

The English - French Relations 1688-1689

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Abstract

After 1688, the English-French relations witnessed a deterioration because the venerable revolution had exiled King James II to France and the throne was taken over by King William III. This led to a deterioration in relations between the two parties, as well as the invasion of the French King Louis XIV of the German Platinum State in September 1688 and the outbreak of the Nine Years' War in Europe as a consequence. In addition, England declared war on France in May 1688 and the great alliance of a number of European countries was formed in order to counter the French expansion in Europe. Also, the English Church's support for the idea of war against France through the publication of sermons and sermons by the Anglican clergy that were supporting the King's project William III to address French expansion, as well as the Netherlands to stand by England in the war. This is because the Dutch Republic was in a permanent conflict with France to defend its natural borders against the expansionist aspirations of the French King Louis XIV.

Keywords: King William III, The Great Alliance 1689, Treaty of August 1689, King Louis XIV, Just War Theory.

INTRODUCTION

After the end of the Thirty Years' War with the Peace of Westphalia in 1648, and the exit of France as a strong country, King Louis XIV was able to expand his possessions. Yet, despite the expansion of his kingdom, France remained unstable due to the aggression and violence that followed, and the indisputable features in the years following the peace Nijmegen in 1678 which ended the Franco-Dutch War. France had pursued its political goals through military force. Also, King Louis XIV's decided to cross the Rhine River towards the German states on September 27, 1688 which was the real date of the outbreak of the Nine Years' War in Europe. Still, King Louis faced the fourteenth after that is a force aimed at limiting its ambitions in annexing the German Platinum State and expanding towards the duchies and states bordering France, which is England, which declared war on France on

May 7, 1689, and then formed the Great Alliance on May 12, 1689 to confront France's expansionist ambitions. The main issue was behind the war is to impose a balance of power between the two dynasties of the Bourbons and the Habsburgs, vying for European supremacy. The research was divided into two sections, the first dealt with English-French politics in Europe 1688-1689, while the second dealt with the religious factor and its impact on English-French relations 1688-1689.

The first topic: English-French politics in Europe 1688-1689.

After France's attack on the Palatine State on September 27, 1688 and the conquest of William of Orange (1650-1702/1672-1702) He was born on November 4, 1650, the son of William II, the chief prince of the Orange family, whose influence included all the Dutch

provinces. He married Mary, daughter of James II in 1677 in a political marriage. He arrived in England on November 5 1688, in an important revolution in English and European history called the Great Revolution. He was proclaimed king of England in 1689 jointly with his wife Mary II. After his wife's death in 1694, he was singled out on the throne and remained in power until his death on March 8, 1702.(Ryan, 1836) of England, England deployed most of its land military forces in the main theater of war in Europe and its naval forces in the Mediterranean, the Atlantic and the Caribbean. This made many Englishmen worried that the English islands might be invaded by some force or damage to English trade. So, it is the adventure that no country has undertaken before, except for the Netherlands, which applied this risky strategy(Gentles, 2007).

When England had to provide these land and sea armies by contracting with soldiers from abroad instead of from within, because the English trade abroad was not sufficient to cover the need for food and supplies for the forces in England. So, King William III had informed the English Parliament that its role was not limited to supporting the army to fight France only, but that he had to legislate a law to repay the loan of 600,000 pounds sterling offered by the Netherlands to finance William's invasion of England(Browning, 2002).

There was also a reorganization of the position of the European powers against France in 1688, after the previous twenty years of imbalance in power in favor of France. The Thirty Years' War weakened Austria, after it ended in the Peace of Westphalia, to the decline of its position and influence in the German states. At the same period, some developments of a degree of importance occurred in the western outskirts of Europe, as the great revolution in England in 1688 contributed to the position of the king William III on the English throne, and because this is enough to return England to the European equation(Sheehan, 2004).

