



THE SETUP

Six forces share one board of six sliders.

Project the board. Split the class into the six groups below and hand each group its page. On its turn a group drags **one slider** up to **three notches** and presses **Done**. Turn order is redrawn every round. Three rounds, eighteen moves, February 1848 to 1852.

BEFORE YOU START • 5 MIN

Keep page 1. Hand out pages 2–7, one per group.

Four of these groups were allies in March and shooting at each other by June. Do not tell the class.

EACH ROUND • 10–12 MIN

The group at the board drags a slider. **The graphs move as they drag**, before they press Done.

An arrow in the group's color under each slider marks where that group wants it.

THE MEASURE TO WATCH

Popular Support falls when Force rises and when groups undo each other's moves. In 1848 the revolutionaries split before the armies came back.

Save that point for the debrief.

BETWEEN ROUNDS • 3 MIN

History moves sliders by itself. After round 1 the spring panic raises Constitutions and Serfdom & the Land. After round 2 the reconquest raises Force.

Read the card aloud. Groups fill in their reflection lines while it is on screen.

THE SIX GROUPS

Liberal Constitutionalists

A charter, a parliament, a careful franchise.

The Nationalists

One people, one state, and we draw the map.

Socialists & Workers

The right to work, or the barricades again.

The Monarchies

Thrones are held by God, not by Frankfurt.

The Peasants

Give us the land and we will go home.

The Russian Tsar

The order of Europe is our business.

WHAT THE FOUR MEASURES MEAN

MEASURE	STARTS AT	WHERE IT STOOD BY 1852
Reform won	12	Serfdom gone in the Habsburg lands; nearly every constitution revoked — call it 20
Monarchy's grip	55	Every throne on the continent restored except the French — call it 67
Popular support	34	Collapsed: workers shot at, peasants gone home, nationalities set against each other — call it 15
Blood spilled	9	Tens of thousands dead from Paris to Hungary — call it 60

Groups do not see this table. The scores are estimates for discussion, not measurements.



Liberal Constitutionalists

"A charter, a parliament, and a franchise for men with something to lose."

You are lawyers, professors, newspaper editors and merchants, and for thirty years you have wanted one thing: a written constitution the crown must obey. In February the crowds won it for you. You did not build the barricades. Now you need the streets empty so you can govern, and the people in them want more than you will grant.

WHERE YOU WANT THE SIX SLIDERS

SLIDER	WHERE IT STARTS	YOU WANT	YOUR CASE
Constitutions	2 – Absolute rule, no charter of any kind	 ► push up to 10	Our first demand. Put it in writing and make him sign.
Who Votes	1 – A few thousand landowners choose everything	 ► push up to 4	Property gives a man a stake. Extend it carefully or not at all.
National Self-Determination	1 – The dynasty is the state and nations are a fiction	 ► push up to 6	A nation deserves a state, and a state needs a constitution first.
The Social Question	1 – Charity, and the workhouse for the rest	 ► push up to 2	A right to work is a claim on other people's property.
Serfdom & the Land	3 – Dues commuted for those who can pay	 ► push up to 6	A peasant who owns his field is a conservative, and we could use some.
Force	4 – Police, but no soldiers	 ◀ pull down to 3	We need order to negotiate, and we do not want it bought with grapeshot.

Gray box = where it starts. Colored box = where you want it. You get three moves, one per round, of up to three notches each. Any group can move any slider, including back.

PRIMARY SOURCE

The German people shall have fundamental rights, which shall serve as the norm for the constitutions of the individual German states, and no constitution or legislation of any German state shall ever abolish or limit them.

Fundamental Rights of the German People, passed by the Frankfurt Parliament, 27 December 1848

Frankfurt wrote a bill of rights and had no army to enforce it. Which slider did the liberals need and never get?

REFLECTION • FILL IN AS YOU PLAY

Round 1: which slider did you move, and which one did you leave alone to do it?

Name a group that pulled a slider back the other way. What did that cost on the graphs?

After the final board: your group scored a percentage. Did the graphs improve while you got it? Cite one number.



The Nationalists

"Italy, Germany, Hungary, Poland: one people, one state, and we will draw the map."

