

Historical Committee

The Crimean War 1852

The Russian Empire

Ever since the end of the Napoleonic Wars, European nations have worked diligently towards maintaining the balance of power in Europe in order to ensure peace and stability. The Congress of Vienna stipulated periodic meetings between nations, and for years, this system has worked well for the continent. However, in recent times, the European people have been swept by a plague of anarchy and rebellion, rejecting the monarchic structure necessary to maintain order in this world. While the Great Powers have not succumbed, these demands are still worrying and require a proper and coordinated response from all nations.

As per the Congress of Vienna, Russia has pledged to do its part in maintaining peace and stability in Europe. His Imperial Highness Tsar Nicholas I has effectively utilized Russian military might in order to prevent the dangerous spirit of anarchy from spreading throughout Europe, such as by sending aid to deal with the uprisings that occurred in Hungary and Egypt. His Eminence is deeply invested in maintaining the current sociopolitical status quo, including the Concert of Europe and the Vienna System. The Russian Empire also prides itself as the protector of Orthodoxy and Christianity and has historically participated in agreements such as the Holy Alliance along with Austria and Prussia. Russia avoids conflict when it can, however, when the welfare of Christian brethren is at stake, Russia will send aid. As in the Greek Revolution, the late and great Alexander, Emperor of Russia, avoided intervening in the conflict as much as possible. However, when the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire called for the execution of innocent Christians, such as the octogenarian Patriarch Gregorious, and encouraged Muslim mobs to murder thousands of Christians and burn their churches, Russia knew intervention was

necessary. Even so, it gave the Ottoman Empire a chance to avoid bloodshed through mediation, a chance the Ottomans, unfortunately, threw away. Despite this, His Excellency Tsar Nicholas I is willing to collaborate with the Ottoman Empire, and the Great Powers of Europe, in order to maintain the Concert of Europe against the scourge of anarchy and despotism.

While the Russian Empire rejects France's claims to sole control over the Holy Places and role as the sole protector of the Christian minorities in the Ottoman Empire, it would be open to a joint Franco-Russian protectorate, perhaps in Constantinople, which could guard Christian rights. Russia also advocates for maintaining and guarding the Vienna System, which has undergone difficulties in recent times in face of a new wave of degenerate anarchic fervor that has swept Europe. This scourge must be addressed if the stability of Europe shall be maintained, and Russia advocates for adopting common policy amongst nations that would counter it and serve as a barrier against rebellion. For example, not only agreeing to unite to crush this dangerous spirit, but also agreeing to a shared network of information that would allow Europe to find and suppress the growth of any revolutionary movements. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link, and a multilateral support network would allow governments to prevent rebellions such as those of 1848 from ever reaching such a height and preventing countries from abiding by the Vienna System. Russia believes such an approach is more sustainable than sending troops whenever a new rebellion occurs, as the seeds for the rebellion were likely planted a long time ago. Additionally, an increase in free trade between countries will boost economic growth and subsequently provide a better standard of living for the common people, who will then also be less likely to rebel. Taking these steps will help ensure stability in Europe, for now, and for the coming generations.

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