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This site is called the Spanish Succession. It is about the years 1700 to 1715, a time dominated by the War of the Spanish Succession. This era can be viewed from many perspectives. The purpose of this site is to make this possible by providing a lot of background information and some good articles. Portrait of future Emperor Charles VI pretends to the heritage as King Charles III of Spain. An. leaves 17th century. After the death of Spanish Habsburg King Charles II in November 1700, his last will named Louis XIV's second grandson as his successor. This transition initially went smoothly, but in September 1701 the Grand Alliance of England, The United Provinces and Austria-Hungary was formed to prevent it. This led to the War of the Spanish Succession In terms of numbers, the Grand Alliance and the Two Crowns were about evenly matched. On the Bourbon side, the French army was Europe's largest and the Spanish army expanded rapidly. On the alliance side, the Dutch army was the largest, closely followed by the English army and the Austrian Habsburg army. The war began with a surprising Austrian attack by Prince Eugen in Italy in 1701. Bavaria then joined France in September 1702 and Savoy and Portugal joined the Alliance. In 1704, France looked good heading for victory, but the Franco Bavarian war was crushed in the Battle of Blenheim and the alliance took Gibraltar. In 1706, Marlborough was victorious in the Battle of Ramillies. This led to the allied conquest of the Spanish Netherlands and positively influenced Eugen's victory at the siege of Turin. In 1708 the Grand Alliance prevailed at Oudenaarde and in the siege of Lille. In the following year, French could claim a strategic victory at Malplaquet and the war began to bow down in the French lines of defence. Portrait of Philip of Anjou pretends to the heritage as Felipe V of Spain. By Hyacinthe Rigaud 1701 Château de Versailles The general policy of the participants and the real decisions made by the people in power had just such great influence from the outcome of the war as events on the battlefield. In the political arena, we see the winter of the reign of Louis XIV; However, the brilliant rule of Queen Anne, the statesmanship of Anthonie Heinsius and the clever rule of Joseph I. These sovereigns and politicians are limited by the constitutions of the countries they ruled. While the constitution of France did not hinder Louis XIV, Felipe V had to deal with the backward Spanish constitution. On the part of the alliance, Queen Anne had to deal with the English constitution that guarded English interests, just as Heinsius had to deal with the Dutch constitution that was mainly provincial guarded. From 1706 on the question is how and when to make peace and about what terms would dominate politics. To most of the contemporary observers Louis XIV XIV a final victory at the negotiating table when peace was made in Utrecht in 1713. However, it was only true relative to what the situation looked like in 1708. Overall the settlement almost fitted the goals the Alliance originally set out to achieve. The only real difference was that England now got the most benefits instead of sharing them with her allies. It is probably impossible to determine in how far the present has been affected by the events of these 15 years. Maybe we might suppose some major effects: It's likely that Canada has been lost to France because of the loss of some areas in North America. There is also little doubt that this war has laid the foundations for the Anglo-Saxon empire and dominance of the world. Third: the heredity of France, the further erosion of traditional political structures and the apparent success of the English parliamentary structure probably hastened the eruption of the French Revolution. The issue of Spanish succession at the turn of the 18th century was directly linked to the issue of balance of power in Europe, and led to a major European war that ended the European hegemony of France. Describing the reasons there was conflict over who should take the Spanish throne Key Takeaways Key Points in the late 1690s, the declining health of childless King Charles II of Spain deepened the ongoing dispute over his succession. The main competitors for the Spanish heritage were the descendants of Louis XIV of France and the Austrian Habsburg Holy Roman Emperor, Leopold I, but the case was crucial to Europe as a whole. In 1698 and 1700, Louis XIV and William III of England tried to split Spain in the effort to avoid a war. Charles II of Spain opposed partition and on his deathbed presented the empire to Philip, Duke of Anjou and Louis' grandson, who became King Philip V Spain. Although most European rulers accepted Philip as king, tensions mounted, mostly because of a series of Louis' decisions. Britain, the Dutch Republic, the Holy Roman Emperor, and the