Political ideas and major events shape how people form governments. The wave of nationalism in Congress and among the American people influenced the nation’s foreign affairs.
Relations with European Powers

- Main idea: After the War of 1812, a new spirit of nationalism took hold in American society.
  - New sense of pride and faith
  - New President James Monroe was hopeful and optimistic
Era of Good Feelings

- National unity and lack of bipartisanship gave way to era of good feelings, as labeled by Boston newspaper
- Old fashioned president, James Monroe, represented the newly united America
  - He toured country, paying his own ways
  - People very supportive of him/America
  - Americans began to see themselves as equal and superior to Britain
  - But needed people to be peaceful with Britain in order to establish relation with “Old World”
Relations with Britain

- President Monroe and secretary of state **John Quincy Adams** wanted to end disputes with Britain.
- **Rush-Bagot Treaty** set limits on number of naval vessels on the Great Lakes and created a disarmament on the border between US and British Canada.
Setting a Northern Boundary

- Worked with Britain to set American-Canadian boundary farther west
- Convention of 1818 set the boundary of the Louisiana Territory at the 49th parallel
  - Secured a demilitarized zone/border
- Adams efforts also gained American rights to settle in Oregon territory (from CA to Alaska)
Oregon

- Britain, Spain, Russia, and US claimed land for their own but Russia and Britain gave up their claims
  - Britain and US based claims on explorers and fur trappers
- Convention of 1818: US and Britain decided to occupy it together peacefully
  - More and more Americans moved into Oregon territory
- In Treaty of 1846, decided to divide territory based on 49th Parallel
Relations with Spain

• Spain owned East and West Florida, but the US thought that West Florida was theirs based on the Louisiana Purchase.

• In 1810 and 1812, US added parts of Florida to Mississippi and Louisiana.

• General Andrew Jackson seized control of two Spanish forts in order to stop Seminole raids on American territory…but went past his orders.
Adams-Onis Treaty

- Luis de Onis (Spanish minister to US) wanted Jackson to be punished for his actions. Sec. of War John Calhoun thought Jackson should be court-martialed but Sec. of State John Quincy Adams disagreed.
  - Spanish decided not to pursue war due to strong US military.
- Spain signed Adams-Onis Treaty in 1819 giving East Florida to US while abandoning West Florida.
- Agreed on border in the West, US gave up claims to Spanish Texas and paid them $5 million for damages.
- This new Western border gave the US rights to the Oregon territory.
The Struggle for the Frontier Lands

- Hard to keep Americans out of Spanish territories especially when Mexico gained its independence in 1821
- Spain handed over not just land but the Spaniards and Native Americans who lived there
Why did Mexico Change Its Policy?

- Mexican government decided to welcome Americans onto their land to increase trade and hoped their population would boost economy
- …but these new visitors stayed decidedly American and were resistant to Mexican laws despite technically living in Mexico AND more and more Americans thought it was their right to continue American expansion
Conflict with Mexico

- US tried to buy territory from Mexico but Mexicans refused.
- Things became worse when Americans in Texas revolted against Mexican rule and border disputes arose.
- Texas became independent in 1836 and then became a state in 1845, making the situation with Mexico worse.
- US soon went to war with Mexico; US won and in 1848 a peace treaty was achieved and gave US CA, NM, AZ etc.
1. Why was it in the best interests of the United States to have good relations with European powers?
2. What does disarmament mean?
3. Why was Andrew Jackson’s action considered by some to be unlawful?
The US and Latin America

Main idea: In 1823 the United States proclaimed its dominant role in the Americas with the Monroe Doctrine.

- New policies pursued with Spain/Portuguese in Latin America
Latin America

- Latin America = land owned by Mexico, Spain & Portugal
- Before Mexican independence, Spain controlled some of current US territory, all of Central America, and all of South America except for Brazil (ruled by Portuguese)
Mexico

- **Miguel Hidalgo** (priest) led rebellion against Spanish in 1810, calling for racial equality/redistribution of land
  - Captured/executed but Mexico gained independence 1821
- Mexico gained control of frontier lands with claims to Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, California, some of Colorado, and parts of Wyoming, Kansas, and Oklahoma.
Bolivar & San Martin

- Inspired by US example...
- **Simon Bolivar** = Liberator, led movement toward freedom for Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Bolivia, and Ecuador
- **Jose de San Martin** achieved independence for Chile and Peru
  - Most of South America was liberated from Spain
- Brazil achieved independence from Portugal in 1822
  - US looked forward to increased trade, supported colonies who sought freedom
The Monroe Doctrine

- **Quadruple Alliance** of France, Austria, Russia and Prussia worked together to help Spain regain territories in Americas.
- President Monroe declared in 1823 that the American continents were “not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers”
  - Any foreign expeditions into the Western Hemisphere would be considered a threat.
  - Didn’t want ANY interference in US affairs, at home/abroad.
  - “By keeping the European powers out of the Americas, the Monroe doctrine upheld Washington’s policy of avoiding entangling alliances in European power struggles.”
The Monroe Doctrine

• Any foreign expeditions into the Western Hemisphere would be considered a threat
• Didn’t want ANY interference in US affairs, at home and abroad
• “By keeping the European powers out of the Americas, the Monroe doctrine upheld Washington’s policy of avoiding entangling alliances in European power struggles”
1. How did the Monroe Doctrine reflect the wave of nationalism that followed the War of 1812?
2. Why did America support the Latin American countries in their fight for independence?
3. What were the provisions of the Monroe Doctrine?
4. Why do you think the United States wanted dominance over most of the territories in North America?