#### Start Date:

1806

#### End Date:

1807

#### Title

Continental Blockade

#### Related Events

Napoleonic War

#### Description

Implemented by Napoleon, the Continental Blockade was designed to weaken Great Britain through the destruction of British commerce.<span class="super">1</span> By not allowing countries that were aligned with France or neutral to trade with Britain, therefore cutting them off. Britain reacted with a counterblockade, in the form of 'Orders in Council' that "were the main causes of the Anglo-American War of 1812."<span class="super">2</span> So while the Continental Blockade was designed to weaken Britain, it had further ranging influences in that it did not only impact upon Britain's prosperity but also of all those involved or whom became the targets of Britain's counter. While historians agree that had it worked, the Continental Blockade was a great idea that could have won Napoleon the war.<span class="super">3</span> However, due to the British's overwhelming superiority at sea, Napoleon could not enforce the Blockage and is regarded as the turning point in the war, as it led Napoleon to his doomed invasion of Russia and consequently his ultimate downfall. <span class="super">4</span>

#### Footnotes

<span class="super">1</span> "Continental System". Encyclopedia Britannica. Encyclopedia Britannica Online.Encyclopedia Britannica Inc., 2016. Web. 04 Nov. 2016, <https://www.britannica.com/event/Continental-System>; <span class="super">2</span> Ibid.; <span class="super">3</span> Dugdale-Pointon, T. (25 December 2000), Continental System, <http://www.historyofwar.org/articles/concepts_continentalsystem..html>; .<span class="super">4</span> Ibid: "Continental System". Encyclopedia Britannica. Encyclopedia Britannica Online.Encyclopedia Britannica Inc., 2016. Web. 04 Nov. 2016, <https://www.britannica.com/event/Continental-System>.

#### Location

GBR; FRA