small German states formed another Grand Alliance and declared war on France in 1702. With losses, wins and significant financial costs on both sides, as well as a fragile Grand Alliance, French and British ministers prepared the foundation for a peace conference, and in 1712 Britain stopped combat operations. By the provisions of the Treaty of Utrecht (1713) and the Treaty of Rastatt (1714), the Spanish empire was divided between the large and small forces. The Austrians received most of Spain's former European empires, but the Duke of Anjou retained peninsula Spain and Spanish America, true after rejecting his claim to the French succession, reigned as King Philip V. The division of the Spanish Monarchy ensured the balance of power and the conditions imposed at Utrecht helped regulate relations between the great European forces over the coming century. Key Terms Treaty of London: A 1700 treaty, also known as the Second Partition Treaty, seeks to restore the Pragmatic Sanction following the death of Duke Joseph Ferdinand of Bavaria. The Pragmatic Sanction undermined the First Partition Treaty (the Treaty of Hague). Under the new treaty, Archduke Charles (later Charles VI), the second son of Emperor Leopold I, had to become king of Spain when Charles II died and obtained her supervisory colonies. Treaty of Utrecht: A series of individual peace treaties, rather than a single document, signed by the belligerents in the War of the Spanish Succession in the Dutch city of Utrecht in 1713. The treaties between several European states, including Spain, Great Britain, France, Portugal, Savoy and the Dutch Republic, helped end the war. Treaty of Patience: A 1698 treaty, also known as the First Partition Treaty, between England and France. The agreement sought to resolve who would inherit the Spanish throne, suggesting duke Joseph Ferdinand of Bavaria is the heir. Furthermore, the agreement suggested that Louis, le Grand Dauphin, Naples, would get Sicily and Tuscany, and Archduke Charles, the younger son of Emperor Leopold I, the Spanish Netherlands. Leopold, Duke of Lorraine, would take Milan, who in turn ceded Lorraine and Bar to the Dauphin. Treaties of Rastatt and Baden: Two peace treaties that ended in 1714 ongoing European conflicts following the War of the Spanish Succession. The first treaty, signed between France and Austria in the city of Rastatt, followed the earlier Treaty of Utrecht of 1713, ending hostilities between France and Spain on one side, and Britain and the Dutch Republic on the other. The second treaty, signed in Baden, was needed to end the hostilities between France and the Holy Roman Empire. Grand Alliance: A European coalition commending (at various times) from Austria, Bavaria, Brandenburg, the Dutch Republic, England, the Holy Roman Empire, Ireland, the Palatinate of the Rhine, Portugal, Savoy, Saxony, Scotland, Spain and Sweden. The organization was founded in 1686 as the League of Augsburg in a bid to stop Louis XIV from France's expansionist policies. After the Treaty of Hague was signed in 1701, it went into a second phase as the Alliance of the War of Spanish Succession. In the late 1690s, the declining health of childless King Charles II of Spain deepened the ongoing dispute over his succession. Spain was no longer a hegemonic force in Europe, but the Spanish Empire — a major confederation that covered the world and was still the largest of the European overseas empires — remained resilient. Finally, the rivals for the Spanish heritage the heirs and descendants of the Bourbon King Louis XIV of France and the Austrian Habsburg Holy Roman However, Leopold I. The heritage was so great that its transfer would dramatically increase either French or Austrian power that was of the utmost importance to Europe as a whole due to the implied threat of European hegemony. Rival Claims and Partitions The French claim derived from Louis XIV's mother, Anne of Austria (the older sister of Philip IV of Spain), and his wife, Maria Theresa (Philip IV's eldest daughter). France had the stronger claim as it originated in two generations from the eldest daughters. However, their cut-off of succession rights complicated matters, although the cut-off in the case of Maria Theresa was considered insidious because of Spain's breach of her marital contract with Louis. By contrast, no cut-offs infected the claims of Emperor Leopold I's son Charles, Archbishop of Austria, who was a grandson of Philip III's youngest daughter Maria Anna. The English and Dutch feared that a French or Austrian-born Spanish king would threaten the balance of power, and thus preferred the Bavian Prince Joseph Ferdinand, a grandson of Leopold I by his first wife, Margaret Theresa of Spain (the younger daughter of Philip IV). In a bid to avoid war, Louis signed the Treaty of Entity with William III of England in 1698. This agreement divided Spain's Italian