When the ascension of William III occurred, the throne of England had experience and knowledge of politics in the European

continent, because King William III was a politician and ruled on the Dutch throne, as he had a high military reputation, and all this made him a confident statesman who was respected by the rulers of Europe. Assuming the throne of England, he must bear the countries he rules, which have capabilities that exceed the capabilities of many European countries, in leading Europe and restoring balance to the continent by standing up to France. Therefore, thanks to his foreign and domestic policy, England developed rapidly and became a country capable of adopting a strong foreign policy aimed at achieving a balance of power. By standing up to France, which must have considered itself the superior power in Europe, he stated, "If the influence of the Habsburg family increases again, then I will be French just as I am Dutch now(Deringer, 2012).The destruction of the Palatine aroused the anger of the European countries against France, and instead of fighting a short war, France faced a great conflict in which all the European powers, led by England, participated.

The French force was few compared to the forces of the large coalition in terms of numbers and equipment, so the leaders of the alliance worked under the direction of King William III to spread them in the form of a ring around the northeastern and eastern borders of France, because King William III was worried that the city of Mons in the Spanish lowlands would be the second target to the French in 1689. So he sent troops from the Spanish and Dutch army to protect it, as he was concerned about the city of Namur, which is located seventy kilometers east of Mons, so he sent other reinforcements to protect it(Waddell, 1992).Louis XIV (1638-1715/1661-1715) was born on September 5, 1638. He was named at birth as (Louis Gift of God) because King Louis XIII remained for twenty-three years without an heir to the throne. Louis the Great, or the Sun King, began to exercise his wisdom directly in 1661 after the death of his Prime Minister Raymond Mazran. He was known for his adherence to the concept of the divine right of kings and thus ruled France with an iron hand and succeeded in calming the internal situation, and during his reign France became

one of the major European powers. He died in 1715

He wanted a strong blow to England while he was busy defending his borders and his gains in German lands and took advantage of the presence of "James II". James II (1633-1701/1685-1688) was born in London on October 14, 1633 in St. James's Palace, the son of King Charles I and Henrietta Maria, daughter of Henry IV of France. When James became an adult, he received the Order of the Lincey in 1642, and was appointed Duke of York on January 22, 1644, and after the death of his brother Charles II, he assumed the English throne on February 8, 1685 and became King of England. The throne was exiled in 1688 to France. He passed away on September 5th in the French lands, he gave him support to go to Ireland with the help of the French forces on March 15, 1689. He began from there the journey to restore his throne from the King William III, as seen by the French king, who equipped James II with what is known as an advisory staff, with an amount of 112,000 pounds sterling, 6 officers of the rank of general, 20 naval captains, 30 lieutenants, 4 engineers, assorted artillery officers, cannons, ammunition and weapons for 20,000 men, 12 saddle horses with a full set and 3 flats, a silver set for his Majesty. He also received another set of scarlet and tents when he's on top of the army, as the French king chose the diplomat (O'Connor, 1977). Count Avaux (1640-1709) is Jean-Antoine de Misis, a French diplomat born in 1640 in Paris, became the most famous French diplomat during the reign of King Louis XIV, and was France's negotiator at the Nijmegen Peace that ended the Franco-Dutch War (1672-1678). He was the ambassador of France to Venice, The Hague, and Stockholm, and famous for accompanying James II on his Irish expedition in 1689, he returned to The Hague again in 1701, when King Louis XIV sent him to the Dutch Republic for the second time, to replace Ambassador Gabriel de Preord, who was ill and remained in the position. He was an ambassador to France until 1702 when the War of the Spanish Succession began. He died in 1709. "Count d'Avaux" to be an advisor to James

II and oversee the interests of France at the same time. Count Avaux was one of the first to hear about William's project about the invasion of England, and he told the French king at the time of the project, but the French king mocked him (Grew & Grew, 1911).

