

The Congress of Vienna and its Global Dimension: International Bicentenary Conference

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Small State, Big Conference: Liechtenstein's Sovereignty and the Congress of Vienna

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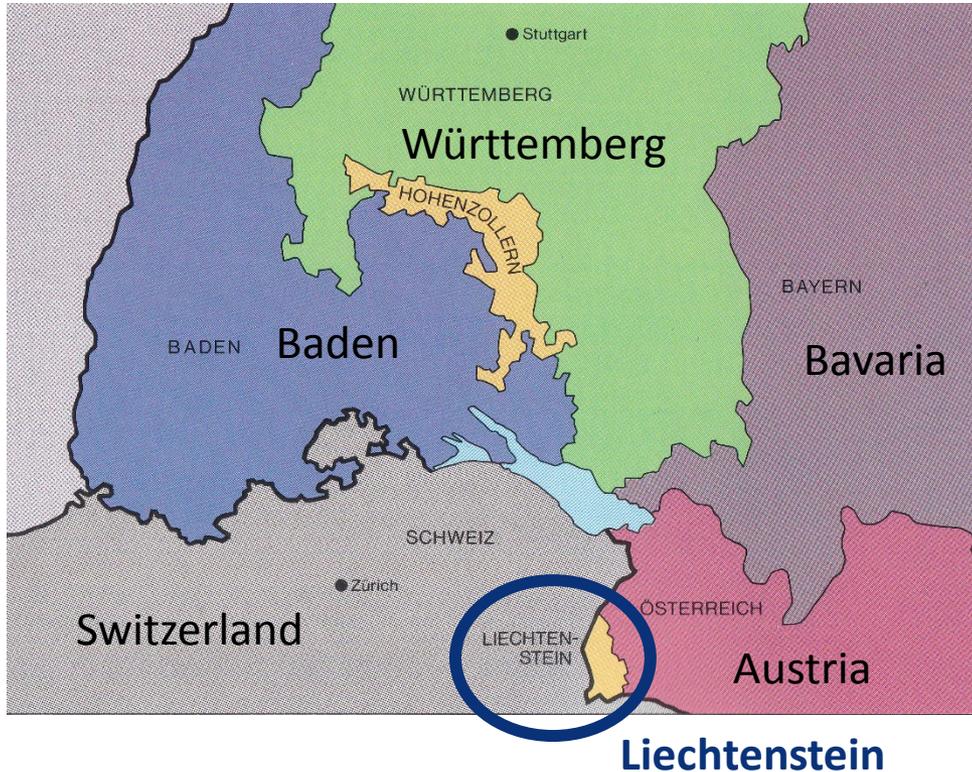


Outline

- I The genesis of Liechtenstein's sovereignty and the role of the Congress of Vienna**
- II The development of Liechtenstein's foreign policy in the 19th and 20th century**
- III Liechtenstein's strategies to safeguard sovereignty**



Geography and History



Principality of Liechtenstein

- 160 km² (61.8 mile²)
- 6'100 inhabitants (1815)
- 1719 Foundation
- 1806 Sovereignty
- 1990 United Nations membership

South Western Germany 1815

Source: Vogt, Paul: Brücken zur Vergangenheit, Vaduz 1990, p. 126



I Liechtenstein's Sovereignty 1806

After the Battle of Austerlitz, 1805

Meeting of Napoleon and Emperor Franz II / I of Austria
in the presence of Prince Johann I von Liechtenstein