territories between Louis' son le Grand Dauphin and the Archbishop Charles, with the rest of the empire awarded to Joseph Ferdinand. However, the signatories omitted to consult Charles II, who was passionately opposed to mutilated his empire. In 1699, he re-affidged his 1693 will, which Joseph called Ferdinand as his sole successor, but the latter died six months later. In 1700, Louis and William III concluded a fresh partition deal, the Treaty of London. It awarded Spain, the Low Countries and the Spanish colonies to Archduke Charles. The Dauphin would receive all of Spain's Italian territories. On his deathbed in 1700, Charles II unexpectedly offered the entire empire to the Dauphin's second son Philip, Duke of Anjou, provided it remained undivided. Anjou was not in the direct line of French succession, so his entry would not trigger a French-Spanish union. Louis eventually decided to accept Charles II's will, and Philip, Duke of Anjou, became King Philip V of Spain. Although most European rulers accepted Philip as king, tensions mounted, mostly because of a series of Louis' decisions. Louis' actions enraged Britain and the Dutch Republic. With the Holy Roman Emperor and the small German states, they formed another Grand Alliance. French diplomacy, however, secured Bavaria, Portugal and Savoy as French-Spanish allies. Around the same time, Louis decided to recognise the son of James II, as king of England against the latter's death and infuriate William III. While William III in March 1702, the Austrians, the Dutch and English allies formally declared war in May 1702. War of the Spanish Succession by 1708, the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy secured victory in the Spanish Netherlands and in Italy, defeating Louis XIV's ally Bavarians. The Allies scored a Pyrrhic victory at the 1709 Battle of Malplaquet, with 21,000 casualties, twice that of the French. French forces elsewhere have continued to fight despite their defeats. The Allies were certainly suspended from central Spain by French-Spanish victories at the Battles of Villaviciosa and Brihuega in 1710. France faced invasion, but the unity of the allies broke first. With the Grand Alliance defeated in Spain and its casualties and costs mounting and goals deviant, the Tories came to power in Great Britain in 1710 and decided to end the war. Finally, France restored its military pride with the decisive victory at Denain in 1712. Yet French and British ministers prepared the foundation for a peace conference, and in 1712 Britain quit combat operations. The Dutch, Austrians and German states fought to bolster their own negotiating position, but, defeated by Marshal Villars, they were soon compelled to accept Anglo-French mediation. Battle of Villaviciosa by Jean Alaux, 1836: Philip V of Spain and the Duke of Vendôme pictured after victory at the 1710. Peace treaties The 1713 treaty of Utrecht recognized Louis XIV's grandson Philip, Duke of Anjou, as King of Spain (as Philip V), thereby confirming the succession in the will of Charles II. Philip, however, was obliged to reject for himself and his descendants any right to the French throne. The Spanish territories in Europe were entlisted: Savoy received Sicily and parts of the Duchy of Milan, while Charles VI (the Holy Roman Emperor and Archduke of Austria) received the Spanish Netherlands, the Kingdom of Naples, Sardinia and most of the Duchy of Milan. Portugal has acknowledged its sovereignty over the countries between the Amazon and Oyapock rivers, in Brazil. In addition, Spain ceded Gibraltar and Minorca to Great Britain and agreed to give the British the Asiento, a monopoly on the oceanic slave trade to the Spanish colonies in America. In North America, France ceded to Great Britain its claims to Newfoundland, the Hudson's Bay Company, the Academy Colony of Nova Scotia, and the previously division island of Saint Kitts. After signing the Utrecht treaties, the French continued to wage war with Emperor Charles VI and with the Holy Roman Empire until 1714, when hostilities were ended with the Treaties of Rastatt and Baden. Spain and Portugal Remained formally at war with each other until the Treaty of Madrid of February 1715, while peace between Spain and Emperor Charles VI, unsuccessful claim to the Spanish crown, first came in 1720. 