The reason that put the French king to choose Ireland from where James II began his journey and restored the royal title is that the Irish Parliament did not follow the example of the English Parliament by deposing James II from his throne. Yet, rather declared that James II was still the legitimate king of the country, and passed a law stipulating the confiscation of the property of those who rebelled on the King. The Parliament also passed a law on freedom of belief that guarantees religious freedom for all Catholics and Protestants in Ireland (Speck, 2016). The process of dragging the Anglo-French conflict to Ireland prompted King William III to take measures that proved the merit and superiority of England over the French, and he also worked to test the feeling of the major powers in Europe from the new conflict, especially after he learned that the southern Irish (Catholics) were supporting James II in When the Alustrians (Protestants of Ireland) supported him. This sectarian division had cast a shadow over all of Europe. In addition to England, there were Catholic Belgium and France supporting James II, and their fellow Protestants supporting King William, who also enjoyed the support of a Dutch majority and some Swedes and Swiss (Mayole, 1705).

The French policy towards Ireland was specific and clear. It aimed not only at restoring James II to his throne in England, but also inflicting the greatest losses on France's stubbornest opponent, King William III. James II enjoyed the support and encouragement of the Jacobites in England who showed their loyalty to the king and would stand by him in his quest not to return the English throne. If they did not succeed in regaining the throne of England, they would separate Ireland and declare James II as King of Ireland under the protection of the Bourbons and the sovereignty of France, so France directed James II to devote his efforts to controlling Ireland as a first stage (Abdulla ,

2022). Therefore, James II went to Ireland at the request of France, and although England did not officially declare war on France, the French king considered Ireland an ideal and important theater for England to take military action against France (McLay, 2003).

In April 1689 Emperor Leopold I sent a letter to James II. He indicated that the French gave hints aimed at deceiving, provoking divisions and "hostility between you and your people, and insulting the Christian world by France, which is not only hostile to Protestants but also to Catholics because of its alliance with the Ottomans, who are a source of threat to all Christians" (Meerwijk, 2011).

The French king was not unaware of the conditions for achieving a balance in the bipolar powers in Europe, which began to repeat itself again to compete with French influence and led by England. For this he wanted to launch an attack on England through the Irish lands (Sheehan, 2004). He expressed his intentions more than once, and this is what prompted the English House of Commons to grant the authority to King William III to declare war on France on May 7, 1689, and also gave him the powers to form the first major coalitions in 1689 to contain French power (Mayole, 1705).

The Grand Alliance, which was formed in Vienna and signed on May 12, 1689, included England, the Dutch Republic, Spain, Saxony, Bavaria, Savoy, the Holy Roman Empire, and Prussia. There were feelings of unease among its members due to the French threats, and the cohesion of this alliance was preserved only by the insistence and diplomatic genius of King William III to establish this alliance against France (Young, 2000).

Likewise, King William III had two foreign ministers, and the performance of the two ministers was divided on a geographical basis (Anson, 1896): Northern Department (Defoe, 2001) "Earl of Nottingham with the foreign affairs of the Netherlands, the Scandinavian countries, the Russians, the sovereign states of Germany, and the Holy Roman Empire. The Minister for the Southern

Department was a post in the Government of England until 1782, when the Southern Department became the Home Office, Southern Department (Sachse, 1971) and the Duke of Shrewsbury." He was concerned with foreign relations with Spain, the Italian states, France, Switzerland and the Ottoman Empire, although King William III was the real official in managing foreign relations (O'Connor, 1977).

As diplomacy was concentrated in the hands of the king, William himself imposed strict control over foreign and diplomatic issues and designed the foreign policy of England to a large extent (Horn, 1961). Therefore, foreign policy, management of diplomacy, issues of war and peace, and strategy remained within the royal prerogative. King William III was the one who chose which agent or representative to send to a particular place (Lane, 1927).

King William III sought to strengthen the alliance, although it was based on disparate interests, some of which were temporary. In spite of this, the alliance had good armies, good naval power, and sound financial resources, as the number of the Allied armies amounted to more than 200,000 men. Never before in the history of European wars has such a meeting been held (Lloyd, 2006). After the French king sent reinforcements to Ireland, represented by the French naval fleets (Symcox, 2012).