Painting by
Antoine-Jean Gros

Source: <http://fr-peint.blogspot.com>

I Multilateral Activities

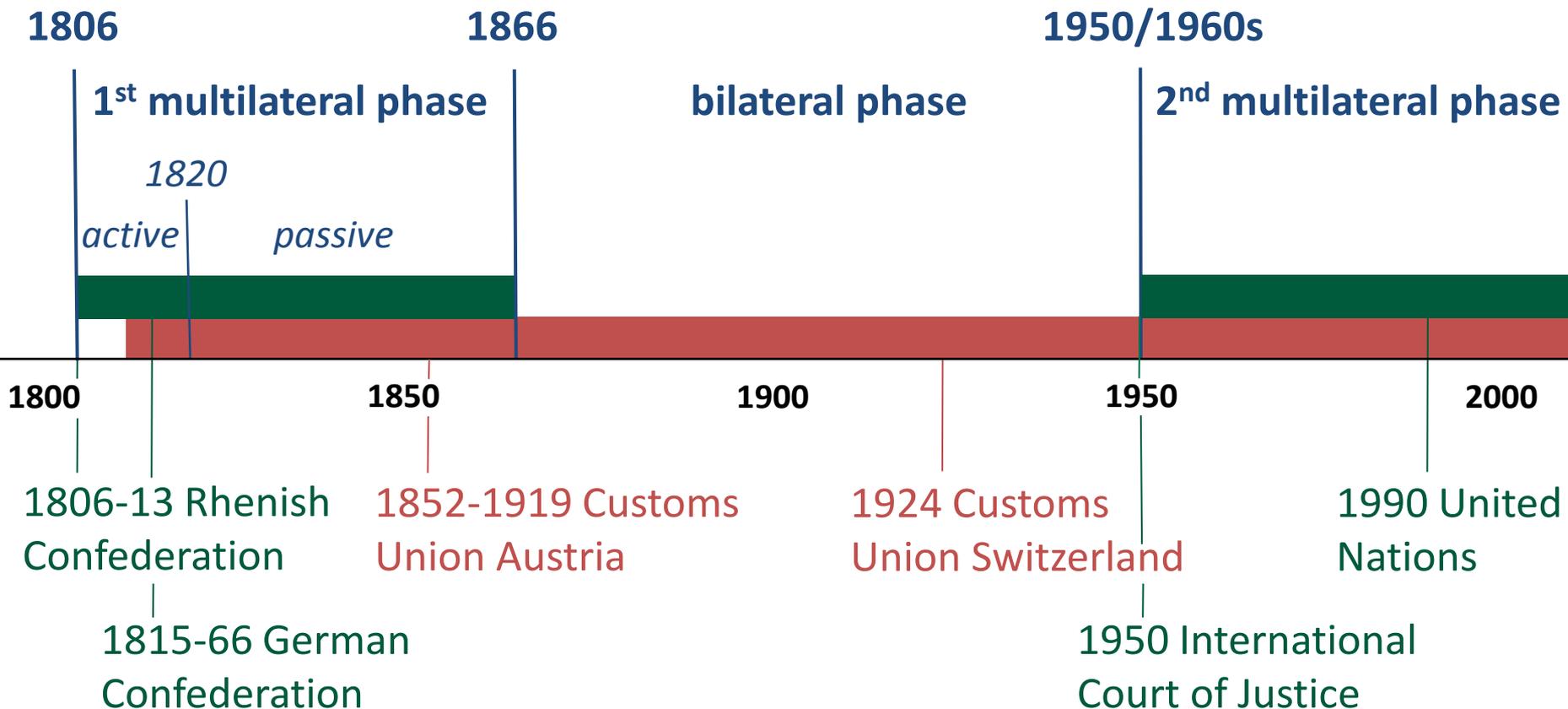
1806 – 1820

1806	Confederation of the Rhine
1813	Accession Treaties (anti-Napoleonic alliance) Frankfurt Agreement on War Costs
1814/15	Congress of Vienna
1815, Feb.	Envoy's accreditation
April	Accession Treaty (anti-Napoleonic alliance)
May/June	Second German Conferences
June	German Confederation (Federal Act)
Summer	Curia-treaty of the Federative Diet's 16 th Curia
Oct.	Final Act of the Congress of Vienna
1817	Holy Alliance
1820	Final Act of Vienna



II Foreign Policy-Phases 1806 onwards

 multilateral relations
 bilateral relations



II Multilateral Activities (selection)

1950 onwards

- 1950** **International Court of Justice**
- 1962 Universal Postal Union (UPU)
- 1963 International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- 1964 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad)
- 1972** **Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE)**
- 1978 Council of Europe
- 1990** **United Nations (UN)**
- 1991 European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
- 1995 European Economic Area (EEA)
- 1995 World Trade Organisation (WTO)



III The Challenge of Smallness

Small capabilities:

- Absence of military, political and economic power
- Small financial, personal, intellectual and infrastructural resources



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Hypothesis: Small states' sovereignty strategies show high stability over time



III How to be small and sovereign:

Strategies and Factors of Small State Sovereignty

External strategies:

- Reduction of bilateral dependence, strengthening of multilateralism
- Use of symbolic politics
- Adherence to international law
- Outsourcing / Burden sharing
- Limitation of goals and activities



III How to be small and sovereign:

Strategies and Factors of Small State Sovereignty

Ambiguous and exogenous factors:

- Neutrality
- Geopolitical situation
- Fortune

Domestic factors:

- Strong will to maintain statehood
- Democratisation
- Nationalisation



**Thank you
for your attention!**