2007. the signing of the Treaty of Heathen. The War of the Spanish Succession brought to an end a long period of major conflict in Western Europe. The division of the Spanish Monarchy ensured the balance of power, and the conditions imposed at Utrecht helped regulate the relations between the major European forces over the coming century. William III's main goals in the conflict over the Spanish succession were to ensure the Protestant entry into England and curb the strength of France and Louis XIV. Explaining William's interest in the War of the Spanish Succession and the goals of the Grand Alliance Key Takeaways Key Points As William III's life drawn to his conclusion, he, like many other European rulers, was concerned about the issue of succession to the throne of Spain. He tried to prevent the Spanish heritage from going to the descendants of either Louis XIV or Leopold I, as he feared it would upset the European balance of power. Fearing the growing power of the Holy Roman Empire, Louis XIV turned to William. The two signed two treaties parting Spain but Charles II of Spain's decision to select Louis' grandson when his successor Louis let his pact with England ignore. While the Tory-dominated House of Commons was keen to prevent further conflict, France's growing power has made war inevitable. From his perspective, the hard-won securities have reversed the work of the past twenty years. As tensions mounted, Britain and the Dutch Republic sparked outrage at Louis' actions and decisions. With the Holy Roman Emperor and the small German states, they formed another Grand Alliance. Securing the Protestant succession and combating Louis' ambitions have been recognised by the Grand Alliance as one of England's main war goals. Before the War of the Spanish Succession was even declared, William died. His successor, Anne, continued William's policy of ensuring the Protestant succession in England and combating the French hegemony. The War of the Spanish Succession led to the division of the Spanish Monarchy, which secured the balance of power and helped regulate the relations between the major European forces over the coming century. Key terms Grand Alliance: A European coalition consisting of (at various times) from Austria, Bavaria, Brandenburg, the Dutch Republic, England, the Holy Roman Empire, Ireland, the Palatinate of the Rhine, Portugal, Savoy, Saxony, Scotland, Spain and Sweden. The organization was founded in 1686 as the League of Augsburg in a bid to stop Louis XIV from France's expansionist policies. After signing the Treaty of Hague in 1701, it came in a second phase as the Alliance of the War of Spanish Succession Treaty of London: A 1700 treaty, also known as the Second Partition Treaty, seeks to restore the Pragmatic Sanction following the death of Duke Joseph Joseph from Bavarians. The Pragmatic Sanction undermined the First Partition Treaty (the Treaty of Hague). Under the new Treaty, Archduke Charles (later Charles VI), the second son of Emperor Leopold I, had to become king of Spain when Charles II died and obtained her supervisory colonies. Treaty of Rastatt: A peace treaty between France and Austria, concluded in March 1714 in the Baden city of Rastatt, which put an end to the state of war between them after the War of the Spanish Succession. The treaty followed the earlier Treaty of Utrecht of April 1713, which ended hostilities between France and Spain on one side, and Britain and the Dutch Republic on the other. A third treaty at Baden had to end the hostilities between France and the Holy Roman Empire. Treaty of Utrecht: A series of individual peace treaties, rather than a single document, signed by the belligerents in the War of the Spanish Succession in the Dutch city of Utrecht in 1713. The treaties between several European states, including Spain, Great Britain, France, Portugal, Savoy and the Dutch Republic, helped end the war. Treaty of Hague: A 1698 treaty, also known as the First Partition Treaty, between England and France. The agreement sought to resolve who would inherit the Spanish throne, suggesting duke Joseph Ferdinand of Bavaria is the heir. Furthermore, the agreement suggested that Louis, le Grand Dauphin, Naples, would get Sicily and Tuscany, and Archduke Charles, the younger son of Emperor Leopold I, the Spanish Netherlands. Leopold, Duke of Lorraine, would take Milan, who in turn ceded Lorraine and Bar to the Dauphin. William III (1650–1702) was sovereign Prince of Orange, Dutch City Keeper (de facto hereditary head of state) from 1672, and king of England, Ireland and Scotland from 1689 until his death. As his life concluded, William, like many other European rulers, was concerned about the issue of succession to the throne of Spain, which brought about large areas in Italy, the Low Countries and the New World. The king of Spain, Charles II, had no prospect of have children, and among his closest relatives were Louis XIV and Leopold I, Holy Roman Emperor. William tried to prevent the Spanish heritage from either going monarch, as he feared it would upset the balance of power. King William III of England, portrait by Sir Godfrey Kneller, 1680s, National Galleries, Scotland A Protestant, William took part in several wars against the powerful Catholic king of France, Louis XIV, in coalition with Protestant and Catholic forces in Europe. Many Protestants heralded him as a champion of their faith. Partitions Fear the Growing Power of the Holy One Rich, Louis XIV turned to