Rome-Capital of Italian empire
- iii. Creation-**Third Republic in France**
- iv. **Russia**-tore up clauses of **Paris treaty**-Crimean war,estd Black Sea,Sevastopol
- v. Stood for **new war machine** supported by **Industrialization**
- vi. Gave sanction to modern diplomacy-**End justifies Means**

The German Empire, 1871 - 1918