You believe a state should be one people sharing a language and a history, and that the dynastic empires should break up. In 1848 you get further than anyone expected: a German parliament, an independent Hungary, Italians driving the Austrians out of Milan. Then the Croats, Czechs and Romanians inside your nations ask you for what you asked of Vienna.

WHERE YOU WANT THE SIX SLIDERS

SLIDER	WHERE IT STARTS	YOU WANT	YOUR CASE
Constitutions	2 – Absolute rule, no charter of any kind	 ► push up to 8	A constitution is how a nation announces that it exists.
Who Votes	1 – A few thousand landowners choose everything	 ► push up to 6	The nation is everyone who speaks the language, so let them vote.
National Self-Determination	1 – The dynasty is the state and nations are a fiction	 ► push up to 10	Our first demand: one people, one state.
The Social Question	1 – Charity, and the workhouse for the rest	 ► push up to 3	Social war splits the nation just when it needs to be one thing.
Serfdom & the Land	3 – Dues commuted for those who can pay	 ► push up to 6	Free the peasant and he will fight for the nation instead of the lord.
Force	4 – Police, but no soldiers	 ► push up to 5	We will need an army of our own, and we may need to use it.

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PRIMARY SOURCE

Without country you have neither name, token, voice, nor rights, no admission as brothers into the fellowship of the peoples. You are the bastards of humanity.

Giuseppe Mazzini, *The Duties of Man*, written for Italian working men, published 1860

Mazzini says a person without a nation is nobody. Find the group on this board whose nation your nation would swallow, and decide what you owe them.

REFLECTION • FILL IN AS YOU PLAY

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Socialists & Workers

"The right to work, or the barricades again — and we built the first ones."

You built the barricades. In Paris in February it was your neighborhoods that fought, and within days the provisional government proclaimed a right to work and opened national workshops to honor it. You want that right written into law, universal manhood suffrage, and no soldiers in the streets. The men who are now drafting the constitution were beside you in February and are already calling you a mob.

WHERE YOU WANT THE SIX SLIDERS

SLIDER	WHERE IT STARTS	YOU WANT	YOUR CASE
Constitutions	2 — Absolute rule, no charter of any kind	 ► push up to 8	We put up the barricades. We are not being governed by a decree afterwards.
Who Votes	1 — A few thousand landowners choose everything	 ► push up to 10	Every man votes, or the republic is a fraud with better manners.
National Self-Determination	1 — The dynasty is the state and nations are a fiction	 ► push up to 5	A German worker and a French worker have more in common than either has with a king.
The Social Question	1 — Charity, and the workhouse for the rest	 ► push up to 10	Our first demand. Bread first, then everything else.
Serfdom & the Land	3 — Dues commuted for those who can pay	 ► push up to 9	The villages are us, three generations back. Give them the land.
Force	4 — Police, but no soldiers	 ◄ pull down to 0	Every soldier in the street is aimed at us and everyone here knows it.

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PRIMARY SOURCE

Let the government be considered as the supreme regulator of production, and endowed for this task with great power... It is for the government to found social workshops, destined to replace little by little the individual workshops.

Louis Blanc, The Organization of Labour, 1839 — the pamphlet behind the national workshops of 1848

Blanc wanted the state to employ people directly. Which two groups on this board find that intolerable, and are their reasons the same?

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The Monarchies

"Thrones are held by the grace of God, not by a committee sitting in Frankfurt."

You are Vienna, Berlin, Naples, Turin and a dozen smaller courts. In March you signed concessions with a crowd under the window, and you do not consider them binding. You have the army, which has not broken; the peasants, who can be bought with land; and time. Metternich has fled to England, and you still believe his argument.

WHERE YOU WANT THE SIX SLIDERS

SLIDER	WHERE IT STARTS	YOU WANT	YOUR CASE
Constitutions	2 – Absolute rule, no charter of any kind	◀ pull down to 1	A charter granted under duress in March can be withdrawn in December.
Who Votes	1 – A few thousand landowners choose everything	◀ pull down to 0	A mob with a ballot is still a mob.
National Self-Determination	1 – The dynasty is the state and nations are a fiction	◀ pull down to 0	The empire is eleven peoples. Let one go and we lose all eleven.
The Social Question	1 – Charity, and the workhouse for the rest	▶ push up to 4	Feed them if it keeps them quiet. Promise nothing in law.
Serfdom & the Land	3 – Dues commuted for those who can pay	▶ push up to 4	Free the peasants and they will go home and stop listening to the students.
Force	4 – Police, but no soldiers	▶ push up to 10	Order is not negotiated. It is restored.