William, his longtime Protestant rival. England and the Dutch Republic have their own strategic, and political interests within the Spanish empire, and they were eager to return to peaceful trade. Louis and William sought to solve the problem of the Spanish heritage through negotiation based on the principle of partition (initially without prior reference to the Spanish or Austrian courts), to take effect after the death of Charles II. William and Louis agreed to the First Partition Treaty (Treaty of Hague), which provided for the division of the Spanish Empire: Duke Joseph Ferdinand of Bavaria would acquire Spain, while France and the Holy Roman emperor would divide the remaining areas between them. However, when Joseph Ferdinand died of smallpox, the issue re-opened. In 1700, the two rulers agreed to the Second Treaty Treaty (Treaty of London), under which the territories in Italy would transfer to a son of the king of France and the other Spanish territories would be inherited by a son of Holy Roman Emperor. This arrangement featured both the Spanish, who were still trying to prevent the dissolution of their empire, and the Holy Roman Emperor, to whom the Italian territories were far more useful than the other countries. Unexpectedly, Charles II honored all Spanish territories to Philip, a grandson of Louis XIV. The French conveniently ignored the Second Partition Treaty and claimed the entire Spanish heritage. William III's Stand The news that Louis XIV accepted Charles II's will and that the Second Partition Treaty was dead was a personal blow to William III. However, after the intrusions of the Nine-Year War, the Tory-dominated House of Commons was keen to prevent further conflict and restore normal commercial activity. Yet to William III, France's growing power has made war inevitable. England also had its own interests in the Spanish Netherlands, and ministers acknowledged the potential danger posed by an enemy founded in the east of the Strait of Dover that, taking advantage of favourable wind and tide, could threaten the British Isles. From William III's perspective, the hard-won securities have reversed the work of the past twenty years. Although the French king's ambitions and motives were not fully known, English ministers worked on the assumption that Louis XIV would seek to expand its territory and direct and dominate Spanish affairs. With the threat of a single force dominating Europe and overseas trade, London has now undertaken to support William III's efforts to reduce the power of France. As tensions mounted, Britain and the Dutch Republic sparked outrage at Louis' actions and decisions. With the Holy Roman Emperor and the small German states, they formed another Grand Alliance. This European coalition, consisting of several times from various States, were originally established in 1686 as the League of Augsburg. It was formed in a bid to stop Louis XIV's expansion In 1701, it went into a second stage. Even after the formation of the Grand Alliance, the French king continued to antagonize his European opponents. Around the same time the Alliance was formed, the Catholic James II of England (VII of Scotland)—being in Saint-Germain since the Glorious Revolution —has died, and Louis XIV recognizes James II's Catholic son, James, as King James III of England. The French court insisted the awarding of James was the title of King a mere formality, but William and English ministers were indignant. Securing the Protestant succession was soon recognised by the Grand Alliance as one of England's main war goals. However, the War of the Spanish Succession, before the War of the Spanish Succession was even declared, William died. Anne, Mary II's younger sister and William's sister-in-law through his marriage to Mary, ascended to the British throne and immediately the Secret Council of her two main goal: maintaining the Protestant succession and reducing the power of France. At the same time, Anne continued William's policies, and many leading statesmen of William's later years appeared to be in office, fundamentally turning out to the success of the Grand Alliance in the early stages of the war. The Austrians, the Dutch and English allies formally declared war in May 1702. By 1708, the Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene of Savoy had won victory in the Spanish Netherlands and in Italy, defeating Louis XIV's ally Bavarians. France faced invasion, but the unity of the allies broke first. With the Grand Alliance defeated in Spain and its casualties and costs mounting and goals deviant, the Tories came to power in Great Britain in 1710 and decided to end the war. French and British ministers prepared the grounding for a peace conference, and in 1712 Britain quit combat operations. The Dutch, Austrians and German states fought to bolster their own negotiating position, but, defeated by Marshal Villars, they were