

## Introduction to Unit 7 / Chapter 11

Europe is in the midst of a **POLITICAL** revolution

1. Building on the trends of other “revolutionary” periods from the Renaissance, the reformation, the rise of modern nation-states, and the scientific and political enlightenment: mid 1500s -> 1815
2. This political revolution culminated in the French Revolution and Napoleon
3. The results of all of this included:
  - a. The emergence of “free” political institutions
  - b. The use of constitutions
  - c. The demise of feudalism
  - d. The rise of nationalism
  - e. A greater sense of political and cultural opportunities

Europe is in the midst of an **ECONOMIC** revolution

1. Trends emerging from the agricultural revolution in the 1500 and 1600s
2. Trends developing from the formation of “cottage” industries / textiles
3. This economic revolution culminated in the Industrial revolution building from earlier ideas of commercial capitalism, entrepreneurial-ship, and the emerging global trade economy: mid 1500s -> 1815
4. The results of all of this included:
  - a. The emergence of “free” economic institutions
  - b. The economic, political, social, and philosophical trends associated with free-market laissez-faire capitalism and the rise of the truly modern middle class

All of the above, in its all-inclusive complexity, is what the nations, peoples, and leaders of Europe will have to deal with following the end of Napoleon. Quite a daunting, if not impossible task.