England called on the Netherlands to join it to exercise maritime pressure on France, as they expected their fleets to be able to implement a blockade on French maritime trade, as the two parties signed (Onnekink, 2016). It is a joint maritime treaty between England and the Netherlands signed in the period 12-22 August 1689 and stipulates the cessation of trade with France for all goods and all ships of all nationalities, and the treaty focused on the issue of smuggling and punishment of smugglers for the provisions of the siege on France. "Treaty August" in August 1689 revoked the permission to trade certain types of goods with the enemy that were transported on ships of all countries by sea in time of war (Becker-Weinberg & School, 2014).

The military resistance in Ireland was considered a source of serious inconvenience to England and would have hindered the deployment of English forces on the continent, at a time when King William III was keen to spread war supplies everywhere in Europe so as not to impede English commercial activity and thus King William III was able to put England at the center of the European system of states. He has worked to highlight it as a global power responsible for achieving a level of European colonial integration and pursuing war (Connolly, 2008).

During this period, France was living in one of the most important stages of its European wars, as Count Avon, as the representative of France in Ireland, had to make sure that no money was wasted on secondary campaigns in Ireland against England, so he advised Count Avon to arrange the situation in Dublin and reorganizing the French army and its loyalists in order to exhaust King William's armies through focused and wave operations (Abdulla, 2022).

It seems that family conflicts played the most important and largest role in the English-French conflict in Europe, as King William III wanted the continent of Europe to be religiously united instead of a continent linked by geography under a unified political system (Black, 2013).

King William III considered himself for his personal attitudes, not only for his abilities and efforts, but also for his birth in the highest stratum of European society, as he was in the Republic of the Netherlands the highest civil and military official. This made him in contact with senior civil and military officials in other countries. Also, in England he was a king, grandson, nephew and son-in-law of kings, and thus King William enjoyed familial and commercial relations with many European dynasties (Black, 2013).

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contact with senior civil and military officials in other countries, and in England He was a king, grandson, nephew and son-in-law of kings, and thus King William enjoyed familial and commercial relations with many European dynasties.

The second topic: The religious factor and its impact on Anglo-French relations 1688-1689.

King William III used religious sermons directed to the English people, which had a role in creating a popular public opinion in favor of the war, and the clergy were among the most enthusiastic about it, so that many of them supported his foreign policy. The king found active advocates in the Church of England, and King William III succeeded in recruiting them to support all his foreign projects, and these were famous for their anti-Catholic sermons and sermons since the time of James II (Black, 2013). They continued during the reign of King William III by publishing sermons in support of the war against France. England was active, under the direction of King William III, in publishing printed sermons to reach all parts of England, which emphasized that the war was a defensive war against the Catholic and fanatic King of France, which was described by the English clergy, the Persecutor and Modern Nebuchadnezzar. The clergy in both countries were supportive of their kings, to the extent that they were happy to participate in the war, and each had his justifications that the war was an inevitable war and a just war in their view, and they put forward an old theory that was used in Europe (Guthrie & Quinlan, 2007) according to the just War Theory to serve their goals. Just War Theory: It is the theory that justifies the use of force and resort to war based on certain moral foundations and justifications. Therefore, the idea prevailed in the intellectual tradition of just war, which means the legality of the state's use of violence to preserve its rights, provided that the goals are just and the means used in war are subject to restrictions. This theory began in ancient Egypt, and is the basis on which countries seek to justify fighting war legally and morally, which indicates that the

idea of just war originated outside the borders of Europe and that it existed before the emergence of Christianity or even the emergence of ancient Greco-Roman beliefs. For more see: This theory was an intellectual approach to justify religious wars in ancient Europe, developed by thinkers in the Middle Ages and modern times, such as Saint Augustine, Saint Thomas Aquinas, and Martin Luther. The sixteenth and seventeenth centuries because they are the enemy of the war against England as a crusade against the English heresy, while the English side considered it a religious war to defend Protestantism against the French king, who was the enemy of Christianity and friend of the Ottoman Sultan, and the religious language used by churchmen was not strange when they saw their kings. The war that the French clergy were calling to celebrate its teachings after they worked to present the arguments to the French people for its existence, and from which they wanted to instill a sense of duty, subordination and love for King Louis XIV above all (Onnekink, 2016).

