

Nationalism and Sectionalism

Lesson 2

The Rise of Nationalism

Key Terms and People

McCulloch v. Maryland Supreme Court case that denied Maryland the right to tax the Bank of the United States

John Quincy Adams Sixth president of the United States

nationalism The belief that national interests as a whole should be more important than what one region wants or the interests of other countries

Adams-Onís Treaty Treaty that secured the purchase of Florida from Spain

Monroe Doctrine Warning to European nations not to interfere in the Americas

Missouri Compromise Agreement that temporarily settled the issue of slavery in the territories

Before You Read

In the last lesson you read about the two distinct economies that developed in the country. In this lesson you will learn about the growth of nationalism in the United States.

As You Read

Use a chart to take notes on the policies that relate to nationalism.

THE SUPREME COURT BOOSTS NATIONAL POWER

Who strengthened the power of the federal government?

As the states were strengthening their economies, the federal government was increasing its power.

Two significant Supreme Court decisions paved the way by issuing rulings that supported the federal government over the state governments. In 1819 the Supreme Court ruled in *McCulloch v. Maryland* that states cannot pass laws that end up overturning laws passed by Congress. In 1824 the Supreme Court ruled in *Gibbons v. Ogden* that Congress—not the states—had the power to regulate interstate trade.

1. In what ways did the Supreme Court boost federal power?

NATIONALISM SHAPES FOREIGN POLICY

What is nationalism?

Secretary of State **John Quincy Adams** established a foreign policy that was based on **nationalism**. This is a belief that national interests as a whole should be more important than what one region wants. Adams believed that foreign affairs should be guided by this national interest.

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In 1817 Adams worked out a treaty with Great Britain that reduced the number of both countries' navy ships on the Great Lakes. The United States and Great Britain also agreed to settle boundary disputes in North America.

Two years later, Adams turned his attention to Florida. By this time, most Americans assumed that Spanish Florida eventually would become part of the United States. As a result, settlers had begun moving there. Adams convinced the Spanish minister to the United States that Spain should give up Florida before impatient Americans simply seized it. Spain responded by handing over Florida to the United States in the **Adams-Onís Treaty**. Under the terms of the treaty, Spain also gave up any claims it had to the Oregon Territory.

While the United States worked for peaceful relations with foreign nations, it also warned them against interfering with affairs in the Western Hemisphere. Spain and Portugal, for example, wanted to regain control of their former Latin American colonies. In addition, Russia tried to claim more land on the West Coast of North America.

In 1823 President James Monroe warned European nations not to interfere with any nation in the Americas. In return, the United States would stay out of European affairs. This statement is called the **Monroe Doctrine**.

2. What was the purpose of the Monroe Doctrine?

NATIONALISM PUSHES AMERICA WEST

What was the Missouri Compromise?

As the country dealt with important foreign issues, Americans continued to move West. Some settlers, such as Jim Beckwourth, established a fur trade. Many settlers moved West for the plentiful land.

As a growing number of Americans settled there, the West became more populated. Some territories were ready to become states, but the issue of slavery made it difficult. To appease both the North and the South, Congress tried to keep an even number of slave and free states, or states where slavery was prohibited.

In 1819 Missouri asked to enter the Union. The nation consisted of 11 free states and ten slave states. Southerners expected Missouri to become the 11th slave state. However, the House of Representatives passed a statehood bill that would allow Missouri to gradually free its slaves. Southerners saw this as a threat to their power. As a result, they blocked the bill's passage in the Senate.

The debate over Missouri grew more intense after Alabama was admitted as a slave state. This meant that Missouri's admittance would tip the scales in favor of either the free or slave states. A crisis was averted when Henry Clay crafted a series of agreements known as the **Missouri Compromise**. Under the compromise, Maine was admitted as a free state and Missouri as a slave state. This preserved the balance between slave and free states. In addition, the rest of the Louisiana Purchase was divided into free and slave territories. South of the dividing line, slavery was legal. North of the line, slavery was banned.

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3. How did the Missouri Compromise help settle the issue of slavery in the western territories?

Answer questions about the policies or acts that relate to nationalism in the chart below.

	What ideas did the measure contain?	How did it promote nationalism?
1. <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> decision		
2. The Adams-Onís Treaty		
3. The Monroe Doctrine		
4. The Missouri Compromise		