soon compelled to accept Anglo-French mediation. By the provisions of the Treaty of Utrecht (1713) and the Treaty of Rastatt (1714), the Spanish empire was divided between the large and small forces. The Austrians received most of Spain's former European empires, but the Duke of Anjou retained peninsula Spain and Spanish America, where, after rejecting his claim to the French succession, he reigned as King Philip V. The European balance of power is assured. The Treaty of Utrecht, which initiated the end of the War of the Spanish Succession, strengthened the balance of power in Europe by securing two major goals: Louis XIV's recognition of Protestant succession in England, and safeguards to ensure the French and Spanish thrones remained separate. Describe the terms of the Peace of Utrecht and their meaning on Europe Key Takeaways Key Key The War of the Spanish Succession (1701–1714) was a European conflict caused by the death of the last Habsburg king of Spain, Charles II, in 1700. As he reigned over a vast global empire, the question of who would succeed him has long vexed ministers in capitals throughout Europe. The balance of victories and losses has shifted regularly over the course of the war, with both sides being militarily and financially depleted. As early as 1710, the Tories initiated secret talks with the French, seeking mutual ground after which Great Britain and France could dictate peace for the rest of Europe. The Congress of Utrecht opened in 1712, but it was not accompanied by an armor tyles. One of the first questions discussed was the nature of the guarantees to be given by France and Spain that their crowns would be kept separate. The pact, which was in fact a series of separate treaties, secured Britain's main war goal: Louis XIV's recognition of the Protestant succession in England, and safeguards to ensure the French and Spanish thrones remained separate. A series of separate treaties signed between 1714 and 1720 ended conflicts that continued in the aftermath of Utrecht between states involved in the War of the Spanish Succession. Utrecht was the rise of Great Britain under Anne and later the House of Hanover and the end of the hegemonic ambitions of France. It also secured the balance of power and helped regulate the relations between the major European forces over the coming century. Key Terms War of the Spanish Succession: A major European conflict of the early 18th century (1701/2–1714) caused by death in 1700 of the last Habsburg king of Spain, Charles II. The Austrians, the Dutch and English allies formally declared war on France and its allies in May 1702. Grand Alliance: A European coalition commending (at various times) from Austria, Bavaria, Brandenburg, the Dutch Republic, England, the Holy Roman Empire, Ireland, the Palatinate of the Rhine, Portugal, Savoy, Saxony, Scotland, Spain and Sweden. The coalition was founded in 1686 as the League of Augsburg in a bid to stop Louis XIV from France's expansionist policies. After the Treaty of Hague was signed in 1701, it went into a second phase as the Alliance of the War of Spanish Succession. treaties of Rastatt and Baden: Two peace treaties that ended in 1714 ongoing European conflicts following the War of the Spanish Succession. The first treaty, signed between France and Austria in the city of Rastatt, followed the earlier Treaty of Utrecht of 1713, ending hostilities between France and Spain on one side, and Britain and the Dutch Republic on the other. The second signed in Baden, was required to end the hostilities between France and the Holy Roman Empire. Asiento: The consent given by the Spanish government to other countries to people as slaves to the Spanish colonies, between 1543 and 1834. In British history, this usually refers to the contract between Spain and Great Britain created in 1713 that dealt with providing African slaves for the Spanish territories in the Americas. The War of the Spanish Succession (1701–1714) was a European conflict caused by the death of the last Habsburg King of Spain, Charles II, in 1700. He reigned over a vast global empire and the question of who would succeed him has long vexed ministers in capitals throughout Europe. Attempts to solve the problem by dividing the empire between the eligible candidates of the royal Houses of France (Bourbon), Austria (Habsburg) and Bavaria (Wittelsbach) eventually failed, and on his deathbed Charles II fixed the entire Spanish heritage on Philip, Duke of Anjou, the grandson of King Louis XIV of France. With Philip ruling in Spain, Louis XIV would secure huge benefits for his dynasty, but some statesmen view a dominant House of Bourbon as a threat to European stability, jeopardizing the balance of power. To counter Louis XIV's growing dominance, England, the Dutch Republic and Austria — along with their allies in the Holy Roman Empire — reformed the Grand Alliance (1701) and supported