Although King Louis XIV did not need to justify the war because it did not require a financial commitment from the people and therefore he does not need a financial commitment to finance the war. The anti-tax revolutions were numerous even at the beginning of the reign of King Louis XIV, but they were violently suppressed and disappeared almost later, so the compulsion of the French population was sufficient to secure taxes to wage war. Moreover the number of French men and women who supported the foreign policy of King Louis XIV was great regardless of the coercion and discipline of the French people, and there was no financial necessity to convince his subjects of the just nature to war because they believe in it (Thévenot & Boltanski, 1991).

Also, France was not like England, which had a parliament that could oppose the annual war budget. It had parliaments in the provinces, that is, it is a regional parliament located in some provinces and others were without a regional parliament. There were also two types of administrative regions, each with its own tax

system, and it was in Each district area is subject to the authority of the Alus, i.e. a royal agent or officer appointed by the king immediately after the king determines the total tax return for each area, so this agent and his employees work to divide the burden within each area and thus the Alus is responsible before the king for the financial policy of the state or administrative areas (Abdulla, 2022).

As for the religious justifications for war for King William III, the churchmen insisted, despite objections that King William III was none other than James II's son-in-law and that he did not obtain the throne by right of divine succession. This caused a problem for the clergy who had to take an oath of allegiance to their new king who did not come by a hereditary mandate, however, that problem did not prevent the English Church from defending William's legal supremacy and competence in foreign affairs (Dencher). But what is important here is that the church used a religious argument similar to that applied by their French counterparts, as they stated that King William III, like King Louis XIV, had a divine right, not a right of succession (Onnekink, 2016). Thus, the war against France was not justified only because it was directed by a legitimate sovereign, but also because it was a good war, and thus the theory of just war was employed to legitimize the monarchy of William III (Holmes, 1993).

The orators of the clergy used the language of law and defense of liberties, which fit well with the English legal culture, to overcome the religious differences that divided the English into Anglicans and opponents, and between supporters of the English High Church and Continental Protestants, and between Protestants and Catholics. These orators were able to unite everyone and persuade them that the war. It is to get rid of the threat of King Louis XIV to establish a world monarchy under his leadership through his inhumane atrocities that he ordered his armies to commit through the Platinum Invasion in 1688, so the legitimacy of King William III was strengthened thanks to this legal interpretation of the war by churchmen, so King William put the laws of war, in which he showed

moderation and humanity, through his defense of the freedoms and rights of all European countries, which made him a reliable king in whom he could be entrusted with the defense of the European peoples in general and the English in particular.

Conclusions

1. England was the country that led Europe to stand against French expansion in Europe after the European countries were unable to stand against it. Despite the great alliance that included several European countries, England was the one with the upper hand to confront France's expansionist ambitions.

2. The Grand Alliance enjoyed a great deal of strength, despite the tension that existed among its members, as it enjoyed strong armies, naval supremacy, and most importantly, good financial resources, and this allowed England to be in a position to play an important role in determining European policy.

3. England had a role in working to maintain the balance of power in the European continent because the existence of the idea of a balance of power would have allowed England to maintain its maritime sovereignty, which was a popular demand in England that could not be waived.

4. The emergence of calls for the adoption of the perspective of the balance of power on land by England could not give up being a dominant naval power and was not prepared to give up that naval advantage. This is because England was militarily weak on land and lacked the necessary resources that could equal it with other countries that want to impose their hegemony on the continent, unless they allied themselves with another power.

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