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PRIMARY SOURCE

The evil exists and it is enormous... Governments, having lost their balance, are frightened, intimidated, and thrown into confusion by the cries of the intermediary class of society... Let them not confound concessions made to parties with the good they ought to do for the people.

Prince Klemens von Metternich, Confession of Faith, memorandum to Tsar Alexander I, 1820

Metternich distinguishes concessions to parties from good done for the people. Which slider lets a monarchy do the second without the first?

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The Peasants

"Give us the land and the end of the dues, and we will go home."

You are most of the population of central and eastern Europe, and the cities' argument barely reaches you. You owe the robot — unpaid labor days on the lord's land — plus dues and the tithe, and you answer to the manorial court. Constitutions and parliaments are rumors from distant cities. One slider matters to you. Once you have it, you go home.

WHERE YOU WANT THE SIX SLIDERS

SLIDER	WHERE IT STARTS	YOU WANT	YOUR CASE
Constitutions	2 — Absolute rule, no charter of any kind	► push up to 3	A constitution is a paper in a city we have never seen.
Who Votes	1 — A few thousand landowners choose everything	► push up to 4	A vote would be useful, if it were counted where we live.
National Self-Determination	1 — The dynasty is the state and nations are a fiction	► push up to 2	We are Slovak, Romanian, Croat. The Hungarian nation is not offering us much.
The Social Question	1 — Charity, and the workhouse for the rest	► push up to 5	Bread for the towns is the same grain they take from us.
Serfdom & the Land	3 — Dues commuted for those who can pay	► push up to 10	Our first demand. Everything else is the towns arguing.
Force	4 — Police, but no soldiers	no position	No position. Spend your moves elsewhere.

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PRIMARY SOURCE

The relationship of subjection, together with all rights and duties arising from it, is hereby abolished... Compensation shall be paid to those entitled, from funds to be determined.

Imperial patent abolishing the robot and manorial subjection in the Austrian lands, 7 September 1848

The Habsburgs granted this while they were losing, and it survived the reaction. Was it a concession or a tactic? Argue both.

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The Russian Tsar

"The order of Europe is our business, and we will restore it."

You are Nicholas I. You have the largest army in Europe, a border with every trouble spot on the continent, and no intention of letting any of this reach Warsaw or Moscow. You crushed the Poles in 1831 and you will do it again. When Vienna asks for help against Hungary in 1849 you send about two hundred thousand troops and ask only that the revolution end. You are the only outside power on this board.

WHERE YOU WANT THE SIX SLIDERS

SLIDER	WHERE IT STARTS	YOU WANT	YOUR CASE
Constitutions	2 – Absolute rule, no charter of any kind		A constitution anywhere in Europe is a rumor that reaches Warsaw by Friday.
Who Votes	1 – A few thousand landowners choose everything		There is no such thing as a limited franchise. There is only the first step.
National Self-Determination	1 – The dynasty is the state and nations are a fiction		Poland is a nation too, and we have spent thirty years explaining that it is not.
The Social Question	1 – Charity, and the workhouse for the rest		A state that owes its people bread has surrendered before the fighting starts.
Serfdom & the Land	3 – Dues commuted for those who can pay		Our own serfs are watching what happens in Hungary.
Force	4 – Police, but no soldiers		We have three hundred thousand men and we will lend them to anyone who asks.

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PRIMARY SOURCE

God is with us! Understand this, O ye peoples, and submit, for God is with us!

Nicholas I of Russia, manifesto on the intervention in Hungary, 26 April 1849, closing with a verse from Isaiah

Nicholas ended a manifesto with scripture. What is he claiming about where his authority comes from, and which slider does that claim defend?

REFLECTION • FILL IN AS YOU PLAY

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