Emperor Leopold who I claim to be the Spanish heritage for his second son, Archduke Charles. Backing the Habsburg candidate (known to his supporters as King Charles III of Spain), every member of the coalition sought to reduce the power of France, ensure their own territorial and dynastic security and restore and improve the trade opportunities they enjoyed under Charles II. Peace talks The balance of victories and losses has regularly shifted over the course of the war, with both sides militarily and financially depleted, also because of a series of earlier wars waged in Europe. As early as August 1710, the Tories initiated secret talks with the French, seeking mutual ground where seeking Great Britain and France could dictate peace to the rest of Europe. France and Great Britain came to terms in October 1711, when the precursors of peace were signed in London. The frontrunners are based on a tacit acceptance of the division of Spain's European possessions. The Congress of Utrecht, which opened in January 1712, followed, but it was not accompanied by a ceasefire (first in August Britain, Savoy, France and Spain agreed to a general suspension of weapons). One of the first questions discussed was the nature of the guarantees to be given by France and Spain that their crowns would be kept separate, but matters didn't make much progress until July, when Philip was a cut-off 2007. With Great Britain and France agreeing on a truce, the pace of negotiation quicker and the main treaties was eventually signed in April 1713. Treaty of Utrecht The treaty, which is in A series of separate treaties, ensure Britain's main war goals: Louis XIV's recognition of the Protestant succession in England and safeguards to ensure the French and Spanish thrones remained separate. In North America, where the War of the Spanish Succession has turned into a war over colonial gains, Louis XIV ceded the territories of Saint Kitts and Acadia to Britain, acknowledging Britain's sovereignty over Rupert's Land and Newfoundland. In return, Louis XIV kept the big city of Lille on its northern border, but he ceded Furnes, Ypres, Menin and Tournai to the Spanish Netherlands. He also agreed to the permanent demilitarization of the naval base at Dunkirk. The Dutch received their limited barrier in the Spanish Netherlands and part of the trade in the region with Britain. Prussia has gained some contested countries and Portugal has won minor concessions in Brazil against encroachments on the Amazon of French Guiana. In addition, Spain ceded Gibraltar and Minorca to Great Britain and agreed to give the British the Asiento, a monopoly on the oceanic slave trade to the Spanish colonies in America. Above all, though, Louis XIV has secured for the House of Bourbon the throne of Spain, with his grandson, Philip V, recognized as the rightful king by all signatories. First edition of the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht between Great Britain and Spain in Spanish (left), and a later edition in Latin and English The treaties, signed in the Dutch city of Utrecht, were concluded between the representatives of Louis XIV of France and his grandson Philip V of Spain on one side, and representatives of Anne of Great Britain, Victorade Amus II of Sardinia , John V of Portugal, and the United Provinces of the Netherlands on the other side. Aftermath Utrecht was the rise of Great Britain under Anne and later the House of Hanover and the end of the hegemonic ambitions of France. The lucrative trading opportunities offered to the British were acquired at the expense of Anne's allies, with the Dutch forgetting a stake in the Asiento and the Holy Roman Empire that ceded Spain to Philip V and forced to re-introduce the Election of Bavarians. After the signing of the Utrecht treaties, the French warred in a war with the Holy Roman Empire until 1714, when hostilities with the treaties of Rastatt and Baden ended. Spain and Portugal remained formally at war with each other until the Treaty of Madrid of February 1715, while peace between Spain and Emperor Charles VI, unsuccessful claim to the Spanish crown, first came in 1720 with the signing of the Treaty of Entites. Weakened Spain eventually grew power under Philip V, and the country would return to the forefront European politics. With neither Charles VI nor Philip V willing to accept the Spanish partition, and with no pact that exists between Spain and Austria, the two forces would powers bots in order to gain control of Italy, starting with a short war in 1718. However, the War of the Spanish Succession brought to an end a long period of major conflict in Western Europe; the division of the Spanish Monarchy ensured the balance of power, and the conditions imposed at Utrecht helped regulate the relations between the major European forces over the coming century. Century.

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