

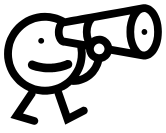
Nationalism & the Monroe Doctrine

A strong spirit of nationalism influenced U.S. foreign policy after the War of 1812. Agreements with Britain and Spain settled some border questions and allowed the United States to take over the rest of Florida. Nevertheless, U.S. leaders were unhappy about Russian claims along the Pacific coast of North America. They also worried that European monarchies might try to regain control of newly independent nations in Latin America. The Monroe Doctrine of 1823 was issued with these concerns in mind.

Adapted Passage from the Monroe Doctrine

At this moment, friendly talks between U.S. and Russian diplomats are taking place. They deal with the rights and interests of both nations in the Northwest of this continent. We wish to point out that the American continents are no longer to be considered places for future colonies of any European power. In the wars among the European powers we have never taken any part. Nor is it our plan to do so. The political system of the Quadruple Alliance is essentially different from that of America. We should consider any attempt on the part of those powers to extend to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. We shall not interfere with existing European colonies in our Hemisphere. But with Latin American governments that have declared their independence and maintained it, we cannot allow any interference to go unchecked.

1. _____ Monroe was concerned about European influence:
 - a. in both North and South America
 - b. only in Latin America
 - c. only in South America
 - d. only in North America
2. _____ According to the Doctrine, the United States wanted to:
 - a. prevent any new European colonies from being established in the Western Hemisphere
 - b. prevent any new European colonies from being established anywhere in the world
 - c. change the types of governments in Europe
 - d. none of the above
3. _____ Regarding existing colonies in North and South America, Monroe said that the U.S.:
 - a. would not interfere
 - b. wanted them to adopt a democratic form of government
 - c. wanted them removed
 - d. had no policy
4. _____ Monroe said that the United States:
 - a. planned to take sides in the wars of European powers
 - b. wanted to join the Quadruple Alliance
 - c. would not set up its own colonies in the Western Hemisphere
 - d. would view European interference in the Americas as a threat to U.S. safety



A Closer Look at the Monroe Doctrine



NO FUTURE COLONIES

Monroe declares that European countries may NOT start any new colonies in the Americas.

1. Why might it threaten the United States to have new European colonies near them?

NEUTRALITY TOWARD EUROPE

Monroe says that the United States will NOT take sides in European wars.

2. Why might the United States want to remain NEUTRAL toward conflicts in Europe?

A DIFFERENT SYSTEM

Monroe states that the United States will defend its republican form of government and would be threatened if Europeans set up monarchies in the Americas.

3. Why would United States citizens want their government to be a republic and not an absolute monarchy?

NO INTERFERENCE

Monroe warns that if Europeans invade the newly independent republics of Latin America, this would be considered hostile to the safety and well-being of the United States.

4. What would the United States have to fear if these republics were overthrown?

1823: THE MONROE DOCTRINE was the ultimate expression of nationalism.

In 1821 the U.S. gladly recognized the recently won independence of Spain's Latin American colonies and, along with Britain, welcomed trade with them.

Meanwhile, Europe's monarchical nations—France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia—planned to help Spain's king regain the colonies, lest the revolutionary spirit spread.

In 1823 Britain, fearful that trade would be disrupted, proposed a joint British-U.S. statement warning Europe against interfering with Latin American independence. The U.S., wanting no entangling alliance with Britain, decided to issue an independent warning.

President James Monroe boldly proclaimed the western hemisphere closed to European colonization. If Europe observed this, the U.S. would not intervene in Europe's affairs.

